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### CM hosts dinner for Minister SAFRON, Governor, Speaker BA and Ministers: We are firm to remove backwardness and raise standard of life of common men of province: Mir Sarfraz Bugti

Amir Muqam assures federal government to extend every possible cooperation to resolve issues of province and cope with challenges

### **Independent Report**

OUETTA: The Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti hosted dinner in honour of the Federal Minister for SAFRON, Amir Muqam, Governor, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Speaker of Provincial Assembly, Abdul Khaliq Achakzai and Provincial Ministers here on Thurs-

Upon arrival at the Chief Minister House, that there is consensus in government would ex-Mir Sarfraz Bugti welcomed the Federal Minister Amir Muqam.

Speaking to the Federal and Provincial Minis-

ters, the Chief Minister province. said that we are taking all coalition partners along in remove backwardness and

order, health, education ince. and climate changes are sultation

Mir Sarfraz Bugti said all parties included in the tend every possible coprovincial government.

are determined to establish cope with the chalgood governance in the lenges.

QUETTA: Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti hosted dinner in honour of the

Federal Minister for SAFRON, Amir Mugam, Governor, Jaffar Khan

Mandokhail, Speaker of Provincial Assembly, Abdul Khaliq Achakzai and

Besides, we are firm to raise standard of life of the He said that law and common men of the prov

Speaking on the occathe important challenges sion, Federal Minister being faced in the prov- Amir Muqam said that ince. However, we are Balochistan would be put working to resolve the is- on path of development sues being faced by the under leadership of Chief province with mutual con- Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti

He said that federal operation to resolve is-He also said that we sues of the province and



Peace", on the sidelines of the 79th United Nation General Assembly Session. While strongly condemning Israel's bombing in Lebanon, the prime minis-

NEW YORK (APP): Prime accountable for its crimes against the Palestinians and

the Lebanese people. In addition, he also urged the Security Council to develop an impartial plan for a cease-fire and peaceful solution for the war in Ukraine. He said proliferating wars in the Middle East, Europe and elsewhere, great powers' tension, and growing poverty were threating the foundations of the world order.

"Last Sunday we approved the pact for the future. We must give life to our commitments otherwise, the future will be bleak and dangerous," he stressed.

As regards the Kashmir issue, he emphasized that the Council could no longer

poses a great threat to international peace and security. The council must call for a halt to the massive violations of the fundamental rights of Kashmiri people and implement its own resolutions that demand a plebiscite for self determi-

the prime minister added. Furthermore, he called upon the Council to also effectively address the resurgence of the threat of terrorism from Afghanistan especially from Daesh, and tna al-Khawaraij.

nation in Kashmir valley,

Likewise, he said the Council must extend active support to the African countries and the African Union to defeat terrorism and foreign interventions. "UN peacekeeping must become more robust and



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meeting with the President of the State of Palestine Mahmood Abbas on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

### PM urges sanctions on Israel for genocidal acts against Palestinians

Stresses global unity to demand immediate Gaza ceasefire, creation of Palestine state



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the sidelines of the UNGA.

### Chief Minister addresses tribal jirga in Zhob: | US enjoys 'deeper' Government, security forces & masses to lighten candles of peace in Balochistan

Mir Sarfraz Bugti says we want sustainable solution to public issues: appreciates cooperation of tribal elders and public along with security forces for restoration of peace; issues on-spot orders to resolve certain issues

### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has stated that the government, security forces and masses would lighten the candles of peace in the province.

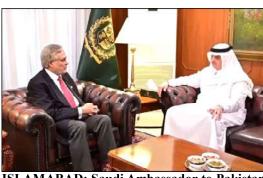
He said that we realize the public issues and we want sustainable solution to them. He exhorted the administrative officers to concentrate on resolving the public issues utilizing their

capabilities.

He stressed the need to resolve the issues of people at local level and not put them on wait in this regard.

Mir Sarfraz Bugti was addressing the tribal Jirga in Zhob on Thursday. Also present on the occasion was Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail m, provincial ministers, senior military officers, Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan,

Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy meeting with **Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister** Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

### **Prudent policies of government** resulted in stability of economy, decrease in inflation: Tarar

NEW YORK (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar has said that stringent measures and prudent policies of the government had resulted in stability in the economy.

Addressing a press conference here he said that due to steps of the present regime, inflation and and prices of daily use commodities had fallen consid-

erably.

"A certain political party wanted the economy to default," the information minister said, adding, but the government took steps to avert such a situation.

He said that the inflation ratio had decreased significantly compared to the same period last year and now it had come down single digit which was a

good sign. Tarar said that the smuggling of dollars has been stopped by taking stringent measures and Information technology sector-related exports have increased significantly.

The economic stability of Pakistan was being acknowledged at the international level as well, he said. Moody's and Fitch also

Pakistan's economy stable whereas Bloomberg described the Pakistani economic indicators as positive.

"According Bloomberg survey, Pakistan's stock exchange is moving in a positive direction", he maintained.

The arrival of record remittances from overseas Pakistanis was also a good omen he remarked

Continued on page 2

### ties with Shahbaz Sharif's govt, says Donald Lu

NEW YORK (INP): U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia, Donald Lu, expressed optimism about Pakistan's ongoing economic recovery.

"We are greatly en-couraged by the economic recovery Pakistan is undergoing," said Donald Lu in his interaction with a private Tv channel.

He shared details of his recent meeting with Pakistan's Finance Minister, Aurangzeb, where they discussed the government's economic plans and re-'These reforms are not

easy, but they are crucial for Pakistan's future," the US official remarked. He said that the successful implementation of these initia-tives will help stabilize Pakistan's economy, benefiting not just the youth but all egments of society.

### Sibi bus stand blast claims child's life, 2 critically injured

QUETTA (APP): A powerful explosion struck a Sibi bus stand, killing one child and critically injuring two others on Thursday

According to the rescue teams, the injured children are receiving medical care at Sibi Teaching Hospital, where the Medical Superintendent (MS) has confirmed that their condition remains critical, a private news channel reported.

Law enforcement ager cies have cordoned off the area and launched an investigation into the cause of the explosion. The provincial government has condemned the incident and announced compensation for the affected families. The Chief Minister of Balochistan has directed the authorities to provide all necessary medical assistance to the injured children and ensure a thor-

### PM Shahbaz says IMF's assistance helped strengthen country's institutions, improve economic management NEW YORK (APP): Prime laboration with IMF for a

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday appreciated the IMF's technical assistance and capacity-building programmes, which, he said, had helped strengthen the country's institutions and improve its economic management.

He was talking to Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Kristalina Georgieva in a meeting on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session.

successful Staff Level Agreement (SLA) for a 37month USD 7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) for Pakistan, the prime minister highlighted the government's commitment to implementing structural reforms and promoting private sector development.

The IMF managing director expressed the Fund's support for Pakistan's efforts and emphasized the importance of maintaining macroeconomic stability, and promoting inclusive Appreciating the col- and sustainable growth.

### Achakzai warns Fazal against supporting constitutional amendments

QUETTA (INP): Chairman of the Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party, Mahmood Khan Achakzai, has cautioned JUI-F leader Maulana Fazlur Rehman, stating that endorsing the proposed constitutional amendments could harm his political standing.

During a press conference at the party's central secretariat. Achakzai emphasized that amendments should not be made behind closed doors or through conspiracies. Instead, all

political parties and stakeholders must come together to resolve the ongoing crisis in the country.

Achakzai stressed the importance of fresh elections as a necessary step to pull Pakistan out of its current turmoil. He described the constitution as a "sacred document," not just a piece of paper, and said that any amendments should reflect national and public interests, achieved

Continued on page 2

### Eight Khawarii terrorists killed in North Waziristan

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Security Forces or Thursday killed eight Khawarii terrorists in an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted on the night of September 25/26 in general area Razmak, North Waziristan District.

During conduct of the operation, intense fire exchange took place between the Army troops and Khawarij, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. Weapon and ammunition were also recovered from killed Khawarii who remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces as well as target killing of innocent civilians, it said.

Meanwhile President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday lauded the security forces for carrying out a successful anti-terror operation in the Razmak area of North Waziristan

The president said the security forces showed exemplary gallantry in eliminating eight terrorists in the operation. "The operation against terrorism will continue till the elimination of this scourge in toto. The whole nation stands by its security forces in this fight," he said and reiterated the resolve to protect the lives and properties of in-

### Balochistan is heart of Pakistan & priority of our Govt.: **Balochistan being given** special attention by present federal Govt, says Amir Muqam

Federal Minister for SAFRON says IMF agreement to bring economic stability in country; Rs. 120 billion allocated for Balochistan in federal PSDP; KP Government's agenda is to weak federation; vows to preserve dignity of national flag and anthem

### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Federal Minister for State and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), Engineer Amir Muqam has categorically stated that Balochistan is the heart of Pakistan and as such special attention is being given to the province during the present era of our govern-

He said that more funds have been allocated for Balochistan in the current federal PSDP than other provinces even Punjab.

He mentioned that Rs. 120 billion have been allocated for Balochistan in the current PSDP by the federal government, which are

higher that other provinces. He said that the federal government is implementing the project of solarization of some 28,000 agricultural tube wells in Balochistan in collaboration with the provincial government. He believed that there would be revolution in the agriculture sector with so-

Continued on page 2



**QUETTA: Minister SAFRON and Kashmir Affairs** Amir Muqam briefs the press at Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees.

### **Election** amendment act be given preference or court's decision: EC resorts to SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): amendment in amendment Court (SC) on the matter of implementation of order regarding reserved seats.

ECP has sought guidance from SC the election amendment be given preference or court's decision.

The EC has taken plea speaker National Assembly wrote letter that amendment in election act was made after court's decision. The members who were denotified by EC also approached for implementation of amendment in election act. EC has implemented to the extent of 39 members. After making

Election Commission of act with reference to reneous petition in Supreme implemented with retrospective effect. The court's decisions are clear that the wisdom of parliament cannot be reviewed.

It will be a big question mark if amendment act is not implemented keeping in view court's decisions.

Sources said decision was taken to resort to SC during a final meeting held under Chief Election Commissioner. Two members of EC had proposed to implement SC decision.

On the proposal of legal team of EC, decision was taken to file miscellaneous petition in SC



KARACHI: Commandant PNS BAHADUR inaugurating World Maritime Day Gala 2024 at Pakistan Maritime Museum.

### JUI is biggest hurdle in way of constitutional amendments, says Maulana Abdul Wasey

QUETTA: The newly elected Provincial Ameer of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) Maulana Abdul Wasey has stated that JUI is the biggest hurdle in the way of constitutional amendments. He said that the narrative of JUI and stance of Maulana Fazalur Rehman would be spread all over the province. He said that the JUI workers had taken part in the million Azadi March. He charged that JUI had registered victory on atleast 21 seats in Balochistan, but

**Independent Report** 

in the general elections. Maulana Abdul Wasey

ours 11 seats were snatched

was speaking to a private V channel on Thursday.

The JUI provincial Ameer said that the Form-47 walas were declared successful in the province, but still we are not disappointed. We would continue our

struggle and become the major parliamentary party in future, he added.

He also said that we serve the people when we are in the government. And when we are out of the government then we stand for protection of their rights, just because it is included in our priority, he maintained



ZHOB: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti addressing elites during tribal jirga. Provincial Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries MPAs and high officials are also present

### CJP gives reply to letter of Justice Mansoor Ali Shah

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has given reply to the letter of most senior judge of Su-preme Court (SC) Justice

Mansoor Ali Shah. In his letter Justice Mansoor Ali Shah has written all the reasons for not sitting in judges committee.

According to sources Justice Mansoor Ali Shah had refused to participate in the meeting of practice and procedure committee.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah had expressed reservations over presidential order by writing letter besides raising question on expulsion of Justice Munib Akhtar from the committee. Sources said CJP Qazi

Faez Isa has written reply Mansoor Ali Shah.

ply from CJP have not come to open so far.

for not including Justice Munib Akhtar in practice and procedure committee.

transparency.

Continued from page 1

The agreement with the IMF, the minister said would make the economy more stable, he remarked. The minister said that

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan also praised Pakistan's step toward economic stability.

Minister Prime Shehbaz Sharif had held meetings with the heads of various countries on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly

The determination of the development of Bangladesh and Pakistan relations was reiterated during the PM's meeting with Chief Adviser Dr Yunus in New York proved quite

To a question, he said it would be a pleasure for the Prime Minister to invite Dr. Yunus, who was an

to the letter of Justice

The contents of the re-

According to sources
CJP have told 11 reasons

CJP said in his reply that the attitude of Justice Munib Akhtar with his senior judges was very harsh. This was done Justice Mansoor on your insistence. Legally you cannot raise question on this thing that CJP should include which judge in the committee. I have always supported accountability and

### Prudent policies of government....

intelligent and visionary

leader to visit Pakistan. He said due to floods Pakistan had to face a lot of financial and human losses as it suffered a lot due to the adverse effects of climate change.

He said Pakistan had given sacrifice of more than 80 thousand lives in the war against terrorism and its economy lost billions of dollars due to the scourge of terrorism.

Under the National Action Plan, various measures had been taken to root out terrorism from the soil of the motherland, he said.

He said peace has been restored in the mega city of Karachi and other areas with the efforts of the government.

About the Palestine situation, he said the Prime Minister had taken up the situation in Gaza at every international forum.

### Achakzai warns.. Continued from page 1

through consensus in Parliament

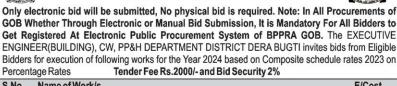
'The newly formed parliamentary committee could play a key role in paving the way for fresh elections," Achakzai remarked, reiterating that only new elections can help resolve the crises. He also called for the establishment of parliamentary supremacy and the immediate cessation of establishment interference in the

country's political affairs. He further noted that the purpose of the constitution is to protect the rights of every citizen, and any changes must prioritize the needs and welfare of the people. These amendments, he emphasized should be made with a twothirds majority and with the agreement of representatives in Parliament.

Achakzai praised Maulana Fazlur Rehman as an experienced politician but warned that accepting the proposed amendments in their current form could lead to political setbacks for the JUÎ-F leader. He criticized the way past elections and governments have been formed, which he said has only led to embarrassment for the nation. He pointed out that over 30 million people in the country still live below the poverty line, and any government that cannot provide basic sustenance to its people has no right to gov-

Referring to the mistakes of the past, including the secession of East Pakistan, Achakzai lamented that lessons have not been learned, and the country continues to make the same errors. He concluded by calling for all political parties to establish principles for selecting public repre-

# NOTICE INVITING TENDER



Construction of Office Buildings/Residential Accommodations for Prosecutors of Balochistan at District Dera Bugti (Phase-I)PSDP No.4486 (Z2024.1796) Prosecution Sector (TSE-242509558363)

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed 1 Assignment of similar nature of work . Registaration with Pakistan Engineering Council PEC) C-5 and above (65 million in relevant Category and Specialized Code is CE10(i) (General Civi Engineering Works). Turn over of at least 36,000,000 PKR Amount in 4 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Rs.2000/- in account of C-02716 through Green Challan. At least 01 project of similar nature I.e Building works amount to Rs.40 Million or above under taken in last 05 years. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 1 1 October, 2024 till 12:00 P.M through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 1:00 PM on EPPS System Address: Mian Road, Dera Bugti Phone no: 0835410162 Fax no: 0835410562 Email: Mohammadejaz0266@gmail.com

PRQ No.1213/26-09-2024

CW, PP&H DEPARTMENT **DISTRICT DERA BUGTI** 

> pjections of public at large are nvited. Any aggrieved person

may approach in person the rsigned for submission of ection (if any) within fourtee

14) days after publication of this

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

on for issuance of Administration on Certificate by Khan with regards a & immoveable ass

ceased Mr. Ajmal Kha n number 544012723690

lasnain Khan (Son)9.Jan an (Son)10.Nabila (Daughte

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PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE Application for issuance of	PUBLIC NOTICE					
Shara Toon with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Noor Muhammad citizen number	Safia with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Abdul Rehman citizen number 5220410605199 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Shoaib Ahmed (Son) 2. Bahseera (Daughter)3. Safia (Spouse)4. Asad Ullah (Son)	Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Mehr Un Nissa with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Muhammad Aslam citizen number 5410101281439 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs.  1. Abdul Ghayas (Son)2.Farzana Bibi (Daughter)3. Nasrullah (Son)4.Bib Shahista (Daughter) 5. Alauddin (Son)6.Asima	Succession Certificate by Mr. Pehlwan Shah with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Ms. Raheema Bibi citizen number 5440063137734 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1.Ayesha Bibi (Daughter)					
On the above application the	Younus (Son)7.Javed Baloch	(Son)8.Mehr Un Nissa (Spouse) 9.Salah Uddin (Son)10.Shazia (Daughter)11.Saima (Daughter)	Shah (Spouse)     On the above application the					

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bjections of public at large are nvited. Any aggrieved persor nay approach in person the indersigned for submission o objection (if any) within fourteer





NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets with the President of the European Commission Ms. Ursula Von Der Leyen on the sidelines of 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

### Balochistan being given special attention by...

Continued from page 1

larization of the agricultural tube wells in Balochistan.

He said that constitutional amendments are being made in favour of the people of the country, and this is not a new thing. He said that the reforms and constitutional amendments are being made for well being of the people. He said that people want to use the institutions for the politi-

He believed that the IMF's agreement would bring economic stability in the country. He said that the country would suffer instability if the institutions are weakened.

These and similar other views were expressed by the Minister for SAFRON while speaking to the media persons during his visit to the Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees here on

Thursday.
The Secretary of SAFRON, Commissioner Afghan Refugees and other concerned high ups were also present on the occasion. The Federal Minister for SAFRON was briefed about the overall functioning of the Ministry and situation of Afghan refugees and other related matters.

Speaking to the media, Amir Muqam said that unfortunately lawlessness has returned in Balochistan and Khyber Pahhtunkhaw. The people of two provinces have suffered due to the law and order situation and ter-

However,

people of Balochistan have of economy is improving faced terrorism bravely. and so the state of common men. He also believed that

He also said that the security forces have rendered great sacrifices in the war against terrorism. He said that the victory would be of peace in the end.

He said that everyone knows the agenda of terrorism and from where it's funding is being done.

He categorically stated that the terrorists are neigher Baloch nor Pakhtun nor Muslims. He said that we would have to fight ter-

rorism together. He on the occasion apreciated the female Adeela Baloch, who given up the suicide bombing. Referring the agreement made with IMF, the Federal Minister SAFRON noted with contentment over the agreement that was done successfully under leadership Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz

He said that some people used to say that the agreement would not be done with IMF, and even the letters were written to IMF in the past. Referring the then

PDM government, Amir Muqam said that he was also part of the federal cabinet during PDM set up, and then Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had compromised his politics over He said that the govern-

agreement in compulsion and that because of Qaidi No. 804. He said that condition

ment went to IMF for

Mugam added that the

# **TENDER NOTICE**

The Deputy Project Director-II, U-GPP(TBTTP), Forestry Component has invited the sealed tender on the Composite Schedule of Rates Government of Balochistan from interested firms/ contractor of following work. Bid Security 2% for each work.

S.NO NAME OF WORK CONSTRUCTION OF SEED STORE BUILDING 4,924,662/-(PSDP No.2292) TSE-242509557123 CONSTRUCTION of GIS NODE BUILDING 4,920,685/-

(PSDP No.2292) **TSE-242509557103** The Procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014, BASIC ELIGIBITY: The Firms must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council who also has deposited case for renewal (2024-25) in relevant Category, and registration with tax authorities i.c. (NTN and BRA), including similar nature work experiences & Bank Statement (Turnover). Firms (Single having valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in the Category C-6 or above. Valid Registration with Income Tax with active tax payer list (ATL) Valid Registration with Income BRA with active tax payer list (ATL) Other Mandatory conditions and De Marking Criteria mentioned in the Bidding Documents. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT**: Single Stage-Two Envelope procedure. **Bid** Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk. Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk. The tender processing fee of Rs. 2,000/-for each above mentioned 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). Last Date of bid submission: The tenders must be submitted latest by 14th October, 2024 till 09:45 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 10:45 AM. Address: office of the Deputy Project Director-II, U-GPP(TBTTP), Forestry Component Quetta. Phone No: 0819213556 Email: fawadforest@gmail.com

Bid Validity Period: Ninety (90) Days. Deputy Project Director-II, U-GPP(TBTTP), Forestry Componen



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

Name of Work CONSTRUCTION OF BLACK TOP ROAD TEHSIL 49.524 M SHAHRAG DISTRICT HARNAI PSDP NO 1552 (Z2024.0576) TSE-242509558803

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan public Procurement Rules- 2014. BASIC ELIGIBILITY: Eligibility Criteria & Evaluation Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single stage - Two Envelop Bidding Procedure. BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS: the Bidding document can be downloaded for www.bppra.pk and the same can also be obtained from the office of the under signed upon payment of prescribed tender fee deposited in the head of account C-02716 NBP Bank green challan is verified by treasury. D E A D LINE OF SUBMISSION: Technical and financial proposals from intending contractors/ firms sealed in two sprite envelopes clearly marked with work title & type of proposal must be delivered by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before 16th Oct 2024 at 11:30 Hrs. Opening: The envelope containing "Technical Bids" will be opened on the same day i.e. 16, Oct, 2024, at 12:30 Hrs before procurement committee in the presence of bides. Address: Office Of The Executive Engineer (Road) CWPP&H Department District Harnai

PRQ No.1220/26-9-2024

Executive Engineer (Road) **CWPP&H Department District** Harnai www.dpr.gob.pk. 💌 @dpr\_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🛨 @dgpr.bal

### Government, security forces...

Continued from page 1 IGP Moazzam Jah Ansari,

besides the tribal elders, senior government officials The tribal elders and

other peoples apprised the Chief Minister about their issues. On this, he (CM) issued on the spot orders on resolving the collective nature issues.

The Chief Minister issued immediate orders for provision of ambulance on the public demand. An ambulance was dispatched to Shirani district the same day, as mentioned in an official hand out issued here.

The police force was also provided an armored vehicle on orders of the Chief Minister. Similarly, the Chief Minister also issued orders for appointment of academic staff in the Balochistan Residential

College Zhob. In addition to this, he also ordered to speed up the work on the communication tower in Khurasan and Zhob by-

Addressing the Jirga, Chief Minister appreciates the cooperation of tribal elders and general public along with security forces for restoration of peace.

He said that we fully

realize the public problems and said that the departments would be made efficient by improving gover-The Chief Minister also said that the objective

behind disturbing law and order is nothing but to weaken the country. He said that he is seeing women being used for terrorism for first time. He said that use of women for

terrorism is against our tra-



QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Local Bodies and Rural Development Abdul Rauf Baloch presenting shield to Provincial Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani on eve of one day seminar on Local Governance and Peace Building

	NO.

inflation would reduce fur-

tion of Afghan refugees

from Pakistan, the Federal

Minister SAFRON said

that Pakistan has been host-

ing large number of Afghan

refugees for 45 years and

around 3.0 million refugees

are still living in the coun-

cess of repatriation of refu-

gees is continued, and so far

some 0.5 million have been

repatriated to their home-

land, he added.

including Balochistan.
He said that the pro-

Referring the repatria-

ther in time to come.

### TICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering Division Quetta are invites the tenders from the approved Government Contractors. Bid Security 2% in shape of Call deposit

S#	NAME OF WORK	Estimated Cost	T/Fee	TSE NO
1	Construction of WSS Cham Line Quetta PSDP No. 5316.			
	i. Drilling & Development of bore. ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.	5.490 (M)	1500 1500	242509557613 242509557633
2	Construction of WSS Qandar Line Quetta PSDP No. 5316.	3.750 (M)	1000	242009007000
65.4	i. Drilling & Development of bore.	5.490 (M)	1500	242509557653
3	ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.  Construction of WSS Toghi road Quetta PSDP No. 5316.	3.750 (M)	1500	242509557673
ľ	i. Drilling & Development of bore.	5.490 (M)	1500	242509557693
4	ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.  Construction of WSS Madrassa road Quetta PSDP No. 5316.	3.750 (M)	1500	242509557723
7	<ol> <li>Drilling &amp; Development of bore.</li> </ol>	5.490 (M)	1500	242509557733
	ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.	3.750 (M)	1500	242509557743
5	Construction of WSS Cant Board Colony PSDP No. 5316.  i. Drilling & Development of bore.	5.490 (M)	1500	242509557773
	ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.	3.750 (M)	1500	242509557783
6	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Killi Umer Manan Lala PSDP No.5316	3.800 (M)	1500	242509557813
7	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Shaheed Shafique	8.600 (M)	1500	242509557873
8	High School Zia-ud-din Ziahi road PSDP No.5561  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS T&T Colony	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558793
	PSDP No.5561.	0.000 (W)	1300	242309330193
9	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Qaid Abad Boy High	8.600 (M)	1500	242509557953
10	School Tana Gali PSDP No.5561.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Eid Gah Toghi road	8.600 (M)	1500	242509557723
	PSDP No.5561.	0.000 (1.0)	4500	0.40500550000
11	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Yatheem Khana Alamdar road PSDP No.5561.	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558833
12	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Satalite town Block No-	6.00 (M)	1500	242509558003
13	IV Faqzal-ur-Rehman Street PSDP No.5561.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Officer Colony Cantt	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558013
	area PSDP No.5448.	Contraction Contract	1,41,21,20	and the second of the second
14	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Chilton Market PSDP No.5448.	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558033
15	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Gulistan Town Qetta	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558873
16	PSDP No.5448.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Junir Assistant Colony	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558053
10	PSDP No.5448.	0.000 (W)	1300	242309330033
17	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Killi Ibrahim Shah Khail	8.600 (M)	1500	242509558063
18	PSDP No.5448.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Mateen Street Kharoot	6.00 (M)	1500	242509558073
	Abad PSDP No.5448.	, , ,		
19	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Railway Masjid PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558153
20	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Stweart road	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558163
21	PSDP No.5571.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Zaman road	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558183
	PSDP No.5571.	3, 5,	1000	24200000100
22	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Abdul Khaliq road Shamas Mohallah PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558193
23	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Najam Masjid PSDP	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558203
- 04	No.5571.	0.044 (0.0)	4500	040500550040
24	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS CMA Colony Gulistan road PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558213
25	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Usmania Masjid PSDP	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558223
26	No.5571.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Mohallah Shabir City	2.941 (M)	1500	252509558243
	area PSDP No.5571.	2.041 (11)	1000	20200000240
27	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Patail road PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558263
28	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Qawery road PSDP	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558273
	No.5571.	2.044 (11)	4500	040500550000
29	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Fatima Jina road near Sandyman School PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558283
30	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Fiaz-III Asad House	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558303
31	PSDP No.5571.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Gul Mohallah Chilton	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558393
	Cantonment area PSDP No.5571.		10,000	
32	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Haji Nasrullah Mohallah by pass PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558423
33	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Niazi Ward No.I PSDP	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558443
24	No.5571.	2 044 (M)	4500	040500550450
34	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Mohallah Attahullah Nawan Killi by pass PSDP No.5571.	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558453
35	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Jamia Masjid Sahir	2.941 (M)	1500	242509558463
36	Mohammad Halqa-42 PSDP No.5571.  Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Mohallah Shabir City	5.880 (M)	1500	242509558473
	area PSDP No.5571.		34.0	
37	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS High School Killi Ismail PSDP No.5883.	9.558 (M)	1500	242509558503
38	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Gul Town Killi Ismail	9.558 (M)	1500	242509558513
20	PSDP No.5904.	, ,	1500	
39	Drilling & Development of bore for WSS Killi Zahid Mashwani Panjpai PSDP No.5987	6.406 (M)	1500	242509558753
40	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Killi Zahid Mashwani	6.388 (M)	1500	242509558763
41	Panjpai PSDP No.5987.  Construction of WSS Police line BC Gulistan road PSDP No.			
71	5973.			
1	i. Drilling & Development of bore. ii. S/Lnstallation of Solar System.	4.406 (M) 5.594 (M)	1500 1500	242509558543 242509558533
-	II. S/Linstallation of Solar System.	J.J54 (IVI)	1300	2723033300333

The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Baluchistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014, ELIGIBILITY:- a. Three Years Relevant Work Experience in PHE Department. b Turn-Over of at least three years showing financial capacity of the firm. c. The contractor must have registration with tax authorities i.e (NTN Sales tax department and Baluchistan Revenue Authority/BSTS) valid registration with Pakistan Engineering council in relevant category who have deposited enlistment/renewal fee for the year 2024-2025. Tender fee deposited in head of account C-02726-02 through green challah form original in State Bank of Pakistan/National Bank of Pakistan Quetta Rs, 1500 of each work detail given as above. e. The detail of each works are available on B-PPRA website. Method of Procurement:- Single stage, one envelop procedure will be adopted. Bidding/Tender documents:-Issuance. The tender form/documents will be issued to bidders/contractors on publishing of notice in newspapers upto 11.10.2024 11:00 A.M from the presentation of requisite documents i.e tender fee (Nonrefundable). Bid Security/Earnest money 2% in shape of call deposit. The tenders will be open in presence of all bidders/firms. Submission:- Last date for submission is 11.10.2024 at 11:00 A.M. Opening:- The tender will be opened on 11.10.2024 at 12:00 P.M Place of Issuance, submission, inquiry and opening will be:- Address:- office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division jail road near Marker Factory Quetta. Telephone No.9201431 and 9201228 E-mail Address:- XEN-phequetta@gmail.com. It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted/entertained and Firm complete title name should be written on call deposit. Only original contractor are allowed to participate in the tenders with original CNIC. Agent/Representative will not be allowed. CONDITIONS. All the terms and conditions/site of the detail

works can be seen/obtain from the office of the undersigned in any office hours.

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PHE DIVISION QUETTA

### **Senate Education Body** for allocating maximum funds to education sector

Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training on Thursday urged the relevant authorities to allocate maximum funds for education sector.

The Education Committee Chairperson, Senator Bushra Anjum Butt, emphasized that education. being vital to the prosperous future of Pakistan, warrants significant attention and should be prioritized.

This statement was made during a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training, chaired by Senator Butt at the Ministry of Federal **Education and Professional** Training.

Senator Butt also summoned the Secretaries of Finance and Planning for the next meeting of the Senate Education Committee.

This meeting aims to provide a detailed briefing on the bifurcation and disbursement of funds allocated to the Ministry of

provinces and depart-

The committee, at the ministry's request, also proposed an evaluation of the budgetary allocations, advocating for an increase in funding for education.

The agenda included

discussions on allowances for professors and teachers. the provision of classrooms, issues related to retired teachers, degree attestations, and other significant student-related concerns. During the session, Senator Manzoor Ahmad raised a public importance point regarding the discontinuation of allowances for professors, teachers, and employees of BUITEMS University. It was reported that these allowances had

Despite multiple representations by the faculty, university acceded to by the

Education across various university's Syndicate Consequently, this matter will now be presented to the university senate for consideration.

The committee chair directed the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to convene a meeting with provincial representatives to resolve this issue and to share the minutes of the meeting with the committee. A timeline of two weeks was set for resolution.

In discussing the workings and performance of the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC), the committee decided to conduct an on-ground visit to evaluate its effectiveness.

It was reported that the approved total cost is 19,515 million rupees, with been halted on the directive an allocation of 6,417.12 of the Governor of million for 2025. In the first Balochistan, who serves as quarter, 1,074,583 million the university's Chancellor. rupees were released, with expenses as of September 2024, amounting to 317.214 million rupees, and management's case was not total liabilities incurred at 757.2 million rupees.

DIG Islamabad

directs officers for

effective measures

to eradicate crime

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Syed Ali Raza on

Thursday held an impor-

tant meeting with ARDU

which was attended by in-

charge ARDU and AVLC

and other concerned police

while issuing directions to the officers, DIG Islamabad

said that in the upcoming

meeting, the performance of

all the officers will be re-

viewed and there will be no

compromise on the addition

DIG Islamabad issued di-

rections to police officials

of ARDU and AVLC to

prevent incidents of rob-

bery, dacoity, and vehicle

Under the supervision of the in-charge ARDU and

AVLC special teams will

work effectively to arrest

gang members involved in

dacoity, snatching, and ve-

Three missing

children reunited

with families

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Islamabad Capital Territory

(ICT) Police teams from

Golra, Sumbal, and

Aabpara, police stations

have successfully reunited

three missing children with

their families on Thursday.

statement, the teams from

Golra, Aabpara, and

Sumbal, police stations re-

ceived reports from citizens

been missing and could not

efforts by family members.

ing the reports, the police

teams utilized both techni-

cal and human resources to

trace the missing children,

ensuring their safe return to

their families. He added that

the families expressed their

He said upon receiv-

According to a police

hicle lifting activities.

During the meeting,

On this occasion,

officers.

of crimes.

theft



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov, MD PTDC Aftab ur Rahman and others cutting the ribbon during inauguration ceremony of 2nd International Tourism Expo, at a local hotel, in

### **Team of Federal Ombudsman** conducts inspection visit to Islamabad Airport

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Respond- lounges, luggage area, the ing to a large number of CIP Lounge besides the complaints regarding malimmigration counter and

eral Agencies performing duties at the Islamabad new airport, a Wafaqi Mohtasib's Inspection Team visited the Airport, on the directives of Wafaqi Mohtasib Mr. Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi, here today. The Inspection Team was headed by Senior Advisor. Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat, Syed Asif Shah.

Members of the team interacted with the passengers, listened to their complaints and passed on the spot instructions to the administration for their immediate redressal, said in a Press Release issued here on Thursday.

The team included Grievance Commissioner for Overseas Pakistanis. Deputy Advisor (Implementation), WMS and Consultant (Media), WMS. authorities concerned to

tional and international administration of the Fed- the counters of other agencies performing duty at the airport and obtained firsthand knowledge of the prob-

> sengers. It was found that a large number of complaints by the passengers were related to delays in immigration, unwarranted meddling and high-handed attitude of the FIA, ASF and Custom officials posted there, whereas the incoming passengers complained of loss and late delivery of the lug-

lems being faced by the pas-

Earlier, the Inspection Team reviewed the status of implementation of the recommendations made by such teams during their previous visits. It may be recalled that the inspections teams during their previous visits had instructed the The team visited the na- merge the desks of ANF.

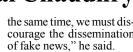
### **Eradicating fake news** top priority of PML-N govt: Daniyal Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Member of the National Assembly and Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Broadcasting, Daniyal Chaudhry, on Thursday reaffirmed his government's commitment to upholding freedom of expression, emphasizing the need to combat the spread of fake news. He made these remarks during the 19th General Council meeting of the Press Council of Pakistan (PCP). Chaudhry highlighted the critical role the PCP plays in maintaining media integrity and expressed his full support for

firmly believes in the free-

He commended the





integrity and leadership of PCP Chairman Arshad Khan Jadoon, stating that Jadoon has significantly contributed to the council's success. "The Chairman is a man of integrity and good standing. His leadership has been instrumental in ensuring that the council operates effectively," Chaudhry added. Daniyal Chaudhry



ISLAMABAD: A group Photo of incumbent and former Information Secretaries and senior serving and former Information service officers at a dinner hosted by former PIO Rao Tahseen at his residence in federal capital.

# THE PROPERTY OF

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Housing & Works Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada unveiling plaque to inaugurate Commoners Bridge at Sky Gardens a project of Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Murree Expressway.

### Pirzada emphasizes ensuring quality housing facilities

Addressing delays in residential projects as top priorities

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada emphasized that providing high-quality residential facilities is a top priority, with his team at the ministry and FGEHA committed to resolving delays in ongoing

During a visit to the Sky Gardens housing project to oversee infrastructural development, the minister received a formal briefing from the Director General of FGEHA. He also engaged

in detailed discussions with the contractors regarding the progress of the development work.

The minister attributed the project site as paradise like with beautiful views and scenic beauty around that would be furnished with high quality urban housing facilities, said a press release.

He applauded the whole team of contractors and workers for their continued work and stressed upon the early completion of the project

Minster was apprised of the land sharing formula pertaining to developed plots in this scheme that is Residential 70:30 & Commercial 45:55. Further, the continuing activities relating to infrastructure in some blocks will be completed in coming Decem-

the end of 2026. During the visit, minister also inaugurated Commoners Bridge and planted

ber this year and all de-

velopmental work has been

evaluated to complete till

### Govt trying best to 2 shot dead improve maritime sector: Qaiser

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh on Thursday said that the present government was trying its best to im-

prove the maritime sector. In a message on the occasion of World Maritime Day issued here, the minister said that the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization also appreciated our excellent and marvelous perfor-

He further said that Pakistan Navy was also helping the ministry to resolve maritime sector issues. Paying special attenrity and blue economy, he

Qaiser Sheikh said that digitization of Ports through Maritime Single Window was in progress, adding that modern world class training programs were being conducted in Pakistan Marine Academy.

The revenue of Karachi Port Trust (KPT) has also increased compared to last year, he added. The minister said that

Pakistan's location in terms of maritime trade was the most important in the region, adding that he was ready to sit with every stakeholder for the better-

### in front of **Islamabad Kutchery due** to old enmity ISLAM ABAD (Online): 2

persons were killed in firing in front of Islamabad The Islamabad police

spokesperson said firing incident took place on G-11 Service road due to old enmity. One person was killed and one was injured due to firing.

Later the injured per-

son succumbed to injuries. The victims of firing were Syed Tafseer Haider and Nazir. They were presented in the court in 24/

The rival party opened fire on them after



ISLAMABAD: Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi presides over the meeting during his visit to Islamabad Airport alobng with Inspection Team.

# Mashhood urges Youth to **explore diversity in tourism**ISLAMABAD (APP): discussions on tourism ini-

Chairman of the Prime Youth Programme, (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan, on Thursday emphasized the need for youth to engage in tourism activities and explore diverse cultural

traditions. Celebrating World Tourism Day at a local hotel, he highlighted the importance of tourism in youth development and its impact on the economy.

tiatives, cultural exchanges, and networking opportunities. Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan reiterated the government's commitment to promoting tourism and empowering youth. He encouraged youth to take advantage of tourism opportunities and contribute to the country's economic growth. The event aimed to promote tourism and cultural exchange among youth and was attended by youth

### **IHC allows SZABU** to release result of Mdcat test

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has allowed Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto University (SZABU) to issue results of Medical Admission Test (Mdcat). The petition filed by 6 students includ-Ammar Naeem, Shahzeb Wazir and Saba Imman seeking court's orders for holding Mdcat test again due to out of syllabus questions in the test.

### **Envoy for initiating** exchange visits to identify areas of mutual cooperation ISLAMABAD (APP): this country to discover its

Ambassador of Egypt to Pakistan Dr Ihab Mohammad Abdel Hamid Hassan on Thursday underlined the need for initiating reciprocal exchange visits between the businessmen from both the countries to identify potential areas for mutually beneficial for enhancing trade and investment relations.

Talking to President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce Industry(ICCI) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, the envoy said, "Egypt's recent economic reforms, growth initiatives and investment incentives offer lucrative opportunities to Pakistani businessmen," said a press He called on the busi-

ness communities of the two countries to exchange delegations to strengthen bilateral economic trade and investment ties.

He said, "Pakistan-Egypt relations are built on a strong foundation of common faith, cultural affinities, and aspirations and would grow further with the passage of time."

'Egypt has been a cradle of civilizations and world heritage and tourists

beautiful places, scenes and sites," he said.
"Fostering economic

and business cooperation

between the two countries require strategic efforts from both nations," he added. "Egypt's location makes it an ideal hub for Pakistani businesses to access African and Middle Eastern markets," he said adding, "Pakistan can leverage Egypt's Free Zones and trade agreements with regional blocs and Western countries to increase mutually beneficial cooperation and dialogue between the two countries." Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari pointed out similarities between the two countries, especially in tourism saying, "Both Egypt and Pakistan are popular countries for tourism and the business community of both countries must play its due role in that regard." He also stressed

the need to promote people-to-people contacts between the two nations for the promotion and strengthening of multilateral ties adding, "Direct air connectivity between the two countries will play a significant role in achieving



ISLAMABAD: People chop to remove a fallen heavy tree on a loading van at Sittara Market during heavy rainfall, in the Federal Capital.

### **UN Women Pak took** steps to incorporate gender indicators

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab UN Women Pakistan has taken a step to effectively get gender indicators incorporated into the provincial plans by developing a set of Gender-Responsive Thursday. lanning and Budgeting (GRPB) Guidelines.

According to UN Women Pakistan, the Labour and Human Resource Department, the Government of Punjab and Labour Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have both endorsed, adapted and notified these Guidelines to ensure that the processes for planning (of projects and schemes) and budgeting (of the finalized projects and schemes) are genderresponsive with regard to the Annual Development Programme (ADP). It was no minor achievement that the guidelines were endorsed and notified by government departments. UN Women have been

up in Khyber it added

to provide psycho-social help, skill-building activities and rehabilitation support services to women and girls, said an official here on

vealed by UN Women said that Pakistan's partnerships with private sectors aim to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace, and community through facilitating knowledge sharing, adopting best practices, and creating dignified, harassment-free environments for

Through partnerships, the engagement promotes safer mobility, creates sustainable talent pipelines, influences CSR spending on gender-related initiatives, and encourages businesses to adopt genderresponsive procurement practices to support women-owned businesses,



ISLAMABAD: Motorcyclists stands under the shade of a bridge at Srinagar Highway, during a heavy rainfall, in the Federal Capital.

### Speakers for bold climate action, global unity to ensure resilience against global warming impacts of try on the frontlines of cli- 2050. Sherry Rehman also regard

stating their children had ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at an international be traced despite extensive climate conference in runup to COP29 on Thursday called for bold climate action and global unity on key agendas like climate finance availability and access to ensure resilience among communities of less developed countries against global warming impacts.

The Centre for Strategic Perspective (CSP) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), convened the international conference titled "Navigating Pakistan's Climate Action Path: Adaptation, Finance, and Technology". The conference, organized ahead of the COP29 summit, brought together leading experts from Pakistan and abroad to deliberate on the country's climate strategy, focusing on key areas like adaptation, climate finance, and technological advancements.

Ambassador Khazar Farhadov, in his keynote address at the inaugural session, emphasized the urgent need for global unity in tackling climate change.

highlighted Azerbaijan's commitment to promoting peace, climate finance, and adaptation efforts at COP29, stressing that international cooperation was essential for achieving a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

Senator Sherry Rehman, speaking as the chief guest, stressed the urgency of bold climate action at the upcoming COP, referencing the encouraging statements made by the Ambassador of Azerbaijan on renewable energy and

highlighted Pakistan's unique climate challenges, which were both local and global, emphasizing that no country could such crises in isolation. As a developing coun-

kistan was experiencing increasingly extreme weather events, including successive record-breaking summers over the last four years.

Sherry Rehman stressed that Pakistan's economy, natural resources, and people were all at risk, yet the country remained underprepared for an unpredictable future. She pointed out that

while global discussions, such as the Summit of the Future, aimed to set ambitious climate goals, they often fell short of the necessary commitments.

She said Pakistan, having led the G77 during COP27, continued to advocate for developing countries to unite on a common agenda. However, she warned that the clock was ticking faster for vulnerable nations like Pakistan, with the current decade being crucial for achieving climate

mate change, she said, Pa- called for improved climate reporting, noting that many developing countries lacked the capacity to measure emissions accurately. She criticized the slow

pace of climate finance and underscored the vital importance of accelerated operationalization and increased capitalization of the Loss and Damage Fund. She also stressed that

global North-South financial transfers must accelerate, underlining the need for focusing on 'Internationally Determined Contributions' as well. Sherry Rehman underscored the need for enhanced citizens' involvement and local climate action, urging Pakistan to strengthen its environmen-

tal protection agencies. Climate justice, she emphasized, must be at the forefront of global discussions, ensuring no country or community was left behind, and Pakistan should targets - not the distant play a leadership role in that

ISSI Director General Ambassador Mahmood, in his remarks, welcomed the participants and highlighted the critical importance of the dialogues in shaping Pakistan's climate strategies.

He expressed grati-tude to HSF for its partnership and acknowledged the distinguished speakers, including government officials, civil society representatives, and international experts for their contributions. He recognized Senator Sherry Rehman for her relentless advocacy for climate justice and her leadership role in securing a global outcome on the creation of the Loss and Damage Fund at COP27 at Sharm-el-Sheikh in 2022. He emphasized Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change, despite contributing less than 1% to global emissions, referencing the devastating 2022 floods and the urgent need for adaptation measures.

# Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Friday September 27, 2024

### Taxation plan

At first glance, the new FBR are still grappling to define it fully for policy coherence 'transformation plan', which aims to broaden the tax net, scrap the category of 'non-filers', and improve compliance and enforcement through fresh punitive measures, might come across as a positive step.

Yet, without addressing the deep-seated and long-standing issues of tax equity, policy reforms and institutional restructuring of the FBR, can it work? Indeed, the idea of making 'dirty money' redundant through imposing restrictions on asset purchases and investments by tax evaders and cheaters should be appreci-

But how will the plan be executed? The proposed plan shifts the entire burden of tax scrutiny of a spender on other regulators and sellers rather than building its own capacity to net the dodgers. It is also likely to create problems for tax-exempt segments, including those whose annual income is less than Rs600,000 or housewives or Pakistanis abroad. Will they also be required to file annual tax statements? The plan does not distinguish between tax evaders and middle-class taxpayers showing an annual income of less than Rs10m in their tax statements. They could also face the same spending curbs as articulated for non-filers when they try to purchase a vehicle or real estate or financial instruments or attempt to open bank accounts.

This is not the first time the tax bureaucracy has come up with a plan to boost tax revular tax bureaucracy has come up with a plan to boost tax revular tax bureaucracy has come up with a plan to boost tax revular tax bureaucracy has come up with a plan to boost tax revular tax bureaucracy has come up to be a located enues. But previous efforts cept making audits work by a stay. So in 2013, they have, for the most part, only made the taxation system glance. This particular computerised balloting. more complex and expensive for taxpayers, providing a 'reason' for others to stay out of the net. That inflation-adjusted real tax revenue growth Pakistan skates too dangerhas stood at a mere 2pc a year the blunt-bladed incompesince 2018 confirms the futility of past FBR plans. Little wonder, Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio has grown to just 9.5pc stants wonder now long it can continue to defy the from 8pc in 2000. In comparison, India has improved its and ignore the need for a national purpose. How long taxes to 18.5pc of its GDP from can our state sustain this 13.4pc and Nepal to 17.5pc war with itself—the judiciary vs its brother black from 8.7pc in the same period.

These countries have improved their tax performance not just by taking punitive actions against tax dodgers and cheaters but also making their honour. tax regimes equitable, fair and easier to comply with through wide-ranging policy and administrative reforms. Unless Pakistan also follows the principle fore coming to power. Othof equity, does away with wasteful exemptions of Rs4tr, and restructures the FBR to prefer the doctrine of weed out inefficiencies and arrière-pensée, steering corruption, punitive actions will not have the intended ef-

The measures to make dirty money difficult to spend are welcome. Those who do through Pakistan. After six not pay their taxes or underIndian prime minister report their income should be Jawaharlal Nehru and our punished. But the FBR must also give details on how it intends to execute these proposals without creating more difficulties for compliant taxpayers or tax-exempt segments. So far, the intent implementation of the seems to be to squeeze existing taxpayers to meet the revenue targets rather than broadening the net.

manent maus commission was held in New Delhi from May 30-31, 2022. During ing deal? Reko Diq is "the world's largest gold and copper mine, with depos-

# Climate finance ecosystem

are forcing Pakistan to an-Ali Taugeer Sheikh nually restructure its debt. Pakistan's climate finance It is clear that the urgency to access climate finance is ecosystem is informal and driven by the present narunfolding. It has not been row fiscal space, and not the fully operationalised or coimportance to invest in reordinated, let alone silient, bottom-up demand. synchronised with climate The sincerity of motivation action. In fact, policymakers has emerged as a barrier, adding to the long list of and to systematically catachronic obstacles.

years, Pakistan has develspecific climate actions oped an elaborate instituacross sectors, provinces, tional and policy architecand human settlements. ture dealing with environ-In a frantic reaction to Pakistan's desperate fiscal ment and climate change. The process started with the situation, the entire attention Pakistan Environment Proof key ministries and departtection Ordinance in 1983, ments has moved to access followed by the approval of international climate finance. the National Conservation The hope is that, if success-Strategy (1992), Environful, this can ease the finanmental Protection Act cial squeeze. This newfound (1997), National Environpriority has debased the nament Policy (2005), and a tional debate that ensued wave of climate policy docuafter the 2022 floods, from ments since the 18th Conprioritising community restitutional Amendment of silience and low carbon development to accessing finances from some under-ac-

None of these policies defined the decision-making tree for policy coordination, resource allocations, or timelines needed for implementation of specific policy initiatives, let alone identifying the structural barriers to their implementation.

This is in spite of the

fact that during the last 50

While presenting impressive plans, they fell short of identifying key constitutional, legal, or institutional constraints to their environment and climate actions. None of the websites of national and provincial climate-related outfits carry any study on why our policies have failed the implementation test. This inability to stock-take has impeded the development of the climate finance ecosys-

Specific questions begging clarity on mandates, respective roles and responsibilities between the provinces and the federal government, and between the climate and other sectoral ministries, particularly the planning ministry, remain unaddressed. The planning ministry holds the key to engaging with provincial planning boards in order to embed climate considerations in the public sector development portfolio and provincial annual development plans. Lopsided development has not allowed the climate finance ecosystem to take root.

The ecosystem in our context is a web of intricate interactions reflected by hard and dotted lines, indiof its parts. The dynamic nature and interdependence of their interactions, as in natural systems, reflects both its fragility and resilience. The backward and forward loops, as in systems theory, will be indicative of its health and ability to protect itself from predators. In the climate change realm, the predators include domestic and international interest groups, and undue outside influences and interferences

retarding its functioning. Therefore, the ecosystem in our context does not only refer to cataloguing the existence of institutions, their mandates, rules, regulations and procedures, or the existence of their policy or strategy documents. Instead, it also encompasses their formal and informal relationships and linkages with each other and their respective constituencies and stakeholders, to protect the interests and well-being of everyone affected by climatic changes as users, consumers, or taxpayers.

How well has this ecosystem evolved in the last 50 years and how well is it ences the scale of the flow of international finance for climate action:

Institutional and policy landscape: Has the climate ecosystem resolved the key governance and regulatory issues? Or does the tendency persist to evade questions that deal with clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of all national and provincial actors? Introducing a legislative package that mandates climate action across the sectors and tiers of governance can clear the obstructed path to action, instead of adding yet another

tier of institutions. Sectoral integration and action plans: Does the ecosystem include sector-specific action plans for concrete climate measures?

The absence of sectoral action plans that do not include adaptation strategies to build resilience, mitigation measures to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, or protect communities from loss and damage from rapid-onset and slow-onset will impede alignment with the country's national targets and international obligations. Such plans can working? The response to help identify opportunities

cating the complexity and richness of the functioning shapes the size and influcarbon development within each sector.

Subnational implementation: Does the ecosystem commit to deliver resources at local levels by recognising that climate impacts are always localised?

This would entail setting up local governments and allowing them to function. They can develop and implement their own, locally led action plans to create resilience, build local capacities, and diversify livelihood opportunities. Nothing is more important for climate justice than inclusion and equity for a well-functioning eco-

Stakeholder engagement and partnerships: Has the ecosystem engaged dynamic organisations, academia, small and medium enterprises, women and youth? Has the partnership with the private sector been designed to strengthen local markets and nationally generate revenues and finances? It is imperative to leverage private sector investment in low-carbon or disruptive technologies for climateresilient infrastructure. Courtesy Dawn

### nd audits for all

### Khurram Husain

cessed sources.

The shaking of the

apple tree has not stemmed

from specific provincial or

sectoral estimates of finan-

cial needs. Instead, it has

sprung from the urgency to

plug the financial gaps that

logue vulnerabilities, priori-

ties, and financial needs for

An idea is taking shape in a desperate bid to increase revenue collection. This idea would set thousands of auditors loose on those who have been naïve enough to file their tax returns. The idea is that large numbers of people are concealing incomes, or filing nil returns while large amounts of money can be seen gushing through their bank accounts.

On the surface, it sounds simple: stop and ask these people where they get off filing nil returns when large amounts of money are clearly going through their accounts and they make multiple foreign trips in a year and have a vast arsenal of assets at their command, from property to automobiles to expensive smartphones, and perhaps, who knows, exotic

On the surface, the get it effectively.

idea is not new and it has a simple flaw that my conversations with a number of chartered accountants have made obvious.

The FBR does not have the capacity to do this many audits, and no auditing firm worth its salt is willing to work with them on this venture because there is a conflict of interest. An ethical accounting or auditing firm cannot work for the tax authority and private clients at the same time. And those who are willing to do this should not be trusted with such a responsibility.

An attempt to net tax evasion through stronger audits is not in itself a bad idea. But it has been tried in Pakistan and one wonders how much those who are advocating this idea have explored this history. The effectiveness of such an exercise hinges crucially on the ability to tar-

Earlier, the FBR sehaving large incomes. Ex- court challenge followed as it might seem at first random selection through

That programme ran for three years and saw audit cases being selected via random selection in the presence of taxpayer rep-

resentatives. The programme did not achieve much by way of improving compliance or collection. In 2021, a small group of researchers carefully studied the data produced by that programme to determine what impact it had on tax compliance of firms. The programme was targeted specifically at firms and associations of persons, not individuals, and gathered voluminous amounts of their data from sales tax

'We find that despite detecting substantial amounts of unpaid liabilities audit does not cause any change in behaviour." the authors of the study said. How was this happening? How did the programme yield up massive tomes of data that aided detection, but was ineffective when it came to deterring non-compliation of determine the detection probability.

The many the state of the detection probability and the many the state of the detection probability.

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The many the detection probability and the detection probability and the detection probability and the detection probability.

The many the detection probability and the detection p ant behaviour? The answer lies not so much in lates to capacity weakthe quantity of information that informs audit selection, the authors say. It lies more in the nature, or

quality of that information and equally importantly, the ability to collect after

detection. In both areas, the authors found, there were serious weaknesses. Most firms were operating so far below what they called the 'indifference point of reporting" that raising the 'detection probability" had (which is what an audit is supposed to do) little impact on their behaviour. Secondly, even after detection, the amounts served on the firms were "subject to adiudication and appeal processes", which the authors say are "manipulable" making it difficult to translate detection into collection.

The study found that firms typically settled two per cent of detected liabilities, with the rest going into adjudication. Second, they found that the higher the share of a

The first finding renesses in the audit itself, as well as recovery

cause they are what prevent the tax authority from turning predatory and cannibalising the economy to further its purposes. The second finding tells us that even at the firm level, what information the state has matters rather than the sheer volume or quantum of information. For example, the study finds that transactions between a firm and its end consumers were easier to conceal from the tax authorities, as were transactions among colluding firms (a vendor and supplier in a long-term relationship, for example). But transactions between armslength firms yielded up larger detected amounts.

There are three things to bear in mind when looking at this. The study being cited is based on data from an exercise done more than a decade ago, which is then comexample, we have far let's see. What should not more information avail- be allowed is a rolling back able by comparison to of the safeguards that prothen as more databases tect taxpayers from arbimechanisms, weaknesses have been digitised and which should exist beintegrated. Second, the thorities.

tools to sift through this data have also improved significantly. Third, the present case of auditbased recoveries is targeting individuals whereas the study looked at firms. What information is useful for detection purposes, and whether audits like these can successfully deter individuals where they failed to deter firms remains to be seen. The differences between the world this study looked into and the world the FBR is currently gearing up to move into are appreciable.

But whether or not the FBR can leverage a large-scale auditing exercise into any improvement in recoveries or even reduction in evasion depends a great deal on the type of information they are relying on, the effectiveness with which evasion can be detected, and how well this detection can be trans-

### On thin ice

### F.S. Aijazuddin

tence of its governments, it has managed to wobble and

stumble for 77 years.
Today, many Pakistanis wonder how long it laws of economic gravity coats; the state vs its public; the legislature vs its electorate; impetuousness vs common sense?

We survive each day in an uneasy condition, the very opposite of Chamberlain's peace with

In many countries certainly those with a burgeoning population the size of ours — political parties prepare a plan on the essentials of governance bestrategies. The foolhardy themselves by using the rear view window.

Take the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960. In 1947, the water system was bifurcated, with headworks located in India and downstream canals running president Ayub Khan signed the IWT in September 1960. The lollipop provided by the World Bank financed the Mangla and

Tarbela dams. The treaty snawned a Permanent Indus Commission with commissioners from each side to ease treaty. The 118th meeting of the Pakistan-India Permanent Indus Commission

objections on India's hydroelectric projects on the western rivers. The Indians assured that Pakistan's outstanding objections would be discussed in the next meeting". Both sides reiterated their commitment "to implement the Indus Waters Treaty in its true spirit". In effect, the party to the First Part promised to continue living with the party to the Second Part.

The 119th meeting is unlikely to be held, as India refuses to hold any more meetings until the IWT is renegotiated. India issued a notice in 2023 and another in 2024 seeking "a review and modification" of its terms. India has cited "changes in population growth, agricultural needs, and the evolving water usage situation since the treaty's inception in 1960" PM Modi's rationale is blunter: "Blood and water

cannot flow together." Our powers that ought to be should recall the warning of the expert David Lilienthal, who conceived the IWT: "No armies with bombs and shellfire could devastate a land so thoroughly as Pakistan could be devastated by simple expedient of India's permanently shutting off the source of water that keeps the fields and people of

Pakistan green. Our governments, however, continue to behave like some tethered goat, tied to the past, bound to the rigid terms of the IWT and the now sterile UN resolutions on Jammu & Kashmir. PM Modi resolved the J&K conundrum by abrogating Article 370 and absorbing its possession of the disputed territory into India. He now proposes to abrogate the IWT and leave us dehydrated, a modern

Mohenjodaro. Has the government any more leeway than it had in the Reko Diq minits capable of producing 200,000 tons of copper and 250,000 ounces of gold a year for nearly 50 years". Our paper riches turned instead into \$11 billion in fines. Islamabad escaped them through a renegotiated deal which cost \$900m paid to a former investor.

In another deal gone sour — the Iran-Pakistan pipeline — we avoided a penalty of \$1m a day by building our rump of the pipeline, shrinking it from planned kilometres to 80 km.

Sadly, the indepen-

dent power producers are headed also towards confrontation. Recently, the government 'urged' owners of five IPPs to voluntarily terminate their power purchase agreements and shift to a 'pay and take' model. Worse still, some IPPS are being told to replace their feedstock from rich imported coal to poorer local Thar lignite. Such draconian measures can only dishearten existing owners and discourage future in-

News now abounds that the Pakistan Steel Mills (Pasmic) — a defunct monument to avarice and incompetence — is being resurrected with Russian help. As if on cue, a convoy of diplomats (including the Russian ambassador) returning from a jaunt in Swat to explore investment, was attacked by someone using an improvised explosive device. History reminds us that the assassination at Sarajevo started the First World War on flimsier

In 1961, Russia helped us establish the Oil & Gas Development Company, and in 1974 Pasmic. Is it possible that Russia's Lazarus interest in Pasmic in 2024 has something to do with the announcement of major oil and gas reserves off our coast? Courtesy Dawn

### **Child protection** Kishwar Enam

A few weeks ago, an 11year-old girl in Karachi was kidnapped, tortured, raped, and murdered. Her body was discarded in a garbage dump. The Sindh Police responded swiftly, and apprehended the suspect. The culprit may face justice. But is this the end of the story?

Unfortunately, such horrifying incidents are common, and each new tragedy eclipses the previous one in the public's memory. Only cases that capture media attention or come under the radar of officials, NGOs, child rights activists, or concerned individuals see action, but even these are few and far between. The vast majority of child abuse cases in Pakistan remain hidden, neglected, or dismissed by the authorities.

Child abuse in Pakistan takes various forms, including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, and neglect. Children are frequently exploited through begging, labour, domestic servitude, trafficking, and underage marriages. Many are also deprived of their right to education, healthcare, and shelter. Yet Pakistan lacks a centralised database to accurately record and assess the extent of child

Child abuse cases are handled in a disjointed, arbitrary manner, with no standardised protocol in place. Each case is treated uniquely, often resulting in haphazard responses that do more harm than

According to Unicef, a child protection system consists of laws, policies, regulations, and services required across social sectors — such as social welfare, healthcare, security, and justice — to prevent and respond to risks related to child protection. Typically, such systems are government-led and ments, NGOs, and citizen

child protection requires seamless coordination between key stakeholders, including child protection authorities, police, medico-legal officers, and the judiciary. This is severely lacking in Pakistan. Each department operates its own helpline; efforts to create a unified helpline for child protection have met with resistance. Each department responds to cases according to its individual protocols, resulting in delays and confu-

Hospitals are another critical part. When a case of child abuse is reported, hospitals should follow established protocols. Unfortunately, very few public or private hospitals here have such protocols. Also, the need for mental health services, which are essential to help children recover from trauma, is often overlooked.

Given that children pend a significant part of their day at school, schools are also integral to the child protection system. By establishing child protection committees within schools and incorporating lessons on child rights, we can empower children to understand their rights and seek help when needed.

A group of concerned citizens from diverse backgrounds has drafted a document on an integrated child protection system. This group has studied child protection systems worldwide and reviewed SOPs of local authorities, many of which were found to be incomplete and complex. Some employees were unaware that these SOPs even existed.

For a child protection system to work in Pakistan, we need coordination among all stakeholders involved in child protection,

supported by collabora- including citizens, profestion among various depart- sionals working with children, child protection authorities, police, the judiciary, lawyers, and healthcare providers. We need pre-designed forms for reporting incidents of child abuse, step-by-step guidelines for handling

cases, and clear protocols

for monitoring, auditing,

and reviewing processes to ensure compliance with best practices. The system should aim to simplify the documentation and procedural workflow, ensuring that it is consistently follo-wed, reviewed, and improved as needed. By fostering an environment of transparency and responsiveness, we can hope to build public trust and encourage

more families to report

The child protection system should be implemented in such a way that it unites all relevant stakeholders, ensuring cases are handled smoothly without the need for public pressure or social media campaigns to achieve justice. Its primary goal should be to protect the child and family from further trauma, while offering a systematic, trauma-informed approach to address child abuse. Awareness campaigns should be consistent and will only succeed when a strong child protection system is functioning effectively.

Pakistan is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and several child rights laws exist. However, enforcement remains minimal.

It is strongly urged that the relevant authorities prioritise child protection. Our children — the country's future — deserve a safe and nurturing environment where they can grow and thrive, free from the shadow of abuse and neglect. The time for action is now. -- Courtesy

### Political stability indispensable for the country's stability and economic development: Saleem

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan today visited Sherwani's residence in Model Town where he condoled with him over the death of his son-in-law. Later, talking to the media, he said that political stability is indispensable for the country's stability and economic development. Governor Punjab underlined the need for unity and joint efforts to tackle the challenges faced

by the country. In response

to a question, he stated that

depends on the quality of education being given at the universities. Therefore, as Saleem Hai Chancellor, he wants Vice-Chancellors to be appointed on merit. He said that no compromise issues in the universities. Governor Punjab further said that the doors of Governor House are open for everyone including party workers. He said that PPP has always given respect to its workers. He said that he was committed to fulfill his constitutional future of our youth improvement of the the death of his daughter.

KARACHI: Governor Sindh, Kamran Khan Tessori along with others visiting

the stalls of Vaults Energy Solutions products manufactured in Pakistan

the issue of pending

salaries for the janitorial

and security staff had

been resolved following

instructions from the

minister confirmed that all

companies, except for one,

had paid three months

salaries to the janitorial

staff. The remaining

company's owner is

expected to be summoned

to settle the outstanding

the pending salaries are not

Minister Khawaja

payments immediately.

On this occasion, the

Provincial

**Punjab minister announces** 

establishment of Cath

Labs in DHQ hospitals

LAHORE (APP): Punjab briefing on the operations

Minister for Primary and

Secondary Healthcare

Khawaja Imran Nazir has

catheterization

laboratories (Cath labs) for

heart patients will soon be

established in District

Headquarters (DHQ)

hospitals across the

statement while presiding

over a meeting at the

Project Management Unit

(PMU) of the Department

of Primary and Secondary

Healthcare on Thursday.

The meeting focused on the

status of the DHQ

Hospital Jhelum.

made this

Ali, provided a detailed company.

Saleem Haider Khan went to the residence of President Lahore District 4, Rana Ashar Nisar, in Township. He expressed will be made on governance condolences to him over the death of his mother and recited Fatiha. Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan also went to the residence of late Mian Khalid Saeed where he condoled with his family on the death of his mother. Furthermore, he went to the residence of President role in a good way and PP 147, Javaid Alias Butt contribute to the and condoled with him on



Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho addressing during the first SMBBMU International Conference on Family Planning "Way Forward For A Sustainable World' at Chandka Medical College auditorium Hall.

# Largest shrimp farming pilot project launched in Muzaffargarh

(APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif announced on Thursday incentives for shrimp farming, setting an ambitious target of cultivating it on 100,000 acres in the province.

During her visit to the shrimp farming pilot project in Jhlaren Shumali, Muzaffargarh, inspected the facility. She also conducted an aerial survey of the project, officially inaugurating the 'Pilot Project for Adaptive Research on Shrimp

Farming'.

Maryam highlighted the global demand for shrimp, and encouraged the farming community to on the capitalise

LAHORE (APP): Punjab

Health Minister Khawaja

Salman Rafique announced

on Thursday that the

Punjab Health Department

was introducing modern

reforms aimed at enhancing

the nursing sector. He was

addressing the Special

Investment Facilitation

Council meeting held in the

Department of Specialized

Healthcare and Medical

Education here. The

meeting's agenda included

framework for nursing and

midwifery, improvements

in nursing training through

national policy

Salman announces

modern reforms

for nursing sector

that shrimp farming on 100,000 acres could generate up to one billion dollars in foreign exchange. With a potential profit margin of 40 per cent, she highlighted the plan to turn barren lands in south Punjab into productive farms through shrimp cultivation.

The chief minister promised lease of land and incentives for farmers and investors involved in shrimp farming. She assured that the necessary feed, seed, and equipment would be provided. Praising Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb and her team, she congratulated them for their hard work in advancing the project.

During the briefing, it opportunity. She projected was revealed that the pilot

transfusion policy. The

minister emphasized the

critical role of nursing in the

healthcare system, stating,

"Nursing is the backbone of our health system, and

we are committed to

developing master trainers

during nursing training."

He further stressed

the government's focus on

ensuring the availability of

clean blood for patient care

He added, "According to the vision of Punjab Chief

Minister Maryam Nawaz

Sharif, we are striving to

improved

provide

project, overseen by the Department, completed within a record time of two months. The first yield from the Jhlaren Shumali project is expected in October. Notably, the project is using a 50pc local and 50pc foreign feed mix for shrimp farming.

The pilot project, spread over 100 acres, is expected to produce 100 metric tons of shrimp and create employment opportunities for 10,000 to 20,000 people. Additionally, the Punjab 20,000 government is working to expand shrimp aquaculture to 2,000 acres under Marriyum Aurangzeb's leadership, with a long-term goal of reaching 4,750

### Shah Farman appointed KP **CMAdvisor**

The CM Secretariat in a letter to the Chief Secretary on Thursday said that the services of Shah Farman would be utilized on honorary hasis without any basis without an basis without any in government hospitals. remuneration

compensation. The CM further directed that the Advisor Shah Farman should be officially invited in all

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has appointed former KP governor Shah Farman as his Senior Advisor Political Affairs.

cabinet meetings



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi presides over the meeting of Pakistan Red crescent Society Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Branch at Governor House.

Rs 35.9 bn released for

### VCs' transparent appointment process completed: Azma

During the meeting, cleared within the next 3-4

Deputy Commissioner days, strict action will be

(DC) Jhelum, Syeda Ramla taken against the defaulting

LAHORE (APP): Punjab attributed to the chief Information Minister minister regarding the Azma Bokhari has said that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has completed the Nawaz did not make any process of appointing vice statement about the chancellors transparently

for the first time. One should not play with the future of students indeed completed the politicise these appointments, she warned refuted claims

governor regarding the VC appointment. C M Maryam Nawaz has process of appointing vice chancellors transparently

for the first time



HYDERABAD: Mayor Hyderabad, Kashif Shoro talking to media persons after gas leakage in filter plant, at Khursheed Shah Colony in Hyderabad.

### 22,000 students complete Chinese language course from UAF: Dr Iqar

Chancellor (VC) Prof Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan said on Thursday that 22,000 students had completed Chinese language course, offered by the Confucius Institute of the university during a decade and out of which, 600 are studying at Chinese universities under scholarship programmes.

The Xinjiang Agricultural University (XJAU) and the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad convened ceremony to commemorate the inauguration of the Model Confucius Institute and celebration of ten-year completion of Chinese Confucius Institute.

FAISALABAD (APP): Prof Dr Iqrar Ahmad University of Agriculture Khan said that the Faisalabad (UAF) Vice Confucius Institute has played an instrumental role in fostering mutual understanding and respect through the promotion of Chinese language, culture, and heritage. Over the past decade, this institute has become a beacon of academic cooperation, knowledge sharing, and intercultural dialogue.He said that this institute has also contributed to deepening the Pakistan-China relationship in ways that go beyond academics. I firmly believe that the establishment of this new building will further enhance these efforts and expand the opportunities

for both countries.

### during the exhibition of alternative energy, held at Expo Center in Karachi Two brothers drown in river Kabul

PESHAWAR (APP): In a tragic incident two brothers were drowned in river Kabu in Rashakai area of Shabqadar. Rescue 1122 teams managed to recover body of one of the brothers, while the search for the other is still ongoing. The victims have been identified as 22-yearold Imam Hassan and 20year-old Abbas Khan, both sons of Zarrar, a resident of Peer Kalay. The incident took place while the brothers were taking an evening walk along the riverbank on Wednesday. Imam Hassan decided to swim in the river but soon found himself drowning. In brother., Abbas Khan

also drowned. The body of Imam Hassan was recovered by Rescue 1122, while the search for Abbas continues.

jumped into the water but

### Sagheer Shahid assumes office of DGPR Punjab

LAHORE (APP): The newly-appointed Director General Public Relations (DGPR) Ghulam Sagheer Shahid assumed charge of his post on Wednesday.

On arrival at the office of Directorate General Public Relations, Additional Director General Abid Noor Bhatti, Directors and senior officers accorded him a warm reception and welcomed him.

Later, he was given a briefing about various sections of the department including Print, Electronic and Digital Media. Advertising Administration, Technical and other departmental matters. The Director General directed that all the officers should work with dedication and diligence to highlight and project Punjab government's peoplefriendly policies and initiatives on the media. He said that the heads of

various sections should pay special attention to the performance of their subordinate staff, ensure their attendance and undertake timely steps to cope up with the departmental issues in a minimum time frame

roads rehab in NA-53 RAWALPINDI (APP):

The Punjab government has released funds of Rs.35.9 billion under Roads Rehabilitation The other projects Program through which including Chakri Adavarious major roads in NA-53 constituency will be and reconstruction contracts have been awarded to the contractors in this regard.

According to the details, Rs.1.93 billion will be spent on reconstruction of the main road from Khawaja Corporation to Gorakhpur. The road plays an important linking role for frequent travelers on Adyala Road. The second

reconstructed

rehabilitation.

important project of Gurja to Thalian road will be constructed with Rs. 62.88

Bilawal Harnianwala Road will be reconstructed with an amount of Rs.200.47 million, whereas the road from the Jarrar Camp to Kachi Jorian will be completed with Rs. 200.29 million. Rs. 100.41 million will be spent on Harka -Bisali road, and Rs.60 million will be spent on reconstruction of Chakri-Dhadambar road. Rs.200 million will be spent on Jorian-Chakri



LAHORE: Punjab Miniseter for Law Malik Sohaib Ahmed Berth presides over high level meeting to set standard for selection of members of Provincial Police Complaint Authority. Home Secretary Punjab, Secretary Law, Additional IG Special Branch and Additional IG Punjab are also present.

### Met office issues dengue alert in 10 major cities

LAHORE (APP): The Pakistan Mèteorological Department has issued an alert in 10 major cities of Pakistan, showing the fear of increasing dengue epidemic.

According to the alert issued by the department, the epidemic cases that started from September are expected to increase in October. The risks of this epidemic are high in 10 major cities of the country, which include Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Sialkot, Multan, Hyderabad and Larkana.

The Meteorological Department further said that there is a clear increase in the epidemic after the monsoon, when there is more than 27 mm of rain, the risk of the epidemic increases.

It said in its issued alert that two hours before the sunrise and before sunset, the risk of epidemic is high, while dengue is significantly reduced when the temperature is below 16 degrees.

On the other side, the public has been instructed by the Health department not to let water stand in urban houses and nearby areas, and to cover open water containers and tanks.

### Governor lauds **KP-PRCS** efforts, added 12 new members

Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday lauded the efforts of Pakistan Red Crescent Society (KP-

The Governor in the meeting approved the addition of 12 new members to the managing committee of the PRCS Khyber Pakhtunkhwa branch. provincial members Ahmad Karim Kundi, Arbab Zarak, and Sardar Ehsanullah Khan Miankhel, among others.

The meeting was briefed on the objectives, functions, financial, and administrative matters of the PRCS. Details were shared regarding the availability of relief supplies for natural disaster response, annual income and expenses, fundraising from donors, volunteer services, and

ocational training centers. The discussion also covered the use of properties under the expand PRĈS's management and the need to organize a

(APP): donor conference to ensure adequate funding.

Karim Kundi welcomed the new committee members and praised the contributions of the

outgoing members. He expressed hope that the new members would work diligently, emphasizing the necessity for increased efforts in

fundraising. Kundi stated, "The PRCS should establish offices in all districts of the province. We need individuals who can genuinely assist our

He said that various donor countries are eager to operate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and urged the Red Crescent to prepare a comprehensive proposal to showcase their areas of work. The Governor suggested that support from the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC) be sought to vocational training centers



LARKANA: Sindh Minister for Health and Population Welfare Department Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho addressing during the first SMBBMU International Conference on Family Planning " Way Forward For A Sustainable World" at Chandka Medical College auditorium Hall.

### Punjab govt to launch crackdown on medicine shortage, price hike: Imran

LAHORE (APP): Punjab immediately. He reassured Minister for Primary and the public that government Secondary Healthcare hospitals have sufficient Khawaja Imran Nazir stocks of insulin and announced a announced a swift dismissed claims of crackdown on those widespread shortages in

recent surge in drug prices. The announcement came during an emergency meeting, held on directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, following alarming reports of insulin shortages and price hikes. Chairing the meeting

on Thursday, the minister warned that strict action would be taken if the shortage of insulin and other crucial medicines is not resolved within the next 24 hours. He stressed that individuals attempting to exploit the situation by overcharging for medicines would face severe penalties. Khawaja Imran reminded Nazir stakeholders that hoarding medicines or inflating prices is a clear violation of the Drug Pricing Policy 2018, and such activities would be

"It is the fundamental right of the people to have access to basic health facilities and affordable medicines." The minister further emphasised his commitment to resolving pharmacists' concerns and

strengthening the drug control regime across the province. According to pharmacists' reports, no recent stock replenishment of essential medicines has been observed in Punjab, coupled with rising prices. High-ranking

officials, including Secretary of Health Nadia Saqib, Additional Secretary of Drug Control Qalandar Khan, DG Drug Control Muhammad Sohail, and Chief Drug Controller Azhar Jamal Salimi, attended the meeting alongside pharmacists from Lahore



KARACHI: Nurses of Pakistan Nursing and Midwifery Council are protesting outside the press club for their demands.

### Ombudsman office resolves 19 cases in Shujabad

MULTAN (APP): Federal Ombudsman Investigation Officer Dr. Zahid Malik visited Shujabad here on Thursday and held an open court at the Town Municipal Corporation office.

He addressed public complaints about federal institutions. He received written complaints and solved 19 cases on-therefund over Rs 5 million in various bill-related cases. He also directed MEPCO Executive Engineer Tariq Mahmood Dar to immediately restore over electricity three connections. The federal officers informed him that faulty meters for more than record 194,099 complaints.

three connections were replaced. Dr. Malik ordered focal persons from WAPDA, Sui Gas, Postal Life Insurance, NADRA, Pakistan Railways, ZTBL and Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal to resolve pending complaints promptly.

He emphasised swift implementation of the Federal Ombudsman's decisions, warning against spot. He issued orders to any delays. He encouraged people to submit their complaints in writing, assuring that public grievances would be addressed free of charge and without any delay.

Dr. Malik shared that in 2023, the Federal Ombudsman handled a

### Kamal reviews transhipment policy; seeks proposals for **E-Commerce development**

ISLAMABAD (APP): regional and inter-regional participated in the meeting Federal Minister for trade, with a special focus virtually. Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan here on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting to revamp the expected to boost revenue country's transhipment

ministry, the meeting was representatives from the directed all stakeholders to

Affairs, FBR, Customs,

Railways, Commerce, and

other key stakeholders. Discussions focused on addressing various issues such as alternative input. Meanwhile, the Khawaja highlighted the routes, transhipment modes, and regulatory measures to remove obstacles, with the goal of making Pakistan a regional growth of Pakistan's IT

E-Commerce Council, \$3.223 billion to \$25 billion by 2029, as directed by the Prime Minister. She transhipment hub.

The revised policy aims to facilitate cargo IT and Telecommunication exports movement for both intra- Shaza Fatima Khawaja also provided

on serving landlocked countries in the region.

The initiative is for the FBR, create employment opportunities According to press for skilled workers, and spur overall development in the country.

Jam Kamal Khan Ministry of Maritime expedite pending matters to ensure the timely implementation of the policy, and emphasized the importance of consulting the private sector for their minister also chaired the first meeting of the IT & and e-commerce sectors.

Minister Jam Kamal Khan asked council members to submit proposals for further review by the Executive Committee of Commerce, chaired by the Commerce Minister himself. These proposals would then be forwarded



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani addressing as chief guest of 3rd Pesa Export Awards in Islamabad.

### **Governor underscores** collective efforts to utilize natural resources

PESHAWAR Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, emphasized the province's rich natural resources and minerals, progress in line with calling for collective efforts modern requirements. to utilize these blessings

Gemstone Traders of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, led by Syed Minhajuddin, Chairman of the All Pakistan Commercial Exporters Association here at Governor House.

Parliamentary leader Kundi, also attended the meeting.

announced plans to challenges. organize an exhibition at Kund the Governor House to promote the province's precious stones and related products to the world.

Kundi acknowledged that many valuable gemstones are wasted due to a lack of facilities and modern equipment in the

He expressed his association.

(APP): intent to facilitate Khyber collaboration between university students and gemstone dealers to help both sectors benefit and

The Governor for public prosperity.

He made these remarks during a meeting

Association regarding the method of the solution of the control of the contro listened to the issues raised other challenges faced in the industry, assuring the delegation of his full support in resolving their problems.

He pledged to address difficulties related to the Development Trade of PPP Ahmad Karim Authority, saying that traders and farmers are crucial for overcoming the Governor country's economic

> Kundi emphasized the necessity of equipping those in the gemstone sector with modern machinery to enhance

> exports. He also directed immediate action regarding issues related to NEPRA and the Department of Industries as raised by the



LAHORE: Consul General of China, President of Pakistan-China Chamber of Commerce Nazir Hussain and others are cutting the cake for the 75th anniversary of China organized by China-Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce Industry at a local hotel in the provincial capital.

### **OEC** to export skilled workforce to S. Arabia

Overseas Employment program in a specific area Corporation (OEC) of assignment from an working under the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human that the responsibilities/ (OP&HRD) would export

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. An official source told APP here on Thursday, he with duties such as said that skilled workforce would work under the Saudi Ministry of National Guard - Health Affairs as a Tradesman Assistants who meet the prescribed qualifications and experience as following filling gaps on walls, Tradesman Assistant (Age 25-50), Education should be High School Graduate –

area of assignment or disposal

ISLAMABAD (APP): recognized apprenticeship Resource Development duties of the workforce would be carried out general the skilled workforce to the cleaning duties within workshop or plant room areas, and assist tradesmen painting, flooring upkeep, electrical repairs, and heating/air conditioning system cleaning, etc. Assist Tradesmen performing minor fixes such as repairing broken locks,

checking control panels, and electrical wiring to identify issues, etc. Assist Essential, Diploma Degree with ensuring safe and in Technical College or efficient operation of all engineering in the specific equipment and plant in

During the session, to the National Export Development Board (NEDB), chaired by Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif, comprehensive decision-making on key issues. Shaza Fatima government's target to increase IT exports from assured that all necessary Minister of State for support to enhance IT would

**PSX loses** 

589 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-Index of the

Pakistan Stock Exchange

(PSX) turned around to

bearish trend on Thursday.

losing 589.95 points, a negative change of 0.72

percent, closing at 81,657.97 points against

82,247.92 points on the

A total of 423,942,319 shares were

traded during the day as compared to 422,163,158

shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 17.671 billion against Rs.18.380

billion on the last trading

companies transacted their

shares in the stock market,

125 of them recorded gains

and 263 sustained losses,

whereas the share price of

56 companies remained

companies were PIA

Holding Company with

36,327,627 shares at Rs20.91 per share, WorldCall Telecom with 33,114,742 shares at Rs

1.23 per share and

Kohinoor Spinning with 25,821,689 shares at Rs

Tanvir elected

as MCCI

president

unopposed

MULTAN (APP): The unofficial results for the

Multan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) for the term 2024-

26 showed that Mian Bakhtawar Tanvir Sheikh

Similarly, Khawaja

Masood was elected as

Senior Vice President while

Muhammad Azhar Javed

Khan was elected as the

Vice President unopposed.

proceedings took place at

the MCCI premises, with

a large number of Executive

Committee members,

Presidents, Senior Vice

Presidents, and Vice

Presidents, in attendance.

Commission members,

Syed Iftikhar Ali Shah.

Mohsin

election

former

Election

Muhammad

The

including

The

8.28 per share.

The three top trading

unchanged

As many as 444

last working day.



"The world is rapidly changing, and the pharmaceutical sector is no exception. We must leverage new technologies such as telemedicine and digital health records" he made these remarks while addressing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pharma Export Summit & Awards

emphasized the importance of advancing research and corporations", he added.

of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), Fawad Ishaq has

said that the Independent

Power Producers (IPPs)

issue, calling it the "biggest burning issue" in the

conference, SCCI President Fawad Ishaq

revealed that the chamber

has been fighting against

IPPs for the past year, with their legal team and

business community

closely monitoring the

expressed grave concern

that IPPs have exceeded

Ishaq

Speaking at a press ference, SCCI

country.

situation.

**SÇCI** takes

stand against IPPs

PESHAWAR (APP): the country's defense President Sarhad Chamber budget, causing destruction

a robust regulatory framework, and promoting international cooperation through public-private

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Mr. Ajaypal Singh Banga,

President of the World Bank on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York.

Finance Minister, Muhammad Aurangzeb was also present in the meeting.

Gilani calls for adopting digital

Gilani said that the pharmaceutical sector is one of the key pillars of the country's economy and it is highly promising that the sector is expanding its reach into high-value markets such as Europe, the USA, and emerging markets in Asia and Africa. "Despite the smaller

Pakistan's pharmaceutical industry is expanding, with local companies increasingly further capturing market share multinational

to the economy and industry nationwide. He

emphasized that FPCCI

and chambers across the

country are united against

IPPs. After legal consultation, SCCI has filed a writ petition against IPPs in the Peshawar High

Court, arguing that IPPs are

much higher than the

country's needs, with

sufficient nuclear and green

IPPs agreements were

made, benefiting favored

energy available.

individuals

Fawad

He highlighted few key areas where industry can strategically focus to increase exports and compete on a par with regional players in global

He suggested to focus research, development capabilities, improve regulatory frameworks, foster international collaborations renowned peer companies strengthen public-private partnerships to enhance competitive edge and investing in the production of generic drugs and biosimilar that can help Pakistan tap into the growing global demand for affordable medications.

### **Business** Forum wins SCCI elections

PESHAWAR (APP): All candidates of Businessman Forum (BF), led by former Senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour have emerged victorious in Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) elections.

The Businessman Forum candidates on 10 Corporate and 10 Associate Group seats succeeded with high margin in the election. A total of 2,026 votes were polled including 381 in Corporate and 1645 in Associate Group. The results were criticized the "Take and Pay" policy under which announced by senior member of Election Commission Malik Niaz Ahmad. Business

Shipping

activity at

**Port Qasim** 

Shipping activity was report at the port where four ships, SSL Brahmaputra, Maersk

Cape Town, Forza Roma

and Hafnia Express

scheduled to load/offload

Container, Rice and Gas

oil, berthed at Qasim

International Container

Terminal, Grain Terminal

and FOTCO Oil Terminal

Ashico Victoria, Cape

Andreas, Solar Roma and

Papino scheduled to load/

offload Rice, Container and

steel coil are also arrived at

outer anchorage port during

Meanwhile five more

Phoenicianm,

respectively

Wednesday.

last 24 hours.

(APP)

KARACHI



Governor SBP, Jameel Ahmed, PTCL & Ufone 4G GCEO, Hatem Bamatraf, IFC Regional Director Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, CFO PTCL Group, Muhammad Nadeem Khan, and consortium members attend an event celebrating the USD 400 million financing deal for PTCL Group's acquisition (subject to regulatory approval) of Telenor Pakistan and Orion Towers.

# Acquisition of Telenor PTCL, IFC-led syndicate come together to celebrate historic financing deal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan

had been elected unopposed as the president of the chamber. Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) led consortium came together to formalize and celebrate the historic financing deal for PTCL's acquisition of Telenor Pakistan and Orion Towers (Private) Limited.

PTCL signed a share purchase agreement with Telenor (ASA) in December 2023 for the acquisition of 100% shares in Telenor Pakistan and Orion Towers (Pvt.) Ltd at the acquisition price of Rs 108 billion (on debt free cash free basis), said a news

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Faisal Karim Kunid called

on by Gemstones Traders Association delegation at Governor House.

release issued here on Thursday.
PTCL approached

IFC for financing of the project, which was subsequently approved in April 2024, and endorsed by the IFC Board of Directors. The IFC-led consortium includes the Silk Road Fund (SRF), a Chinese state-owned medium-to-long-term investment fund, and British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution and impact investor. The event was attended by Governor, State Bank of Pakistan, Jameel Ahmad, President

& Group CEO.

A total of ten ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them five ships, Maersk Cape Town SSL Brahmaputra, North Berwick, Bentley-I and Al-Deebal left the port on today morning, while two more ships, Scarable and Cape Andreas are expected to sail on today afternoon.

Cargo volume of 97,522 tonnes, comprising 77,632 tonnes imports cargo and 19,890 tonnes export cargo carried in .866 Containers (845 TEUs Imports& 1,021 TEUs Export) was handled at the port during last 24

### PM reaffirms commitment to achieve Pakistan's development goals

NEW YORK (APP): reduction Muhammad Thursday reaffirmed government's commitment to achieving Pakistan's development goals, aligned with Vision 2025 and the United

Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs). The prime minister was talking to President of the World Bank Ajaypal Singh Banga in a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York. Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb was also present in the

During the meeting, the prime minister appreciated the World Bank's continuous support to the Government of Pakistan in introducing critical economic reforms and addressing Pakistan's economic challenges, including

Shehbaz development.

The prime minister apprised the WB president of the government's steps, involving administrative organizational reforms, to realize the full potential of the economy and to promote inclusive and sustainable economic

He added that the government has also implemented reforms, particularly in energy, finance, and revenue sectors and Pakistan looks forward to enhanced support from the World Bank for the government's revitalized economic reforms agenda.

He stressed exploring innovative financing solutions for Pakistan's development projects, including management, energy, and human development.



SIALKOT: President Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Ghafoor Malik presenting a shield to British High Commission Deputy Director Communication Sneha Leela visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry attending a seminar on Chewing Scholarship Program.

### Pak strengthens automotive ties with China, eyes joint innovation in EV sector

Pakistan's Consul General in Shanghai, Shehzad Ahmad Khan, reaffirmed the need for a Pakistan's steadfast comprehensive framework commitment to enhancing of its bilateral relations with

Industry Expo, he said Taizhou's pivotal role as a trailblazer in China's automobile industry and praised the city's innovative achievements and its substantial contributions to the global

Highlighting the importance of technological collaboration, Shehzad emphasized the potential groundbreaking advancements

automotive technology through joint efforts between Pakistani and Chinese enterprises. "Such collaboration can drive significant strides in knowledge sharing, capacity building, and sustainable practices said, as reported by China

ISLAMABAD (APP): Economic Net on

He further stressed encompassing research and

China, with a particular development, focus on the rapidly manufacturing, and market growing automotive sector. access. "By working Speaking at the together, we can shape a opening ceremony of a future where clean, four-day 2024 Taizhou efficient, and sustainable accessible to all," he added.

Taizhou, renowned as the 'First City of Private Automobile Manufacturing' in China, is home to five national automobile industry bases and over 6,000 automobile and parts enterprises. The expo, which covers six exhibition halls across 50,000 square meters, features 2,500 booths showcasing the latest products and technologies in the sector.

On the sidelines of the expo, Shehzad organized an Electric Vehicle (EV) investment conference. The event brought together key stakeholders from both countries, including within the industry," he industry leaders, officials, and potential investors.



LAHORE: Visitors take keen interest in jewelry, clothes and metal crafts during exhibition organized by Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry held at local hotel.

### NA body on Petroleum takes serious notice of substandard fuel quality

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly Standing Committee on Energy (Petroleum Division) Thursday took serious notice of the substandard fuel quality in Pakistan and directed the Ministry of Energy to investigate the causes behind it.

During a meeting chaired by Syed Mustafa Mehmood, MNA, various issues related to the Ministry of Energy, Petroleum Division, and its attached departments were discussed.

Committee The absence of officers from the meeting, deciding to summon them if they continued to be absent in

The Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division), Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OĞRA), Pakistan State Oil (PSO), and the Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan (HDIP) briefed the committee on the fuel quality standards in the

They explained that fuel is sourced from both imports and domestic refineries, with initial verification done by the

country

O G R A 's expressed concern over the Enforcement Department ensures compliance inspections, through penalizing violators when necessary

tional law, conflicts multi-

plying and becoming more deadly, and civilians pay-

blocked from any action on

Ukraine because Russia is

a veto-wielding member and

a party to the conflict – in-

vading its neighbor in vio-

lation of the U.N. Charter,

which requires all members

to ensure the sovereignty

and territorial integrity of

taking tough action on the

Israel-Hamas war in Gaza

because of Israel's close ally,

the United States, another

veto-wielding member. And

in Sudan, there are divisions

among some members sup-

It has been stymied in

all other nations.

The council has been

ing the steepest price.

UN chief criticizes divided Security Council for failure of leadership

to end wars, calls for unity

**Monitoring Desk** 

United Nations chief sharply criticized the pow-

erful but deeply divided Se-

curity Council at a high-

level meeting Wednesday for a failure of leadership

to end wars in Gaza,

Ukraine, Sudan and be-

tion. And peace demands leadership," Secretary-

General Antonio Guterres

told the 15-member coun-

international peace and se-

cil charged with ensuring

curity. "Instead, we're

seeing deepening geopo-litical divisions and mis-

U.N. Charter and interna-

**Monitoring Desk** 

Bihar state while ritually

swollen by recent flooding,

Disaster Management De-

gerous water levels in riv-

ers as well as ponds while

bathing to celebrate this fes-

tival," said the official, who

requested anonymity be-

cause he was not authorised

curred from Tuesday across

as devotees marked the

The drownings oc-

to speak to the media.

partment told AFP.

on Thursday.

He pointed to re-

peated violations of the porting the warring rival

46 people drown during

Hindu festival in India:

govt official

'Peace demands ac-

## Putin threatens to use N-weapons if Ukraine hits Russia with Western missiles

**Monitoring Desk** 

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin warned the West on Wednesday that Russia could use nuclear weapons if it was struck with conventional missiles, and that Moscow would consider any assault on it supported by a nuclear power to be a joint attack.

The decision to change Russia's official nuclear doctrine is the Kremlin's answer to deliberations in the United States and Britain about whether or not to give Ukraine permission to fire conventional Western missiles into Russia.

Putin, opening a meeting of Russia's security council, said that the changes were in response to a swiftly changing global landscape which had thrown up new threats and risks for Russia.

Kremlin chief, the primary decision-maker on Russia's vast nuclear arsenal, said he wanted to underscore one key change in particular.

"It is proposed that aggression against Russia by any non-nuclear state, but with the participation or support of a nuclear state, be considered as their joint attack on the Russian Federation," Putin said.

"The conditions for Russia's transition to the use of nuclear weapons are also clearly fixed," Putin said, adding that Moscow would consider such a move massive launch of missiles, aircraft or drones against it.

Russia reserved the right to also use nuclear weapons if it or ally Belarus were the subject of aggression, including by conventional weapons, Putin said.

races towards Florida

palachians.'

lachians.

centre said.

Thursday evening or early Friday, warning that "dam-cal storm-force winds and

Nine ruling party candidates

vie to replace Japan's outgoing

Prime Minister Kishida

TOKYO: A record nine in 1986, he has served as

aging" winds may "penheavy rain into Friday.

surge and fierce winds, it

threatening flooding as wel

the potential path and At-

lanta, a Georgia metropolis

hundreds of miles from the

Gulf Coast home to five

million people, is forecast

First elected to parliament

defense minister, agriculture

minister and other key Cabi-

longstanding popularity

among voters, the outspo-

leader, former Prime Min-

net and party posts.

Despite

**Monitoring Desk** 

ST PETERSBURG: Hurri-

cane Helene was set to slam

into the Florida coast as a

'catastrophic' Category 4

storm Thursday, the US

weather service said, threat-

ening up to six metres of

deadly ocean surge and

ng winds

dents rushed to get out of

storm was a Category 2

early Thursday, the National Hurricane Center

(NHC) in Miami said, packing wind speeds of 155

kilometres an hour as it

churns over the warm wa-

ters of the Gulf of Mexico.

expected to make landfall

near the state's Big Bend by

**Monitoring Desk** 

candidates are running in

Japan's ruling party elec-

tion Friday to replace out-

going Prime Minister

ister who is a longtime vet-

eran, the relatively young

son of a popular former

prime minister and the eco-

nomic security minister

who would be the

country's first woman

prime minister are consid-

to win a majority in the first

round, so the top two vote-

getters will advance to a sec-

ond round to be held imme-

diately after the first on Fri-

day afternoon. Here are the

candidates: Ishiba, a 67-

year-old former banker, is

running in the leadership race

No candidate is likely

ered top contenders.

A former defense min-

Fumio Kishida.

The NHC said it is

The fast-moving

harm's way.

The clarifications were carefully calibrated and commensurate with the modern military threats facing Russia \_ confirmation that the nuclear doctrine was changing, the president added.

Russia's current published nuclear doctrine, set out in a 2020 decree by Putin, says it may use nuclear weapons in case of a nuclear attack by an enemy or a conventional attack that threatens the existence of the state.

The innovations outlined by Putin include a widening of the threats unif it detected the start of a der which Russia would consider a nuclear strike, the inclusion of ally Belarus under the nuclear umbrella and the idea that a rival nuclear power supporting a conventional strike on Russia would also be considered to be attacking it.



Kenya's President William Ruto addresses the 79th United Nations General Assembly at United Nations headquarters in New York, U.S.

### Lebanese officials say an Israeli strike killed 23 Syrian workers and family members in Lebanon

**Monitoring Desk** BEIRUT: An Israeli airstrike in Lebanon hit a building housing Syrian workers and their families, killing 23 people, Lebanese officials said Thursday. It was one of the deadliest single strikes in an intensified air campaign against the militant Hezbollah group.

The strike late Wednesday came as the United States and its allies called for an "immediate" 21-day cease-fire to "pro-

launch a ground invasion, and the increasingly heavy exchanges of fire could trigger an all-out war. Lebanon's National

News Agency said the strike occurred near the ancient city of Baalbek in Lebanon's northeastern Bekaa Valley, which runs along the Syrian border. It quoted Ali Kassas, mayor of the village of Younine, as saying that the bodies of 23 Syrian citizens were pulled from under the rubble. He vide space for diplomacy." said four Syrians and four Israel has threatened to Lebanese were wounded.

### US and allies call for an immediate 21-day cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah

**Monitoring Desk** NEW YORK: The U.S.,

France and other allies jointly called Wednesday for an immediate 21-day ceasefire to allow for negotiations in the escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah that has killed more than 600 people in Lebanon in recent days. The joint statement, negotiated on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York, says the recent fighting is "intolerable and presents an unacceptable risk of a broader regional escalation.

We call for an immediate 21-day cease-fire across the Lebanon-Israel border to provide space for diplomacy," the statement

said. "We call on all parties, including the governments of Israel and Lebanon, to endorse the temporary cease-fire immediately.

There was no immediate reaction from the Israeli or Lebanese governments — or Hezbollah but senior U.S. officials said all parties were aware of the call for a cease-fire. Earlier, representatives for Israel and Lebanon reiterated their support for a U.N. resolution that ended the 2006 war between Israel and the Iranian-backed militant group. The U.S. hopes the new deal could lead to longer-term stability along the border between Israel

### Kenya will send more police officers to Haiti, president says

Monitoring Desk NAIROBI: Kenya will deploy additional police officers to Haiti to help the government there fight armed gangs as part of a 2,500-strong multinational force, President William Ruto said on Thursday.

Ruto said in a speech at the United Nations General Assembly that Kenya had already deployed 382 specially trained officers. whom he visited in Haiti last week.

### California governor vetoes bill to ban caste system in South Asia **Monitoring Desk**

CALIFORNIA: California Governor Gavin Newsom vetoed a bill recently passed by the state legislature against the caste system in South Asia.

The bill was meant to discourage the caste system based on discrimina-

The said bill was earlier passed at the first stage but California's Governor Gavin Newsom had ve-

Governor Gavin was influenced by Indians settled in US who gave hefty amount in donations. It merits mention here that India has exported its cruel caste system to the West.



Thursday, citing the tic purposes. country's spy agency. The agency also sees the prospect of North Ko-so it could be interpreted rea potentially carrying out as an act to instill confi-

on November 5, Lee Seongliamentary intelligence committee, said.

Federation of American Scientists concluded that Pyongyang may have produced enough fissile matewarheads, but that it has

Lee said it was rare for North Korean state media to report on leader Kim Jong Un's visit to a uranium enrichment facility, suggesting the report published earlier this month was likely aimed at sending a message to Washington ahead of the US presiden-

### observed by mothers for NEW DELHI: At least 46 the wellbeing of their children. Authorities were still people, including 37 children have drowned while working to recover three celebrating a Hindu festival in eastern India, a local govother bodies, the official said. Jitiya Parv runs over several days and is also obernment official told AFP served in neighbouring The victims drowned Pradesh and in separate incidents in Jharkhand states, and in

bathing in rivers and ponds The Bihar state govan official from the Bihar ernment has announced compensation for each of the victims' families, the government official said. "People ignored dan-

parts of Nepal's southern

Last year local media reported 22 people drowned during a 24-hour period in Bihar, most while marking the same festival.

Deadly incidents are common at places of worship during major religious festivals in India, the biggest of which prompt mil-15 districts of Bihar state lions of devotees to make Jitiya Parv Hindu festival, pilgrimages to holy sites.

### North Korea may be able to produce a double-digit number of nuclear weapons, MP says

a seventh nuclear test after the US presidential election said. kweun, who sits on the par-

In July, a report by the rial to build up to 90 nuclear likely assembled closer to

briefed by South Korea's "It was said that the

dence in residents," Lee Pyongyang says its arsenal of nuclear weapons

and ballistic missiles to carry them are necessary to counter threats from the United States and its allies.

It also often touts the weapons as a matter of national prestige and proof of the country's power.

The North Korean

Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), the reclusive state's rubber-stamp parliament, is set to convene a new session on Oct. 7 in Pyongyang.

During the session, the North might amend its constitution and take followup measures to draw new boundaries with the South, Lee said.

### South Korea offers incentives, adoptions ahead of ban on farming dogs for food

**Monitoring Desk** SEOUL: South Korea will help rehome almost half a million dogs bred for food and give dog farmers subsidies and incentives to help them prepare for a ban on the practice set to take effect in early 2027, the agri-

culture ministry said on

Thursday.

In January, parliament passed a bill to ban the eating and selling of dog meat, ending the controversial centuries-old tradition in a country that has seen growing support for animal welfare and a waning appetite for the food.

Park Beom-su, vice agriculture minister, said the government would spend about 100 billion won (\$75 million) on incentives for dog breeders, farmers and restaurants to encourage them to shut their businesses. Farmers can also get up to 600,000 won (\$452) for each dog they surrender, and the authorities will try and get as many of these animals adopted, or rehomed in shelters, he added. "Although many are concerned the remaining dogs might be euthanized or a lot of them could be processed for consumption

can certainly say, that is not our plan," Park said.

Eating dog meat was once seen as a way to improve stamina in the humid Korean summer, but the practice has become rare as more Koreans consider dogs as pets and as criticism of how the dogs are slaughtered has grown. South Korea has more

than 1,500 dog breeding farms and more than 200 dog slaughter houses. Some 2,300 restaurants still serve Support for the ban,

which takes effect in February 2027, has grown under President Yoon Suk Yeol, an animal lover who owns six dogs and eight cats with First Lady Kim Keon Hee, who is also a vocal critic of eating dog meat. The government's

plan, however, drew criticism from some animal activists and members of the dog meat industry. Sangkyung Lee, a

campaign manager at animal rights group Humane Society International, said that while the plan marked an important milestone, the authorities need to better manage the welfare of the animals no longer being bred over the next three years, I for food.

### New York City Mayor Eric Adams speaks to the press outside his official residence Gracie Mansion after he was charged with bribery and illegally soliciting a campaign contribution from a foreign national, in New York City, U.S. 'Catastrophic' Russia launches overnight drone Hurricane Helene

strike on Kviv **Monitoring Desk** 

XYIV: Russia unleashed an etrate well inland across the overnight drone strike on southeastern United States, the Ukrainian capital Kyiv including over the higher terrain of the southern Apon Thursday, causing damage to civilian infrastructure, city officials said. Along with the storm

More than a dozen Iranian-made attack drones warned of up to 18 inches were spotted over the city, of rain and potentially lifemost of which were shot said Serniy Popko. as "numerous" landslides head of the local military administration.

across the southern Appa-Around 20 cars and a "Preparations to progas pipe in a residential area tect life and property were damaged in the hoursshould be rushed to long strike, he added. Decompletion," the hurricane bris was also found in a children's playground. Several states are in

Russia has regularly sent drones and missiles over Ukrainian towns and cities far behind the front line of its 2 1/2-year-old in-

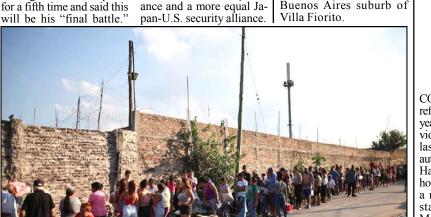
### Milei's austerity seen pushing half of Argentina into poverty

**Monitoring Desk** BUENOS AIRES: Irma Casal, a 53-year-old in Buenos Aires, works three shifts as a garbage recycler, cardboard collector and bricklayer, but, like many Argentines at a time of rising poverty, she still struggles to make ends

"Since this govern-

ken idealist has struggled to Argentina will publish win enough support from fellow party lawmakers. poverty data on Thursday that is expected to show the But now, Ishiba's experience, stability and exrate soaring to over 50% in pertise is increasingly conthe first six months of the term of libertarian President sidered a strength for the party as it prepares to face Javier Milei, who has enacted tough austerity measures in a bid to dig the counthe main opposition Constitutional Democratic try out of debt. Party of Japan's new

ment came to power, jobs ister Yoshihiko Noda, a vethave dropped away. We eran known for gripping work twice as hard for less and we have to keep going," said Casal, who has 14 children and 42 grandchil-Considered a defense policy expert, Ishiba has proposed an Asian version of the NATO military allidren, in the low-income Villa Fiorito.



People wait in line to receive a charity food bag, outside the NGO Sal de la

### tierra, in Villa Fiorito, a working-class neighborhood on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

### after a fatal fire at the Hillside Endarasha Academy within Kieni in Taliban govt in Afghanistan face Hague threat over treatment of women, girls

**Monitoring Desk** KABUL: Afghanistan's Taliban government faces

multinational legal action that could land it in the UN's top court over its "contempt" for the rights of women and girls, government officials said. Australia, Canada,

Germany and The Netherlands announced in New York they were initiating the proceedings, which could lead to a hearing at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. 'The Taliban have demonstrated their contempt for human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls," Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong told reporters on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York. "And they have engaged in a campaign of sus-

Coffins are arranged before a memorial service for the pupils who died

tained and systematic oppression," she said. Wong described the legal push, led by Germany, as "unprecedented". The four countries intend to argue that Afghanistan is flouting the Convention on the Elimination All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

### **Bangladesh revolution** sparks new hopes among Rohingya

**Monitoring Desk** COX'S BAZAR: Rohingya refugee Shonjida has endured years of boredom, misery and violence in Bangladesh – but last month's overthrow of autocratic ex-premier Sheikh Hasina has given her fresh hope for the future. Around a million members of the stateless and persecuted Muslim minority live in a sprawling patchwork of Bangladeshi relief camps after fleeing violence in their homeland next door in Myanmar. Hasina was lauded by the international community in 2017 for opening the borders to around 750,000 Rohingya

who fled a Myanmar mili-

tary crackdown that is now the subject of a UN genocide investigation. But the years since have seen rampant malnutrition and regular gun battles in the camps, whose inhabitants hope that Hasina's ouster will bring renewed attention to their plight. "We and our children live in fear at night because of the shootings,' 42-year-old Shonjida, who goes by one name, told AFP.

Shonjida teaches at one of a few informal learning centres established for school-aged children in her camp, giving her an unsettling insight into the manifold problems facing her community.

### major railway stations saw an Islamophobic message when they tried to use WiFi services. The WiFi system, which is managed by communications group Telent, was quickly taken offline after passengers said a message was displayed which referred to terror attacks.

UK police

investigating

**Islamophobic** 

hack of WiFi

at train stations

**Monitoring Desk** 

LONDON: British police

said on Thursday they had

launched an investigation

into a cyberattack after pas-

sengers at the country's

Members of previous govt dump cars across Sri Lanka's Colombo

**Monitoring Desk** COLOMBO: Hundreds of pricey government vehicles have been abandoned around Sri Lanka's capital after the country's new Marxist-leaning president took office, a member of his party said on Wednesday, with hundreds of others missing. Senior members of the former government had dumped the state-owned cars and SUVs without a proper handover, according to Wasantha Samarasinghe, a member of Anura Kumara

Dissanayake's JVP party. The fleet includes four-wheel-drive Toyota Land Cruisers and utility

Mandokhail terms Jirgah as biggest in history of Zhob Division:

### **Zhob Grand Jirgah to cast** positive impacts on overall law, order situation: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that the Grand Jirgah held in Zhob is the biggest in the history of Zhob Division and said that it (Grand Jirgah) would cast positive impacts on the overall law and order situation of the province particularly of Zhob Division besides economic growth and provision of the conducive environment.

The Governor said that the tribal Jirgah stressed the need to speed up work on the ongoing development projects in Zhob and remove the public complaints.

While addressing the tribal Jirgah in Zhob on Thursday, the Governor stressed that it is need of hour to do consultation to cope with the present challenges at the national

stressed that we can pretion by bringing together the diversified point of view, which would prove to be helpful for moving ahead the journey of peace, development and prosperity.

It may be mentioned here that also present in the tribal Jirgah were the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, provincial ministers, Bakh Muhammad Kakar and Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, Parliamentary Secretary Sardar Masood Luni, MPA, Fazal Qadir, Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Shahabuddin, Inspector General of Police,

ups, elected public representatives and tribal elders, local administrative and security officers. The Governor said that the historic grand Jirgah

Moazzam Jah Ansari, high

pare a joint course of ac- Bugti, parliamentarians. military leadership, district administration, political. tribal and religious personalities participated.

The Jirgah stressed the need to expedite speed of development work on the ongoing projects.

He said that peace and development are compulsory for one another. He said the sustainable peace and public security is the basis for development of the civilized society.

He said that a peaceful and economically prosperous society enable the people to lead life with dignity and freedom.

He said that the circumstances have reached such an extent that we are getting affected due to the terrorism and fundamentalism directly or indirectly. Therefore, we have to find out the solution to the pre-



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Mr. Bill Gates founder and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on the sidelines of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

### Bill Gates lauds PM's oversight of polio vaccination efforts

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met Bill Gates, founder and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on the sidelines of the 79th Session of the United Nations

General Assembly (UNGA

2024) Session. Recalling Gates' recent visit to Pakistan in June this year, the prime minister thanked him for the invitation to visit the Gates Foundation in Seattle in December 2024.

He also appreciated the Gates Foundation's engagement and support to Pakistan on polio eradica-Pakistan on polio eradication, maternal and child health, nutrition, immuni-minister's personal super-

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan intends to have di-

rect trade route to Tajikistan

and road access to Central

Asian countries for which

corridor of China and Af-

ghanistan may be under

Murghab and Dushanbe

route will be utilized for

the meeting of Minister of

Transport of Tajikistan

Azim İbrahim and Minis-

ter for Communications,

Board of Investment &

Privatization Abdul Aleem

Khan at Beijing, China as

sideline meeting on the eve

of Global Transport Fo-

This was discussed in

regard,

Highway,

Kashgar,

In this

consideration.

Kurakram

Khunjarab,

two-way trade.

zation, digitization, and financial inclusion. The prime minister

highlighted Pakistan's unwavering commitment to ensure complete eradication of polio from the country. He thanked the BMGF for its longstanding support in this effort and underscored the need for sustained efforts and supports to Pakistan, particularly for health system strengthening and maternal and child nutrition

Acknowledging Pakistan's efforts Bill Gates stressed polio eradication was vital to protect its future generations from

Aleem Khan observed

He welcomed the

Federal Minister

that Pakistan is ready for

the meeting of Joint Minis-

terial Committee and Joint

Working Group with

starting of direct flight be-

tween the two countries as

a positive impact of his re-

cent visit to Tajikistan in

Abdul Aleem Khan said

that Pakistan wants to pro-

mote bilateral trade with all

Central Asian countries for

which more initiative will

the problems being faced by

trawlers and drivers going

QUETTA: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Abdul Khaliq Achakzai and Pro-

vincial Ministers meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz

on judicial reforms, with

particular attention to the

sured the delegation that

to Tajikistan.

He discussed to solve

in this regard

Pakistan intends to direct

trade route to Tajikistan,

road access to Central Asia

vision and engagement of the Provincial governments in the polio vaccine program across the country. Gates shared updates

on a comprehensive Health Dialogue with Afghanistan and requested support for the initiative. He also communicated

his willingness to focus more on the pockets where the number of missed children or refusal of polio vaccines is higher especially where the morbidity of children is higher.

He also shared with the prime minister on King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre's support for polio and other health relief-related initia-

### Terrorists to be eliminated from country soon: PM NEW YORK (APP):Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday paying tribute to the security forces for carrying out a successful antiterror operation in Razmak area of North Waziristan. expressed the hope that the terrorists would be elimi nated from across the coun-

try soon. willing "God Khawarij (terrorists) will be completely eradicated from the entire country soon. the prime minister said in a statement who is currently on a five-day visit to the United States to attend the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

He said that the timely action by the security forces led to the killing of eight terrorists in the operation.

### Pakistan, UK agree to promote bilateral ties in various sectors

NEW YORK (APP):Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif formed Sir Keir Starmer and his United Kingdom about the challenges Pakicounterpart Rt. Hon. Sir stan faced due to the adverse Keir Starmer on Thursday agreed to further strengthen bilateral ties in various sectors, especially trade and

During a meeting on the sidelines of 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), they discussed matters of mutual interests and bilateral relations between the two countries.

The prime minister apprised his British counterpart of the country's current economic situation and the measures being taken by the government for the development and growth of the economy, especially the efforts made in implementing the FBR tax reforms and expanding the tax base.

He highlighted Pakistan's sacrifices in the fight against terrorism, which, he said, was a global issue that required collective action from the international community.

effects of climate change.

PM Shehbaz also in-

The prime minister noted that the United Kingdom (UK) was the thirdlargest investor in Pakistan, and discussed the investment opportunities and projects available in the

While mentioning the significant role of Pakistanis residing in the UK in the development of both countries, the prime minister expressed a desire to utilize their contributions effectively to achieve mutual development goals.



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Prime Minister of United Kingdom Rt. Hon. Sir Keir Starmer on the sidelines of 79 Session of United Nations General Assembly in New York.

### Pakistan inks contract for selling JF-17 Block-III fighter jets to Azerbaijan

RAWALPINDI (APP): As part of Pakistan's efforts to enhance defence cooperation with friendly countries, a contract for the sale of JF-17 Block-III fighter aircraft to bolster air power capabilities of Azerbaijan has been recently signed.

During his recent visit to Pakistan, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev was briefed on the combat capabilities and versatile employment options of JF-17 BLOCK-III fighter aircraft, an Inter Services Public Relations news release said on

Pursuant to President Alivev's visit and on the request of Government of Azerbaijan, Pakistan deployed a Pakistan Air Force (PAF) contingent at Baku to participate in ADEX-2024 showcasing the aerial prowess and static display of Pride of Pakistan JF-17 Thunder Block-III.

During deployment, -17 carried out air-to-air refuelling from the PAF Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft deploying in a single hop to Baku, demonstrating long haul capability and reach of the PAF's fighter jet.

### EU provides €700,000 to assist flood victims in Pakistan

European Union (EÚ) is providing €700,000 in humanitarian aid to Pakistan, after widespread flooding and landslides have caused loss of lives and significant damage to people's livelihood and key infrastructures across the country.

The aid will help address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable communities in some of the hardest-hit areas, particularly in Balochistan, Khyber Paktunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh, said a press release issued here on aid to affected families."

Thammannagoda, who oversees the EU's humanitarian programmes in Pakistan said, "The EU expresses heartfelt condolences to Pakistan for the lives lost in the exceptionally heavy monsoon rains, which have once again put the resilience of communities across the country to the test.

"The EU has made available funding to help our humanitarian partners on the ground respond and deliver essential lifesaving



BEIJING: Transport Minister of Tajikistan, Azim Ibrahim & Federal Minister for Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan during a meeting.

### Local polls in IOK no substitute for people's right to self-determination: OIC

NATIONS Ministers and Senior Offi-(APP): The OIC Contact Group on Kashmir Wednesday reaffirmed its support to the Kashmiri people's "legitimate" struggle for their right to self-determination, and firmly rejected Indian leaders' "unwarranted" claims over Azad Jammu & Jammu

and Gilgit-Baltistan. A joint communique issued after the meeting also underscored that the Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly elections in Indian Occupied Kashmir can not serve as a substitute for the grant of the right to self-determination to the Kashmiri people. It emphasized that durable peace and stability in South Asia remain contingent upon the Kashmir dispute's final settlement in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions and the Kashmiri people's aspirations. The meeting, in which

Nabi Fai, Secretary-General of the World Kashmir Awareness Forum, attended in his capacity as a True Representative of the People of Jammu and Kashmir.

Hama

cials of Pakistan, Turkey,

Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan,

and Niger took part, was presided over by OIC Sec-

retary-General Hissein

Brahim Taha. it was held on

the sidelines of the UN

General Assembly's 79th

session. Pakistan was rep-

resented at the Contact Group by Defence Minis-

ter Khawaja Mohammad

Asif. Others participating

were Turkiye's Deputy Foreign Minister Nuh

Deputy Foreign Minister

ELnur Mammadov, Saudi

Ambassador Haitham Al-

Aalki and Niger's Director

of International Organiza-

tions at the Foreign Minis-

Souleymane. Dr. Ghulam

Yilmaz,

Azerbaijan's

Knsave

was held in the history of vailing lawlessness sitting Zhob Division in which together. The Governor also

QUETTA: Federal Minister for State and Frontier Regions (SFRON) and Kashmir Affairs Engineer Amir Muqam addressing at Afghan Refugees Camp in Saranan area of Pishin district during his visit.

### Provincial Task Force formed to implement, monitor & review progress of SDGs of UN

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Provincial Task Force of Balochistan Assembly has been formed for implementation on the sustainable development goals of (SDGs) of the United Nations, their monitoring and

According to an offiformed by the Speaker Dastagir Provincial Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai.

The Advisor to Chief Minister for Women Development, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi would lead the Provincial Task Force as its convenor

The Task Force of Provincial Assembly is consisted of 17 members of the assembly belonging to treasury and Opposition



Badini, Rehmat Saleh Baloch, Agha Umar Ahmedzai, Ravi Kumar and Ms. Shahida Rauf. The representatives of all parliamentary parties have been included in the Provincial Task Force so that the measures could be

taken within the due timeframe after implementing the SDGs and reviewing the same with mutual consultation and consensus as per the global commit-



QUETTA: Quetta Bar Association President, Advocate Qari Rehmatullah along with others addresses to media persons during press conference.

Rising number of cases matter of concern: **Polio cases continue to rise** in Balochistan as another case reported from Pishin

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The cases of polio continued to rise in Balochistan as another case of the crippling disease has been reported from Pishin

The Health Department sources informed that the polio virus was detected in a 30-month old boy child belonging to Pishin district the other day.

With the new case, number of polio cases has been increased to 15 in Balochistan and 22 in Pakistan. It may be mentioned here that it is the first polio case reported from Pishin Earlier, six cases of

polio were reported from Killa Abdullah with two from Quetta district and one each from Dera Bugti, Chaman, Jhal Magsi, Zhob, Killa Saifullah and Kharan Three of the polio vic-

tim children also died this Meanwhile, express-

ing deep concern over the rising numbers, the Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ms.

Ayesha Raza Farooq, emphasized the critical role parents play in safeguarding the health of their chil-

"Each case represents a child whose life has been tragically and unnecessarily affected by polio. And the only solution is timely and repeated vaccination.

"Every new case is a tragic reminder that we have all failed our children. I urge all parents to take responsibility and ensure their children receive the polio vaccine to fight back against polio," she said.

Balochistan remains a particularly challenging region due to factors such as seasonal migration, population movement within and across borders, vaccine hesitancy, and security is-

Ms. Farooq stressed the need to strengthen vaccination efforts, particularly among mobile and migrant populations, and enhance the capacity of transit teams to reach all children, regardless of lo-

### **CM** issues orders for treatment of blast injured child of Sibi **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has issued orders for treatment of the child, injured in the hand grenade blast in Sibi the other day, on the

government's expenses. In this regard, the Health Department has written an official letter to the authorities of Com-(CMH).

In the letter, it was asked to provide medical treatment to Muhammad Yousaf son of Muhammad Saqib on the government

### expenditures. FC Balochistan celebrates **Pashtun** Culture day

QUETTA (INP): Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan North organized celebra-tions for Pashtun Culture Day 2024 across various districts including Chaman, Quetta, Zhob, Qila Saifullah, Harnai, Ziarat, and Kohlu. The events aimed to highlight and preserve Pashtun traditions and cultural heritage.

Seminars and cultural programs were conducted different schools throughout these areas. FC Balochistan collaborated with tribal elders and local communities to commemorate the day.

The celebrations featured stalls displaying traditional attire, jewelry, and cuisine. Additionally, attendees enjoyed performances of Attan, a traditional Pashtun dance, and participated in cultural

### Boy killed in tov bomb blast

PESHAWAR (APP): A boy was killed in a toy bomb blast incident that took place near Peshawar area of Khyber Pakhtunkhawa, tv channels quoting police reported. According to details. a boy was playing with a toy after collecting it from a garbage drum. The ill-fated boy lost his life when the toy device blasted with a big bang. A police team after receiving reports rushed to the site and shifted the body to nearby hospital. Police are investigating the matter.

of a seminar held in BUITEMS

### Chairman, which included the allocation of land in Islamabad for Quetta lawyers, the introduction of a

Efforts underway to

strengthen Quetta Bar

**Association: Syedaal** 

Association to address the challenges faced by the legal community. In a meeting with President of the Quetta Bar Association, Qari Rehmatullah Khan and a delegation of lawyers, he recognized the judiciary's vital role in fostering democracy and reiterated that enhancing the judicial system is a government's pri-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Deputy Chairman Senate

Syedaal Khan on Thursday

difficulties faced by the appreciated ongoing efforts lawyers in Quetta. Qari Rehmatullah Khan presented several requests to the Deputy

to bolster the Ouetta Bar laptop scheme, and scholarships for Bar at Law and LLM programs. In response, Deputy Chairman Syedaal Khan as-

### ority. The meeting focused their concerns would be addressed promptly. **Senator Shakoor calls for** providing MRV to run BISP in Killa Abdullah effectively

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Senator Abdul Shakoor Khan Achakzai has stated that the deserving persons are being deprived of shortage of staff of the staff of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in Killa

He proposed to the Director General of BISP Balochistan, Abdul Jabbar Khan whom he met on Thursday. During the course of

Abdullah district.

meeting, Senator Abdul

General of BISP the issues being faced by people of Killa Abdullah regarding BISP. He underlined the need to resolve the issues at earliest. He proposed to DG BISP to provide the Mobile Registration Van (MRV) to run the affairs of BISP in Killa Abdullah in better manner so as to provide facility of the registration by visiting home to home. The DG BISP assured to resolve issues of Killa Abdullah on priority basis including provision of the MRV and increase staff

### from KP. **PTI challenges** practice, procedure presidential

ISLAMABAD (Online) declared unconstitutional

# Shakoor Khan Achakzai of the BISP discussed with Director

QUETTA: Commandant ANF Brig. Adnan Danish, Vice Chancellor BUITEMS Prof. Dr. Khalid Hafeez. Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafqaat and Dean Hamdullah Tareen addressing participants

### **IHC** directs Federal cabinet to evolve mechanism for recovery of

missing persons
ISLAMABAD (Online):
Islamabad High Court (IHC) while declaring unsatisfactory report of registrar Missing Persons Commission (MPC) regarding disappearance of 3 students has directed federal cabinet to evolve mechanism for recovery of missing persons.

A 3-member larger bench of IHC presided over by Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani took up for hearing petition seeking recovery of missing person

# ordinance in SC

PTI has challenged practice and procedure presidential ordinance in Supreme Court (SC). Barrister Gohar filed constitutional petition against presidential ordinance in SC making federation, law ministry and sec retary to president respondents. The petitioner has requested in the petition that practice and procedure presidential ordinance be