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# Pakistan, China reaffirm support to each other on core issues

Islamabad, Beijing express satisfaction over Pak-China strategic partnership; Ink 13 accords to strengthen bilateral cooperation in different areas

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and China on Monday reiterated their support to each other on all core issues and pledged to dustry, modernization of China would continue close develop China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) phase-II at the highest stan-

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Pakistan. Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang led the delegationlevel talks at the Prime Minister's House.

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed all aspects of bilateral relations and discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction that the Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership which was based on mutual trust and shared principles was being further strengthened with the passage of time.

The two sides also nese investment in Paki- discussed all aspects of stressed the need for timely stan. completion of all the ongoing projects including inagriculture, information technology, science and technology for the mutual benefits and for the socioeconomic development of

The two leaders also expressed satisfaction that cooperation under CPEC had entered into a new phase. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif assured Pakistan's unwavering commitment to ensure the safety of Chinese nationals and projects in Pakistan.

The two sides agreed to continue the high-level contacts, including strengthening of all areas of bilateral cooperation.

In the meeting, discussions were held regarding the relocation of Chinese industry to Pakistan and strategies to increase Chi-

RAWALPINDI: Prime Minister Muhammad

Shehbaz Sharif receives Chinese Premier H.E. Li

Chinese PM Li given

guard of honour at

PM House

ISLAMABAD (APP): Premier of the State Council of

China Li Qiang on Monday was given a guard of honour

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and hold the delega-

come reception, Prime Minister Shehbaz Šharif warmly

forces presented a guard of honour which Premier Li

Pakistan emerges as important

player in region: Tarar

foreign policy affairs in the tries signed arrange-

past, had now emerged as a ments to enhance bilat-

played as the dignitary stood at the salute dias.

As Premier Li arrived at the venue of formal wel-

The national anthems of Pakistan and China were

The smartly turned-out contingents of three armed

Qiang upon his arrival in Pakistan.

tion-level talks.

welcomed him.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Federal Minister for Infor-

mation, Broadcasting, Na-

tional Heritage and Culture

Attaullah Tarar said on

Monday that Pakistan

which faced isolation on

consultations on issues of regional and global importance and at the multilateral

Monday agreed to further warmly received him at the enhance bilateral cooperation in multiple sectors including security, education. agriculture, human resources development and science and technology.

ments of 13 accords at a ceremony held at PM House also witnessed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang.

The documents were exchanged after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang held the delegationlevel talks wherein they

#### China praises counter-terrorism efforts of Pakistan Army

SLAMABAD (INP): Chinese Premier Li Qiang, who is in Pakistan to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit. held a significant meeting with Pakistani military of ficials.

During the meeting, Premier Li Qiang met with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the service chiefs.

The discussions reaffirmed the commitment to further strengthen and expand the long-standing relations between Pakistan and China

Key topics included at the Prime Minister's House as he arrived there to meet defense cooperation and issues related to terrorism between the two countries.

The Chinese Premier praised the role of Pakistan's armed forces in the fight against terror-

Naqvi did not assure Gohar of arranging his meeting with

PTI founder SLAMABAD (Online): Interior ministry has said no assurance has been given by interior minister Mohsin Naqvi for arranging meeting between barrister Gohar Ali with PTI founder Imran

According to statement ssued by interior ministry spokesperson Barrister Ĝohar Âli Khan wrote a letter to interior minister Mohsin Naqvi whereby request was made for arranging his meeting with TI founder.

## **Key terrorist** arrested

PESHAWAR (APP): In a joint operation, police and Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) on Monday here arrested a key terrorist of banned Daesh organization tasked with attacks on public and political gatherings.
Police said, the terror-

ist along with his family was residing in a rented house and was arrested during an hour-long opera-

Pakistan-China relations It was reiterated in the including economic and meeting that Pakistan and China would continue close tion under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Earlier, as Premier Li a. arrived at PM House,
Pakistan and China on Prime Minister Shehbaz formal welcome ceremony where he was given a guard of honor before proceedings for the meeting and delegation-level talks.

The two prime minis-In this regard, two sides exchanged docu-respective delegations witters, accompanied by their nessed the ceremony.

Pakistan and China exchanged the documents of a Handing over certificate of Smart Classrooms Project inked by Economic Affairs Minister Ahad Khan Cheema, and Chinese Commerce Minister Wang

Pakistan and China exchanged the minutes of Agency.

13th meeting of the CPEC Joint Coordination Committee and 7th Joint Working Group on Gwadar under CPEC.

Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal and Lou Zhaohui, Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Promoting Cooperation on Livelihood Working Group of CPEC. Both sides reached an understanding to strengthen cooperation in the fields of "Information and Communication", "Water Conservancy Fa-

cilities, Flood Control and Calamity Reduction", and "Security." The MoUs in this regard were exchanged by Economic Affairs Minister Ahad Khan Cheema and Luo Zhaohui, Chairman of China International **Development Cooperation** 

# Four policemen martyred, five terrorists killed in Bannu police line attack

BANNU (APP):At least four policemen were martyred and five terrorists killed when the latter attacked Bannu police lines

here on Monday, police The terrorists wearing 'Burqa' (veil) stormed the police line and started indiscriminate firing on po-

licemen deployed at its main gate. During the exchange of firing, which continued for about an hour. The gun-

shots rocked the police station, as a result, four police personnel

embraced Shahadat while all the five attackers were

The KP Chief Minister has sought a report from police high ups of the the incident.

He directed the Chief Secretary and IGP KP to reach Bannu. The security forces cordoned of the police line and started search

The KP Governor and Chief Minister have strongly condemned the attack, emphasizing that terrorists will not undermine the police force's determination. They commended the bravery of the police for successfully thwarting the



LAHORE: Renowned religious scholar Dr. Zakir Naik meeting with Quaid PML (N) Muhammad Nawaz Sharif

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson

# Li Qiang visit Pakistan to expand bilateral cooperation, build high quality CPEC

BEIJING (APP): Chinese Premier Li Qiang official visit to Pakistan would enhance traditional friendship, strengthen strategic communication, expand bilateral cooperation across the board and building of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in a high quality way, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said

on Monday. Through this visit, China looks to working with Pakistan to enhance the traditional friendship, strengthen strategic communication, build China Pakistan Economic Corridor in a high quality way, deepen and expand cooperation across the board, and accelerate the building of a closer China Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era and jointly work for regional peace, development and

At the invitation of

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, Chinese Premier Li Qiang is visiting Pakistan from October 14 to 17.

The spokesperson said that China and Pakistan are ironclad friends and all weather strategic cooperative partners and added, Our relations have stood the test of time and remained rock

She pointed out that mentum of development.

# summit kicks off today The landmarks across

**Two-day SCO CHG** 

The twenty-third meeting the city have been adorned of the Council of the Heads of Government (CHG) of with colorful lights and Pathe member states of the kistani flags, also creating a rare photo-op for the citizens and fodder for social Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is set to begin on Tuesday, bringing media timelines. Premier of together regional leaders to the State Council of China discuss enhancing collabo-Li Qiang, along with a highration with a focus on trade, level delegation, has already economy, and cultural linklanded in the federal capital to attend the moot and hold The delegates from the meetings with Pakistan's countries participating in civil and military leader-

the annual gathering of SCO ship.
The two-day meeting of SCO CHG, the second leaders have already started landing in the federal capital which has got highest forum within the a facelift with colorful lights, SČO, will be chaired by floral decorations, SCO Prime Minister Shehbaz countries' flags and ban-Sharif as the current chair ners to welcome the digof the Council. The leaders nitaries. The LED display from the SCO member screens have been installed states attending the summit on the main intersections include China's Premier of the State Council Li Qiang, also beautifully painted

Roman Golovchenko, 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

Akylbek, Iran's First Vice

President Mohammad

Reza Aref, and Indian Ex-

ternal 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 Special Guest represented by Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers



ISLAMABAD: Chinese Premier Li Qiang holding a significant meeting with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the Service Chiefs.

# No compromise on judicial reforms, says Bilawal

KARACHI (INP): Paki- Mazdoor Card, highlighting stan Peoples Party (PPP) the PPP's focus on small transitioning farmers to so-Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-farmers and the working lar power for irrigation and Zardari has asserted that juclass. licial reforms will be implemented without any com-

Speaking at the launch of the Hari Card in Karachi

agricultural losses suffered during President Asif Ali promise Zardari's first term, noting that the government was

on Monday, he emphasised forced to import food. He the party's commitment to underscored the need to



the promises made in the harter of Democracy.

He stated that the launch of the Hari Card fol-

Dar once again

urges PTI to

postpone protest

in national interest

ISLAMABAD (INP): Deputy Prime Minister

Ishaq Dar has said that

holding protests during a

nationally important event

does not send a positive

message, urging those wish-

support farmers by buying their produce.

Addressing the need for agricultural deregulation, he urged that the sector should lows the Benazir Income Support Programme and the be regulated instead.

ensuring they receive quality seeds "We face the dual challenge of combating climate change while supporting farmers," he added. In his political remarks, the PPP chairman recalled

He called for

that the late Benazir Bhutto had promised to implement the Charter of Democracy.

He expressed determination to fulfil those commitments and asked the public if they were satisfied with the current judi-

cial system. He insisted that if the public is not content, the solutions provided by Benazir should be pursued, including equal representa-tion for all provinces in the judiciary. Bilawal rejected calls for him to back down.

asserting that he remains committed to Benazir's vi-

## Pakistan, Chinese PMs virtually inaugurate New Gwadar Int'l Airport

PM terms Gwadar Int'l airport a gift from China; to serve as catalyst for economic prosperity, regional connectivity

Minister

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said that the completion of Gwadar International Airport showed Chinese leadership's commitment and dedication to support Pakistan's economic agenda and develop its backward

areas.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister Li Qiang were at hands to unveil the plaque of Gwadar International Airport. The ceremony was attended by members of the both delegations, ministers, military leadership and senior officials.

Sharif and Chinese Prime

The prime minister said that today, both sides had witnessed the signing and



Addressing a ceremony of virtual inauguration of the newly completed Gwadar International Airport here, the prime minister said that the landmark achievement was all about time-tested friendship between the two countries.

He expressed the hope that the completion of this international airport would transform Gwadar's economy in particular and the economy of Pakistan in general.

Prime Minister Shehbaz

exchange of MoUs between the two countries in various fields of industry, commerce and agriculture.

'No doubt these MoUs will shape into agreements very soon through joint efforts of both countries. Once again, I thank you for your visit to Pakistan out of your busy schedule which is a reflection of your commitment to promoting friendship between the two countries, PM Shehbaz told the Chinese premier.

# key player in the region. Talking to the media af-

ter the inauguration of the Media Facilitation Center at Pak-China Friendship Center, he said the present government had succeeded to end diplomatic isolation of the country and now high level delegations from many countries have been visiting Pakistan in the re-

We are a very active player in the region, and we cent last year

eral cooperation in various sectors Tarar said after his visit a high-level Saudi delegation led by a Minister arrived and inked many MoUs for Saudi investment worth 2.2 billion dollars in Pakistan.

have to play an active role

in the region", he remarked.

laysian Prime Minister

Anwar Ibrahim concluded

a highly successful visit to

Pakistan and both coun-

He said recently Ma-

He said that all economic indicators of Pakistan were positive with inflation decreasing to record 6.9 as compared to 32 per

#### prosperity, Mao Ning said during her regular briefing held here.

this June Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif paid an official visit to China. The two sides actively delivered on the important common understandings reached by the leaders of the two countries and the bilateral relations have maintained sound mo-

#### ing to protest to wait until after the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit. Talking to media in Islamabad, Dar highlighted Pakistan was fully pre-

including leaders and delegates form member and bserve states. He emphasised this event marked a significant diplomatic opportunity for Pakistan, occurring after 27 years, with around 1,000

pared to welcome partici-

pants of the SCO summit,

foreign delegates expected. Dar urged the PTI leadership to postpone its protest planned for October 15, stressing the importance of national unity during such critical international engagements

The deputy prime minister further stated that the Chinese prime minister will also pay a bilateral visit to Pakistan, while the Indian foreign minister has not requested a bilateral meeting.

He mentioned that all institutions and departments have made excellent arrangements through mutual cooperation, and the SCO Secretary-General will brief the media about the conference

# Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

# **SCO** summit

It is a matter of prestige that Pakistan is hosting the SCO Heads of Government summit from tomorrow. The multilateral event in the capital is all the more important as Pakistan tries to chart an economic recovery; besides, by hosting the summit, the country appears to have thwarted attempts by certain quarters to isolate it internationally. However, the state bears great responsibility to ensure that the event passes off smoothly, especially as Pakistan confronts a wave of terrorism, and malevolent actors trying to exploit security

Clearly, this is why the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi have been placed under virtual lockdown until the summit concludes. Ten thousand police and paramilitary personnel will protect the diplomatic mega event, while the military will also offer assistance. True, the security protocols appear excessively stringent, but the administration knows that it can take no chances as foreign dignitaries gather in the capital. In this regard, all quarters, including political parties, must ensure that no hurdles are placed in the way of the

Beyond the security lens, the summit offers Pakistan an opportunity to engage with other states in the neighbourhood. The SCO, a Beijingled initiative, brings together China, Russia, the Central Asian states, Iran and others, to foster a Eurasian community that focuses on socioeconomic cooperation, harmonising counterterrorism and law-enforcement policies, and reinforcing cultural bonds. Regional integration — within South Asia, with Central Asia and the Middle East — is imperative if Pakistan is to embark on a successful path towards economic prosperity. While some may see the SCO as an 'anti-West' collective — along with the Moscow-led BRICS — this is a limited view. Partnerships between regional states and the larger neighbourhood create constituencies of peace and common efforts to encourage commerce and economic activity. No one, therefore, should feel threatened by the fact that Eurasian states are coming together to pursue shared goals. Forums like the SCO also offer states such as Pakistan and India, which do not have cordial relations, platforms to improve ties under a multilateral umbrella. In this regard, the arrival of the Indian external affairs minister in Islamabad for the summit will be watched closely, though a bilateral breakthrough is not expected. Together with the SCO, Pakistan should also endeavour for full BRICS membership for which it has applied — and engage other regional blocs to expand its trade horizons and improve foreign relations. At one time, Pakistan was a major voice in the comity of developing nations and the Muslim world. Due to our own internal weaknesses, specifically economic meltdowns, our international stature has been severely reduced. A successful holding of the SCO summit would signal that Pakistan is very much back on the world stage.

# Back in the news

#### **Huma Yusuf**

You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave." Those famous lyrics are going to haunt American officials after next month's US presidential elections as Washington again considers its Afghanistan problem. How it will broach this problem is unsurprisingly of interest to Pakistan's establishment. But rather than endure a case of déjà vu, could our leaders pitch a new approach?

Just under 24 million Afghans require humanitarian assistance, 48 per cent of them live below the poverty line, and Afso decimated that women are now prohibited from even speaking in public. Over the past three years, these factors have not been sufficient to draw global attention to Afghanistan. The world remains focused on the East, Russia's posturing,

and US-China rivalry. And yet, Afghanistan is creeping back into America's line of sight, and the recent arrest of an Afghan national in Oklahoma for allegedly planning Election Day attacks in the name of IS will focus. The man was apprehended while trying to stockpile weapons after trawling through online IS propaganda. His detention is a reminder that the US is not

Even earlier, Afghanistan was back in US become a useful punching bag in the context of domestic politics. America's chaotic departure from Afghanistan based on a deal with the Afghan Taliban brokered by the Trump administration, followed by an exit tional CT strategy in plan executed by the Biden administration -

has featured repeatedly

secure against terrorism

while militant safe havens

on the campaign trail, faces a grave and matewith Republicans and Democrats blaming each groups such as the TTP other for all that went that carry out cross-bor-

Republican The Party timed its publication last month of a report that sharply criticises the Biden administration for failing to plan for the return to power of the Taliban, and taking steps to safely evacuate Americans and their Afghan allies beforehand. It aims to defend the Republicans' record following last year's After Action Review, an internal US government probe into both sides' failings during the withdrawal, particularly the failure to anticipate ghan women's rights are and plan for worst-case scenarios. Having stirred the Afghan pot to win domestic political points, the next US government

Reprioritisation of Afghanistan will also be driven by the fact that conflict in the Middle Russia is seeking to emerge as a regional leader on the topic. The Moscow Format meeting involving regional governments earlier this month focused on Afghanistan, and stressed how regional security hinges on the Taliban's ability to clamp down on put the issue into centre militant groups operating from its soil. This is not a conversation Washington can easily ignore.

will have to contend with

what it has brewed.

In this context, Pakistan is preparing for a throwback to the days when Washington worried about global terrorism threats emanating from Afghanistan, and sought to tackle them by scattering headlines, because it has counterterrorism funding in Islamabad's direction. Increased CT cooperation was the focus of bilateral meetings between the US and Pakistan in May, and the government's decision to 'reinvigorate' its na-

> June appeared strategi-No doubt, Pakistan Courtesy Dawn

der attacks from Afghanistan. The rapid rise in militant attacks is alarming: August's death toll of 254 people killed in militant attacks the highest over the past six years — was an unambiguous warning sign. Pakistan should absolutely do whatever it takes to eliminate this security threat, including cooperating with regional governm-ents districts in Pakistan. The findings of the similarly af--fected, as

interests such as the US. But what the state should not do is cynically use CT considerations as a blunt instrument against public dissent. Nor should it assume that rekindled US interest in regional security offers it carte blanche to clamp down in the name of national security. The PTM ban on tenuous security grounds, the conflation A stark contrast of Pakhtun identity with terrorism and anti-state

from the real threat and damage state credibility. Perhaps this time around the government can take advantage of the presence of a large, local constituency that is opposed to extremist violence, and instead, privileges peaceful protest, rule of law and democratic rights. Throughout our erstwhile 'war on terror' we sought effective CT narratives.

positioning, the focus

on Afghan flags at the

PTM jirga — these are

missteps that distract

well as global players

with their own vested

These now exist in the form of grassroots movements across the

A changing geopolitical context should not embolden their suppression — it should empower them as strong alternatives to future cycles of violence.

# **Educational divide**

While basic education is a constitutional right of every child in Pakistan, millions of children and youth remain deprived of this fundamental means of living a quality life. The recently launched District Education Performance Index (DEPI) by the Ministry of Planning and Development represents a significant step towards comparing the state of education across 134

parities in both access to and quality of education, with a staggering 77 districts categorised as 'low' performers. Most of these districts are concentrated in Balochistan and Sindh, revealing deep-rooted interprovincial inequities. Despite its pioneering effort, the DEPI report raises important questions about the robustness of its design, methodology, and title.

report reveal severe dis-

emerges when comparing Islamabad and Rajanpur, two districts crimination. Its remotewith nearly identical populations of 2.3 million. According to the DEPI, Islamabad ranks at the top of the 134 districts, while Rajanpur languishes far behind in 80<sup>th</sup> place. Despite both districts being part of the same country, their educational realities could not be more different. In Islamabad, 84 per cent of individuals (aged 10-plus) are literate, reflecting its privileged educational infrastructure. Meanwhile, in Rajanpur, the literacy rate is a mere 37pc, underscoring the region's severe educational deprivation.

The disparities become even more striking when examining school attendance. Islamabad, only 40,477 residents — roughly performance be accu-2pc of the population — rately judged in areas

school. In Rajanpur, however, a shocking 1.2m people (52pc) have been denied even this basic right. Islamabad, fewer than 90.000 children (15pc) are out of school, whereas in Rajanpur, a staggering 442,819 children (56pc) remain outdismal educational perdeprivation faced by its

lies in the systemic advantages Islamabad eniovs As the seat of power, home to decision-makers, parliamentarians, custodians of state funds, and a ployees, Islamabad benefits from a concentration of resources and attention that is unavailable to districts like Rajanpur. Meanwhile, Rajanpur's underperformance is symptomatic of a broader structural dis-

children.

ness from the corridors of power, especially from the provincial capital of Lahore (often referred to as Takht-i-Lahore), leaves it marginalised underserved. Of the 34 indicators used by the DEPI to assess district performance in education, 18

over 53pc — are beyond the authority of the districts and fall under the jurisdiction of provincial governments. Districts depend entirely on the discretion capitals for development budgets, teacher appointments, new How can a district's

Arshad Saeed Khan have 'never' attended outside its control? The disconnect between certain DEPI indicators and ground realities is clear in one In notable example: the average tenure of a provincial secretary of education is used as an indicator of district performance under the domain of 'governance side the education sys- and management'. How tem. Who bears respon- can districts influence sibility for Rajanpur's the tenure of a provincial secretary when deformance? It is unfair to cisions, including prehold Rajanpur account- mature transfers, are able for the neglect and made by the chief minister or secret-a--ry? District The real difference offi-cers have no co--ntrol over these

matters.

This flaw in the DEPI framework highlights the need for significant revisi-o--ns. True performance can myriad of educated em- only be gauged when districts have the power and the means to meet their goals, which they clearly do not. Districts remain mere spectators, wholly dependent on provincial decisions. So, what the DEPI really shows is not 'performance' but the current state of educational deprivation and neglect. The right to free and compulsory education (Article 25-A) is a constitutional duty shared by federal provincial, and local governments, and none can shirk this responsibility. Shockingly, over 25m children aged five to 16 are currently out of school in Pakistan, while the illiterate population has swelled from 50m in 1998 to 60m in 2017 and 67m in the 2023 census. We must move beyond superficial of officials and political rankings and enact leaders in provincial meaningful reforms that empower districts and ensure equitable resource distribution school construction, Only then can we build and essential facilities a society where every such as computer labs. child has the chance to access quality education and thrive. -- Courrately judged in areas tesy Dawn

# Commerce News

# **New ADB country director** for Pakistan assumes office

Asian Development Bank's (ADB) newly appointed Country Director for Pakistan, Xiaoqin (Emma) Fan joined the Pakistan Resident Mission here Monday to officially commence her role.

As Country Director, Ms. Fan will oversee other stakeholders to ADB's operations in Pakistan, including the recovery, implementation of the partnership (CPS) that strategy prioritizes lifting growth, increasing resilience, and boosting competitiveness, said ADB press release issued here. She will also lead the consultation for the new CPS covering the period from 2026 to 2030, it added."I am delighted to be back in Pakistan to lead the country office. I look cooperation

forward to promoting integration," she added longstanding partnership with the government and people of Pakistan," said Ms. Fan. Doctorate in Economics from the Australian

"ADB will continue to work closely with Pakistan's federal and provincial governments, the private sector, and speed-up economic implement reforms, and champion policies and development processes to create jobs. We'll scale up our support for climate resilience, development,

private sector and institutional development; and we will continue to foster livable cities, rural development, digital ecosystems, growth centers, and regional and

A national of New Zealand, Ms. Fan holds a

National University, and Master's and bachelor's degrees from Lanzhou University in the People's Republic of China (PRC). She has more than 30 years of professional experience, including 22 years in ADB.

Ms. Fan joined ADB June 2002 as an Economist, and since then has held positions of increasing responsibility in various departments across the bank.

In December 2013, she was appointed as Advisor for ADB's Planning Strategic Department (SPD) and the Head of its Results Management Unit.

# (I) TMC

DUBAI: Pakistan's Ambassador to UAE, Faisal Niaz Tirmizi inaugurates Pakistan Pavilion at GITEX GLOBAL at Dubai World Trade Centre.

# **Huawei showcases** innovative AI-Ready Cloud at GITEX 2024 in Dubai

ISLAMABAD (APP): demonstrate commitment to intelligent upgrades at GITEX 2024 in Dubai through its

innovative AI-ready cloud to meet the industryspecific requirements, including carrier, government, finance, media and entertainment, Web3,

and e-commerce and retail. According to a news release received here on Monday Alan Qi, President of Huawei Cloud Middle East and Central

Asia, said, "Huawei Cloud Huawei Cloud is set to brings global digital transformation practices to the region with AI-native cloud services like databases, big data, data governance, software development, and AI.

We partner with industry leaders to create solutions for government, electricity, finance, media, e-commerce, and retail, promoting digital and intelligent transformation. Additionally, we connect local industries with global

innovation through peer exchanges and successful practices.

Under "Everything-as-a-Service" strategy, Huawei Cloud offers all-digital, all-cloud, and AI-driven services, including Infrastructure, Technology, and Expertise

as a Service. Shahzad Rasheed CEO of Huawei Cloud Pakistan, said, "At Gitex, we're witnessing the future of cloud innovation unfold before our eyes.

# SIFC playing pivotal role

# development

ISLAMABAD (Online): Special Investment Facilitation Council is playing a pivotal role in taking the country's economy on the path of development and restoring the confidence of the world. As a result of these efforts, China, Russia and Brazil have recently expressed their desire to invest in various sectors of Pakistan. China desires to shift its various industries to Pakistan while Russia and Brazil are involved in trade agreements with Pakistan.

#### strengthen Pakistan-China economic ties: Malik LAHORE (APP): SAARC been described as "higher Chamber of Commerce and

Chinese premier's visit to

Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik said on Monday that Chinese Premier Li Qiang's fourday visit to Pakistan marks significant milestone in further deepening bilateral economic and trade relations between the two fortifying the invincible bonds of brotherhood and steadfastness friendship. statement issued here, he said the visit underscores the unwavering friendship and brotherhood that has characterized China-

than the mountains and deeper than the sea," and Premier Li's visit is set to solidify these ties even He said the visit will

help expanding cooperation various sectors, particularly in trade, infrastructure development, and energy projects. China is already Pakistan's largest trading partner and a key player in China-Pakistan Economic (CPEC), which has brought billions of dollars in investments to Pakistan. This visit will further enhance these economic Pakistan ties for decades. initiatives, fostering Both countries share a mutual growth and



ISLAMABAD: A shopkeeper arranging and displaying perfumes to attract the customers in

# Political activity in capital must be under the law: MCCI president

MULTAN (APP): Multan of the situation. Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) President Mian Bakhtawar Tanveer Sheikh said on Monday that any political activity in the federal capital must be followed under the law, especially during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

(SCO) summit. government to take appropriate measures for maintaining peace and order understanding the gravity

He said there should be no unlawful gatherings in Islamabad, especially during the

SCO summit.

The government's role is to ensure equal rights for all citizens to balance the situation while maintaining peace, he

Talking to APP here
Monday, he asked the
Cooperation Organization (SCO) was a business conference and a key event for fostering economic in the capital after collaboration among SCO member states.

# LAHORE: Chairman Punjab Board of Investment

and Trade (PBIT) Muntaha Ashraf in a group photo with Chinese delegation during a meeting.

# **Minister Kirmani says:** Institutional reforms to improve service delivery

Provincial Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Ashiq Hussain Kirmani on Monday said that service delivery would be enhanced through institutional reforms in line with the vision of Punjab Chief

In a statement issued here, he announced that special powers were being were met strengthening the Parliamentary Secretary added. The transformation for Agriculture to resolve of agriculture would lead to

through better policy-

making and improved services to farmers. Chairing a meeting at the Agriculture House, the minister highlighted that Punjab focused on promoting innovation and value addition in the agriculture Generous funding was being provided to ensure that production targets national economy, he institutional challenges economic stability, he

#### **Rupee sheds** 03 paisa against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Monday depreciated by 03 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs277.66 against the previous day's closing of However, Rs277.63. according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs278 and Rs279.50 respectively. The price of Euro decreased by 48 paisa to close at Rs303.46 against the last day's closing of Rs303.94, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

#### **Shipping** activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where five ships, Apollon-D, Maersk Saratoga, Karpathos Dawn, Solar Catei and Isabella Kosan scheduled to load/ offload Container, Rice, Palm oil and Chemicals berthed at Oasim International Container Terminal, Multi-Purpose Terminal, Liquid Cargo Terminal and Engro Vopak Terminal respectively on Sunday

# 'CM livestock card will be launched soon'

Livestock and Dairy Development Punjab Dr. Muhammad Ashraf on Monday visited the Livestock Complex Sargodha.

During his visit, he inspected various facilities including the Director Livestock Diagnostic Laboratory, Vaccine Cold Chain, and the Chief Minister Punjab Livestock Facilitation Desk.

Muhammad Ashraf also planted a sapling in the office lawn

SARGODHA (APP): and expressed satisfaction Director General of with the cleanliness of the premises.

> Dr. Arif Sultan provided a briefing and presented a performance report. Additional Directors of Livestock from all four

> districts were also present during the briefing. In his address, Director General of Livestock and Dairy

> Development Punjab Dr. Muhammad Ashraf said that the Chief Minister Punjab Livestock Card will be launched soon.

# in country's economic

Director Livestock

# 242 decisions of KP Cabinet implemented

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa cabinet has held a total of 15 meetings so far, in which 319 important decisions were made, out of total 242 decisions have been implemented completely, and whereas remaining 77 decisions are in the development projects, and

process of implementation. The decisions made during cabinet meetings include 76 important decisions related to the Finance Department, 51 related to the Law Department, and 26 related to the Local Government Department, 19 decisions

SIALKOT (APP): Punjab

Land Record Authority

Chaudhry Tariq Subhani

has said that Chief

Minister Maryam Nawaz

Sharif has made a uniform

sanitation system a reality

in rural and urban areas of

the province and the

entire system has been

people after inspecting

the bulk waste lifting and

dumping process and the

cleaning of the drains and

streets under Suthra

Punjab Program at Bhal of

Syedan-Wali, here today.

Now door-to-door

He was talking to

outsourced.

Chairman

the Education Department, and 28 to the Health Department.

Some of the key decisions of the provincial cabinet include; the new vacancies have been approval of important legal drafts, funds for other public welfare initiatives, in addition to approval Memorandums

understanding, agreements and important policies of the government. A review meeting held

here on Monday with the Chief Minister Khyber released for the purchase of armored vehicles for the Chief Minister Khyber related to the Planning Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin

garbage collection from

villages will be started in

the next two weeks and

in addition to cleaning

and sanitation services,

garbage will be lifted and

dumped in accordance

with hygienic principles,

(DDLG) Department

Ùmer Amjad Baig, Chief

Officer (CO) District

Council Fida Mir,

ADLG Muhammad

Jameel Gul besides UC

Secretary, members of

UC Committees and

also present in a large

Deputy Director

Government

he added.

CM Punjab lauded for

uniform sanitation system

for urban, rural areas

Uion Council (UC) local dignitaries were

Department, 34 to the Khan Gandapur in the Home Department, 27 to chair, took stock of the progress made on the decisions of the cabinet meetings.

The participants were informed that a total of 2564 approved in the cabinet meetings. Moreover, Rs 8.5 billion has been released for the deserving households under the Ramadan package. Additionally, 1356 new vacancies have been approved to strengthen police in the province, and Rs. 600 Million have been

#### **PPP** leader for immediate convening of **CCI** meeting

PESHAWAR (APP) Chairman inter-provincial coordination committee (ICC) and parliamentary leader of PPP Ahmed Kundi in Monday called for immediate convening of a meeting of the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

Chairing over an introductory meeting of the ICC here he said that the CCI meeting should be held within 90 days as a constitutional requirement and deplored that it could not be held for the last eight months.

He said that the KP government should write a letter to fulfill this constitutional obligation as soon as possible.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi inaugurates NADRA registration Center at Provincial Assembly.

#### **Governor Punjab says:**

# SCO summit's testament of world's faith in Pakistan

**Independent Report** AHORE: Governor

Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan has said that the holding of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Pakistan is a testament of world's faith in Pakistan as an important partner.

"Presence of twenty heads of countries is a matter of pride for the country. The SCO summit is a positive development that augurs well for the economic development of Pakistan," Governor Punjab said while talking to

the office-bearers, ticket holders and workers belonging to District summit in Pakistan

Governor's House, here on

He said the the CSO summit will open new horizons for development, adding that the economy has started to improve in Pakistan and foreign investment is increasing. He said that the

arrival of twenty leaders in Pakistan is proof that Pakistan's image has improved at the global

He said that the federal government and all institutions deserve kudos

and

weapons. Authorities

with concerns about

potential casualties

and financial losses.

Emergency protocols

hospitals across Bannu. The minister

said that terrorism in

form

implemented

The Governor Punjab said that the SCO conference is the key to the economic development of Pakistan, after which new avenues of development will open in the country. He said that PTI's

protest on the occasion of SCO meeting is against the country's interest. He added that PTI's call for protest on this occasion is like stopping the country's development. He said the masses have rejected PTI's call for protest. The Governor further said that everyone including the opposition has to play a positive role for the

#### Man released from jail after 18 years killed

betterment of the nation.

PESȟAWAR (APP): A released after spending 18 years in jail was shot dead by his rivals in the vicinity of Mattani police station, police said on Monday.

The incident occurred in Shaheedan Azakhel area of Mattani where 45-yearold, Akhtar Ali who was released from jail after 18 years, was killed by his rivals. Kifayat Ullah, a relative of the deceased, told police that Akhtar Ali and his brother were bringing firewood when Akhtar was allegedly killed by his rivals, Hukam Sher

# **Governor inaugurates** passport, Nadra offices in KPAssembly

PESHAWAR Pakhtunkhwa, Karim Kundi, on Monday inaugurated passport and Nadra offices in the provincial assembly. The event was

attended by Speaker Babar Salim Swati, Deputy Speaker Suraya Bibi, Opposition Leader Dr. Ibadullah, parliamentary leader PPP Ahmad Karim Kundi, Director General of Passport Mustafa Kamal Qazi, and Nadra Director Khalid Inayatullah, along with other assembly members and secretariat

The Governor's visit aimed to provide assembly members, secretariat staff, press

(APP): representatives with the convenience c o m p u t e r i z e d identification cards and passports right at their doorstep.
This marked Kundi's

first visit to the provincial assembly as Governor, during which he also reviewed the assembly hall and the jirga hall. Talking to media,

Kundi expressed gratitude to the Federal Interior Minister for their significant support for the He acknowledged the

critical role played by Speaker Babar Salim Swati in establishing the parliamentary jirga and emphasized the need to set aside political differences to focus on restoring peace.



**LAHORE:** Angry students protest by burning tyres and furniture a local college, after the alleged rape of a female student by security card at Gulberg in the Provincial Capital.

# **WCLA launches** guided tour of Lahore Fort hidden places

LAHORE (APP): For the Gate, Akbari Hammam, first time the Walled City Kharak Singh Haveli with of Lahore Authority (WCLA) has launched a guided tour of the Lahore Fort in which the hidden spaces of the fort have been opened and the tourists can see them with a trained tour guide of WCLA.

According to WCLA sources here on Monday, this is a monthly guided tour launched by the WCLA in 2024. Places inside Lahore Fort like the public for the first time Arzgah, Kala Burj, Akbari in this tour.

rooftop views, Akbari Mahal, Sheesh Mahal Attic Rooms, Ranjeet Singh's Last Living Room, British Barracks or Jails, Mughal era Water Channels, The Mysterious grave in the basement, Torture cells near the Royal Kitchens, Zanana Masjid, Naag Temple, Summer Palace and Daulat Khana Khas o Aam have been opened to

# infiltrated the police unacceptable. International News

have any

**Police confronting** 

anti-state elements

in Bannu: Paktoon

Provincial Minister exchange of fire is for Public Health ongoing, involving Engineering, Paktoon both small and large

that an attack have sealed off the occurred at Bannu surrounding areas,

have

PESHAWAR (APP): lines,

Yar Khan has said

Police Lines shortly

after the funeral of a

the incident, he said that Bannu Police are

actively confronting

anti-state elements.

He said that five

Giving details of

martyred officer.

terrorists

# Israel says 4 soldiers killed by Hezbollah drone attack while Israeli strike in Gaza leaves 20 dead

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan expressing his

views while meeting the office bearers, ticket holders and workers belonging

to District Sheikhupura here at Governor House Lahore.

DEIR AL-BALAH: A Hezbollah drone attack on an army base in central Israel killed four soldiers and severely wounded seven others Sunday, the military said, in the deadliest strike by the militant group since Israel launched its ground invasion of Lebanon nearly two weeks ago. The Lebanon-based Hezbollah called the attack near Binyamina city retaliation for Israeli strikes on Beirut on Thursday that killed 22 people. It later said it targeted Israel's elite Golani brigade, launching dozens of missiles to occupy Israeli air defense sys-

tems during the assault by 'squadrons" of drones. Israel's national rescue service said the attack wounded 61. With Israel's advanced air-defense systems, it's rare for so many people to be injured by drones or missiles. Hezbollah and Israel have traded fire almost daily in the year since the war in Gaza began, and fighting has

ground operation in Lebanon earlier this month with the goal of weakening Hezbollah and pushing the militant group away from the border to allow thousands of displaced Israelis to return to their homes.

Inside Gaza, an Israeli airstrike killed at least 20 a school Sunday night, according to two local hospitals. The school in Nuseirat was sheltering some of the many Palestinians displaced by the war. Meanwhile, explo-

sions hit early Monday outside Al-Aqsa Martyrs killing three people and injuring about 50 others, the hospital said. Tents caught fire, and residents of the Central Gaza community carried the injured into the

Hezbollah's deadly strike in Israel came the same day that the United States announced it would send a new air-defense system to Israel to help bolster lated. protection against missiles, Israel launched its along with troops needed to

spokesperson declined to provide a timeline.

Israel is now at war with Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon both Iran-backed militant groups — and is expected to strike Iran in retaliation for a missile attack earlier people including children at this month. Iran has said it will respond to any Israeli attack. The U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon known as UNIFIL said Israeli tanks forcibly entered the gates of one position early Sunday and destroyed the main gate. They later fired smoke Hospital in Deir al-Balah, rounds near peacekeepers, causing skin irritation. UNIFIL called the incident a "further flagrant violation of international law."

International criticism is growing after Israeli forces have repeatedly fired on U.N. peacekeepers since the start of the ground operation in Lebanon. Five peacekeepers have been wounded in attacks that struck their positions, with most blamed on Israeli forces.

# Lebanese army soldier inspects a site damaged by an Israeli air strike in the

Christian-majority region of Aitou in north Lebanon.

## Kremlin says NATO's nuclear exercises fuel tensions in light of 'hot war' in Ukraine

**Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: The Kremlin said that NATO's annual nuclear exercise involving nuclear-capable military aircraft, which began on Monday, was fuelling tensions in light of the "hot war" unfolding in Ukraine. NATO was due to begin its annual "Steadfast Noon" nuclear exercise on Monday, the alliance's Secretary General Mark Rutte said on Thursday, something he cast as a powerful display of deterrence capabilities against a

nuclear rhetoric from Russian President Vladimir Putin. F-35A fighter jets and B-52 bombers will be among some 60 aircraft from 13

nations taking part in the exercise, hosted by Belgium and The Netherlands, NATO officials said. "In the conditions of

a hot war, which is going on within the framework of the Ukrainian conflict, such exercises lead to nothing but further escalation of tension," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry backdrop of heightened Peskov told reporters.

# **Lessons from Iran missile** attacks for defending against China's advanced arsenal

**Monitoring Desk** 

against Israel, after a similar large-scale attack in April, shows the value, as well as the shortcomings, of US and allied missile defences in a potential Indo-Pacific conflict with

Although differences between the two scenarios limit the lessons that can be learnt, the nearly 400 missiles of different types that Iran has fired at Israel this year offer the United States

ternational Studies in

#### Russia calls on **BRICS** partners to create alternative to IMF

**Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: Russia, which chairs the BRICS group this year, has called on its partners to create an alternative to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to counter political pressure from Western nations ahead of the BRICS summit later this month.BRICS, originally comprising Brazil Russia, India, and China, has expanded to include South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Árab Émirates. Top BRICS finance and central bank officials are meeting in Moscow this

#### **Philippine** defence minister doubts China's intent on South China Sea code

**Monitoring Desk** MANILA: The Philippines doubts China's intention to negotiate a regional code of conduct in the South China Sea although Manila is looking forward to continuing discussions, Defence Minister Gilberto Teodoro said on Monday.

Teodoro said that while President Ferdinand Marcos Jr had approved "good-faith discussions"

# China deploys record 125 warplanes in large scale military drill in warning to Taiwan

**Monitoring Desk** TAIPEI: China employed a record 125 aircraft, as well as its Liaoning aircraft car-

rier and ships, in large-scale military exercises surrounding Taiwan and its outlying islands Monday, simulating the sealing off of key ports in a move that underscores the tense situation in the Taiwan Strait, officials said.

China made clear it was to punish Taiwan's president for rejecting Beijing's claim of sovereignty over the self-governed island.

The drills came four days after Taiwan celebrated the founding of its govern-ment on its National Day, when Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te said in a

right to represent Taiwan and declared his commitment to "resist annexation or encroachment.

"This is a resolute punishment for Lai Chingte's continuous fabrication of 'Taiwan independence' nonsense," China's Taiwan Affairs Office said in a

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said 90 of the aircraft, including warplanes, helicopters and drones, were spotted within Taiwan's air defense identification zone. The single-day record counted aircraft from 5:02 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Shipping traffic was operating as normal, the ministry said.

# North Korea set to blow up cross-border roads with South amid drone row, Seoul says

**Monitoring Desk** SEOUL: North Korea is

getting ready to blow up roads that cross the heavily militarised border with South Korea, Seoul said on Monday, amid an escalating war of words after the North accused its rival of sending drones its over Pyongyang.
North Korean troops

were working under camouflage on the roads on its side of the border near the west and east coasts that are likely preparations to blow up the roads, possibly as early as on Monday, South Korea's military spokesman said.

Last week, North Korea's Army said it would completely cut roads and railways connected to South Korea and fortify the areas on its side of the border, state media KCNA reported. Separately, North Korea on Friday accused South Korea of sending drones to scatter a 'huge number" of anti-North leaflets over Pyongyang, in what it called a political and military provocation that hours

could lead to armed con-

Lee Sung-jun, a spokesman for the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff, declined on Monday to answer questions over whether the South Korean military or civilians flew the drones.

In further statements over the weekend, North Korea warned of a "horrible disaster" if South Korean drones were again found to be flying over Pyongyang. On Sunday, it said it has put eight fully armed artillery units at the border "on standby to open fire.

South Korea's military has said its refusal to answer questions on the drones is because addressing what the North has alleged would be to get drawn into a tactic by yongyang to fabricate excuses for provocations. South Korea has sought to boost its anti-drone defences since 2022, Lee said, when five North Korean drones entered its airspace and flew over the capital Seoul for several

# Israeli minister denounces UN peacekeepers as fighting rages

**Monitoring Desk** JERUSALEM: İsraeli Energy Minister Eli Cohen on Monday accused the United Nations' UNIFIL peacekeepers in south Lebanon of being a "useless" force that failed to protect Israelis from Hezbollah attacks and called on it to withdraw as fight-ing ramps up. "The State of Israel will do everything to ensure the safety of its citizens, and if the UN cannot help, at least it should not interfere, and move its personnel from the combat zones," he said on X. Israel and the United Nations have been trading accusations over the peacekeepers in south Lebanon, as Israel pushes its forces through the

area in an attempt to wipe out Iran-backed Hezbollah

and its military infrastruc-

tanks had burst into its base on Sunday, the latest allegations of Israeli violations against peacekeeping forces, that have been condemned by Hezbollah and by Israel's allies.

Israel disputed the UN account and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for the peacekeepers to withdraw, saying they were providing "human shields" for Hezbollah during an upsurge in hostilities.

The UNIFIL peacekeeping force said two Israeli Merkava tanks destroyed the main gate of a base and forcibly entered before dawn on Sunday.

#### WHO approves Bavarian Nordic's mpox vaccine for adolescents **Monitoring Desk**

Organisation (WHO) said on Monday it had approved Bavarian Nordic's mpox vaccine for adolescents aged 12 to 17 years, an age group considered especially vulnerable to outbreaks of the disease that has triggered global concern. The WHO said in a statement that it gave the Jynneos prequalification for adoescents on Oct 8. The WHO declared mpox a glo-

bal public health emer-

gency for the second time

in two years in August af-

ter a new type of the virus

spread from the Demo-

cratic Republic of Congo

SINGAPORE: Iran's missile barrage this month China, analysts say.

and China some idea of what works and what does

For Washington, the main takeaway from Iran's Oct. 1 attacks – the larg-est sample yet of ballistic missiles fired against modern defences - could be that Beijing's missiles would be more difficult to intercept than Iran's and that the ability to strike back would be needed to deter a mass attack, said Collin Koh of the S. Rajaratnam School of In-

# New era of cooperation begins with Premier Li Qiang's Pakistan visit

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chinese Premier Li Qiang' s arrival in Islamabad on Monday for the SCO summit has generated enthusiasm among analysts, praising strengthening China-Pakistan ties as historic visit will solidify relations, fostering a secure business environment for global investments in Paki-

Analysts Agha Iqrar Haroon speaking to PTV news channel believe this visit marks the beginning of a new era of cooperation be-tween the two nations, adding, China visit to Pakistan is expected to focus on enhancing cooperation in areas such as trade, investment,

Agha Haroon Iqrar highlights the potential for Pakistan's economic growth, adding, Pakistan has faced various economic challenges in the past, but with the strengthening right policies and investments, it can capitalize on its strategic location, young populasources to drive growth. Director China Pakistan Study Centre at The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad

> lieves the Chinese Premier's visit holds great symbolic significance for the region. He said this visit will not only provide Pakistan with economic benefits but also shatter

changing project that has been gaining momentum since its inception, he added.

Dr. Talat Shabbir is also optimistic that the Chinese Premier's visit will bring a comprehention, and natural re- sive agenda, building on the momentum of CPEC Phase 2.

He credits the current government and the Chinese govern-Dr. Talat Shabbir bement for reviving hopes and commitments, especially after the 13th Cooperation Committee meeting, where five new corri dors for Phase 2 of CPEC were identified.

This development is a testament to the



ISLMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar cutting the ribbon during inauguration ceremony of Media Facilitation Centre at Pak-China Friendship Center ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2024, in the Federal Capital.

# Ayaz says Protecting rights of visually impaired persons essential to make them productive citizens

ISLAMABAD (APP): citizens," he added Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Monday said that the white cane is a symbol of independence, confidence, and

sual impairments. persons on the occasion of said that this day serves as an encouragement for all of us to support and empower visually impaired them in the national main-

The Speaker emphasized that visually impaired individuals are an important part of our society, and ensuring their well-being and empowerment is our collective responsibility.

"By harnessing their potential, we can turn visually impaired persons their lives easier through into productive and active effective legislation.

Ayaz Sadiq stressed the need to take steps to utilize their abilities more effectively and enable them to play a vital role in social freedom for those with vi- life, allowing them to live with dignity and contrib-While paying tribute ute as valuable members of to the courage and resil- society. He further added ience of visually impaired that if visually impaired persons are provided with White Cane Safety Day, he equal opportunities in education, employment, and other sectors, they can significantly contribute to the development and progress of individuals and include society. The Speaker remarked that White Cane Safety Day is a moment to renew our commitment to

> sually impaired persons and making every effort to improve their lives. He affirmed that Pakistan's Parliament is committed to ensuring the protection of special persons' rights and making

safeguarding the rights of vi-



ISLMABAD: A view of deserted view of 7th Avenue due to three day holiday ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2024, in the Federal Capital.

# **Sherry takes MQM into** confidence on constitutional amendment during meeting

ISLAMABAD (Online): reference to establishment Vice president PPP Senator Sherry Rehman and Dr Asim Hussain have met MQM delegation in Sindh House.

Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori, Dr Farooq Sattar and Amin ul Haq were included in MQM delegation.

During the meeting both the sides agreed on moving ahead on matter of constitutional amendment with consensus and trans-

They also agreed on continuing such contacts in the meeting.

Later Sherry Rehman nalists we are taking all stake holders into confidence on our constitutional amendment draft under the directives of chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

We have today informed MQM leaders with tics.

of constitutional courts. During the meeting

both the sides presented their priorities. A comprehensive meeting was held with MQM leaders. Constructive talks were held. MQM leader Farooq

Sattar said basic view point of all parties is stability of the court without which neither government can perform nor can it de-

He said that a day before PML-N delegation had come. Two days before we had met Prime Minister. Today PPP delegation has come. I think it is good said while talking to jour- omen. These contacts should be established this way. Dead lock is being sorted out. There will be deadlock if there is no politics after meetings. There will be politics. We are politicians. We should do poli-

# Routes established for **SCO Summit**

under ITP's

supervision SLAMABAD (APP) nder the supervision of Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Muhammad Sarfraz Virk, the Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) will lay the routes on Monday according to the traffic plan for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) 2024

According to ITP Expressway will be halted from morning until noon.

While Srinagar Highway will be halted from afternoon to late evening, he He said Islamabad

Traffic Police (ITP) have issued a comprehensive traffic plan aimed at ensuring smooth traffic flow during this important international event. In this regard 1100 of-

ficers from the ITP have been deployed to ensure smooth traffic flow and guide citizens to alternative

Citizens are advised to avoid unnecessary travel and are encouraged to use alternative routes to avoid inconvenience, CTO said.

For the latest updates on traffic conditions, the public is advised to tune in to Islamabad Police Radio FM 92.4 or contact 15, he

#### 05 outlaws netted, weapons seized

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Police have apprehended five outlaws involved in different anti social activities, including possessing illegal weapons during last 24 hours. A public relations

officer talking to APP on Monday said that Islamabad Police Kohsar, Sumbal, Khanna and Bani Gala police station teams took legal action against anti social elements who were allegedly possessing illegal weapons. During the crackdown in different raids the police teams arrested five accused involved in possessing illegal weapons and recovered five pistols with ammunition from their possession. The Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Islamabad, Syed Ali Raza said that the Islamabad Police are actively working to ensure the safety of citizens'

The citizens are urged to report any suspicious activities to the relevant police station, emergency helpline "Pukar-15," or the 'ICT-15' app to help make

lives and property in the

federal capital, emphasiz-

ing that no elements will be

allowed to disrupt citizens'



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier, Li Qiang introducing their respective delegations during the later's visit to Prime Minister's House.

# **Chairman CDA says:** Islamabad fully prepared for SCO summit with enhanced security, beautification

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Capital Development Authority Muhammad Ali Randhawa Monday confirmed that Islamabad was fully prepared to welcome esteemed international guests for the SCO summit, with the city's beautification and security measures significantly enhanced to ensure a pleasant and secure expe-In an exclusive talk

with a private news chan-Muhammad Ali 'Islamabad is fully pre- guests to our city," summit," he added.

pared under the strict in- Randhawa said. structions of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's where CDA, in collaboration with other security departments including Army officials has implemented stringent security measures to ensure a secure experience for international guests." Ali Randhawa expressed pride and honor that Islamabad had been chosen to host esteemed international guests for the

"We are thrilled to

SCO Summit.

"Islamabad's roads

and bridges have been transformed with illuminating decorations, creating a warm and welcoming ambiance ahead of the summit," he added. He said, "This vibrant display reflects Islamabad's commitment to showcasing its beauty and hospitality to the world." "The city's enhanced infrastructure and beautification efforts demonstrate its readiness to host high-profile interna-Randhawa confirmed, welcome distinguished tional events like the SCO

# Siddiqui criticizes PTI for undermining national dignity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Muslim League-N Senator Irfan Siddiqui Monday slammed PTI for consistently obstructing Pakistan's progress, urging them to prioritize national dignity and warned that choosing the SCO summit day for their actions would have severe repercussions.

In an exclusive Interview with a private news channel, he said, "PTI is habitual for disruption of the country's advancement, emphasizing the need for patriotism over

He further criticized that despite senior leaders from PML-N and PPP being jailed, the country's matters were not derailed by similar blackmailing tactics, adding, the current disruptions were being driven by political agendas rather than genuine concerns for the nation's well-being.

He said, "PTI has a history of causing trouble whenever important events are or the horizon, adding, in the past, they disrupted the Chinese president's visit to Pakistan and now they are poised to do it again.

"Their actions are reckless and selfish, prioritizing political gain over national dignity," he said, adding, "It is crucial to remember that Pakistan's reputation is at stake and such antics will only harm the country's interests.

Responding a query, he emphasized, "Even if a PTI leader is imprisoned, the party can still function effectively, just like PML-N and PPP did during similar circum



ISLAMABAD: A view of media facilitation center prepared for International and national media persons at Pak-China Friendship Center ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2024 in the Federal Capital.

# **SCO** media center launched to facilitate int'l, local media during regional moot

ISLAMABAD (APP): The federal government on Monday launched the 'Media Facilitation Center' equipped with most modern facilities to assist international and local media during the regional Shang-Cooperation

Organisation (SCO) summit 2024 being hosted by Pakistan for the first time on October 15-16.

The SCO media facilitation center was launched here at Pak-China Friendship Center by the Minister for Information and Broadcasting flanked by senior officers of the Min-

The center has been decorated with thematic pictorials, banners and decorative material, fountains, highlighting the national landmarks of the members states participating in the two-day regional would be participated by nine full member countries being represented by the prime ministers of China, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan along-with the vice president of Iran and the exter-

nal affairs minister of India.

that the organisation was

It is to mention here

established in 2001 by China and Russia to discuss security concerns in Central Asia and the wider region. The media center has SMDs projecting banners of different SCO members, whereas a dedicated multimedia showcasing eye catching landscapes and cultural heritage of Pakistan has been installed. The Ministry has also set up a display center providing literature regarding notable literary figures, cultural heri-



ISLAMABAD: Security officials are on high alert as security beefed up in the Federal Capital for the 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

#### **SCO Summit:** City streets shine with lights and decorations

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has finalized all administrative arrangements, with final touches in place, and the city is ready to welcome the delegates of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) sum-

Meanwhile, streets, buildings, and public spaces have been carefully prepared for the international event.

According to the spokesman of ICT administration, in preparation for the SCO meeting, the city has been fully decorated. Before the guests arrive, streets have been adorned with lights and decorations. giving the city a fresh look Major highways now feature green spaces and crescents, adding a touch of nature to the urban landscape.

As part of a beautification drive, various statues have been installed at key intersections. Government offices, private business centers, and buildings have also been revamped, ready to greet the visiting dignitaries.

Private businesses. including plazas, petrol stations, and restaurants, are prepared to accommodate the needs of international guests during the summit. At night, the city offers an even more impressive view, with lights illuminating the skyline and key areas across the city.

# **All Parties Conference** AJK govt always supports Kashmir freedom struggle: Prime Minister Ch Anwar

(APP): Azad Jammu an of a nation is something that Kashmir (AJK), Prime Minister (PM), Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has reiterated his government's all out support to Kashmir cause of self-determination. The AJK PM said this

while addressing an All-party conference held in Division's Poonch Rawalakot city under the aegis of Jammat Islami Azad Jammu and Kashmir late Sunday. sion, he said that the basic

Speaking on the occapurpose for establishing base camp was to strengthen the freedom movement and liberate the Indian occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The ideological basis one cannot compare with that of development", the PM said, adding that AJK had progressed beyond imagination since 1947.He said that the people of Azad Kashmir enjoyed every kind of facility.

"We are providing electricity to our citizens at three rupee per unit and 40 KG flour at 2000 rupees", the PM said. "Do the people in Indian occupied Kashmir enjoy same rights and privileges as people of Azad Kashmir do?", the PM asked.

He said that there was no need to adopt an apologetic tone when it comes the issue of Kashmir.

# IG Islamabad review security arrangements for SCO Summit

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: According to details, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir ing the security arrange-

at the residences and venues of foreign heads of state and delegations. On this occasion, DIG Security Jawad Tariq and other se-Rizvi is personally review- nior police officers were



ments for the ongoing "Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit 2024" in federal capital, Islamabad.

In this regard, he visited Safe City Islamabad, the Control Room at the SSP Security Office, and the Red Zone to review the security measures deployed Army, Rangers, FC.

IG Islamabad said that the Islamabad Police have deployed more than 9,000 officers and officials for security duties to ensure foolproof security for the SCO Summit 2024. In addition, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, District Administration, Pakistan

# **PM** welcomes 27 more Palestinian students arrive in Pak

LAHORE (APP): Twenty- Rehman would extend coseven more Palestinian stu- operation for the purpose. dents arrived in the country to acquire medical and ernment of Pakistan, Palesdental education on Mon- tinian Embassy and medial day. Alkhidmat Foundation colleges and universities Pakistan President Dr which helped the students Hafeez ur Rehman, Vice continue their education. President Air Marshal (Retired) Arshad Malik, Health estinian Embassy officials, Services Chairman Prof Dr Zahid Latif and government officials warmly welcomed the students at Lahore airport. Dr Hafeez ur Rehman said that in the first phase, 192 Palestinian students were coming to Pakistan through different flights. He said that the students would continue their medical and dental education in universities of Pakistan, adding that the Alkhidmat

He thanked the gov-

"After meetings with Palthe government of Pakistan and different colleges and universities, we were able to bring the students to Pakistan. The students will be provided with all possible facilities including education, food and residence, he added. "The Alkhidmat Foun-

dation continues a relief and rescue operation in Gaza from the first day of war. It is providing facilities like Foundation, Global Relief food, medicines and shelter Trust and Doctors of there.



ISLMABAD: Girls are looking a Pakistani culture painting at Pak-China center after inauguration ceremony of Media Facilitation Centre at Pak-China Friendship Center ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2024.

### PTI's protest call slammed as attack on national integrity during SCO Summit: Uzma ISLAMABAD (APP): A ter the conference or

prominent leader of the within Pakistan Muslim League- Pakhtunkhwa, but this Nawaz (PML-N) Uzma time, the SCO Summit Kardar Monday strongly condemned PTI's protest call during the SCO Summit, labeling it an attack on est and postponed their national integrity and in- protests until after the stead emphasized the summit. Responding a summit's historic significance as a unique opportunity for Pakistan to shine on the global stage.

Talking to PTV news channel, she highlighted the significance of the SCO Summit and the potential consequences of disrupting it. Uzma Kardar emphasized the importance of national unity and criticized Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) decision to hold protests during the unlock economic opportuni-SCO Summit. She said, "PTI can hold protests af- for the country.

takes precedence.' Kardar urged PTI to

consider the national interquery, she mentioned, "SCO is a key regional platform which will enhances Pakistan's global influence and diplomatic reach." She expressed feared that disrupting the summit would undermine Pakistan's reputation and relationships with key regional players. "By hosting successful SCO Summit, Pakistan can showcase its capabilities, strengthen diplomatic ties and ties, making it a crucial event