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Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 239 Rabi-us-Sani 21, 1445 AH Friday October 25, 2024

CM Murad urges MPs to actively participate in administering polio drops to children

KARACHI (INP): On World Polio Day, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah addresses the antipolio drive program and presiding over a Provincial Task Force meeting, announced the adjournment of the ongoing provincial assembly session to allow all the members to actively participate in administering polio drops to the children under the age five-year in their respective constituen-

Mr Shah said that the move is aimed at strengthening the anti-polio cam-paign initiated during the tenure of former prime minister Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and bringing it to a success-

ful conclusion. The chief minister said that a five-day antipolio drive is starting from October 28 to November 3 and this time there would be zero tolerance against the refusal cases, that's why he has decided to engage par-liamentarians and other elected members, civil society and the ulemas.

program were held at CM House. Provincial ministers, Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Syed Sardar Shah, Saeed Ghani, Jam Khan Shoro, Shahina Sher Ali, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, IG Police Ghulam Nabi Memnon, Additional IG Karachi Javed Odho, provincial secretaries, commissioners and deputy commissioners, Provincial coordinator (EOC) Irshad Sodhar, Incharge provincial government partners Aziz Memon, Dr Sara of WHO

drive, polio workers and children. World Polio Day: adter Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto launched the polio eradication campaign in 1994. "30 years have passed since that campaign, but unfortunately, we are still struggling against polio to save the future of our children.

and other in anti-polio

The CM said that there were 40 polio cases

The task force meeting and the World Polio in Sindh, 20 in Balochistan, Pakhtunkhwa, and one in Punjab. He added that Afghanistan has 23 cases The frequent movement of the people from Afghanistan to Pakistan and from one province to another is

said to be one of the rea-

sons behind the eruption of

polio cases," he said.

On World Polio Day the Sindh government, in collaboration with its national and international partners, reaffirms its unwavering commitment to eradicating polio from the province, Mr Shah said and added that he has instructed the deputy comdressing the gathering, the CM said that Prime Minislio vaccine to the children. emphasizing that failure to meet this target will not

be tolerated. Murad Shah also said that the SSPs have also been given clear instructions to provide appropriate security to the polio teams so that they could achieve



cial Task Force meeting on Polio Eradication, held at CM House in Karachi.

Will not sit idle until Pakistan purged of poliovirus,' says PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday paying tribute to the efforts and sacrifices of the polio work-ers, and support by the in-ternational partners, reiterated his government's resolve to make Pakistan a polio-free country to save the future of millions of children

The prime minister, addressing an event held on World Polio Day dedicated to recognise the sacrifices of the polio workers, said that the resurfacing of the polio cases in the country required reuniting the efforts to fight the menace.

He reaffirmed that the government would face the challenge with an unwavering commitment to purge the country of this crippling disease.

The prime minister, who earlier launched a nationwide polio vaccination drive by administering polio drops to the children, appreciated the support from international partners including the World Health he remarked.

Organisation, UNICEF, and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who had contributed to Pakistan's ef-

forts to fight out the polio.

"With this commitment, we will meet success and polio will be pushed out of the country and will never be allowed to resurface," he resolved, and also appreciated the Saudi government's support.

Calling them the "real hand "real"

heroes" the prime minister paid tribute to the sacrifices of the polio workers in the the polio eradication ef-forts and also distributed shields among the family members of the martyred polio workers and also to those who sustained injuries during the polio vaccination drives.

"Around 40 cases have been reported across four provinces. Today, we make a pledge to handle these cases effectively. We will not sit idle until the virus is eliminated from the country. This is a challenge which we have accepted,"

calls on CM Sindh KARACHI (APP): The

Aleem Khan

Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization and Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan, during his visit of Karachi on Thursday, called on Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad

The federal minister and the Sindh CM had a detailed discussion on the matters relating to Highways and Communication sector in Sindh province, said a statement issued

Meanwhile, Federal Minister for Communication, Privatization and Investment Abdul Aleem Khan and Federal Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan, paid a visit to MQM-P's Member of the National Assembly Raana Ansar at her residence to offer condolence on sudden death of her young son Shahzeb Naqvi.

Kundi terms 26th Amendment as an important juncture of

Pakistan's history KARACHI (INP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi termed the approval of the 26th constitutional amendment as an important juncture in the history of Pakistan.

He said that the parliament with a two-third majority approved the amendments aimed at judicial reforms. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), as well, did not vote against the constitutional amendment bill but chose to remain silent, KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said while talking to media. The KP Governor said that PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan had said in a press conference along with JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman that drafts of PTI and the Moulana were same. "We have approved Maulana Fazlur Rahman's draft but they did not vote in favour of the draft that was once acclaimed as their own."

Security forces kill nine Khwarij in **Bajaur District**

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Security Forces on Thursday killed nine Khwarij, including two Suicide Bombers and a High Value Target Kharji ringleader Said Muhammad alias Qureshi Ustad during an intelligence-based operation IBO conducted in Bajaur District on the night of October 23/24.

During conduct of operation, the Army troops effectively engaged the Khwarij location and after intense fire exchange, nine Khwarij were eliminated, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was also recovered from killed Khwarij, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as innocent civil-

'Sanitization operation is being carried out eliminate any other Kharji found in the area, as security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country," the ISPR said.

COAS Asim Munir as strong voice against extremists

RAWALPINDI (PR): US ity. central command's maga-Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir for his military diplomacy and his commitments for economic improvement in the

Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

CENTCOM magazine lauds

According to magazine, General Asim Munir has taken decisive action against Tehrik-i Taliban Pakistan (TTP) within Pakistan, known as Fitna al Khawarij. Under his lead-ership, through July 2024, 22,409 intelligence-based operations have been conducted against terrorists and their facilitators. They eliminated 398 terrorists, including 31 high-value tar-

US magazine writes that General Asim Munir's tenure as the Chief of the Army Staff has been characterized by determined action against extremism, proactive measures to address security challenges and a commitment to fostering socioeconomic stabil-

General Asim Munir's zine Unipath has paid trib-ute to Pakistan's Chief of macy has not only strengthened Pakistan's relations with key global partners but has also underscored the nation's role in promoting regional peace and stability.
As Pakistan navigates through intricate geopoliti-cal dynamics and internal challenges, Gen. Asim Munir works to guide the

Army and nation toward a future marked with profes-

sionalism, resilience, pros-

perity and unity.

Pakistan is also confronted with a formidable challenge in the form of fifth-generation warfare, a complex blend of conventional and unconventional tactics aimed at the implosion of societal structures. Gen. Asim Munir has expressed his resolve that the Pakistan Armed Forces, with the support of the na-tion, are fully prepared to defend the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the motherland against the full



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif presenting souvenirs to front line Polio Workers and the relatives of those Polio Workers who embraced martyrdom in the line of duty.

Bilawal says Fazl tried to make constitutional amendment controversial

ISLAMABAD (INP): PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman tried to make the 26th Constitutional Amendment 'controversial' by passing remarks against one of their clauses.

In an interview with the BBC, Bilawal said that the coalition government could have got the amendments passed even without the support of the JUI-F. "But we followed the Charter of Democracy (CoD) and tried to develop a consensus among political parties." He further said there was not much difference between a constitutional court and a constitutional bench. "By a constitutional court, we don't mean a separate structure," he

Bilawal Bhutto, ex-

pressed confidence that the party's numbers were sufficient to proceed with a constitutional amendment, even without the support of Maulana Fazlur Rehman. Bhutto stated.

"A significant task like the 26th Constitutional Amendment can be undertaken by any Chief Justice. and it was not feasible in the presence of Mansoor Ali Shah." He also noted concerns over attempts to politicize Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa.

Bhutto addressed the events of May 9, when military installations were attacked, highlighting the government's intent to prosecute those responsible. He criticized the court's interpretation of the constitution, claiming it obstructed government's decisions.



WASHINGTON DC: Finance Minister Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb delivers the keynote address on Pakistan's economic outlook at the Wilson Center in Washington DC.

'NHA Sindh's revenue target should be set at Rs 25b for current financial year'

KARACHI (INP): Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan on Thursday said that the National Highway Authority Sindh's revenue target should be set at Rs 25 billion for the current financial year.

The Federal Minister said this while chairing a high level meeting during a visit to the NHA

On the occasion, the NHA officials briefed the Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan on multiple ongoing projects of the Na-

Speaking on the occasion, Abdul Aleem Khan said that financial stability of government institutions was the foremost priority and called upon the NHA that it should enhance its own resources. The Federal Commu-

tional Highway Authority.

nications Minister in-structed the NHA officials to further expedite work on 43 ongoing projects in Sindh.

He said that all projects of National Highway Authority should be of high quality and at par with the international stan-



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir witness the ongoing Multinational Exercise Indus Shield-2024, at an operational Air Base of Pakistan Air Force (PAF).

COAS Gen Asim Munir visits PAF to review Indus Shield-2024 exercises

COAS visits PAF operational air base to witness ongoing multinational exercise Indus Shield-2024

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Thursday visited an operational air base of Pakistan Air Force to witness the ongoing multinational exer-

cise Indus Shield-2024.

The COAS was received by Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhy, Chief of the Navel Sidhu. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf was also in presence at the occasion, an made through various Inter Services Public Relations news release said.

Exercise Indus Shield-2024 is the biggest multinational exercise of the region that is witnessing participation from 24 esteemed Air Forces converging to foster interoperability and training through state-of-theart facilities embodying

the exercise motto; "Stronger When Together."

COAS expressed his satisfaction over the combat readiness of Pakistan Air Force and the progress modernization and up-gra-

dation programs



KARACHI: Vice Admiral Raja Rab Nawaz HI(M) handed over the command to Commander Coast Rear Admiral Faisal Amin HI(M) during Change of Command ceremony held at Karachi.

KMC's main building to be shifted on solar panel system: Mayor Karachi

Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that the main building of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) will be shifted to solar panel system next week while the mosque located within the KMC building premises will also be converted to solar energy.

He made these remarks while inspecting the solar panel system installed on the roof of the cost approximately Rs20 KMC's main building here on Thursday.

He said that in the next phase, more KMC buildings and streetlights to 700 units of electricity will be shifted to solar en- daily.

(APP): ergy, which will signifi cantly reduce the financial burden on KMC and allow for the sale of excess electricity produced from solar energy to K-Elec-

> tion, Barrister Murtaza Wahab received a detailed briefing, which included information that the installation of the solar system to provide electricity to the KMC head office million. A total of 259 solar panels have been installed on the roof, which will generate between 650

Rear Admiral Faisal Amin Commander Coast

KARACHI (APP): Rear Admiral Faisal Amin took over the duties of Commander Coast during Change of Command ceremony held at Karachi, where Vice Admiral Raja Rab Nawaz handed over the command to the Rear

Rear Admiral Faisal Amin got commissioned in Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy in 1992, a Pakistan Navy news release on Thursday said.

He is a graduate of Royal College of Defence Studies (UK), Army Command & Staff College (Quetta) and National De-University (Islamabad). The Admiral has an illustrious naval career comprising vast expe-

rience of various Command

and Staff appointments. His key appointnents include Commander 18th Destroyer Squadron, Assistant Chief Of Naval Staff (Operations), Principal Secretary to the Chief of the Naval Staff, Additional Secretary-III at Ministry of Defence, and Naval Secretary. In recognition of his meritorious services, the Admiral was awarded

Bushra Bibi released from Adiala Jail after court order

Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military).

ISLAMABAD (APP): Bushra Bibi, the wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) founder, was re-leased from Adiala Jail following a court order from Special Judge Central, Islamabad.

A Special Judge in Islamabad, Shah Rukh Arjumand, ordered the release of Bushra Bibi, who had been in custody at Adiala Jail. The Islamabad High Court had earlier granted her bail in the Toshakhana II case.

However, her release was delayed due to the absence of Special Judge Central Shah Rukh Arjumand and the unavailability of Special Judge Central number two Humayun Dilawar. This meant the release process could not move forward immediately

US envoy lauds restoration of Karachi's historic Frere Hall at completion ceremony and as a testament to the

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad

Ali Shah exchanges views with Federal Minister

for Privatisation & Communication Aleem Khan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The United States (US) Ambassador to Pakistan, Donald Blome on Thursday praised the successful completion of the restoration of the historic Frere Hall, a project funded by the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation

Addressing a ceremony held at Frere Hall, Karachi, Ambassador Blome expressed his admiration for the initiative, stating that the restoration symbolizes the shared values and collaborative spirit between the US and Paki-

He said, "On behalf of the US government and the American people, it is an honor to join you today as we celebrate the completion of this remarkable project. Thanks to the AFCP, Frere Hall will continue to serve as a space for Karachi's vi-

city's rich cultural heritage." Ambassador Blome highlighted the cultural and educational significance of Frere Hall, noting that the restoration project reinforces its role as a center for civic engagement and learning in the heart of Karachi. He commended the Sindh Exploration and Adventure Society (SEAS) for their leadership in the restoration effort, led by Dr. Asma Ibrahim and Dr. Kaleemullah Lashari. The project, which spanned three years, involved local students in learning the skills of historic preservation, reflecting a commitment not only to cultural heritage but also to skill development and economic

"Restoring Frere Hall and making it structurally safer and more accessible for public gatherings like



KARACHI: On the 29th day of the 38-day World Cultural Festival Karachi, organized by the Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, the UAE Consul General in Syria, Dr. Provincial Minister for Culture Syed Zulfikar Ali Shah and President of the Arts Council Mohammad Ahmad Shah talking about UAE cuisine.

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Curtain call

The controversy surrounding the full-court verdict, where a majority of eight Supreme Court judges favoured restoring PTI as a parliamentary party and granting it reserved seats, continues

Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, part of the minority in the case, has raised concerns about the legality of the majority's decision to issue clarifications on queries from the ECP. In his dissenting note, the CJP makes a valid point: once the full court had issued its verdict, the eight judges had no authority to act independently and issue clarifications to queries put forth to the court. He rightly contends that the responses should have been routed through official channels in line with protocol.

And yet, while his critique of the judges overreach is valid, his leadership has faced criticism for failing to enforce the full court's decision. As chief justice, he had a responsibility to ensure that the ruling was implemented, even if he disagreed with it. His inability to push for its implementation gives one the impression he may have been quietly aligned with the view that the ruling should not be enforced. This failure to act raises concerns about his leadership during a critical period for the judiciary.

The CJP's note marks the end of a tumultuous tenure marred by decisions that some saw as unnecessarily divisive. His handling of cases like the ones pertaining to PTI's bat symbol and Article 63-A are examples where his rulings appeared more focused on technicalities and less on justice. In the bat case, he was clear in upholding the ECP's stance against the PTI, refusing the party its election symbol due to legal technicalities. Yet, this decision appeared to be more of a punitive gesture towards the PTI.Similarly, the timing of the Article 63-A ruling — which dealt with toeing party lines — stirred significant debate. The forces that hunger for influence over the political and judicial landscape were firmly against the man at the start but appear sated now.

On the other hand, the chief justice, who was once viewed as a crusader for judicial integrity has left many of his initial supporters disillusioned. Once lauded as one of the finest jurists, he will now leave a complex legacy, with his dissent symbolising the divisions within the apex

Adding to this quagmire is the appointment of Justice Yahya Afridi as the new CJP, passing over Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, who was a strong contender being the next most senior judge.

There is, however, hope that under Justice Afridi, the court can move beyond the discord and heal the fractures that developed under CJP Isa's watch. The nation needs a judiciary that upholds justice without descending into internecine strife — a hope that rests on Justice Afridi's shoulders as he dons the robe.

Milk the public

F.S. Aijazuddin Rs1,400bn.

Perhaps the inspiration came from milking the buffalo his father-in-law gave him. Or the hardships he endured during his training for the Olympics 2024, in which he won the gold medal for his recordbreaking javelin throw. It is said that recently, when invited to be a motivational speaker at a school in Lahore, someone on his behalf demanded a fee of Rs50 lakhs.

Friday October 25, 2024

Instant celebrities have just cause. In the Mandy-Rice revelations about the Profumo scandal. Her justification? She needed to pro-vide for her "predictably insecure future".

Was that the rationale for the startling increase approved last year in the perquisites for Senate chairmen, past, present and future? Their benefits extend over nine pages and into the lifetime of the beneficiaries. Clearly, John Kennedy's advice is lost on our legislators: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country.

Milking our country is now a given. A former president is supposed to ave told an incoming State Bank governor: "I am the president; therefore, understand that the State Bank is my bank."

A shameful example of this 'your hand in the public pocket' attitude has been the Diamer-Bhasha dam project, located on the River Indus between Kohistan and the Diamer district in Gilgit-Baltistan.

In 1998, prime minister Nawaz Sharif inaugurated the Diamer-Bhasha project, designed to generate 4,500 megawatts of electricity. It should have been completed in nine to the apex court by the years. Ten years later, in 2018, unfinished, its cost has ballooned from an noted that the fund's actesy Dawn

original Rs479 billion to count constituted only

Wapda (hitherto responsible for the construction of dams) warned that at least \$12bn would be required to build Diamer-Bhasha dam — \$7bn for power generation and another \$5bn for infrastructure. The hilly terrain precludes any arterial irrigation canals.

In July 2018, the then chief justice ordered a national fund to be established to finance its construction. Two days later, the then prime minister 1960s, the British model added his PMO's name to Davies the CJ's project. Commercharged an exorbitant fee cial banks and cellular from a Sunday rag for her companies became the conduits to receive contributions from a gullible

Within six months, the dam fund rapidly accumulated \$66.7 million. After July 2019, deposits dwindled to a trickle. The public was assured that the fund's status would be "regularly updated" before the Supreme Court of Pakistan. As if the backlog of 43,800 cases was not burden enough, the Supreme Court constituted an implementation bench of five apex court judges. It did not examine the progress reports. All five judges of the bench have since retired and never been replaced.

Meanwhile, Wapda disbursed Rs115.9bn for land acquisition, and Pakistan signed a Rs442bn contract with China Power and FWO to execute the

The billions spent on direct and indirect advertising has never been dis-

In October 2024, 26 years after its inauguration, the Supreme Court finally examined the fund's status. It was told that the fund had received Rs23.7bn, of which the amount collected was Rs11.5bn. The mark-up earned on it paid federal government was Rs.12.2bn. The court

3.2 per cent of the money required to complete the

Today, Wapda predicts the dam will involve a financial outlay of Rs1,406.5bn. It anticipates a completion date of February 2029. The Supreme Court has ordered the fund's assets to be transferred to the public exchequer and buried the moribund

Are the court and the Prime Minister's Office liable for misrepresentation, because the public's contributions have not been applied towards their original purpose? The fund provided no mechanism for refunds to subscribers. Their money has disappeared in the federal government's bottomless well.

That the Chinese are now co-partners in the project's implementation is reassuring. They know something about dams. After the gigantic Three Gorges Dam, China is planning a 'mother of all dams' — a 60,000 MW Motuo mega dam on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Tibet. This river (known in India as the Brahmaputra) supplies water to an estimated 1.8bn people within China and in In-Bhutan, Bangladesh. Understandably, In-

dia has retaliated with a plan to build a 11,000 MW hydropower and reservoir project on the Siang River Arunachal's U Upper Siang district. India fears that China's mega dam will allow China, being in the upper riparian, to "curtail the river's flow during the lean season and trigger artificial

floods during the rainy

Could China's mega dam be our insurance against India's arbitrary abrogation of the Indus Waters Treaty? -- Cour-

Divisive canals

Naseer Memon

Amid rapidly depleting water resources, Punjab has embarked upon an exercise to build new canals and develop new command areas. The Green Pakistan Initiative is pursuing its agenda of ploughing millions of acres of hitherto barren land, especially in Cholistan.

With an appetite for large-scale corporate agriculture, it is pressing the government to complete six strategic canals on a fast-track basis. These include the Chubara Canal as the second phase of the Greater Thal Canal, the Kachhi Canal, the Rainee Canal, the Thar Canal, the Chashma Right Bank Canal and the Cholistan Flood Feeder Canal. The total command area of these canals is 3.58 million acres. Sindh, the lowest ri-

parian, is upset at the recent decision of the Central Development Working Party that disregarded its objections and approved the Cholistan Flood Feeder Canal. This canal is part of the Smaller Cholistan irrigation project proposed on the Sutlej River. The canal will further feed four canal systems to irrigate 0.6m acres in the Cholistan desert of Bahawalpur and Bahawal Nagar districts. Water availability for this project was certified by the Indus River System Authority (Irsa) in January 2024. Sindh has concerns that the Sutlej receives water when India releases surplus flows. Hence the entire canal system will be vulnerable to uncertain flows. Climate change has rendered flood flows unreliable.

Once water rights are established, Punjab may resort to diverting water from the Indus zone through link canals during dry spells to sustain the cropped area. Sindh's concerns are pending

eral government should have deferred the project until the CCI's decision on Sindh's reservations. The approval of this ca-Smaller Cholistan project that will eventually irrigate 2m acres of land.

The Chubara Canal

Greater Thal Canal which

Sindh has objected to since the start. Irsa ap-May 7, 2002, whereas Sindh and Irsa's federal members opposed it. Subsequently, the Sindh Assembly adopted two consensus resolutions in 2003 dismissing the project. Later, the assembly also adopted a resolution spurning the Chaubara Canal in November 2021. The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council advised the Planning Commission to hold meetings with the representatives of Sindh and Punjab. Sindh maintained its dissent yet Ecnec approved this project on March 16, 2022. Sindh has referred the matter to the CCI, where it awaits a

final decision. The Kachhi Canal is designed to irrigate 0.7m acres of land in the Dera Bugti, Nasirabad, Jhal Magsi and Bolan areas of Balochistan. The canal with a capacity of 6,000 cusecs starts from the Taunsa Barrage. Almost 75 per cent of the work on the canal has been completed. The canal is exposed to gushing hill torrents descending from the Dera Bugti hills. A drain has been proposed to divert the flows to protect the canal structure. Wapda, however, has ignored the critical aspect of the ultimate disposal of water from this drain. It suggested that the flows be offloaded in Sindh's Hamal Lake ditions, constructing through the Right Bank new canals will stoke Outfall Drain. What new conflict between Wapda did not realise with the Council of Com- was that the estimated Courtesy Dawn

mon Interests. The fed-flood could be of 100,000 cusecs, which is beyond the capacity of the RBOD and Hamal Lake.

Currently, four hill torrents drain into the nal will pave the way for lake with a flow of 44,000 other components of the cusecs. Exc-essive inflows can burst the banks resulting in devastation in Qambar Shahdakot and Dadu is a branch canal of the districts. These factors should have been thought of at the design stage but in its eagerproved the project on ness to comply with the Gen Musharraf, Wapda hastily executed the project. W

W a p d a constr-uc-ted the Rainee Ca-nal, handing it over the gove-r-nment in January 2022. The canal, with a capacity of over 5,000 cusecs, was designed to irrigate 0.4m acres land in Ghotki district. No water has been allocated for the canal in the 1991 Water Accord. Hence, it depends on surplus flows during floods. Sindh opposed the next phase of the canal for not having been sanctioned water. The Thar Canal is proposed as an escape channel for the Rainee Canal, to be operated during high floods. Developing large-scale cropped areas on flood channels is imprudent due to erratic Indus

flows Sindh has reservations about the new irrigation projects mainly because of insufficient water availability in the Indus basin. The average annual flow below Kotri Barrage between 1976 and 1998 was 40.69 MAF. The flow decreased drastically to 14 MAF from 1999 to 2022. The Indus delta is in the throes of an ecological disaster. Climate change is aggravating the water scenario. In these con-Sindh and Punjab. --

Commerce News

Seminars, meetings of foreign delegates held on 2nd day of TEXPO-2024

KARACHI (APP): The (MD, Bianca Seidel mate Finance Advisor, REforeign delegates, exporters and the business community representatives visited the 5th Textile & Leather Exhibition "TEXPO-2024" Fauz ul Azeem (Interloop).

As part of the TEXPO Talks and sideline event, two seminars, focusing on sustainability and innovation in Pakistan's textile and leather sectors, were held.

The first seminar, "Green Threads: Weaving Sustainability into Pakistan's Textile and Leather Sectors," featured speakers Omar Hameed (Economic Minister, Brus-

Consultancy), with a panel discussion including Ivo Spauwen (Better Work Fauz ul Azeem (Interloop),

The interactive Q&A session drew strong participation from industry stakeholders, government representatives, international buyers, and international

tions by Boudewijn Mol (Director, M/s Bedding House) and Usman Khan (Investment, Trade & C'). sels) and Bianca Seidel (Investment, Trade & Cli-

The panel, moderated by Khan, featured Shafiq Haider Virk (Trade & Investment Counsellor, on the second day of the three day event on Thurs-Dr. Hafsa Jamshed (NTU). The Hague), Salman Ahmad Chaudhary (Pakistan Single Window), Dr. Zeeshan Khatri (Mehran University), and Sheikh Muhammad Iqbal (Pakistan Textile Council).

> Both sessions concluded successfully with The second seminar, engaging discussions and "From Waste to Worth: valuable insights from

KARACHI: Investment Trade and Climate Finance Advisor REMIT, Usman

Khan addressing during the Seminar from Waste to Worth Circular Innovations in Pakistan second day of the 5th International Textile and Leather Exhibition TEXPO 2024. Mr Boudewijn Mol Director M/S Bedding House, Mr Sheikh Muhammad Iqbal CEO Pakistan Textile Council and others also seen on the stage.

China, Pakistan sign MoU to leverage space technology for global sustainable goals BEIJING (APP): :A recently to collaborate on and leverage data from

Memorandum of utilizing space and big Understanding (MOU) data technologies for was signed between natural resource International Research management and the Center of Big Data for Sustainable Development Goals (CBAS), China and Space &

Atmosphere Research C o m m i s s i o n (SUPARCO), Pakistan

It is learned that the Upper collaboration is set to to advance China-Pakistan

Sustainable Development Science Satellite 1 (SDGSAT-1), which supports the attainment of the SDGs assessment of regional sustainable development and fosters a data-driven approach to sustainable development. According sources, partnership aims enhance data sharing.

joint research initiatives Awais for enhanced energy

goals (SDGs).

Federal Minister for Power, Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, held separate meetings with Mr. Yao Huan, Vice-President of Power China and Mr. Ni Zhen Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and General Manager of the Energy China on the sidelines of the Third Belt & Road Ministerial Conference in

During meetings, the minister art engaged in fruitful discussions aimed at strengthening energy cooperation between Pakistan and these leading Chinese energy companies,

on Thursday. Recalling historic visit of Premier Li Qiang to Pakistan, Minister for Power conveyed Pakistan's desire to modernize power dispatch and transmission systems, aimed at cutting lines and other losses. At the meeting with Vice President Yao of Power China, both sides explored the possibility of establishing a state-of-theresearch and development center in

Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where four abins March (APP)

ship 'Maersk Cape Town left the port.

technology to improve tax, revenue collection ISLAMABAD (APP): a PM Office press release

PM calls for using

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday directed the Federal Board modern technology to improve the collection mechanism of taxes and

The prime minister, on the FBR reforms, instructed the measures for capacity building of the

He directed the formulation of a strategy for restructuring Pakistan of Revenue (FBR) to utilise Revenue Automation Limited (PRAL) and called for enhancing the effectiveness of the systems to curb smuggling.

The prime minister chairing a review meeting directed the FBR to provide a friendly atmosphere to the taxpayers and asked the FBR officers and its officers to accomplish the



OINGDAO: Federal Minister for Power, Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, meets Mr. Yao Huan, Vice-President of Power China on the sidelines of the Third Belt & Road Energy Ministerial Conference in Qingdao, China.

ADB country director calls on Shaza Fatima

ISLAMABAD (APP): Secretary IT & Telecom Development called on Minister of State Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on

Thursday and discussed matters of mutual interest. According to news

release during the meeting issues relating to further strengthening collaboration between Pakistan and ADB, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program, and IT and Telecom sector were discussed in detail.

Secretary IT Zarrar Hasham Khan and Special

Country Director Asian Division Azfar Manzoor were also present in the (ADB) Ms. Emma Fan meeting. Shaza Fatima said under the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan present government is taking steps for the development of IT and Telecommunication sector of the country.

The government is fully supporting the private sector, adding that Ministry of IT is taking alongside the IT industry for increasing IT exports. Pakistan's IT exports are increasing, she maintained. Shaza Fatima said

Pakistan is embarking on the process of digital transformation.

FPCCI & FBR exclusive meeting Genuine taxpayers should be protected at all costs: Atif

Independent Report FPCCI, has apprised that Mr. Rashid Mahmood

legitimate and transparen KARACHI: Mr. Atif manner. To which the high-Ikram Sheikh, President profile FPCCI delegation agreed to assist FBR; if the tax collection machinery is Langrial, Chairman of the run and policymaking is Federal Board of Revenue undertaken in a consultative style. Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh (FBR), has agreed, in an



exclusive, candid and detailed meeting, with FPCCI's demand of an end to harassment of genuine and regular taxpayers and, only the tax evaders or defaulters should be served with notices.

efforts of FBR to persuade

all traders and industrialists

to file their returns in a fair,

However, FBR Chairman demanded that FBR unnecessary FPCCI should support the

acknowledged that the demand of signing an affidavit by chief financial officers (CFOs) of companies has been withdrawn by FBR after special request by FPCCI.

It was intrinsically redundant as sales tax act 1990 already offers enough provision for responsible filing of the sales tax returns, he added.

Pak total liquid foreign reserves recorded as \$ 16.01 billion

KARACHI (APP): The total liquid foreign reserves of Pakistan stood at US\$ 16,017.1 million as of October 18, 2024 while the forex reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan increased to \$ 11,040.7

The State Bank of Pakistan, in a statement issued here on Thursday, informed that total liquid foreign reserves held by the central bank increased by \$18 million to \$11,040.7 million during the week ended on October 18, 2024

Meanwhile, foreign reserves held by commercial banks were recorded as \$ 4,976.4 million during the week under review, it added. Total liquid foreign reserves held by the country, in the previous week ended on October 11, 2024, were \$16,111.3 million. Among them foreign reserves held by the central bank were recorded as \$11.022 million while \$5,088.6 million were held by commercial banks

cooperation with Power China, Energy China QINGDAO, China (APP): according to a press release

Qingdao, China.

these

Pakistan to facilitate the

integration of advanced

technologies and best

practices into the country's

energy framework.

four ships, Maersk Cape Town, MSC Positano, Mahadah Silver and Bam Bam carrying Container, Palm oil and Gas oilberthed at Qasim International Container Terminal, Liquid Cargo Terminal and FOTCO oil Terminal respectively.

Meanwhile three more ships, Torrente, Saga and Umm Bab carrying Container, Palm oil and LNG are arrived at outer anchorage during last 24 hours. A total of ten ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them a containers

Cabinet approves transfer of land for construction of **Custom House in D I Khan**

PESHAWAR (APP): The representatives meeting of provincial cabinet chaired by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister, Ali Amin Gandapur here Thursday approved transfer of 40 kanal of land from Board of Revenue to Pakistan Custom for construction of Custom House & Warehouses in Dera Ismail Khan. The cabinet meeting was also participated by Provincial Ministers, Special Advisors, Assistants, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Senior Member Board of Revenue and administrative

Governor House.

Health Minister Khawaja

Salman Rafique announced

LAHORE: Ambassador of Belgium to Pakistan,

Idesblad van der Gracht, called on Governor Punjab

Sardar Saleem Haider Khan here today at

Punjab govt to support

pediatric transplantation,

says health minister

the provincial guest, the minister highlighted that Lahore's Children's Hospital is the second largest transplantation.

He made this statement during the information guest, the minister highlighted that Lahore's Children's Hospital is the second largest children's hospital globally and the largest in South Asia.

Congress, organized by the Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the

Pakistan Society of government is dedicated to

Pediatric Urology at the enhancing healthcare University of Child Health services for the public.

He made this globally and to statement during the opening session of the three-day 3rd International Podicties.

Urology

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Sciences on Thursday.

government and political International Airport. parties to look into proposals and demands of Pashtun Peace Jirga relating to federal government.

The provincial implementation of National cabinet also authorized Explosive Policy. Cabinet desk at Bacha Khan Airport facility of transporting the ambulances also allowing Rs.0.7 million per month the purpose. It was also The meeting also decided that such demanded formation of a transportation facility

of demand from the Islamabad

The cabinet approved federal government to legislation on the subject of Explosive" implementation of National

Relief Department to take also decided to approve up a case of establishing a amendments in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Peshawar for providing the Servants (Appointments, Promotion and Transfer) dead bodies brought from Rules, 1989 for reservation abroad. Cabinet also of quota for transgender, approved Rs.36 million revising the fourth grant for purchase of three condition of its decision taken in the 12th meeting of the Provincial Cabinet budget to Rescue 1122 for allowing partial relaxation of ban for creation of positions of project employees with domicile committee comprising would be provided on from other than Ex-FATA.

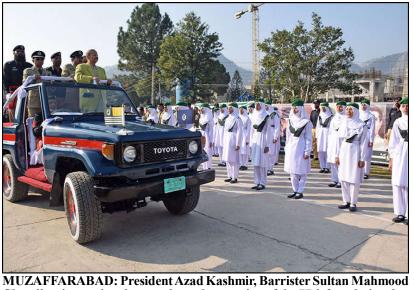
16 killed, 1638 injured **in 1467 RTCs**

in Punjab LAHORE (APP): At least sixteen persons were killed and 1638 injured in 1467 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. Out of these, 739 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 899 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical Teams thus reducing the burden of hospitals.

ANF recovers 232 kg drugs

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting an operation managed to recover over 232 kg drugs, said an ANF headquarters spokesman here on Thursday.

He informed that acting on a tip-off, ANF team conducted a raid near the Motorway Interchange, Balkasar and foiled a drug smuggling attempt from Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa to Punjab.



Chaudhry inspecting the parade on the occasion of the 77th foundation day of Azad Kashmir.

Punjab Governor says: Exchange of trade, various delegations from Belgium will bolster bilateral ties

LAHORE: Ambassador of Belgium to Pakistan, Idesblad van der Gracht, called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan here today at Governor House Lahore.

In the meeting, cooperation in the fields of were discussed. Speaking diplomacy between the

Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that promotion of trade and business activities is very important for boosting the economy of the country. Governor appreciated the proposal of the Ambassador of Belgium trade, education and sports to promote sports

on this occasion, Governor two countries for the promotion of sports, especially hockey. He said that hockey is the national sport of Pakistan and there was a time when Pakistan was champion in hockey at international level. He said that the exchange of trade and various delegations from Belgium will bolster bilateral relations.

PG Punjab declares minor domestic worker murder case high-profile

Prosecutor General that the

accused had tortured the

minor domestic worker girl,

buried her body, and filed

a false theft FIR against her.

Prosecutor General Punjab Syed Farhad Ali Shah on Thursday declared the minor domestic worker murder case as highprofile. Earlier, after taking notice of the incident in which a minor domestic worker girl was tortured and killed within the jurisdiction of Lahore's Defense-C Police Station, the Prosecutor General Punjab summoned the investigating officer and the investigation in-charge,

along with the case record.

In response to a question from the Prosecutor General that why the Anti-Rape Act 2021 was not applied and why the investigation was not conducted by the SSIO Unit, the investigating officer failed to provide a satisfactory explanation. Expressing anger over the negligence investigation, the General

US delegation meets Punjab minorities minister

LAHORE Provincial Minister for Minorities Affairs Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora met a US delegation at his camp office on Thursday to discuss issues regarding protection of human rights, particularly for religious minorities in Punjab. The delegation, which included Deputy Assistant Secretary Jacobsen, Consul General Hawkins, Laskowski, Nelson, Lakhanpal and political specialist Daim. In the meeting they

discussed the measures taken by the Punjab government to support minority communities.

Progress on Chashma Lift Canal Project continues: Governor

PESHAWAR Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday said that the Chashma Lift Canal project is moving closer to completion, with the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) issuing tenders for its first two phases.

In a statement issued here, Governor Faisal Karim Kundi announced that the project will be inaugurated this year, fulfilling a long-standing demand of the residents of Dera Ismail Khan.

WAPDA's North Project Manager has requested pre-qualification

The tenders for the first phase will be opened on November 22, followed by the second phase on November 25. WAPDA plans to complete the canal in six sections.

Similarly, Ahmad Karim Kundi, the parliamentary leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, emphasized that the party believes in taking practical steps rather than making empty

gratitude to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and the Federal Minister and Chairman of WAPDA for their support.



Lawyers Wing are holding protest demonstration for release of PTI Founder Imran Khan, outside Civil Court in Hyderabad.

Punjab Law Minister engages bar associations to resolve legal community's issues

LAHORE (APP): The President of the Narowal Punjab government has Bar; Marium Rana, lawvers and associations across the province. In this context, Provincial Law Minister Malik Sohaib Ahmed Bharth invited the presidents and general secretaries of six bar associations in the first phase to meet with him at the Lahore Secretariat's Darbar Hall on Thursday morning.

Imran Khakwani, President of the Multan Bar; Muhammad Ibrahim, Bilal Ahmed Lodhi.

embarked on a journey to President of the Mandi address the issues of Bahauddin Bar; Mian Anwarul Haq, President of the Faisalabad Bar; Aamir Munir, President of the Gujranwala Bar; and Mohsin Shah, President of the Sargodha Bar, were welcomed by the Minister for Law Punjab and the Parliamentary Secretary for Law, Khalid Ranjah. The meeting was also attended by the general secretaries of the bar associations and the Puniab Secretary for Law.

International News

The investigating Prosecutor General officer briefed the reprimanded the officers.

Israeli strike on Gaza shelter kills 17 as Blinken says cease-fire talks will resume

Addressing the attendees as the chief

He emphasized that,

following the vision of Punjab Chief Minister

Monitoring Desk DEIR AL-BALAH: An Israeli strike on a school where displaced people were sheltering in the central Gaza Strip killed at least 17 people on Thursday, nearly all women and children, Palestinian medical officials

The strike came as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Israel had accomplished its objective of "effectively dismantling" Hamas, and that negotiations over a cease-fire and the release of dozens of Israeli hostages would

resume in the coming days. Another 42 people were wounded in the strike in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp, according to the Awda Hospital, which received the casualties. Among the dead were 13 children under the age of 18 and three women, according to the hospital's records. The Israeli military

said it targeted Hamas militants inside the school, without providing evidence. Israel has carried out

several strikes on schoolsturned-shelters in recent months, saying it precisely

reporters in Qatar, which has served as a key mediatargets militants hiding out tor between Israel and among civilians. The Hamas, said negotiators strikes often kill women would reconvene "in the coming days."

Lebanon media says 17 Israeli strikes hit Beirut suburbs, 6 buildings levelled

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Lebanon state media reported 17 Israeli raids on Beirut's southern suburbs, with six buildings levelled and the vacated offices of a pro-Iran broadcaster hit as the Iran-Hezbollah war reached its one-month mark. AFPTV footage showed a massive explosion followed by småller blasts in the embattled southern sub-

urbs after the Israeli army issued an evacuation warn

ing for the area, where Hezbollah holds sway.

The official National News Agency (NNA) reported at least 17 Israeli raids, marking one of the most violent nights in the area since the Israel-Hezbollah war erupted on Sep 23. Six buildings were destroyed around the suburb of Laylaki, NNA said, calling the raids "the most violent in the area since the beginning of the war".

The strikes came shortly after the Israeli military's Arabic-language spokesman, Avichay Adraee, issued evacuation warnings on social media platform X. There was no warning, however, for a strike tha hit the Jnah neighbourhood in southern Beirut.

Men walk on the rubble at a site damaged in the aftermath of Israeli strikes on Beirut's southern suburbs, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, Lebanon.

Russia's proposed grain exchange for BRICS countries may take years to launch

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russia's pro-

posal for a new international grain exchange could take years to get off the ground even though the plan was welcomed by members of the BRICS group of countries at a summit this week in Kazan in

Russia has been pushing to establish the ex-

help Moscow combat Western sanctions.

President Vladimir Putin said at the summit that BRICS countries, which are among the world's largest producers of grains, legumes, and oilseeds, could establish such an exchange, potentially expanding it to trade other major commodi-

The plan to create the exchange has been approved by leaders of the BRICS countries, whose members include Brazil, Russia

Indonesia says its coast guard drove away Chinese ship that interrupted survey in disputed sea

AKARTA: Indonesian patrol ships drove a Chinese coast guard vessel away from a survey vessel in a disputed area of the South China Sea for the second time in three days, Indonesian authorities said

Indonesia's Maritime Security Agency said a Chinese ship approached the MV Geo Coral on Monday and Wednesday, interrupting a seismic data survey being conducted by the state energy company PT Pertamina in a part of the South China Sea claimed by both countries. Asked about the Indonesian statement, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokes-

person Lin Jian said the Coast Guard vessel had carried out routine patrols in waters under Chinese jurisdiction. "China is ready to enhance communication and consultation with Indonesia through diplomatic channels and properly handle maritime differences between the two countries," he added. China's "nine-dash line," which it uses to roughly demarcate its claim to most of the South China Sea. ogy development.

UN chief calls for peace in Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine and

Sudan **Monitoring Desk** KAZAN: United Nations

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told BRICS leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday that the world needed peace in Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine and Sudan. 'Across the board, w

need peace," Guterres said at the BRICS summit in the Russian city of Kazan. "We need peace in

Ukraine. A just peace in line with the UN Charter, international law and UN General Assembly resolutions.3

India approves \$119m fund for space startups

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: The Indian government on Thursday approved a 10 billion Indian rupee (\$119 million) fund for its burgeoning space sector, with 40 startups expected to benefit as the country strives to win a significant share of the commercial space market by 2033. With funding ranging from 100-600m Indian rupees depending on how mature each startup is, the fund will help generate employment, boost space technol-

Bomb attack in Kabul market kills child, injures 11 others

Monitoring Desk KABUL: An attacker carrying a bomb in a bag killed a child and wounded 11 others in a market in Afghanistan's capital, police said on Thursday.

The attack took place in a central area of Kabul on Wednesday afternoon, although Taliban officials did not confirm the incident until Thursday.

"Yesterday, there was an explosion in the Pamir Cinema area of Kabul from explosives a person was carrying in a bag," Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadran said in a statement.

"Due to this explosion, a child was killed and some civilians were lightly wounded," he said, telling lated in Kabul.

had been hurt in the blast. A suspect, who was also wounded, has been arrested, he added in the

statement. organisation Emergency NGO, which operates a hospital in Kabul, said on Wednesday it treated 11 wounded, including two young children, a 16-yearold and two women.

'The explosion took place at a second-hand clothes market when it opened and people crowded to get in," said deputy country director Stefano Gennaro Smirnov. "This is the Pamir Cinema neighbourhood, one of the most densely popu-

Thai PM apologises for crackdown that killed 85 Muslims as hopes for justice fade

Monitoring Desk BANGKOK: Thailand's

prime minister on Thursday apologised for the deaths two decades ago of dozens of Muslim protesters who were piled up in army trucks, hours from the expiry of the statute of limitations on an incident over which no state official has been convicted. The security crack-

down in the southern town of Tak Bai in 2004 caused the deaths of 85 people and was one of the most high-profile events of a separatist insurgency that re-ignited that same year and has since killed more than 7,600 people. "I am deeply saddened for what happened and apologise on behalf of the government," Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra said, vowing to ensure no repeat of such events.

The incident in predominantly Buddhist Thailand captured international attention and drew widespread condemnation, after 78 people were crushed to death or suffocated constitution.

while bound and piled on top of each other in army trucks. Seven others were shot dead. The crackdown was widely known as the Tak Bai massacre and took place under the administration of Paetongtarn's father, Thaksin Shinawatra, a key figure behind her ruling Pheu Thai Party.

Attempts to prosecute security personnel have failed, including two in the past two months. In August, a court ac-

cepted a criminal lawsuit by victims' families against seven senior officials, among them a retired general and ruling party lawmaker, but all of those failed to show up at a hear-

A separate case against eight other personnel filed by the attorneygeneral last month has made no progress.

Paetongtarn said the incident should not be politicised, adding the statue of limitations could not be extended because it would be a breach of the

Bangladesh bans student wing of ousted Sheikh Hasina's party

Monitoring Desk DHAKA: Bangladesh's interim government has officially banned the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League party, declaring it a "terrorist organisation". This move comes in response to escalating demands from the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, which outlined five key demands, including the abolishment of the current constitution, the removal of President Mohammed Shahabuddin, and the dissolution of the BCL.

The Ministry of Home Affairs cited the BCL's history of serious misconduct over the past 15 years, including violence,

harassment, and exploitation of public resources. The ban under the Anti-Terrorism Act takes effect immediately, it said in a gazette notification issued late on Wednesday. The country has seen rising tensions and protests in recent months. after violent protests forced Hasina to flee to India on Aug 5 and an interim government led by Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus took charge.

The protests, which began as a student-led movement against public sector job quotas in July, escalated into some of the deadliest unrest since the country's independence in 1971, resulting in over 700 deaths and numerous

The whole city shook' after Israel pounded ancient Tyre **Monitoring Desk**

TYRE: Israeli strikes on Wednesday pounded Lebanon's Tyre, an ancient coastal city which boasts a Unesco World Heritage site, leaving swathes of its centre in ruins. The raids, among the worst since the start of the Israel-Hezbollah war last month, hit the "heart of Tyre", said Rana, a resident who asked to only use her first name over security con-cerns. "The whole city shook," said Rana, after fleeing to the seafront following an Israeli military warning for people to evacuate much of Tyre's centre in the morning. Thick black plumes of smoke were seen rising from several neighbourhoods, with parts of the evacuation area just 500 metres (vards) from the

city's ancient ruins.

change as part of a broader plan to create new financial instruments, detach its trade from the US dollar and

Monitoring Desk Thursday.

PM deplores UN's inability to address Kashmiris' self determination right

ISLAMABAD (INP): As for a peaceful, and prosper-the world observes 79th ous world. struggling for their just, le-gitimate and inalienable anniversary of the United Nations today, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has deplored the United Nations' inability to enforce as climate change, heightits Charter in an equitable ened geo-political tensions, manner, especially "when the matter involves the question of the right to selfdetermination for peoples under foreign occupation such as in Palestine and Jammu and Kashmir."

The prime minister, in a social media post on X, reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to multilateralism and highlighted the world body's inability to enforce its charter in an equitable

The prime minister, in a social media post on X, said," As long as the provisions of the UN's founding document are ignored, the crises will continue to

He called the UN Day an occasion to recommit to the principles and objectives of the UN Charter, which provided the basis

He highlighted that the growing number of international conflicts including unconventional crises such major power rivalry and deepening economic woes of Global South were a strong evidence of world order being in massive dis-

He said that at the heart of the global crisis was the United Nations' inability to enforce its Charter in an equitable manner, especially "when the matter involves the question of the right to self-determination for peoples under foreign occupation such as in Palestine and Jammu and Kashmir.'

Reaffirming Pakistan's commitment Minister Shehbaz reiterated that Pakistan would conall peoples especially those array.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Ini-

tiatives, Ahsan Iqbal, chairing a meeting of the Prime Minister's Committee

for Planning and Execution of Foreign-Funded Development Projects in Fed-

At SCO dinner gala, Pakistani

chef crafted meatless menu

for Indian delegates

KARACHI (INP): A dishes such as mutton Karachi-based chef, specially flown to Islamabad to minced meat filling. How-

oversee meals for foreign ever, his team was also sen-

dignitaries at the Shanghai

Cooperation Organization

(SCO) Summit, said his

team ensured diversity in

the menu to respect cultural

of Heads of Government

took place on October 15

and 16, bringing together

political leaders from Rus-

Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and

other participating nations,

was invited to join the culi-

nary experts at Islamabad's

popular Serena Hotel for

the summit's lunch and din-

not only reflected interna-

tional flavors but also high-

He informed the menu

Chef Asad Monga, 32,

including Pakistan.

ner services.

The 23rd SCO Council

China, India,

gitimate and inalienable rights were realized.

APP adds: As the world observes 79th anniversary of the United Nations today, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to multilateralism and highlighted the world body's inability to enforce its charter in an equitable

The prime minister, in social media post on X, called the UN Day an occasion to recommit to the principles and objectives of the UN Charter, which provided the basis for a peaceful, and prosperous

He highlighted that the growing number of international conflicts including unconventional crises such as climate change, heightmultilateralism, Prime ened geo-political tensions, major power rivalry and deepening economic woes tinue to work with the UN of Global South were a to make this world a better strong evidence of world place for all where rights of order being in massive dis-



floods, droughts, and glacial

sized the need for global fi-

Sherry Rehman said,"Pakistan has spearheaded several policy initiatives to mitigate the effects of climate change, but implementation remains very low at the grass-root level, especially to promote climate-resilient agriculture, water conservation efforts, and transitioning to clean

Hussain Sayed termed the event first step towards the journey mainstreaming

sustainability concepts, adding that Pakistan is going through the "climate emergency", especially following the devastating 2022 floods, which displaced millions and caused billions in damages

He called for a comprehensive response to the crisis, emphasizing the urgency of climate adaptation and disaster manage-

Devcom-Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed said that the sustainability regime is essential to ensure the responsible use of resources, protect the environment, and support long-term economic and social well-being.

SHC expresses resentment over placing name of 80 years old man in ECL

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has expressed resentment over putting name of 80 years old man Nizzar Fazlani in

The contempt of court plea against section officer Azim Ahmad came up for hearing in the court Thursday.

The counsel for petitioner took up the plea in the court that reference was filed against Nizar Fazlani in 2018.

Seminar titled "The Role of **Ombudsman in** solving public problems' held in Nawabshah

HYDERABAD (APP): A seminar titled "The Role of Ombudsman in Solving Public Problems" was held at the Government Sachal Sarmast College in Nawabshah, organized by the Regional Director of the Sindh Ombudsman Office, Shaheed Benazirabad, under the special instructions of the Provincial Ombudsman of Sindh.

Regional Director Khan Muhammad Zardari addressed the seminar, stating that seminars are being organized in educational institutions to raise awareness about the Ombudsman institution, ensuring free and swift justice for the underprivileged.

Alarming 226,000 dog bite cases reported in Sindh

HYDERABAD (INP): Sindh province is facing a growing public health crisis, with more than 226,000 dog bite cases reported this year alone, according to official data.

The increasing number of stray dogs has contributed to a surge in dog bite incidents, with 12 citizens losing their lives due to rabies and other diseases caused by dog bites.

The most cases were recorded between January and September, with 27,333 incidents in January, 27,473 in February, and 29,426 in March.

Karachi, Lahore among most polluted cities of world

KARACHI (INP): Karachi becomes the second and Lahore third most polluted cities of the world today as pollution on the rise in two largest cities of Pakistan ahead of coming winter.

Indian capital New Delhi was on the top of the world's most polluted cities' list. Karachi has 198 reading on the Air Quality Index, while Lahore has 192 AQI reading. India's Delhi has 252 AQI reading.

Governor Kundi emphasizes importance of sports, education in promoting country's positive image

nor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government's responsibil-Faisal Karim Kundi here on ity to support various Thursday attended a treeplanting ceremony oraganised by the Pakistan Olympic Association's Environment Commission at the KPT Football Stadium.

The Governor served as the guest of honor at the 7th National Men's Softball Championship 2024. Talking to media on

this occasion, Governor Kundi emphasized the importance of sports and education in promoting a positive image of the country.

He praised the participation of women and youth in sports, viewing it as a promising sign for national development. He stressed the sig-

nificance of all sports, saying that while cricket is immensely popular in the country and deserves support, other sports should also get attention.

Kundi remarked that following the 18th Amend-

KARACHI (APP): Goverment, it is the provincial

Expressing happiness at witnessing the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa team in action, he committed to organizing events like PSL matches in the province.

He acknowledged the negative perceptions asso-ciated with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and expressed a goal of changing that image through sport-

To this end, he intended to invite Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur and other parliamentarians to participate in friendly matches.

Furthermore, Kundi said his intention to collaborate with Chief Minister Gandapur, setting aside political differences for the betterment of the province. At the conclusion of the ceremony, he planted a sapling in the stadium.



Karim Kundi talks to media after attending National Men's Softball Championship at KPT Foot-

APHC-AJK delegation meets MQM leaders, visits Palestine Foundation in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): A delegation of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHĆ-AJK) Azad Jammu and Kashmir chapter met with key leaders of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) at Pakistan House in Karachi.

Led by APHC-AJK Convenor Ghulam Muhammad Safi, the delegation engaged in detailed discussions about the current situation in Kashmir with MOM leaders Anis Qaimkhani, Shamshad Siddiqui, Shabir Qaimkhani, Irshad Zafir and Adil Askari. The Hurriyat Muhammad delegation included General Mehnati,

Abdul Hamid Lone. The MQM leaders reaffirmed their full support for the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination, assuring the Hurriyat delegation that they stand alongside Kashmiris in their

Ahmed, Syed Ejaz Ahmed,

just struggle for freedom. Anis Oaimkhani emphasized that the Kashmir issue is not only a concern for Kashmiris but for all Pakistanis, stating that Pakistan will not rest until

nationally recognized selfdetermination. The MQM leadership also confirmed their participation in the Black Day rally on October 27. In a separate engage-

ment, Ghulam Muhammad Safi's delegation visited the office of the Palestine Foundation Pakistan in Karachi, where they were warmly received by the Foundation's President, Dr. Sabeer Abu Mariam. The meeting included

notable figures from various sectors, such as former National Assembly member Muhammad Sadiq Jafari, Secretary Advocate Pervez and representatives from the Karachi Arts Council Sheikh Abdul Majid and and other civil society groups. During this meeting, speakers discussed the parallels between the struggles of Kashmir and Palestine, highlighting how both are oppressed under similar tyrannical strategies by Hindu and Zionist forces. They asserted that the sacrifices made by the Kashmiri people will not be in vain and called upon the international community to fulfill its pledges to the



Sindh Information Department, Govt. of Sindh Presenting Annual Grant Cheque to Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Kalhoro, President Larkana Press Club.

KU organized seminar on bright future of Islamic Banking

cal Foundations in Modern Islamic Banking: Future Trends and Job Opportunities in Arab Countries", at the KU Chinese Teachers Memorial Auditorium on Thursday.

Shaikh Muhammad Yaqoobi.

the seminar and highlighted that Dr Shaikh NizamYaqoobi is not only a prominent personality from Bahrain but also recognized globally, who has significantly contributed to Islamic banking and published over 3000 academic manuscripts after thorough research. Dr Aziz mentioned that Dr Yaqoobi also owns a personal library in Bahrain, which serves as a research hub for scholars.

The KU Registrar and Chairman of the Department of Economics Professor Dr Abdul Waheed informed the audience that Dr Shaikh Yaqoobi has prestigious educational background from Harvard University, Wales University (UK), McGill University (Canada), and varsites in

inaugurating the Hub River Bridge (N-25). **Pakistan Sustainability Summit** highlights vulnerability to climate change: Sherry Rehman

Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization & Communications

Abdul Aleem Khan and Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairperson Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Senator Sherry Rehman on Thursday said that Pakistan Sustainability Summit highlighted its vulnerability to climate change, especially given its disproportionate impact on developing coun-

w Hub River Bridge (N-25)

Abdul Aleem Khan

Jam Kamal Khan

P a k i s t a n Sustainability Summit was organized by the Development Communications Network (Devcom-Pakistan) with the technical support of Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) here and Sherry Rehman was the chief guest of the closing session, said that Pakistan needs to equip its communities and institutions to face the chal-

She called for climate justice and demanded fair

climate financing for countries like Pakistan, urging developed nations to fulfill their commitments under the Paris Agreement. The senator empha-

nancial support to help developing countries adapt to climate impacts and transition to greener economies.

energy sources.
Senator Mushahid

US bolsters TB detection in Sindh with mobile vans, X-ray machines

KARACHI (APP): The relations between Pakistan United States (US) Ámbassador to Pakistan, Donald Blome on Thursday donated five mobile Tuberculosis (TB) vans and three digital X-ray machines to the Sindh Health Department to enhance TB detection and treatment in re-

mote areas of the province. Receiving the mobile vans and equipment, Minister for Health and Population government of Sindh, Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho expressed gratitude for the US government's continued support. "This initiative reflects the strong bilateral and the United States and aims to strengthen the health system in Sindh," she said.

Blome commended the Sindh Health Department for their dedication to ending TB and emphasized the importance of these mobile units in improving access to quality healthcare services.

'These vans will enable the provincial health department to better serve the most vulnerable communities by providing them with access to lifesaving care," he added.



Ghulam Mustafa Phul presiding over a meeting in connection to organize a Sports Festival held at his office in Larkana.

SALU organizes two-day conference on **Disaster Risk Reduction**

SUKKUR (INP): The Stu-sion, the VC said that clidents Society Center, Shah Abdul Latif University (SALU), In collaboration with USAID and Center for Peace and Development Initiative (CPDI), organized a two-day conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, Climate Justice and Peacebuilding at SALU,

Khairpur on Thursday. augurated jointly by Vice Chancellor SALU Professor Dr. Yousuf Khushik and Vice Chancellor Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University of Technology and Skill Develop-

mate change has become a global issue and is causing problems for the whole world, adding that its impact is multifaceted as monsoon is increasing and temperature is rising. He highlighted how society has damaged the ecosystem by giving some examples like deforestation and said that there is a need for policies to address this issue and mitigate the impact of climate change.

Addressing the participants, especially the students, he said, "you are social leaders and you can give its solution so you should come forward and contribute to mitigate its impact and be told that as part of our contribution we have introduced a threehour course on climate change". He hoped that different sessions of the conference would be held and concluded with inputs that would give a concrete solu-



(SEPCO) Superintending Engineer, Operation Circle Larkana, Shah Muhammad Bajkani along with others are listening the problems of people during Open Court Public Meeting held at Rest

lighted local Pakistani in nearly a decade. KASHMIR Black Day

KARACHI: All Party Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir Pakistan Convener, Ghulam Muhammad Safi along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at

SALU, USAID, CPDI join hands on climate action, disaster risk reduction

laboration with USAID and Center for Peace and Development Initiative (CPDI), the Students Society Center, Shah Abdul Latif University (SALU) organized a two-day conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, Climate Justice and Peacebuilding at SALU, Khairpur on Thursday.

The conference was inaugurated jointly by Vice Chancellor SALU Professor Dr. Yousuf Khushik and Vice Chancellor Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University of Technology and Skill Development, Khairpur, Professor Dr. Rasool Bux A large number of stu-

dents, teachers and civil so-

ciety members participated

in the conference. At the

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sions were held in which

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ing at his Office to review preparations for the up-

sitive to the dietary preferences of the visiting del-"[It was] just a good, well rounded mix of food sensitivities, recalling they avoided serving red meat to the Indian delegation.

The 23rd SCO Council

to showcase our regional capabilities as people and as cooks, and also keeping in mind the diverse set of in mind the diverse set of people that were coming to eat the food so that it regis-

> he told Arab News in an "We couldn't serve red meat to the Indian delegates, so we had a vegetarian and chicken-based menu

ters with their palette also,"

for that," he added. Indian External Affairs Minister Subramanyam Jaishankar, who led his country's delegation at the SCO Summit, was the first high-profile official from New Delhi to visit Pakistan

SUKKUR (APP): In col- climate change and disas-

He highlighted how

ecosystem by giving some examples like deforestation and said that there is a need for policies to address this issue and mitigate the impact of climate Addressing the par-

Campaign: DC SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Commissioner Sukkur, Dr. M.B Raja Dharejo on Thursday chaired a meet-

Sukkur Prepares

for Anti-Polio

coming anti-polio cam-paign, scheduled from October 28 to November 3.

The meeting emphasized the importance of sistently absent Lady Health Workers be terminated from service, otherwise Union Council (UC) in-charges will be held ac-

countable. To ensure the success of the campaign, key decisions were made, including strengthening supervision of vaccination teams to improve quality and coverage.

No laxity tolerate in safety, security of citizens: SSP

Amjad Shaikh SUKKUR (APP): Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Sukkur, Amjad Ahmed Shaikh on Thursday said that no laxity would be tolerated in the safety and security of the

citizens. He was chairing a meeting to review the crime situation in the district.

The meeting reviewed the overall crime situation in the Sukkur district. All SDPOs and SHOs of all the police stations attended the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, the SSP Shaikh warned the officers that no laxity towards the safety and security of the citizens would be tolerated and strict disciplinary action would be initiated against them. "We are servants of the people and their safety is our prime priority", he said and directed the officials to arrest the offenders involved in heinous crimes specially dacoits, snatching, roberry and murder cases.

Youth killed in firing on car

KARACHI (INP): A young man was killed in firing of armed motorcyclists on a car here in the metropolis on Thursday, police said. According to details,

sprayed bullets on a car near Gizri Mubarik Masjid in Defence area of Karachi. As a result of firing, a youth identified as Umair 30, was killed on the spot

and the attackers sped the

to hospital for postmortem.

The police cordoned off the

area and conducted search

operation for the assailants.

The body was shifted

unidentified motorcyclists

The conference was inment, Khairpur, Professor Dr. Rasool Bux Mahar. A large number of stu-

dents, teachers and civil society members participated in the conference. At the conference, various sessions were held in which faculty members and civil society members highlighted the issues related to climate change and disasters. Addressing the occa-

tion to this problem.

House in Naundero.

The event was presided over by the KU Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi and the guest of honor was a renowned scholar from Bahrain and an expert in Islamic banking and economics Professor Dr Nizam

The KU Director of the Seerat Chair Dr Azizur-Rehman Saifee introduced the speakers and