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dailyindisb@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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ISLAMABAD: A group photograph of Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Heads of delegations of the 23rd SCO Heads of Government Meeting.

SCO member states pledge to strengthen cooperation for peaceful, prosperous world

Leaders emphasise exploiting region's trade, connectivity potential; Meeting adopts decisions to guide future of organization with enhanced role in regional connectivity, investment

ISLAMABAD (APP): The member countries of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on Wednesday reaffirmed their commitment to peacefully resolving disputes through dialogue and consultations besides emphasizing the importance of strengthening cooperation across various sectors, including politics, security, trade, finance, and cultural ties, to build a prosperous, peaceful, safe, and ecologically sustainable planet.

In a joint declaration issued at the conclusion of the two-day SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting held here,

the heads of delegations called for sustainable and inclusive economic growth of member states by optimizing the region's potential in areas such as green development, digital economy, trade, e-commerce, finance and banking, investment, high technology, start-ups and innovation, poverty alleviation, health care, including traditional and folk medicine, agriculture, industry, transport, logistics connectivity, energy, including renewable energy, communications, science and technology, environment and climate change.

The heads of delegations, reaffirming their desire to ensure stable economic and social development in the SCO region, noted the importance of implementing the SCO Economic Development Strategy for the period up to 2030 and the Program of Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation of the SCO member states.

They stressed the need for coordinated efforts through the mechanisms of relevant cooperation in order to implement the respective action plans.

The event was chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and was attended by the

leaders from the SCO member states including China's Premier of the State Council Li Qiang, Prime Minister of Belarus Roman Golovchenko, Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Olzhas Bektenov, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, Tajik Prime Minister Kohir Rasulzoda, Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov, Kyrgyzstan's Chairman of Ministers' Cabinet Zhaparov Akybek, Trade Minister of Iran Seyyed Mohammad Atabek, and Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.

Besides, Mongolia is participating in the summit as an Observer State being represented by Prime Minister Oyun-Erdene Luvsannamsrai and Turkmenistan as a Special Guest represented by Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Rashid Meredov. Among other dignitaries attending the moot include SCO Secretary-General Zhang Ming, Director of Executive Committee SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) Ruslan Mirzaev, Chairman of the Board of SCO Business Council Atif Ikram Shaikh and Chairman of the Council of SCO Interbank Union Marat Yelibaev.

PM urges SCO member states to work together for well connected, prosperous region

Shehbaz Sharif raises Israel's genocide against Palestinians; calls for ceasefire at SCO CHG; Taliban rulers must ensure Afghan soil isn't misused for terrorism; Hopeful of "wonderful outcomes" of the meeting

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday calling for a stronger SCO essential to achieve sustainable development, emphasised advancing the shared vision of an economically integrated region and investment in the connectivity projects without looking at them through political prism.



prime minister said in his National Statement at the 23rd meeting of the Council of the Heads of Government (CHG) of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) here.

"Pakistan firmly believes, that a stronger, more effective SCO is essential, to achieving sustainable development in our region... Let us not look at such projects, through the narrow, political prism and in-

vest in our collective connectivity capacities, which are crucial to advancing the shared vision of an economically integrated region. Let us work together for a well-integrated and prosperous region that benefits all Member states," the

prime minister, who earlier received the participating leaders at the venue before a group photo, said that the SCO collaboration, spanned academic and tourism linkages, poverty alleviation, and the empowerment of women and youth across the SCO region—a reflection, of our determination, to promote prosperity through unity.



PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, PML-N President Nawaz Sharif, Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif attend a meeting in Lahore.

Governor Balochistan chairs review meeting on law & order: We can't concentrate on dev. projects, trade, health & educational activities sans ending lawlessness, extremism

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has categorically stated that we can't concentrate on our development projects, trade, health and educational activities without ending lawlessness and elimination of extremism from the province.

The Governor was chairing high level review meeting on the law and order situation in Zhob Division, here on Wednesday.

Those who were present in the meeting were included: Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Shahab Ali Shah, Inspector General of Police, Moazzam Jah Ansari, DIG CTD, Aitezaz Goraya, Commissioner Zhob, Zeeshan Lashari, Member National Highway Authority, Basharat Hussain, Deputy Commissioner Zhob, Mehboob Achakzai, Deputy Commissioner Shirani, Sana Mah Jabeen Umrani, Deputy Commissioner Killa Saifullah, Saeed Ahmed Dumar,

besides other concerned. Describing lawlessness and subversive acts as a curse, the Governor said that we would take concrete measures for making the Zhob division hub of peace. In addition to this, safety of the national highways and effectiveness of the economic activities would also be ensured in the province, adding Governor said.

He said that we are united for bringing sustainable peace and prosperity in the whole province. Surely, we would overcome the challenge of law and order with support of the masses, he said.

Meanwhile, certain decisions were made for improving law and order situation following recommendations of the participants.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over a meeting regarding financial and administrative affairs of Public Sector Universities of the province.

CM orders immediate payment of salaries and pensions to teachers & staff of public sector universities

Mir Sarfraz Bugti concerned about unnecessary recruitments and exceptional raise in non-development expenditures in public sector universities, asserts can't give salary to anyone sitting at home; meeting decides to ban new recruitments and construction of unnecessary development projects in universities

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has issued orders for payment of the salaries and pensions to the teachers and other employees of all public sector universities immediately. He said that salaries are right of the serving teachers and employees and as such the timely payment of the same should be ensured.

However, he ordered to take action against the absentee and negligent employees.

The Chief Minister was chairing a high level meeting on the financial and administrative affairs of the public sector universities of the province, here on Wednesday.

The Provincial Minister for Finance, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Minister for Education, Ms. Raheela



India acknowledges Pakistan for successfully hosting SCO summit

Indian External Affairs Minister thanks PM, DPM, GoP for hospitality

ISLAMABAD (INP): India has recognised Pakistan for successfully hosting the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit.

Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar congratulated Pakistan during his address at the SCO meeting. He stated that India provided its full support to make the presidency a success.

He noted that the summit comes at a time when global conditions are complex, with ongoing major wars impacting the world significantly.

CM greets President, PM on successful SCO summit

Independent Report
QUETTA: Mir Sarfraz Bugti, Chief Minister of Balochistan, has expressed delight over the successful hosting of the SCO conference in Pakistan, congratulating President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on this achievement.

Bugti stated that this significant conference will promote regional cooperation, strengthen bilateral relations among participating countries, and facilitate the achievement of collective objectives.

He emphasized that Pakistan's hosting of the SCO conference is an honor and a matter of pride.

The conference's joint declaration holds immense importance, and Bugti noted that Pakistan is gradually recovering from challenging circumstances, with evident improvements in the national economy.

He expressed optimism that Pakistan will soon overcome its crises and embark on a path of sustainable development through national consensus.

The Chief Minister acknowledged the nation's resilience in the face of adversity, including inflation and terrorism, and praised the country's progress toward stability and growth.

Two killed during clashes between groups

QUETTA (APP): Two persons were killed in a firing incident that took place near Saryab phattak of Quetta, tv channels quoting police reported on Wednesday.

According to details, two tribal groups opened fire on each other to settle

President summons NA, Senate sessions today

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has summoned the sessions of the National Assembly and Senate to be held separately on October 17.

The president has summoned the session of National Assembly on October 17 (Thursday) at 4:00 pm, while that of Senate on October 17 (Thursday) at 3:00 pm, the President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release on Wednesday.

President Zardari has summoned the sessions of both Houses of Parliament under Article 54 (1) of the Constitution of Pakistan.

Gharsheen apprises CM about tree plantation project in Quetta

Independent Report
QUETTA: The social personality and Chief of a non-governmental organization, Syed Qurban Shah Gharsheen called on the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti here on Wednesday.

Syed Qurban Gharsheen apprised the Chief Minister about the tree plantation project in Quetta. The Chief Minister issued directives to the concerned high ups to take review of the project in detail.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan and IG Police Balochistan Moazzam Jah Ansari meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Tatar warns of strict action against those inciting violence, threatening lawmakers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage, and Culture Attaullah Tatar on Wednesday warned that the state would respond firmly to those responsible for inciting violence and threatening the lawmakers.

Speaking to the media here, the minister expressed concern over the threats hurled by the leadership of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to the lawmakers for supporting constitutional amendments.

"No one will be allowed to take the law into their own hands. The writ of the state will be established, and those issuing threats will be dealt with iron hands," the minister said.

He warned that strict

action would be taken against anyone attempting to harm others' lives or property, condemning PTI's habitual use of threats against the opponents.

He said that if anyone tried to harm another person, the state will set an example by holding the perpetrators accountable.

He also accused the PTI of writing letters to the International Monetary Fund to push Pakistan towards default, orchestrating the May 9 attacks, vandalizing memorials of martyrs, and calling for protests during the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit.

"This is a non-serious threat," he remarked, pointing to the internal conflicts and divisions within PTI.



Russian Prime Minister H.E. Mikhail Mishustin along with a delegation meets Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Two steps back

Pakistan is making leaps. Just not of the desired kind. The country has mindbogglingly gone from eight polio cases at end of June to 33 by mid-October.

Compounding this are reports of number-fudging and fake vaccination data. While the government claims high coverage, environmental samples continue to test positive for the virus, especially in high-risk areas like Quetta.

The polio crisis cannot be solved in isolation. Pakistan must rethink its approach to healthcare delivery. Instead of treating polio as a stand-alone emergency, it should be incorporated into a broader public health strategy.

The government's role cannot be understated. It must prioritise improving basic healthcare infrastructure, especially in rural areas. Functioning health centres, routine immunisation, and trained staff are essential to protect children from diseases like polio and restore the faith of the citizenry in immunisation efforts.

Transparency in reporting is equally vital. Local officials should be held accountable for alleged falsification of data, and regular audits must be conducted to ensure every child is vaccinated.

At the same time, communities must take responsibility. Public health is a shared duty, and without collective cooperation, no vaccination drive will succeed. Parents will have to realise that regular polio vaccines are the only way to save their children from a life-altering condition.

Pakistan's polio crisis is more than the failure to vaccinate. It is the failure to deliver on basic public health promises.

Clearing the air

Zofeen T. Ebrahim

Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's historic visit — historic because the last official visit to Pakistan by an Indian foreign minister was undertaken by his predecessor, Sushma Swaraj, in 2015 to attend a conference — comes at a time when the air in the federal capital is at its crispest.

The high-level, 11-country SCO summit, which Mr Jaishankar and his delegation are attending, also comes at the start of the smog season. That is why climate experts in both India and Pakistan agree that, given the stalled formal bilateral talks between the two nuclear neighbours, the two can at least take baby steps and discuss shared issues which are likely to generate less mistrust, scepticism and suspicion because of scientific evidence.

The conversation can begin with air pollution, since we share and breathe the same air. According to the World Bank, an estimated total of 1.5 billion people in the two countries are exposed to this form of pollution. Yesterday's air quality data by IQAIR showed Delhi and Lahore ranking as the second and fourth cities with the worst air quality.

Environment lawyer Ahmad Rafay Alam believes clean air should be an obvious agenda item for discussion at the summit. In fact, it would have made sense, he says, to hold the meeting in Lahore so that the attendees could view acclaimed British artist Dryden Goodwin's artwork titled Breathe, which highlights air pollution in

Lahore through posters, digital billboards and projections on multiple sites across the city. This piece of art is part of the ongoing Lahore Biennale 03. According to Alam, Goodwin's work takes the discussion on air pollution out of the dryness of policy language and speaks directly to the heart.

At a meeting organised last week in Nairobi by the UK-based Conciliation Resources between Indian and Pakistani ambassadors, journalists and parliamentarians, air pollution experts, dismissing the silo-ed approach, and recommended greater cross-border engagement between the two countries in the form of knowledge-sharing and by treating the issue as a year-round problem rather than a seasonal event that gets underway with the onset of winter and as smog engulfs the two Punjab.

There were discussions on developing a long-term strategy for diversification of cropping patterns, capacity building of judges, lawyers, members of parliament and doctors, and sharing best practices so as not to reinvent the wheel.

For example, India's 2017 Odisha Millet Mission — a transition to a more equitable food system that has brought millet back on the farmer's radar and people's menu — can be tweaked and replicated in Pakistan.

Millet is a hardy, climate-smart grain and an ideal choice for areas prone to drought and heat stresses. Similarly, tested practices that failed or were not the best ones for the region, can also be shared so as not to repeat mistakes and erroneous technologies.

It chokes the air above us and across the region. Therefore, cleaning up the air in your own city or country is an exercise in futility, since there are six air sheds over the South Asian region in which the polluted air remains trapped and that can lead to an

estimated two million premature deaths in the region.

Thus, a shared problem requires a shared strategy to eliminate it. It is time to move from bickering over which country spews the most poison and work together to overcome the challenge.

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Disunited nations

Mahir Ali

The inability of the UN to facilitate the primary goal set out in its hopeful charter nearly eight decades ago, "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war", stands out in stark relief every time failure greets its efforts to halt ongoing hostilities. That depressing pattern was established not long after the UN was set up in 1945.

It has, since then, vastly expanded in terms of both membership and subsidiary or affiliated organisations, many of which can be credited with worthy achievements in tricky environments — alongside grave inadequacies that reflect structural problems or funding deficiencies. Nor can anyone ignore the abuse of the UN as a platform for aggression, as in the case of the first major post-World War II conflagration, the Korean War, an ideologically motivated US-led intervention that was technically a UN operation.

Half a century later, a similar effort to obtain the UN Security Council's imprimatur for unwarranted aggression against Iraq fell short of US expectations. There can be little doubt, though, that the way the UNSC is constituted militates against the UN's purported mission "to maintain international peace and security".

India is one of the main contenders, alongside the likes of Brazil and Nigeria. The UK boasted a vast empire in 1945, but is barely able to govern itself 80 years later; besides, its foreign policy inclinations are barely distinguishable from those of the US. France is marginally more independent, but not neces-

sarily an adequate representative of Europe.

Apart from a membership reshuffle, it is vital to restrict or, better still, abolish the veto power of permanent members. Permitting its exercise becomes particularly absurd when one or more of these members are themselves engaged in unjustified hostilities or other violations of the UN Charter, or closely allied with an offensive belligerent. For instance, what are the chances of a binding resolution aimed at halting Russia's aggression against Ukraine, or castigating China for violating the rights of its Uighur and Tibetan minorities? And the US, naturally, has protected Israel against even mild reprimands.

But even worthwhile resolutions that are passed don't resolve anything if they are ignored by the relevant parties. They are dug out every now and then for rhetorical purposes, then returned to the archival graveyard that is destined to be their final resting place. The goals proffered in efforts led by other UN bodies on sustainable development, climate change or the environment often meet a similar fate. Their implementation remains an aspiration.

Empowering resolutions passed by, say, a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly — weighted according to population — might be a possible alternative to tussles in the UNSC. It was alarming, though, to see some of the loudest voices in the assembly's 79th session last month representing a council of war rather than recipes for peace. If Benjamin Netanyahu was, predictably, the worst offender, Russia's Sergey Lavrov wasn't far behind, and both Pakistan's prime minister and India's foreign minister contributed

to the antagonistic atmosphere. Some of the wisest speeches were made by South American leaders. Chile's Gabriel Boric, for instance, declared: "I refuse to choose between the terror of Hamas or the genocide carried out by Netanyahu's Israel; we have no reason to choose between barbarities — I choose humanity."

That, ultimately, is what the UN is supposed to be all about. It has frequently faltered, but its shortcomings and demonstrable impotence at crucial junctures testify not to its irrelevance but to its structural deficiencies. In his role as secretary-general, former Portuguese PM António Guterres has generally tended to be wise. He probably did not expect to be declared persona non grata by a member state, let alone that only 104 nations would leap to his defence in an initiative laudably led by Chile. But then, Israel has never been a fan of advocates for human rights or peace, as demonstrated by its crusade against UN peacekeepers in Lebanon and the UN Relief and Works Agency that has helped to sustain Palestinian refugees since 1948.

Perhaps the best way of halting Israel's genocidal ambitions would be the kind of international boycott, divestment and sanctions that persuaded an earlier apartheid state to opt for a non-racial democracy. Alternatively, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris could stop providing Israel with the means to perpetrate the evil that has expanded from Gaza to the West Bank and Lebanon, with Iran in the crosshairs. In all too many ways, the UN's relevance depends on which way the US goes, regardless of who wins next month's presidential election. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Smallholder Farmers FFC Ltd and ZTBL sign Industry-First MOU to enhance financial access

ISLAMABAD: Fatima Fertilizer Company Limited and Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited (ZTBL) have entered into a groundbreaking partnership to promote financial inclusion and support for smallholder farmers in Pakistan.



The MOU was formally signed by Mr. Asad Murad, Chief Operating Officer of Fatima Fertilizer Company Limited, and Mr. Tahir

PSX stays bullish, gains 365 more points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with bullish trend on Wednesday, gaining 365.32 more points, a positive change of 0.43 percent, closing at 86,205.66 points against 85,840.34 points on the last trading day.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan meeting with Iran's Minister for Industry, Mining, and Trade, Mohammad Atabak, during the SCO 2024 summit. The discussion focused on enhancing bilateral trade, industrial cooperation, and regional economic ties.

Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan vow to boost bilateral trade

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a bid to boost economic cooperation, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan here on Wednesday recognized significant potential for increasing trade between the two countries, which currently is valued at just US\$ 8.63 million.

The discussion for improving bilateral trade was made during a meeting between Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Ahad Cheema and Minister of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic, Daniyar

Amangeldiev and his delegation on the sidelines of SCO Summit. Pakistan's exports to Kyrgyzstan stand at US\$ 3.33 million, while imports from the Central Asian nation reached US\$ 5.3 million in the fiscal year 2022-23.

On the occasion, Cheema vowed to enhance trade between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan and highlighted the need to enhance these figures and address the existing trade imbalance.

He expressed appreciation for the Kyrgyz delegation's participation in the 23rd Council of Heads of Government meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Islamabad, according to press release issued by Economic Affairs Division (EAD).

The Minister acknowledged the productive outcomes of the 4th Session of the Pak-Kyrgyz Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) held in November

2023 and reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to following up on these agreements. Moreover, various sectors for mutual cooperation were discussed, including trade, agriculture, energy, mining, digital development, tourism, health, banking, and education.

He also emphasized on the importance of convening Joint Working Groups (JWGs) to foster collaboration in key sectors such as agriculture and trade.

CGPA hosts Public-Private dialogue to empower women entrepreneurs in Charsadda

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Governance and Public Accountability (CGPA), in partnership with the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WCCI) Charsadda, held a Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) on Tuesday, aimed at improving the business environment for women entrepreneurs in Charsadda.

The event facilitated collaboration between local Elected and District administration officials and women business leaders.

Participants including the President of WCCI Charsadda, local women entrepreneurs, the Additional Deputy



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Ahad Cheema in meeting with Kyrgyz Finance Minister Daniyar Amangeldiev.

KP Minister directs completion of saffron seeds purchase

PESHAWAR (APP): KP Minister for Agriculture Major (Rtd) Sajjad Barakwal has directed that the process of purchasing saffron seeds should be completed within a week and suitable land should be selected for its successful cultivation and substantial increase in production.

He issued these directives while presiding over the meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee of the Agriculture Department here on Wednesday.

Besides, Secretary Agriculture, Atta-ur

Rehman, Director General of all wings of the department and other relevant officials also attended the meeting.

He said that a joint coordination committee should be formed in all the districts of the province in which the district directors of all wings of the agriculture department will be members.

Committee will help in co-operation between all the wings of the Agriculture Department at the district level and adopt a common plan of action.

Rupee sheds 10 paise against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Wednesday depreciated by 10 paise against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs277.84 against the previous day's closing of Rs277.74.

80 Pakistani Companies Participate in GITEX Global 2024 in Dubai

ISLAMABAD: Sajjad Mustafa Syed, Chairman of Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), has said that Pakistan — as the Tech Destination — made a remarkable impact at GITEX Global 2024 in Dubai with the grand inauguration of Pakistan Pavilion and the much-anticipated Pakistan Night.

Gold prices up by Rs.2,200 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24 karat per tola gold increased by Rs. 2,200 and sold at Rs. 277,200 on Wednesday compared to its sale at Rs. 275,000 on last trading day.

Kuki Khel tribe ends 75 days long sit in Torkham Road

PESHAWAR (APP): A Jirga of elders from the Kuki Khel tribe of District Khyber called on Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur, on Wednesday at the Chief Minister's House and held extensive consultations on the issue of repatriation of temporary displaced people of Kuki Khel tribe to their native areas.

MNA Iqbal Afridi, MPAs Sohail Afridi and Abdul Ghani Afridi, Commissioner Peshawar, Secretary Relief, Deputy Commissioner Khyber and others were also present on the occasion.

It was agreed in the meeting to immediately initiate the registration process for the return of residents to areas which

have been cleared whereas for the remaining displaced families, it was decided to hold a meeting with the relevant institutions next week to develop a timeline and action plan for their repatriation.

Following the Chief Minister's assurance, the Jirga announced the cancellation of a proposed march towards Tirah and ended their sit-in on the Torkham Road, which had been staged for the last 75 days.

The Jirga expressed full confidence in the Chief Minister's commitment for the repatriation of the displaced persons and lauded his leading role in resolving the issue of October 11, peacefully.

"The Chief Minister's wisdom and able leadership prevented bloodshed and

resolved the issue in peaceful manner" they remarked and expressed profound appreciation for his crucial role in this regard and said "As the Chief Minister had successfully resolved the October 11 and Bannu issues, we trust that he will also address our concerns", they remarked.

Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur appreciated the Kuki Khel elders for reposing trust to resolve the issue and assured them that he would make every possible efforts to live up to their expectations. He stated that a meeting with relevant stakeholders would be held next week to finalize a plan for the repatriation and rehabilitation of the displaced people.



LAHORE: Punjab Finance Minister Mujtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman presides over the 48th meeting of Punjab Pension Fund Management Committee.

Maryam says students misled to run a 'malicious' campaign

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz said on Wednesday that a mountain was made out of a molehill to malign the image of Pakistan.

Addressing the media here in connection with an alleged rape of a college student, she said an issue was made about something that did not exist.

She said students were misled to run an "ugly" campaign. "A girl was named as a victim. The girl had been admitted to the hospital since October 2 and was in the ICU."

She said that the police received information that the incident of rape had taken place. After which the

police took immediate action.

Chief Minister Maryam said this campaign was based on lies. "That girl is not a victim of rape, she is a victim of dirty politics."

A conspiracy was hatched after failing to spread anarchy, she said and added that those who hatched the conspiracy would be taken to task.

She criticised the Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and said that it was this very dangerous plan after failing [to fulfil their agenda]. "SCO meeting is being held in Pakistan after a long time. Inflation is decreasing. The stock market is soaring. The

Dialogue on Judicial reforms at Governor House held

PESHAWAR (APP): The Human Rights Cell of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) organized the fourth seminar titled "Dialogue on Judicial Reforms" at the Governor House here on Wednesday.

The event focused on discussing necessary reforms within the country's judicial system.

Key speakers included Farhatullah Babar President of the PPP Human Rights Cell, Ahmad Karim Kundi Member of the Provincial Assembly and General Secretary Malaika Raza, alongside various legal experts. Attendees comprised legal and political professionals as well as representatives from civil society.

The speakers emphasized the importance of constitutional amendments to ensure judicial representation across all provinces.

They said that constitutional courts remain an incomplete aspect of the Charter of Democracy and reaffirmed the PPP's commitment to fundamental rights and the rule of law.

It was highlighted that over 50 democratic countries have established constitutional courts, positioning every Pakistani citizen as a vital stakeholder in these proposed amendments.



KARACHI: Relatives offering Fathia, on the occasion of the death anniversary of the first Prime Minister of the country Liaquat Ali Khan.

Commissioner reviews progress on Lahore development plan

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Commissioner Zaid bin Maqsood chaired a divisional meeting focused on the Lahore development plan and district development schemes, here on Wednesday.

The meeting presented the Lahore development plan, alongside various district-level schemes for approval. A total of 94 schemes from the Metropolitan Corporation Lahore (MCL) and 114 schemes from the Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) were submitted for approval. Each scheme was thoroughly reviewed by the working committee chaired by the Commissioner.

During the meeting, Assistant Commissioners from relevant areas briefed the committee on the details of each development scheme under the Lahore Development Plan.

Commissioner Zaid bin Maqsood emphasized that the Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, is focusing on the development of neglected and underprivileged areas within the city.

DGPR conducts surprise visit of Information Directorates

Independent Report
KARACHI: Director General Public Relations, Information Government of Sindh Muhammad Saleem Khan has stressed upon officers and officials of the department to ensure their availability during official timings and discharge their duties with utmost devotion and dedication. This he said

dismay over the non availability of few officers and officials in their respective offices. "If the officers are absent or come late, their subordinates would also remain unavailable and due to which official work would be suffered and compromised", he observed. He said that action would be taken against absent officers and officials accord-



ing to relevant rules. "Chief Minister Sindh and Chief Secretary Sindh have time and again reiterated to observe punctuality in government offices and as such all employees must adhere to their instructions", he added.

Director General Public Relations expressed his

4 dead as vehicle overturns in Vehari

VEHARI (APP): Four members of a family were killed on the spot after a speedy vehicle overturned in Vehari district of Punjab on Wednesday. As per details, rescue sources said that the incident occurred near the Ladan area of Vehari where the vehicle overturned when the driver slept while driving, private news channels reported. The rescue officials stated that the incident reportedly claimed the lives of four family members who were on their way back from Lahore.

11 dead, 1,484 injured in Punjab road accidents

LAHORE (APP): At least 11 people were killed and 1,484 others injured in 1,395 road accidents in Punjab during the last 24 hours.

As many as 641 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 843 with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by the rescue medical teams.

Minister chairs Standing Committee on Interfaith Harmony meeting

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Minister for Minorities Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora chaired a meeting of the Punjab Regional Standing Committee on Interfaith Harmony during his visit to Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) office, here on Wednesday.

The meeting was attended by FPCCI Vice President and Regional Chairman Zaki Aijaz, Convener Saleem Shakir, Director Rabia Dar, and other executive committee members.

The agenda included detailed discussions on minority affairs, human rights, and economic development. Various proposals were presented, including providing scholarships for business people, appointing a focal person from the Department of Minority Affairs to liaise with the chamber, introducing a Minority Card similar to the Himmat Card, and establishing a Minority Development Fund under the Evacuee Trust Property Board.

Zaki Aijaz highlighted FPCCI's Vision 2030, emphasizing the goal of increasing exports to US \$ 100 billion. He also stressed the importance of interfaith harmony for global peace.

73rd death anniversary of Liaquat Ali Khan observed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 73rd death anniversary of Pakistan's first Prime Minister Shaheed-e-Millat, Khan Liaquat Ali Khan, was observed on Wednesday. Born in Kamal' East Punjab, Liaquat Ali Khan got education from Aligarh Muslim University, India and Oxford University, United Kingdom. He joined All India Muslim League and participated along with Q u a i d - e - A z a m Muhammad Ali Jinnah in the struggle for a separate homeland for Muslims of the sub-continent.

After Pakistan came into being, he became first prime minister of the country. Liaquat Ali Khan was assassinated on October 1951 during a public meeting at Company Bagh.

International News

Israeli strikes kill 21 in Lebanon, including in a town with a dark history of civilian deaths

Monitoring Desk
QANA: Israeli airstrikes pounded areas across Lebanon, killing at least 21 people, officials said Wednesday, including more than a dozen in a southern town where Israeli bombardments in previous conflicts are seared into local memory.

Elsewhere in the south, a city's mayor was among the dead in a strike that Lebanese officials said targeted a meeting coordinating relief efforts.

There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military on the strikes late Tuesday on the southern town of Qana, where 15 people were killed. Associated Press photos and video of the scene showed several flattened buildings and others with their top floors collapsed. Rescue workers carried away the remains of dead people and used a bulldozer to remove rubble, as they searched for more vic-

tims. In 1996, Israeli artillery shelling on a United Nations compound housing hundreds of displaced people in Qana killed at least 100 civilians and wounded scores more people, including four U.N. peacekeepers. During the 2006 war, an Israeli strike on a residential building killed nearly three dozen people, a third of them children, Israel said at the time that it struck a Hezbollah rocket launcher behind the building.

"Qana always gets its share," Mayor Mohammed Krashit told the AP, referring to the town's grim history.

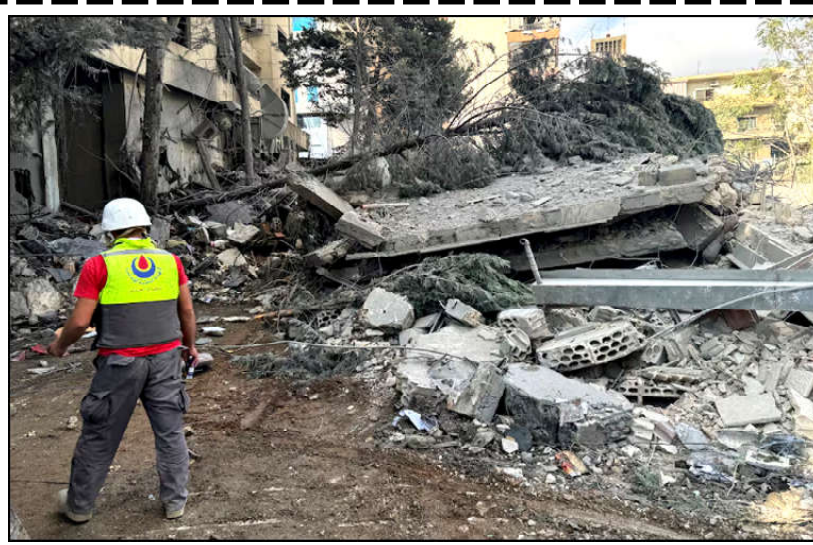
"What solution can be hoped for in light of this reality?" he asked in a statement. The Israeli military said it targeted Hezbollah command centers and weapons facilities that had been embedded in civilian areas of Nabatiyeh on Wednesday's strikes, with-

out providing evidence. Israel also resumed its barrage on Beirut's southern suburbs after a six-day pause, hitting what it said was an arms warehouse under an apartment building, without providing evidence. The military warned residents to evacuate before the strike, and there were no reports of casualties.

The strikes on southern Beirut came after Mikati said the United States had given him assurances that Israel would curb its strikes on the capital.

Hezbollah has a strong presence in southern Beirut, known as the Dahiyeh, which is also a residential and commercial area home to large numbers of civilians and people unaffiliated with the militant group.

The Israeli military posted an evacuation warning on the social media platform X ahead of the strike in Beirut.



A civil defence member of the Islamic Health Authority walks at a site damaged in an Israeli strike in Nabatieh, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, southern Lebanon.

Arab American group rejects both Kamala, Trump over Israel support

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: The Arab American Political Action Committee has said it will not endorse Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris or Republican former president Donald Trump citing what it called their "blind support" for Israel in wars in Gaza and Lebanon.

The Nov 5 US elections will mark the first time AAPAC has chosen not to endorse a candidate since the group's 1998 inception. It usually endorses Democrats.

Polls show the race between Harris and Trump as tight. Arab and Muslim Americans overwhelmingly backed President Joe Biden in 2020 but have been vocal opponents of US support for Israel, which has eroded their backing of Democrats.

Trump has historically had low approval from that community due to past statements and his policy of a travel ban targeting Muslim-majority nations when he was in office.

China urges caution in Israel-Iran tensions, calls for ceasefire

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi called on all parties involved in tensions between Israel and Iran to exercise caution and avoid escalating the situation.

In a phone conversation with Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz, Wang also urged Israel to ensure the safety of personnel of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), a foreign ministry statement said.

EU sanctions Iran over ballistic missiles transferred to Russia

Monitoring Desk
LUXEMBOURG: At a meeting in Luxembourg, EU foreign ministers on Monday imposed sanctions on prominent Iranian officials and entities, including airlines, accused of taking part in the transfer of missiles and drones for Russia to use against Ukraine.

They also called on Israel to stop attacking UN peacekeepers at the Israel-Lebanon border.

European Union foreign ministers approved the sanctions on seven entities, including Iran Air, and

Japan conveys concern over military drills around Taiwan

Monitoring Desk
TOKYO: Japan has conveyed to China its concern over the military drills conducted around Taiwan on Monday, Japanese Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kazuhiko Aoki told a regular press conference. "We are aware China carried out military drills around Taiwan yesterday. The government is watching related developments with grave interest and has informed the Chinese side of our concerns," Aoki said on Tuesday.

Fuel tanker explodes in Nigeria, killing at least 140 people

Monitoring Desk
JIGAWA: A fuel tanker explosion in northern Nigeria has killed more than 140 people, a spokesman for the national emergency agency told AFP on Wednesday. Victims were burnt to death trying to collect fuel that had spilled from the crashed vehicle in the town of Majia in Jigawa state.

Nura Abdullahi, a spokesman for the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), said "more than 140" people have been buried in a mass grave and warned the toll was likely to rise further.

The incident occurred in Majia town in the Taura local government area, about 530 kilometres north of the capital Abuja, spokesperson for Jigawa State Police Command Lawan Shisu Adam told Reuters by telephone.

The wounded were taken to local hospitals in Ringim and Hadejia towns where they were being treated, Adam said. A mass burial for the dead will be held later in the day, he said.

Many roads in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, are poorly maintained and riven with potholes, causing accidents that claim dozens of lives every year. Last month, at least 48 people were killed in north-central Nigeria when a fuel tanker exploded after colliding with another truck carrying travellers and cattle.

UK gov't 'looking at' sanctioning far-right Israeli finance, security ministers

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said on Wednesday that the government was weighing up sanctions against far-right Israeli ministers Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich.

Asked in parliament if the government would sanction the pair, Starmer said: "We are looking at that because there are obviously abhorrent comments along with other really concerning activity in the West Bank."

National Security Minister Ben-Gvir and Smotrich, the finance minister, are vocal supporters of settlements in the West Bank, which are considered illegal under international law.

Smotrich has also triggered an international uproar by suggesting it would be justified to starve two million Gazans to free Israeli hostages in the Palestinian territory.

Earlier this week, former foreign secretary David Cameron revealed that the previous Conservative government had been "working on" sanctions against the "extreme" politicians.

Starmer's Labour government announced separate sanctions against seven Israeli settler outposts and organisations on Tuesday.

Israeli settler violence and military raids have intensified in the occupied territory following Hamas's October 7 attack last year.

Pointing to the "dire" humanitarian situation in Gaza, Starmer also called for Israel to "take all possible steps to avoid civilian casualties, to allow aid into Gaza in much greater volume".

Foreign Secretary David Lammy meanwhile announced that the UK, France and Algeria had called an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council following UN reports that "barely any food has entered" North Gaza in the last two weeks.

Ukraine calls for sanctions over alleged North Korean involvement in war

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine called on its allies on Wednesday to impose new sanctions on Pyongyang after it said North Korea had become a de facto participant in the war in Ukraine on Russia's side.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told parliament in a speech to outline his victory plan that his spy services had confirmed North Korea's supply of both weapons and people to Russia, echoing similar comments in recent days.

"These are workers for Russian factories to replace Russians killed in the war. And personnel for the Russian army. This is the participation of a second state in the war against Ukraine on the side of Russia," Zelenskyy said.

The Kremlin has denied the allegation of North Korea sending people as "fake news". Moscow and Pyongyang have denied arms transfers but have said they will boost military ties, possibly including joint drills.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha said Kyiv's allies should respond firmly, including by imposing new sanctions and further isolating Pyongyang, whose relations with Russia have grown closer since Moscow invaded Ukraine in February 2022.

"This is a huge threat of further escalation. We are approaching a new phase, new realities of war," he said at a news conference in the Black Sea city of Odesa.

Qatar to hold referendum on measure to abandon legislative elections

Monitoring Desk
DOHA: Qatar will hold a rare referendum for citizens to vote on a set of constitutional amendments, including a proposal that would abandon an effort to introduce elections, the Gulf Arab state's emir said on Tuesday.

Qatar held its first-ever elections in 2021 to choose two-thirds of the members of the advisory Shura Council. The elections sparked rare tribal tensions in Qatar after some members of a main Bedouin tribe found themselves ineligible to vote in the poll. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani on Tuesday called the elections "an experiment" that was reviewed and led the government to propose the constitutional amendments.

Premier Li Qiang Pakistan visit reinforces all-weather bilateral partnership: China

BEIJING (APP): Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning stated on Wednesday that during his ongoing visit, Chinese Premier Li Qiang has engaged in extensive and in-depth discussions with Pakistan's government, parliament, and military leaders, which will certainly lead to positive outcomes.

This visit by China's Premier of the State Council is the latest after 11 years, she said during her regular briefing in response to a question about Premier Li Qiang's visit to Pakistan and its major outcomes.

Mao Ning said that the visit marks the exchanges at the government level between the two countries within a year.

Sharing details, she said that Premier Li Qiang held in-depth discussions with leaders of Pakistan's government, parliament, and military. The ongoing visit has achieved three key positive results.

First, consolidating the all-weather friendship

between China and Pakistan.

Both sides emphasized that their time-tested friendship has gained renewed vigor. Under the strategic guidance of the two countries' leaders, bilateral relations continue to enjoy robust momentum. China reaffirmed its commitment to prioritizing its relationship with Pakistan in its foreign policy, while Pakistan underscored that its ties with China are the cornerstone of its foreign policy, with this friendship being a widely recognized and overwhelming consensus across all sectors of Pakistani society.

Both nations agreed to continue firmly supporting each other's core interests, enhancing high-level exchanges, and working together toward modernization and national rejuvenation. They also pledged to accelerate the creation of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era.

He said that there are extraordinary circumstances in the province while separatist movement is going on.

He said that the smuggling of fuel has been causing loss of billions of rupees.

He said that those benefiting from the smuggling of fuel are others and he would reveal their names soon. However, we are trying to find the way out of the issue. The Chief Minister was speaking in the session of provincial assembly here on Wednesday.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif receiving the Chinese Premier H.E. Li Qiang at the venue of the 23rd SCO Council of Heads of Government Meeting.

CM assures every possible assistance to boxer Waseem

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has stated that boxer Muhammad Waseem is our pride and as such every possible assistance would be extended to him.

The Chief Minister directed to the Sports and Culture department to send a summary to him for assistance of boxer Muhammad Waseem.

He was speaking to Boxer Muhammad Waseem who called on him here at the Chief Minister's secretariat on Wednesday.

Also present in the meeting were the Advisor to Chief Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch, Member National Assembly, Nawabzada Jamal Raisani, Secretary Sports and other concerned high ups.

The Chief Minister congratulated Muhammad Waseem on winning 13 international fights during his professional career.

He said that we are providing opportunities to promote sports in the province. In this regard, the youth of province also are being provided better opportunities of healthy activities, adding he mentioned. The Chief Minister also mentioned that first youth policy of the province has been approved in which there is an important role of Nawabzada Jamal Raisani. He said that Nawabzada Jamal Raisani is a capable young parliamentarian and we would benefit from his capabilities. He recalled that father of Jamal Raisani, Nawabzada Siraj Raisani had also rendered sacrifice of his life for the country.



QUETTA: Director Institute of Public Health Dr. Safia Mengal meeting with Provincial Advisor for Women Development Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi.

Development of educational, healthcare institutions top priority of Govt: Dr. Rubaba

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister for the Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi has emphasized that the development of educational and healthcare institutions in Balochistan is a key priority of the provincial government.

Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi made these remarks during a meeting with Dr. Safia Mengal, Director of the Institute of Public Health.

During the discussion, she noted that increasing

the number of classrooms at the IPH is essential to providing a better learning environment for female students. She further added that all necessary resources will be utilized to enhance the institute's performance and meet the needs of its students.

Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi also indicated her intention to personally visit the Institute of Public Health in the coming days to review the situation firsthand and ensure that steps are taken to resolve the issues.

UoT hosts workshop on "Job interview & CV writing skills" for business students

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Department of Management Sciences at the University of Turbat (UoT) hosted a one-day workshop on "Job Interview and CV Writing Skills" in the video conference room of UoT.

Students from the Faculty of Business and Economics participated in the workshop. Dr. Ahmed Salman Abbasi, Director of

Training, Student Affairs, Learning Partners, & Outreach Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan, Karachi, and Dr. Ghulam Jan, Assistant Professor at the Department of Management Sciences, UoT served as resource persons of the event. Dr. Ahmed Salman Abbasi shared his expertise on job interview skills with students via video link.



ISLAMABAD: The Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers/Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov, calls on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

BA session resumes: We can't talk about illegal practice of smuggling in provincial assembly: CM

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has categorically stated that we can't talk about the illegal activity of smuggling in the legislative assembly of the province.

He said that there are extraordinary circumstances in the province while separatist movement is going on.

He said that the smuggling of fuel has been causing loss of billions of rupees.

He said that those benefiting from the smuggling of fuel are others and he would reveal their names soon. However, we are trying to find the way out of the issue. The Chief Minister was speaking in the session of provincial assembly here on Wednesday.

CM visits residence of Zafar Zehri; condoles death of mother

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti visited the residence of member Provincial Assembly, Nawabzada Mir Zafarullah Zehri here on Wednesday.

During the visit, Chief Minister condoled with Nawabzada Zafarullah Zehri the death of his mother.

He also offered fataha for the departed soul praying that may Allah Almighty rest the departed soul into its eternal peace and give patience to the bereaved family to bear the tragic loss.

PTI founder no longer in running for Oxford University's chancellor

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan is no longer in the running for the position of Oxford University's chancellor.

The university has released a list of 38 candidates competing for the role, however, Imran Khan's name was not included.

The election process will commence on October 28, with the first round of voting narrowing down the candidates to the top five. These five individuals will then proceed to the final round of elections starting on November 4.

The successful candidate will be announced by the end of November, marking the end of the election process.

It is worth mention here incarcerated former prime minister Imran Khan decided to enter the race to be elected the new Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

Three police personnel injured in IED blast in Buner

PESHAWAR (APP): An improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near a police mobile unit at Ambela, resulting in injuries to three police personnel.

District Police Officer (DPO) Shah Hassan Khan confirmed the incident and said, "Police have cordon off the area."

The injured officers were transferred to the District Headquarters Hospital in Daggar for medical treatment.

Medical camp set up to prevent seasonal diseases in Lasbela

QUETTA (APP): Federal Commerce Minister Jam Kamal has taken immediate notice of the death of three children due to viral infection in the affected Goths of Kanraj constituency.

He also orders have been issued to implement the health plan for the treatment of seasonal diseases in the remote tehsil Kanraj of Lasbela district. On special directive of Deputy Commissioner Lasbela Humira Baloch, the district officer



QUETTA: Additional Chief Secretary Home Shahab Ali Shah presiding over meeting of Provincial Steering Committee for Prevention of Illegal Activities.

President for boosting economic cooperation with Turkmenistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday underlined the importance of increasing economic cooperation and business-to-business relations between Pakistan and Turkmenistan for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

He also called for greater linkages between the stock exchanges of the two brotherly countries to improve economic cooperation. The president expressed these views while talking to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers/Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov, who along with Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Pakistan Atadjan Movlamov, called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

Welcoming the delegation, the president said that Pakistan attached great importance to its ties with Turkmenistan, which were based on common values, religion and culture.

He called for working together for the shared prosperity and stability in the region and the betterment of the people of Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

The president also affirmed Pakistan's commitment to the early completion of the TAPI Gas pipeline project, adding that the project would greatly help in the economic development of the two countries.

Rashid Meredov thanked the president for participation in the International Forum on the 300th birth anniversary celebrations of Magtymguli Faragi in Ashgabat, saying that it was a great gesture of respect for the Turkmen people.

He also conveyed the special greetings of President of Turkmenistan, Serdar Berdimuhamedov, and National Leader of the Turkmen People and Chairman of the People's Council of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, to President Asif Ali Zardari.

The President thanked the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers/Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashid Meredov for his participation in the 23rd meeting of the Council of Heads of Governments of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization being held in Islamabad.

The president also thanked the Turkmenistan government for its warm hospitality extended to him during his visit to Ashgabat.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail presiding over a meeting regarding law and order situation in Zhob Division.

Hosting 23rd SCO summit a milestone for Pakistan: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Wednesday termed Pakistan's hosting of 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit as a milestone in the context of international relations. Talking to media persons at Media Facilitation Center at Pak-China Friendship Center, he said some inimical elements were claiming that Pakistan has been isolated at international level but now the world can see that the heads of major countries had visited our country.

"Russian and Chinese Prime Ministers' arrival in Pakistan is good omen for us Pakistan reputation has been restored with this summit", he added.

He said that Pakistan had made excellent arrangements for the 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit being held in Islamabad today.

He said after 27 years an event of this magnitude was being hosted by Pakistan. "It is definitely an honour for Pakistan to host the 23rd summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif", he remarked.

He said that Islamabad, one of the most beautiful cities of the world, has been specially decorated for this summit and the foreign delegates have given good remarks about the city.

He said by hosting this

World fame boxer Waseem gets warm welcome in hometown

Independent Report
QUETTA: The world fame professional boxer, Muhammad Waseem arrived home town, Quetta on Wednesday afternoon after registering thumping victory against the Georgian boxer in an international ranking fight in Malta earlier this month.

The Advisor for Sports and Youth Affairs, Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch along with the Secretary Sports and other concerned high ups welcomed Muhammad Waseem at the Quetta airport. Speaking to the media persons soon after his arrival at the Quetta airport, boxer Muhammad Waseem thanked the provincial government for warm welcome accorded to him on his arrival. He said that he is very much pleased on winning international ranking fight. He pledged to keep on earning laurels for the country at the international level and maintained that he would bring the world boxing title in the country.



QUETTA: MNA Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti.

Kashmir not India's integral part never was, nor will be: Pakistan

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Pakistan has rejected India's claim that Jammu and Kashmir was its "integral part" and sought a UN-led plebiscite to determine the will of the Kashmiri people, as decreed by UN Security Council resolutions.

"Jammu and Kashmir is not, never has been, and will never be an 'integral part' of India," Pakistani delegate Ansar Shah told the General Assembly's Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth) Committee on Tuesday.

"This disputed status of Kashmir is acknowledged by the UN and the international community," Shah, a first secretary at the Pakistani Mission to the UN, said in a response to an accusation by an Indian delegate that Pakistan was misinterpreting the principle of self-determination which, he said, does not justify undermining a member state's territorial integrity.

The Indian delegate, Eldos Mathew Punnoose, a counsellor at India's Mission to the UN, was reacting to a sharp statement by Pakistan UN Ambassador Munir Akram who described the Indian occupation of Jammu and Kashmir as the "worst manifestation of modern-day colonialism," and called on the U.N. to push for a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UNSC resolutions and Kashmiri people's wishes.

"India is under a legally binding obligation under Article 25 of the UN Charter to implement the resolutions of the Security Council and enable the people of Jammu and Kashmir to exercise their right to self-determination," the Pakistani delegate said, pointing out that Kashmir is being held by brute force, with all pro-freedom Hurriyat Leaders remaining incarcerated and many having died in custody under suspicious circumstances.

Far from seeking a peaceful solution to the dispute, Ansar Shah pointed out that India has resorted to belligerence against Pakistan - threatening to "take over" liberated Azad Jammu and Kashmir, reminding New Delhi that Islamabad will respond decisively to any Indian aggression.

The Pakistan delegate went on to call India the "mother" of terrorism in South Asia, having resorted to terrorism against all its neighbours as a tool of its hegemonic policies.

"India's campaign of targeted terrorist assassinations in third countries is now common knowledge," he said, adding, its agents have been responsible for at least 22 targeted assassinations in Pakistan.