

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXVI No. 68, Rabi-us-Sani 25, 1446 AH Tuesday October 29, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs. 15

# **CJPAfridi-led full court** discusses steps to reduce case backlog, boost efficiency

### Judges discussed a range of strategies to achieve the plan's targets

full court meeting of the Supreme Court of Pakistan held on Monday under the chairmanship of Chief Justice of Pakistan Yahya Afridi. The meeting was attended by all the judges including Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah who joined through video link.

The meeting was convened to assess the performance of the Supreme Court in the institution and disposal of cases, focusing on measures to reduce case backlog and enhance judicial efficiency. The registrar provided an overview of the current caseload and

timely decision of cases. She presented updated statics, including that 59,191 cases are currently case resolution. The Judges pending and introduced a newly devised one-month plan based on Case Man-agement Plan 2023 prepared by Justice Mansoor Ali tions for further system improvement, underscoring their commitment to ad-Shah. The plan includes dressing case backlog. Jus-setting clear standards, employing information tech- Shah, participating via nology to effectively manage all categories of cases.

Reviewing the case reducing the case backlog Management Plan, the and improving procedural civil cases, as detailed in the

ISLAMABAD (APP): A outlined the steps towards monthly plan, were allocated to specialized two and three member benches to contributed valuable insights and recommendations for further system video link, offered additional suggestions aimed at

judges discussed a range of efficiency initially for one strategies to achieve the month and followed by plan's targets. Criminal and three-month and six-month plans



ISLAMABAD: The Russian Parliamentary delegation, led by the Speaker of the Russian Federation Council, Ms. Valentina Matvienko, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

# Pakistan seeks Russia's support for BRICS membership bid

Zardari points out that both countries enormous potential for increasing economic cooperation and called for Russian investment in Pakistan

kistan and Russia on Monday reaffirmed their resolve to further strengthen bilateral ties in the areas of trade, commerce, investment, agriculture and energy for the mutual benefit of the two countries

This was discussed at a meeting between Presi-dent Asif Ali Zardari and the visiting Parliamentary delegation led by the Speaker of the Russian Federation Council Valentina Matvienko at Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press

release. Welcoming the Russian delegation, the president highlighted the historion Oct 29-30 to cal relationship between Pakistan and Russia which

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- spect and a shared committion and called for Russian investment in Pakistan. ment to expanding bilateral cooperation in various recalled his recent pleasant fields

The meeting was at-tended by the Chairman interaction with President Vladimir Putin during his Senate Senator Syed Yousaf visit to Ashgabat. Raza Gilani, Senator Sherry Rehman, Senator Aimal Wali Khan, Senator Manzoor Ahmad Kakar,

Russia's support for Pakistan's bid to become a member of BRICS that would greatly help Pakistan to enhance its role in regional and global cooperation through the alliance. Both sides under

scored the importance of

Continued on page 2

**Bugti greets** Dr. Abdul Malik

President NP

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Min

ister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has

congratulated Dr. Abdul

Malik Baloch on his elec-

tion as President of National

ment issued here on Mon-

day, the Chief Minister said

that holding of Council Ses-

In a felicitation state-

The president fondly

He also sought

### **PM reiterates resolve** to make Pakistan polio-free country ISLAMABAD (APP): polio campaign.

Minister Prime Shehbaz phasized the need to de-Muhammad Sharif on Monday expressed government's resolve to make Pakistan a polio-free country, stressing the need for unified action in this regard.

We will not rest until we have permanently defeated polio", he said while chairing a meeting on polio eradication.

Commending the efforts of the government's polio team in combating the disease, he directed Coordinator for National Health Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Bharath, Polio Focal Person Avesha Raza Farooq, and the Secretary of National Health to visit the most affected areas during the recent polio campaign.

The prime minister

also directed to conduct a

third party audit of the anti-

munity gap. In the meeting, the prime minister was briefed on recent polio cases and the eradication campaign. Currently, the number of active polio cases in the country stands at 41, out of which 25 such cases

Additionally, he em-

velop a comprehensive strategy to address the im-

whom routine immunization coverage is not better. The briefing also highlighted that the spread of

polio was lower in areas with better vaccination rates

The meeting was at-tended by Prime Minister's Coordinator for National Health Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Bharath, Prime Minister's Polio Focal Person Ayesha Raza Farooq, and relevant senior government officials.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on Polio Eradication.

# 50,000 new passport applications being received daily: Interior Ministry

terior Ministry has re- ity was never expanded nor ported a surge in passport equipped with the technolapplications, with 45,000 ogy or equipment to make 50,000 applications sub-

20,000 to 22,000 pass-

ports to be issued per day.

delays to limited capacity

and outdated infrastruc-

National Assembly, Interior

Minister Syed Mohsin

Raza Naqvi explained that

the system introduced in

2004 was initially sufficient

but has since become

strained as regional offices

expanded from 30 to 223

and foreign missions from

passport offices increased

to 223 while Pakistan's

He said over time, the

ture

10 to 93

Officials attribute the

In a statement to the

ISLAMABAD (INP): In- passport production facilthe printing process "faster



ISLAMABAD: The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Yahya Afridi presides over Full Court meeting at Supreme Court of Pakistan.

### Gwadar deep seaport vital gateway for sea trade attracting attention of whole world, maintains Governor attend FII moot

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar center of research and inno-Khan Mandokhail has vation where new ideas are stated that Gwadar deep created and sustainable soseaport is an important lution to the collective na- the Kingdom of Saudi

The Governor said that the University is that Arabia to attend the 8th

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to undertake an official visit to

PM to visit

Saudi Arabia

### Senator Saleem H. Mandviwala, Senator Bushra Anjum Butt and other senior officials. While talking to the delegation, the president underscored the need to

strengthen cultural linkages through people-to-people contacts and scholarship programs. He also pointed out

that both countries had enormous potential for inwere marked by mutual re- creasing economic coopera-



Party.

diversifying trade and economic cooperation, besides enhancing regional connectivity and commercial relations through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the North-South Transport

gateway for the sea trade, which has attained attention of the whole world because of its immense geographic importance and economic potentials.

The Governor insisted that heavy responsibility rests with the Vice Chancellor of Gwadar University, Professor Dr. Abdul Razzaq Sabir and his whole team to equip our youth with the modern knowledge and research in view of the future challenges and opportunities.

The Governor was speaking to the Vice Chancellor of Gwadar University, who called on him here on Monday.

ture problems is found out. He said that nevertheless, Gwadar deep seaport has potential of becoming an important supply center for promotion of economic and trade development and prosperity in the region. Therefore, we should give more priority to the steps of blue economy for sustainable coastal development, adding he stressed In addition to this, it is very necessary to encourage the methods of water agriculture

for promoting food security and sea trade. The Governor stressed the need to expand circle of courses of the inforcial Commission of Pakimation technology and life

skills in the premises.

nominating members for JCP from both the houses of the parliament. The communication of special meeting of PTI special committee was issued. According to communication detailed briefing was given in regard to nomination of two members from opposition for JCP and letter of Speaker National Assembly (NA) in this respect. The meeting was told that the responsibilities

**QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Food Noor** Muhammad Dummar meeting with Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Edition of the Future Investment Initiative (FII), being held in Rivadh from October 29 to 30. The prime minister will be accompanied by key

cabinet ministers, according to a curtain-raiser issued by the Foreign Office. **PTI decides** 

### to become part of JCP ISLAMABAD (Online): PTI has decided in principal to become part of Judi-

stan (JCP) formally. PTI has agreed on

also provide them with a of 13-member judicial comgreater sense of freedom and security. In a statement. mission have been enhanced.

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Defence Minister, Russian Federation, Col. General Aleksandr V. Fomin called on Minister for Defence & Defence Production, Khawaja Muhammad Asif at Ministry of Defence.

### **Dedicated "Pink Bus Service" being** launched to address travel needs & issues faced by women: Rubaba

Independent Report QUETTA: The Advisor to the Chief Minister for Balochistan government is committed to taking all Women's Development, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi has possible measures for women's development and announced that for the first to meeting their needs. The time in Balochistan's history, a dedicated "Pink Bus Pink Bus Service aims to provide women with a safer Service" is being launched and more convenient travel to address the travel needs and issues faced by women. experience, which will also enhance their participation This initiative will not only ease transportation in social and economic activities. Dr. Rubaba Khan challenges for women but Buledi expressed hope that this step will improve travel facilities for women.

sion of National Party is a continuity of the political and democratic process. He said that National Party would move ahead it's peaceful political and democratic point of view under leadership of Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch. Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi He said that the contiemphasized that the

nuity of political behaviours based on the harmony, tolerance and moral values guarantees the strong parliamentary sys-The Chief Minister

said that the role of National Party cannot be forgotten in the parliamentary politics

He said that opinion of all political parties is respectable for development of Balochistan and national solidarity.

**BBC** challenges 26th constitutional amendment in Supereme Court ISLAMABAD (Online): Balochistan Bar Council (BBC) has filed petition in

Supreme Court (SC) against constitutional bench set up federal government under 26th constitutional amendment

Petition has been filed through lawyer Munir A Malik

The petition said establishment of Judicial Commission (JC) and its functioning under constitutional amendment be stopped

Federal and all the four provincial governments have been made respondents

The petition said members of assembly were forced to cast vote. House was not complete at the time of making amendment. Incomplete house cannot make constitutional amendment. 26th constitutional amendment runs contrary to basic constitutional structure and independence of judiciary.

mitted daily, while current and better. resources allow only

"Presently, the de-partment is facing a very high trend of daily passport applications around 45,000 to 50,000 thousand from field formations, whereas, the production facility can merely cater for 20,000 to 22,000 passports per day," Naqvi said. "Resultantly, the routine backlog is being accumulated.

He said the government has made the passport production facility operational 24 hours during all seven days of the week in three shifts to cater to applicants on a war footing basis

When asked whether

missions abroad surged to Continued on page 2



**QUETTA: Balochistan Minister for Health, Bakht** Muhammad Kakar administrates polio drops to child during the launching ceremony of Polio Eradication Campaign in Quetta.

### Health Minister inaugurates anti polio campaign in Balochistan; vows to make province polio free that 21 cases of polio have

**Independent Report** been reported in the prov-QUETTA: The seven-day ince during current year. anti-polio campaign com-menced all over Balochistan province on Monday.

vaccine to the children at the

health center in GoR

Álso present on the occasion were the Coordi-

nator of Emergency Opera-tion Center (EOC) for po-

lio eradication, and other

Speaking on the occa-sion, the Minister Health

said that polio is a serious

issue in the province. How-

ever. efforts are continued

for eradication of polio vi-

rus in the province. He noted with concern

concerned high ups.

colony.

Kakar on the occasion reiterated government's resolve to make the province polio The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar forfree He mentioned that a mally inaugurated the imbig reason behind surge in munization campaign by administering anti-polio

polio cases in Balochistan is Afghanistan too. The Minister said that

Bakht Muhammad

there is a need to bring improvement in the polio campaign and adding he assured to work on the fault line where there it is.

He also pledged to fight against the polio virus together with religious leaders, teachers and community

He stressed that we need to improve our water and sanitation system in

Continued on page 2

### **Opposition stages walkout against closure of border trade:** BA adopts draft law of Center of Excellence for anti-violent extremism, resolution of ownership rights of lands Meanwhile, the mem-Independent Report

QUETTA: The Balochistan Assembly adopted the draft law of Balochistan Center of Excellence for Anti-violent extremism in it's session on Monday.

The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar tabled the draft act in the session while Speaker Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai was in the chair.

Similarly, the assembly also approved the reso-

lution about giving the ownthe people of Dera Murad Jamali.

The resolution was sure of border trade. tabled by the Provincial Minister for Irrigation, Mir test on the issue carrying Muhammad Sadiq Umrani. placards inscribed with the Meanwhile, another slogans against closure of resolution for legislation border trade and for provi-

about mediation to the assion of livelihood. sembly was also adopted in the issue, MPA Zamarak the session.

The resolution was tabled by the Provincial to grant permission of Minister for Health, Bakht bringing oil to the people Muhammad Kakar. from border.

He alleged that ership rights of the lands to bers belonging to the oppo- Karachi port walas don't sition staged walk out from make Gwadar port functhe House on issue of clo- tional.

He questioned that They also lodged pro- whether the people living in Chaman and Makran border may commit suicide if they are not allowed border trade.

On this, the Speaker Earlier, speaking on addressed the MPA Zamarak Khan and told him Khan Achakzai demanded that his (Zamarak) speech is on record in which he had supported closure of bor-

assembly members.

his speech without cutting or editing. On the other hand,

MPA Maulana Hidayatur Rehman criticized the government for closure of the border trade. He said that government's duty is to provide opportunities of livelihood to the people.



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Sadiq Umrani, Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi, Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, Mir Asim Kurd Gailu, Parliamentary Secretaries Haji Abdul Majeed Badini, Haji Barkat Ali Rind, Hadia Nawaz Baloch and MPAs Engineerf Zamrak Achakzai and Sheikh Zarak Khan Mandokhail expressing their views on various resolution during Balochistan Assembly session while Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai chairs the session.

### The speaker maintained that he can share his (Zamarak) speech with the However, Zamarak Khan Achakzai asked the Speaker that he may share



### Tuesday October 29, 2024

# **Miscellaneous**

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# **Kashmir Black Day** observed at Pakistan **Embassy, Beijing**

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan Embassy, Beijing organized a special event here on Monday to commemorate 27 October as the Kashmir Black Day. Messages from the President, Prime Min-ister and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister were read on the occasion to recall 27 October 1947 as the day when India landed its occupation forces in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). The messages condemned the Indian atrocities in IIOJK, reiterated Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the Kashmiri people and underscored the need for a just and peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute, in ac-cordance with the UN Se-to self-determination.

curity Council resolutions. In his remarks, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi highlighted the gross human rights violations in IIOJ&K, including extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances and continued incarceration of Kashmiri leaders

He rejected the socalled recent elections in IIOJK as farce, as they could not be a substitute to a UN sponsored plebiscite in the occupied territory. The Ambassador called upon the interna-

tional community to play its due role for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions which allow the Kashmiri people to exercise their right



exhibitors for introducing ISLAMABAD: envoys of the Kyrgyz Republic, the State of Palestine, the Democratic People's Republic innovative and high-quality of Korea, Uzbekistan, Kenya and the Republic of Turkiye presented their diplomatic credentials to products to the GCC re-President Asif Ali Zardari, during a ceremony, held at Aiwane Sadr. gion

#### **Rizwan sets ICC Champions trophy,** said that participation of Pakistani companies at the **T20 WC in India as targets as captain** exhibition marked an important step in promoting Pakistan's beauty and per-

LAHORE (APP): The nurturing a future captain newly-appointed whiteball captain Mohammad Rizwan has said that winning ICC Champions trophy 2025 and Men's T20

World Cup in India & Sri Lanka are his goals as captain of the Pakistan whiteball captain.

as captain with PCB Digital on Monday, he said the team has been losing in the semi-finals and final of the major ICC tournaments, adding, the team needed to make preparations keeping Champions trophy and F20 World Cup in mind.

About his other goals as captain, Rizwan said

availing all

required

facilities in

jail: Malik

and a back-up wicketkeeper were his other targets as captain, adding that he would like to lead by example. "I will leave behind a legacy in which Pakistan cricket will have a group of good players after him," he responded. Rizwan further said

In his first interview that a good captain's trait is to keep the team united, adding that the unity in the team was not due to one individual "I wish to take Pakistan cricket to new heights with the right combination

of the young and senior cricketers in the team," the

cricket fans will find a newlook team under him. It is a dream come true to don national color but it

the captaincy of the national side,' Rizwan said, adding that he has learnt a is even more gratifying an honor to lead Pakistan lot from the past captains cricket, he said, adding that of the Pakistan team. The wicket-keeper

domestic outfits in the past

but I was never desirous of

he could not express his feelings of elation on being batsman said he will try to nominated as Pakistan do justice with the job and white-ball captain. Rizwan apply what he had learnt said it is a privilege to lead a over the years, adding that team of immensely talented there is immense difference individuals and a challenge in captaining in domestic as well to come up to the cricket and leading at the expectations of the nations, international level.

On his hopes for good adding that he will do his best to efficiently handle the performance as captain, Rizwan said he had served pressure of the game by keeping a balance between as vice captain in all formats the pressure and the honor. and the whole team was happy with him.

### Pak envoy lauds Pakistani exhibitors for high-quality products at **Beauty World Middle East**

Tirmizi, Pakistan's Envoy to the UAE, on Monday visited Pakistan Pavilion at the Beauty World Middle East 2024 and lauded the contribution of Pakistani

Ambassador Tirmizi

sonal care products on a glo-

impressive entry at the

Beauty World Middle East

2024, one of the world's

prestigious beauty trade

exhibitions, held from Oc-

tober 28-30 at the Dubai

hibitors from Pakistan are

participating under the pa-

tronage of Trade Develop-

ment Authority of Pakistan

(TDAP), a press release

A total of sixteen ex-

World Trade Centre.

Pakistan has made an

bal scale.

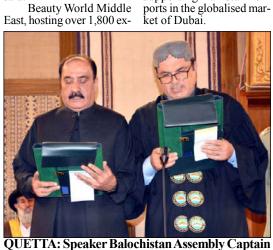
said.

SLAMABAD (APP): hibitors from 60 countries Ambassador Faisal Niaz and is recognized as a premier platform for professionals in the beauty industry to engage and explore global trends.

Pakistani companies are showcasing diverse range of products in Zabeel Hall 2, in various categories including hair, cosmetics & skincare, fragrance compounds & perfumery, ma-chinery and personal care and hygiene.

Earlier, Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan, inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion in the exhibition and emphasized that the event allowed Pakistani businessmen to present competitive products to a global market, promoting exports and attracting international investment. The Consul General commended the Pakistani exhibitors for their commitment to product diversification and market expansion

He underscored the consulate's dedication to supporting Pakistani exports in the globalised market of Dubai.



(retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai administering oath from newly elected MPA Dr. Ashok Kumar during BA session.



It is to inform all the Contractors & General Public that the Tender called by the Undersigned & published in Newspapers vide PRQ No. 1414/10-10-2024 dated: 11-10-2024 & TSE#242510570713, the date of bid submission & opening is extended from 28-10-2024 to 04-11-2024, due to unavoidable circumstances. Other terms and conditions will remain the same

**Executive Engineer (Roads)** 



Government will pay compensation to families of those who are missing

PESHAWAR (Online): Peshawar High Court (PHC) has remarked government will pay compensation to the family members of those who are missing since more than five years.

The court gave these remarks during hearing of more than five years. cases pertaining to missing persons Monday.

Chief Justice (CJ) PHC justice Ishtiaq Ibrahim took up for hearing cases of 13 missing persons Monday

The court sought report from federal and provincial governments.

The CJ PHC remarked during the hearing of the petitions that government will pay compensation to the family members of those who are missing since

The court inquired that this thing was there in UN convention too. What was done about it. Did the government pay

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Petroleum Musadiq Malik on Monday said that Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) founder is availing all required facilities in jail pre-

The members of PTI are spreading false propaganda regarding health of the PTI founder, he said

while talking to a private television channel. PTI founder is enjoying good compensation to affected families. health according to the medical board of PIMS, he stated. Hafiz Naeem says:

In reply to a question about appointing judge for constitutional bench, he said there is a mechanism for appointment

of judges. Judicial re-

**Prices of** 

cooking oil

and ghee

jump Rs50

per kilogram

LAHORE (INP): In the

captain asserted, adding, 'I have led U 19 and NDMA hosts INSARAGAsia Pacific Regional Conference with participation of 55 Int'l delegates ISLAMABAD (APP): Be- NDMA emphasized

ISLAMABAD (APP): Being the Regional Chair of Pakistan's commitment to the International Search and enhancing its disaster man-Rescue Advisory Group agement systems, improv-(INSARAG), Pakistan Naing early warning mechational Disaster Managenisms and building capacity for rapid response. ment Authority (NDMA)

is hosting the INSARAG He further highlighted Asia-Pacific Regional importance of Meeting from October 28-29, in Islamabad. INSARAG's mandate and stated, "INSARAG's The opening session was inaugurated by Chairmandate of promoting cooperation, coordination,

man NDMA Lieutenant and standardization in General Inam Haider Malik, search and rescue efforts INSARAG Global Lead, across the globe remains Winston Chang, UN Resivital." Coordinator, He said that NDMA

Mohamed Yahya, a news had proposed a strategic initiative to unify disaster response efforts within the conference agenda included discussions country, ensuring a cohesive on the global and regional and robust approach to diwork plans for 2024, folsaster management.

The conference is being attended by 55 delega-tions from China, Russia,

fake receipts case. The court also

quest. Muhammad

> Barrister Salman Safdar informed the court that his client Bushra Bibi was sick after being released from jail.

the proceeding.

After this, the court extended the pre-arrest bail and adjourned further

**Court extend** 

tition

He prayed the court to grant one-time exemption from appearance as she was unable to attend

**CWPP&H** Department District,

### **Bushra Bibi's** bail till Nov 4 ISLAMABAD (APP): A lower court on Monday extended the interim bail of Bushra Bibi till November 4, in toshakhana

granted one-time exemption from appearance to the accused on her re

Additional District and Session Judge Afzal Majoka heard the bail pe-

### for meeting Indian rulers

**India is massacring Muslims** 

but Nawaz Sharif is dying

LAHORE (Online): JI Extremist India is massa-Rehman has said rulers are the biggest burden on Pakistan and a few people are devouring Pakistan.

'Rulers are out to disfigure constitution. Their mission is only to make amendments and they will continue to do it. PPP and PML-N have together devastated institutions, he said while addressing press conference here Monday,

He held India has ille- comprehensible they get gally occupied Kashmir. statistics from where

# **AJK President urges UK** Kashmiris to intensify efforts for Kashmir cause

MIRPUR-AJK (APP): Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry emphasized the need for the international community especially the United Nations to take decisive action to resolve the long-standing Kashmir dispute.

During a meeting with former House of Lords member Lord Nazir Ahmed, President AJK called on the Kashmiri community in the UK to enhance their efforts in promoting the Kashmir cause globally.

He expressed concerns over the deteriorating political and human rights situation in Indian-administered Kashmir since the revocation of Articles 370 and 35A which previously granted special status to the region.

President accused the Indian government of attempting to alter the demo-

Amir Hafiz Naeem ur cring Muslims. Thousands of Muslims were murdered in Gujarat But on the other hand Nawaz Sharif is dying for holding meeting

> with Indian rulers. There was black day on October 27 but our commerce minister talked of promoting trade with India. In this situation such statements torture Kashmiris. Government says in-

graphic makeup of Kashmin

by issuing fake domicile

lighted the ongoing vio-

certificates to

Kashmiris.

dian army

Europe.

wake of hike in palm oil prices in global market, flation has abated. It is incooking oil and ghee prices register big jump in Pakistan.

non

Across the country, all brands have increased prices of cooking oil and ghee from Rs40 to Rs50 per kilogram.

Umar Rehan Sheikh, Chairman Banaspati Manufacturers Association told media that the price of palm oil in the international market has increased by \$300

per tonne. He further claimed He described this as a that palm oil price has in-creased from \$900 dollars conspiracy to reduce the Muslim majority to a mito \$1200 per ton in the glonority in the area. He highbal market during the last two months.

lence, stating that Omar Rehan said in the Kashmiris are continuously wake of hike in global marbeing martyred by the Inket, oil prices are being increased in Pakistan. He The AJK President urged Kashmiris worldwide urged the government to announce decrease in to advocate for a just and taxes for the sake of

> Umar Rehan said federal government is charging Rs 100 per kg tax on oil and ghee. He appealed Finance Minister to announce re-

He said Pakistan im-

to raise awareness about the the total demand of the plight of Kashmiris at relcountry is 4.5 million evant forums in the UK and tonnes

stakeholders, global meetstrengthen the judicial sysing, Accountability & Comtem and provide speedy pliance & Classification as justice to people, he added. well as Global Strategy 2026-2030. NGOs and

lowed by governance re-

view consultations among

dent

release said.

The

Australia, South Korea, Turkiye, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Japan, Bangladesh, Nepal and global networking and humani-

Partners and Localisation. cases of PTI founder in Chairman tarian organisations. four cases.

hearing It may be mentioned that the same court would also hear the bail



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the Inaugural Session of the 45th Annual Forum of the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court (CAP-ICC) and the Rule of Law.

### Health Minister..

He also said that numerous changes are being brought in the health de-

partment, and claimed improvement in three months. Meanwhile, it was informed that the polio immunization campaign has been started in all districts of the province. During the campaign,

more than 2.65 million chilhospitals. The authorities urged the parents to ensure dren would be administered administration of anti poanti polio vaccine. For this lio vaccine to their children purpose, over 11,000 teams have been formed, it was He announced to set briefed on occasion of the

up control rooms in the inauguration. hospitals to monitor avail-The authorities urged ability of the medicines, and the parents to ensure administration of anti polio action would be taken on the complaint of their vaccine to their children below five years of age.

from President Putin.

Additionally, she con-

Nations Security Coun-

### Pakistan seeks..

cil

bilateral trade and also con-Continued from page 1 veyed the special greetings

Continued from page 1

this regard. While referring

the other issues being faced

in the health sector, the

Minister said that we are

providing medicines in all

hospitals of the province,

however, still there is a need

to work for meeting short-

age of medicines in the

below five years of age.

shortage

Corridor. The Russian speaker emphasized that her country accorded priority to its relationship with Pakistan and expressed confidence that her visit would further enhance bilateral coopera-

She hoped that the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Parliaments of the two countries would further deepen bilateral relations.

She expressed satis-United Nations Security faction over the growth in Council

the government was charging people exorbitant fees to issue passports on an ur-

gent basis, the minister responded by saying that it up to the applicants to choose and apply for passports according to their urgency under the prescribed categories of "normal," "ur gent" and "fast track."

Modern technological pgrades have lagged bend the growing demand.

50,000 new..

Continued from page 1

The delays, worsened by a passport paper shortage late last year, have led to months-long waiting times for applicants.

To address the backlog, the department now operates 24/7 with three shifts, and passport printing has been decentralized to regional offices in major cities such as Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta, Lahore, and Multan.

Efforts to increase production capacity are gratulated Pakistan on the underway, with the prosuccessful hosting of the curement of 20 Delta SCO Heads of Governprinters and 20 laminament as well as Pakistan's tors, expected by October candidacy for a non-per-2024. Additional orders manent seat on the United for desktop printers and e-passport machines are set to arrive by November The president ex-2024

pressed gratitude to Rus-Officials believe the sia for its support of upgraded equipment will Pakistan's candidacy for a expedite processing non-permanent seat on the and reduce waiting times for new passport applicants



Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required Turn-over of at least as per schemes estimated cost in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 2,000 PKR with green Challan in NBP Chaman Branch A/C 11845-5 Branch Code 0559. Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 15th November, 2024 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 15th November, 2024 till 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 AM Address: Office of the Chairman District Council Killa Abdullah. Phone no: 03083850840 Email: noorullah0308@gmail.com





**QUETTA: Chairman Standing Committee for Commerce and Industries** Salah-ud-Din Achakzai meeting with Director General Public Relations Muhammad Noor Khetran.

peaceful resolution to the conflict, linking improvemasses ments in the region's situation to the fulfillment of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolu-

He stressed that now duction in tax on ghee and is a critical time for Kashmiri expatriates par-

ports 3.2 million tons of ticularly those in the UK palm oil annually while Daily Aoice of Masse Independent Quetta

### Tuesday October 29, 2024



ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation, Valentina Matvienko, held at Parliament House in Islamabad.

# **Role of technology** important in addressing urgent challenges: Shaza

she said.

change

she said.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja Monday said that the technology had important role in addressing urgent challenges like climate change.

"Innovative digital solutions are essential not only for environmental sustainability but also for improving overall economic resilience and driving growth across various sectors," she said while addressing the "First National Youth Climate Summit".

Shaza Fatima said, "Climate change is a big challenge and every one will have to play role for environmental protection.'

'Climate action is most powerful when it includes everyone. We can



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja, addresses the audience as the Chief Guest at the "First National Youth Climate Summit" held at a local hotel in federal Capital

**Amb. Ahmad says:** Durable peace in S. Asia, contingent upon peaceful

not tackle climate change opportunity for our effectively without the startups to engage with unique prospective and en- world leaders, unique prospective and enpolicymakers, and invesergies of young people", tors, and position Pakistan in global discussions on cli-The minister empha-

sized the need of launching mate action.3 proper campaign on social media regarding climate 'Similarly, the National Incubation Centers (NICs), which are a flagship

She said there was dire program of Ignite and the need of eliminating elements Ministry of IT and Telecom, causing pollution. play an important role in 'Ă prime example of

nurturing a range of startups Pakistan commitment to across multiple verticals. supporting innovation is the These verticals extend berecent call for startups from yond climate-related fields Ignite, an attached departto encompass health tech, ment under the Ministry of fintech, and sustainable practices amongst others. Ulti-IT and Telecom, to present their innovative solutions mately, this contributes to in climate tech, green tech, and agri-tech at COP29," the development of a climate-resilient digital economy that aligns with global standards, as high-lighted at COP28," she said.

**IHC seeks** 

out of syllabus.

**Ex-president** 

**SCBA challenges** 

26th constitutional

amendment in SC

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Abid Zubairi, former presi-

dent Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) has

filed petition in Supreme

Court (SC) against 26th

constitutional amendment.

naking federation and prov-

The petitioner while

Shaza Fatima said, "This initiative is a valuable

# Sustained participation of women in workforce need of an hour: Dr. Khalid

ISLAMABAD (APP): success was a testament Federal Minister for Scito their dedication, hard ence and Technology, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui work, and the nurturing environment at NUST. on Monday highlighted the The federal minisneed for sustained partici-

ter encouraged the graduates to make wise pation of women in the choices Addressing a convoca-He shared his insights

tion ceremony at National on resilience, the importance of action, and the need University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), the for lifelong learning in a rapidly evolving world. He urged the graduates minister encouraged young women to be change agents

to embrace continuous selfimprovement, reminding them that their actions would shape not just their own futures but also the destiny of Pakistan.

### **Reserved seats Contempt of court petition** against EC filed for not implementing SC decision

suggestions Contempt of court petition from PM&DC has been filed against Election Commission (EC) for regarding not implementing apex **MDCAT test** court decision in regard to reserved seats so far. Petition has been filed

workforce.

STEM fields.

in transforming the narra-

tive around women in

congratulations, empha-

sizing that the graduates'

He extended heartfelt

SLAMABAD (APP) The Islamabad High Court by Suleman Akram Raja in (IHC) on Monday sought suggestions from Pakistan Supreme Court (SC) making members of EC respon-Medical & Dental Council dents. The petitioner has (PM&DC) to address the taken plea EC be ordered to conflicts of MDCAT test. implement the decision IHC's Justice Arbab forthwith. Contempt of Muhammad Tahir heard the

court proceedings be initi-ated against members of EC. The petition further case filed by the students of medical. PM&DC's lawyer Jahangir Jadoon said said EC has not implethat as per the report 30 mented SC decision despite questions in the test were

ISLAMABAD (Online): in details. SC has issued clarifications twice in this regard wherein it has been said that court's decision be implemented forthwith. It is binding on EC to

implement SC decision as per article 189 of the constitution. However prevailing situation is this EC is making pretexts despite passage of so long time in reserved seats case and it is not implementing SC decision still. It is requested to SC

to initiate contempt of court proceedings against the EC. The EC be ordered to implement SC decision the fact apex court had inon the matter of reserved formed commission twice seats as per court orders.

### Ayaz Sadiq says: Parliamentary diplomacy played key role in reinforcing bilateral relations between Pak, Russia

mutual respect and trust.

Russia are a vital component

of its foreign policy," he em-

phasized. Madam Valentina

Matvienko expressed grati-

tude for the warm welcome

extended to her and congratu-

lated Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on

ues Pakistan as a significant

player on the international

stage and commended the

country's efforts toward

She said, "Russia val-

reaffirmed

his re-election.

Sĥe

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Monday said that parliamentary diplomacy had historically played a key role in reinforcing bilateral relations between Pakistan and Russia.

**APITAL**NEWS

During a meeting with the Speaker of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian ederation, Valentina Matvienko Ayaz Sadiq advocated for continuous engagement between the two parliaments, facilitated through parliamentary friendship groups and highlevel exchanges, as a means of promoting mutual learning and shared experiences. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq

global peace.3 welcomed warmly Russia's support for Pakistan's BRICS member-Matvienko and her highlevel parliamentary delegation. The meeting centred ship bid and emphasized the importance of collective on strengthening bilateral relations, with a particular efforts to foster peace and

focus on advancing parlia- prosperity on both regional mentary cooperation for and global fronts. In response, Sardar mutual benefit. Ayaz Sadiq reaffirmed Ayaz Sadiq expressed his Pakistan's longstanding,

gratitude to Matvienko for broad-based relationship her remarks and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to with Russia, highlighting its foundation on principles of continued collaboration with Russia across areas of "Pakistan's ties with shared interest.

Page

03

Reflecting on past initiatives to strengthen parliamentary ties, Ayaz Sadiq recalled the organization of the inaugural Six-Country Speakers' Conference in Pakistan, attended by counterparts from Afghanistan, Iran, China, Turkiye, and Russia

This conference proved instrumental in addressing common issues of regional interest.

He also mentioned his tenure as Convener of the Pakistan-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Group during the 15th National Assembly of Pakistan.

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Defence Minister, Russian Federation, Col. General Aleksandr V. Fomin called on Secretary Defence, Lt. Gen (Retd) Muhammad Ali HI (M) at Ministry of Defence.

# **Romina for respecting regional** norms in climate diplomacy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Coordinator for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam on Friday said Pakistan needs to focus on climate diplomacy respecting regional norms and values while spearheading global focus on enhanced climate finance for less developed

vulnerable countries. The Pre-COP29 Summit on "Pakistan's Climate Resilience: Road to COP29" organised by the Pak-Ger-SDPI, emphasized the urgency of climate action, man Climate and Energy noting that the withdrawal Partnership (PGCEP), in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Agreement commitments in operationalization of Policy Institute (SDPI). together key stakeholders to discuss the nation's climate challenges and strategies in light of upcoming negotiations at COP29.

Speaking at the event, chief guest, Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Prime Minister's Coordinator for Climate Change, stressed the need for Pakistan to prioritize climate adaptation strategies that respect regional contexts and vulnerabilities. She affirmed Pakistan's role as a vocal advocate for climatevulnerable nations. In his keynote address, Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director of

versy surrounding the Loss and Damage Fund prevails. Still, despite this, there is an opportunity to co-opt oil-producing states as part of the solution to address climate change and to mobilize finance for climate action. "Baku as COP29 host can contribute to carbon markets and carbon credits trading amid many daunting challenges like green washing. However, the COP29 presidency had streamlined many of those issues," he said. Pakistan, he said is an active member of the international community that played lead role Loss and Damage Fund. "Pakistan has to remain an active representative of the who stood firm against adverse impacts of climate

### resolution of J&K dispute

tion.

and Kashmir (IIOJK).

unilateral actions and con-

tinuing grave atrocities since

5 August 2019 had further

exacerbated the situation

and completely alienated

were united in rejecting any

attempts by the occupying

power to undermine the in-

ternationally recognized

disputed status of Jammu

and Kashmir and to alter the

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- mir Black Day and to exkistan Ambassador in France Asim Iftikhar Ahmad on Monday said that durable peace and stability in South Asia remained contingent upon peaceful resolution of Ĵammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UNSC resolutions and wishes of the Kashmiri

people. "27 October 1947 was one of the darkest days for the Kashmiri people as the Indian occupation of J&K, which began on that day, stifled the legitimate aspirations of the Kashmiris to determine the Kashmiri people who their own destiny and subjected them to decades long gross and systematic violations of human rights," the ambassador said in a special seminar arranged by Embassy of Pakistan in demographic composition of the occupied territory. France marking the Kash-



ISLAMABAD: CDA gardeners planting seasonal flowers in the roadside Garden to enhancing the beauty of the federal capital.

ICT admin kicks off anti-polio drive, sets target to vaccinate 461,000 children upto 5 years

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration on They discussed how to Monday launched a comprehensive anti-polio campaign, aiming to vaccinate 461,000 children upto the age of five years. The spokesman of ICT administration said that the drive, set to run until November 3, calls for community support in eradicating the disease.

Deputy Commis-sioner (DC) Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon confirmed that polio workers will go door-to-door to vaccinate children under five and will also be stationed in public areas to ensure full coverage. Meanwhile, the Assistant Commissioners across the city have gathered to take action.

ISLAMABAD (APP): The review campaign logistics and address worker safety. meet targets and handle cases of families refusing the vaccine

DC Islamabad has urged citizens to cooperate with the polio teams, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding children's case. health. However, Assistant Commissioner (AC)

Pothohar, Farwa Batool accompanied by the district administration teams have arrested a mall manager for blocking polio workers from entering a private mall. The manager had pre-

viously prevented teams from entering the premises, prompting authorities to



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui and Ambassador of the Czech Republic Ladislav Steinhübel cutting a cake on Czech National Day.

# **Parliamentarians call for** strengthening PGA's role in global peace, justice

Federal Parliamentary

Secretary for Information

and Broadcasting, Barrister

Daniyal Chaudhry, empha-

sized the significant role of

Pakistani politicians in es-

resolving conflicts such as

Kashmir and Palestine is

essential for achieving fair

and lasting peace. He reit-

erated Pakistan's unparal-

leled sacrifices in promot-

ing global peace and reaf-

firmed the nation's commit-

ment to justice on the in-

Baig, a Pakistan People's

Party leader and PGA

member, echoed the need

for international coopera-

tion in tackling challenges

Dr. Mirza Ikhtiar

ternational stage.

like climate change

He pointed out that

tablishing global peace.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- rights. He called on the inkistani members of the Parternational community to liamentarians for Global eliminate double standards Action (PGA) on Monday underlined the need to enhance the organization's stressing that Pakistan's role in addressing global struggle reflects its firm stance on promoting global challenges. Talking to APP Barrisjustice while maintaining sovereignty and integrity.

inces respondents has reter Aqeel Malik, Barrister quested SC to declare 26th Daniyal Chaudhry, and Dr. constitutional amendment Mirza Ikhtiar Baig underscored the importance of parliamentary representatives in promoting global peace and justice, noting that these efforts are now more crucial than ever. At the PGA confer-

participants discussed key

global issues, including in-Wanted ternational law, climate change, and human rights. absconder in Both Pakistani and international delegates reaffirmed their commitment to leading efforts to address these pressing challenges.

Barrister Aqeel Malik, PGA member and Advisor on Law and Justice highlighted Pakistan's dedication to upholding the principles of global justice and human

**ISLAMABAD:** Worker busy beauty painting the bridge at Zero Point in the Federal Capital.

of the U.S. from the Paris had weakened global cli-This event brought mate agendas. He acknowledged the concerted efforts of the EU and China to 220 million resilient people maintain focus on climate issues despite setbacks. He said that contro- change," he added.

**Independent Report** 

A police spokesperson told APP that, the meeting

was attended by Senior Su-

perintendent of Police (SSP)

Operations Muhammad

Arslan Shahzaib, Superin-

tendent of Police (SP)

Rukhsar Mehdi, and other

rolls out an ambitious beau-

tification drive across the

lush greenery, and artistic

steel installations adorning

ing notice of the refreshed

look, praising the CDA's

efforts to make Islamabad

Under this initiative,

more inviting.

the city, residents are tak-

With vibrant flowers,

On the occasion, SSP

senior officers.

### Imaan Mazari, her husband arrested

ISLAMABAD (Online): Police have arrested Imaan ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Mazari and her husband for Capital Territory (ICT) police, the Inspector General allegedly interfering in gov (IG) Police Syed Ali Nasir ernment affairs.

Aabpara police have arrested imaan Mazari.

Case was registered against Imaan Mazari and her husband. Imaan Mazari and her husband had violated route. Imaan Mazari pushed the police men as well. Both of them escaped from the scene while removing barriers.

Husband of Imaan in dealing with conflicts like Mazari hurled abuses on Palestine and Kashmir, police.

Video of incident had gone viral on social media.

APHC-AJK delegation submits memorandum to UN office in Islamabad ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of the All Parties Freedom Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir chapter on Monday submitted a memorandum to the UN office in Islamabad, urging international intervention in

the Kashmir dispute. The delegation, com-

prising Syed Faiz Naqshbandi, Shamim Shawl, Sheikh Abdul Matin, Zahid Safi and Imtiaz Wani, condemned India's unilateral actions in occupied Kashmir. The memorandum stated. We, the Representatives of the People of Jammu and Kashmir, reaffirming the principles of the United Nations Charter... express grave concerns on the prevailing situation of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir."

CDA has added colorful It highlighted the unilatfloral arrangements, green eral annexation of occupied plants, and carefully cho-Jammu and Kashmir by Insen steel sculptures in key dia on August 5, 2019, revokareas. ing Article 370, deployment

These new additions of 900,000 Indian troops. not only brighten the

capital.

IG Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi regarding the ongoing crackdown against the criminal elements

During the meeting. IG Rizvi, presided over a meet- Rizvi reviewed the investiing with investigation wing gation system and the cases



**IGP** orders transparency

in crime control

under investigation and issued orders to complete the investigation of cases efficiently and ensure the arrest of accused nominated in cases, he said

IG Rizvi said that, according to the requirements of the changing era, the investigation process should be equipped with modern Operations gives briefing to technical needs.

**CDA's beautification drive** transforms l'abad, residents praise city's new look

ISLAMABAD (APP): cityscape but also enhance Islamabad is abuzz with Islamabad's eco-friendly fresh colors and greener views as the Capital Develreputation by expanding green spaces. opment Authority (CDA)

Local residents have shared enthusiastic feedback about the transformation. "Islamabad feels more alive than ever," commented Rimsha Khan, a resident of Sector F-7.

'The flowers and greenery are so refreshing, especially as we move into the fall season. It's wonderful to see the city taking such care in its appearance.

Farhan Bhatti, a long-time resident of the Blue Area, praised the steel installations that reflect the city's heritage and values

duel murder case arrested ISLAMABAD (APP): In a significant operation, a team of Tarnol Police Station and Tarnol Circle Homicide Unit of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police on

Monday apprehended an absconding suspect, involved in a double murder A police spokesman

told APP that a citizen filed a report in Tarnol Police Station regarding the brutal murder of a man and woman, using a sharp weapon.

He said upon receiving the information, the Tarnol Police immediately registered case number 672/24 and initiated an investigation.

unconstitutional. 26th constitutional amendment be declared against the basic rights enshrined in the constitution and basic constitutional structure. The judicial commission meeting in connection with appointence, hosted by Pakistan, ment of judges be stopped.

### Page 04

**OPINION** 

### Daily **Independent** Quetta

# Daily A oice of Masse Independent

Tuesday October 29, 2024

Wave of violence

Another wave of violence is cresting in KP. The past few days have seen multiple atdraft tacks that have claimed the lives of a number of security personnel.

On Saturday, eight people, including four policemen and two security officials, were tary control in the chief martyred in a suicide blast in North Waziristan. An earlier be 'politicised' attack took place in Darazinda, in D.I. Khan district, on Thursday night, when militants stormed a checkpoint and martyred 10 Frontier Constabulary men. The attack, in judicial careers. claimed by the banned TTP. was portrayed as 'revenge' for a successful operation a day earlier in which nine militants, had been neutralised by se curity forces, who have stepped up their operations following the resurgence of terrorism. Three words said it all.

This is a time when our clipped." This was the banforces should be highly viginer headline in an English lant and prepared for the ennewspaper after adoption of the controversial 26th emy to strike from any quar-Constitutional Amendter. They should also take the fight to the enemy with the government and allied parsupport of the civilian populaties celebrated their 'victory', many people in the tion residing in hotspots for country including legal exmilitant activity, who may be perts saw this as a blow for willing to aid the effort as they and the rule of law are weary of the constant viowere issued official 'inlence. structions' to play down

The rising count of secucriticism of the so-called constitutional package. But rity personnel martyred in tersuch media policing did rorist attacks has remained a nothing to obscure the grim reality of what had hapcause of concern. Among pened. those martyred in the recent ment along with its nervous attacks was a young off-duty political allies rushed cadet, aged only 19, who was hrough changes to the Constitution in the name of slain in an assault on a Lakki 'parliamentary Marwat mosque. It has been premacy', which funda-mentally greated to be a statementally and the statemental state reported that the young man mentally eroded the inde-pendence of the judiciary was rejection of the amend-ment as an extra-constitufought off the terrorists, laying down his life while saving tutional principle of the structure and "strangled many others in the process. It is saddening to contemplate the loss of a life so young, and it compels one to ask how many more soldiers we will lose to such dastardly attacks before the state devises a coherent response mechanism to terrorist outfits, which are growing bolder by From a development perthe day. It has been argued that Pakistan needs a deditivity of the emerging port cated counterterrorism force city with the larger region. to meet terrorists in asymmet- Better aviation facilities ric warfare, as its regular will allow both domestic net repairs, boat construcforces are trained to fulfil a conveniently Gwadar. The airport shall different responsibility and also enable a swift reequipped with a different sponse to disasters - recall the rain and flooding in Gwadar not too long skillset. The recent spate of violence has highlighted this ago need further. this Things have lately been infrastructural developtense in the province due to a three-way stand-off between terrorist outfits, the citizenry and security forces. If recurrent incidents of violence are left unchecked, they will further erode people's confidence in the state and its ability to freshwater generation and maintain peace and provide distribution, the Pak China security to its citizens. The state must, therefore, move immediately and deciplan. So, when so much sively to wrest back control. While doing so, it must consciously avoid taking any action or decision that may seem unhappy? antagonise the citizenry and, consequently, create unnecessary hurdles in the implementation of its policy measures. On the other hand, the children have been immunised; 25pc of chilcivilian leadership of the provcivilian leadership of the prov-ince must take responsibility dren of school-going age are out of school — 46pc of these are girls; 46pc of for generating a political con- schools in the district do not have functional toisensus on how the threat is lets; drinking water is to be tackled. A concerted efavailable in only 51pc of fort is needed to rid the country of this menace. quality is extremely dis-

#### Umair Javed dence of the judiciary as a Most critiques of the 26th constitutional and politi-Constitutional Amendcal ideal are within their right to argue against the ment focus on its impact amendment on judicial independence.

In my view, a differ-Thankfully, some clauses related to the supent type of critique can be based on the political situposed sanctity of national ation in which these drassecurity under Article 199 tic changes have taken and the creation of a sepaplace. In other words, one rate constitutional court needs to look past what did not make it to the final has happened 'on paper' and place it in the context Nevertheless, by changing appointment of hybrid regime dynamics that began in 2018 and methods, creating new have accelerated to an unconstitutional benches precedented degree in the through a political comlast two years. Here, four mittee, assigning perforcontext-specific issues are mance evaluations to parworth mentioning liament, and parliamen-

The first issue is the urgency with which this justice's appointment, was passed through. It is udges are more likely to clear this was because the Whereas previously seniority principle needed factionalism and groupto be set aside because it worked in the favour of ings were confined to insomeone who wasn't ternal bench and bar polifavoured by the state. So tics, one can argue that the this amendment carries the amendment will enhance element of being personthe role that political parspecific, at least in the ties and party leaders play current moment

The second issue is These concerns have been raised by opposition the nature and political importance of cases that will politicians from the PTI, now be heard by a consticivil society, and signifitutional bench. These incant segments of the legal clude litigation on the stacommunity. Those in-

arrogating to itself the

power to choose the chief

justice from a panel of three

of the Supreme Court's se-

nior most judges. A parlia-

mentary committee reflect-

ing the government's major-

ity was empowered to

nominate the CJ. This met

quickly to select Yahya

Afridi, the third judge on the

seniority list, as chief jus-

tice — superseding Justice

amendment, constitutional

benches will be established

comprising judges chosen

by the Judicial Commis-

sion, whose composition

has been changed, with a

third now constituted by

government nominees. This

is aimed at enabling the gov-

ernment to determine which

judges hear cases of concern

to it. The Judicial Commis-

sion has also been empow-

ered to undertake 'annual

performance evaluation' of

The reaction from

high court judges

According to the

Mansoor Ali Shah.

vested in the indepen- tus of election tribunals and the functioning of the ECP, both of which have a direct bearing on the viability of the ruling coalition

**Context and intentions** 

Some judges in various high courts and the Supreme Court had shown a degree of scepticism regarding how the election was carried out and the way in which election-related trials were being conducted. There was a reasonable chance that some results would have been overturned, after recounting or repolling. This can still happen but the amendment offers a temporary insurance policy through increased intervention in bench composition

Similarly, favourable bench compositions may also help secure the status of military courts and the trials of those accused of 'fomenting mutiny' in line with the regime's preferences. Resultantly, the sanctity of a free trial and of civil and political rights, while never in great shape

in Pakistan, are now even more vulnerable.

that went into the amend-

ment. In the first attempt, no one, save a few, had actually seen the draft. There was no transparent consultation, nor any engagement on the legal and political reasoning behind

Things improved marginally in the second round, with drafts at least being shared among the parliamentary committee and party leaders, but again with an alarming level of secrecy and opaqueness. So much so that just a few days before the actual vote, a member of the Senate declared he had no response to anyone who asked what the amendment actually entailed. Ultimately it was passed through both Houses in a combined total of six hours.

It is a bit strange that an amendment being justified through the rhetoric of parliamentary supremacy had little to do with actual parliamentary functioning. Drafted elsewhere, deliberated by a select few, and passed in supreme haste.

Fourth, and perhaps ous forms of judicial ingress and overreach since in which votes were 2007, one can make a case for using a constitutional shepherded showed a vio-

#### lation of democratic amendment to recalibrate norms, even if they were the relationship between strictly legal thanks to a parliament and judiciary in favourable 63-A judgment. The reliance on floorcrossing of at least three MNAs along with the 'disappearance' of two BNP-M senators who emerged in the parking lot on the

night of the vote places significant question marks on the entire act. Some will inevitably respond by saying that the amendment should be evaluated on the basis of what it proposes, rather than the manner in which it was passed, the intentions behind it, or the context that marked its birth. While intentions and tactics can be suspect, they argue, the life of an amend-

ment extends beyond the

present and it may achieve

the desirable goal of par-

liamentary supremacy in

parliamentary oversight

necessarily a bad thing.

and on the basis of vari-

One can concede that

the long run.

of reasoning, there exists a relatively simple response: democracy's survival is not just dependent on the existence of laws but on the degree to which the polity actually believe in it as a form of government. It is that belief

However, to this line

akistan.

which provides legitimacy to the state and its institutions, including parliament

A parliament that serves the interests of the executive through murky interventions can very well do so by formally jumping through all legal hoops. It can put forward the rhetoric of accountability and correcting past wrongs. It may even justify its actions on account of parliamentary strengthening and reconfiguring an imbalance between the elected and the unelected.

on judicial affairs is not But in the backdrop Many countries provide of compromised intentions and context, it may for input in some form, very well end up delegitimising itself, undermining the very goal that it claims to achieve. - Courtesy Dawn

A third issue is the most egregiously, the ways absence of deliberation

# **Ilusion of power**

change is the government amendment calling it a "di- even available to lawmakrect attack" on judicial independence that could "obstruct access to justice for ordinary citizens". Others saw it as a blow to democracy. Members of the legal community called for protests against the passage of

the amendment. Meanwhile, the International Commission of Jurists declared "these changes bring an extraordinary level of political influence over the process of judicial appointments and the judiciary's own administration". And "they erode the judiciary's capacity to independently and effectively function as a check against excesses by other branches of the state and protect human rights". Similar concerns were voiced by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk who

said the constitutional amendments would "seriously undermine independence of the judiciary. What attracted wide- replacement. The govern-

ers before being tabled. Few read it. The public was kept in the dark with no effort made to take people into confidence. Barring a few speeches, no real debate took place in parliament.

The entire legislative process lacked transparency and was over in a few hours in both houses of parliament in the darkness of the night. Credible reports of official coercion to secure the required twothirds vote further robbed the process of legitimacy. An editorial in the Express Tribune called this a manufactured" majority. Such criticism reinforced the opposition's allegation that the government used dubious methods to get this over judicial rulings that had done including intimidating egislators

What was behind this unseemly haste by the government? Obviously, the retirement of chief justice Oazi Faez Isa and the PML-N coalition's intent to select his spread criticism was the ment and its principal ally, haste with which the ruling the PPP, were fearful that

tion, which the party has long alleged was rigged.

Already the government was reeling from the Supreme Court's judgment on reserved parliamentary seats which, together with the Election Commission, it has been trying to thwart by refusing to implement the decision. The spectre of the next chief justice, if chosen by seniority, and who was fiercely independent and not compromised, seemed to unnerve the government.

It was apparent that political motives and not earnestness about judicial reform lay behind the overnment's move, which had the full backing of if not encouragement from, the establishment, also smarting

proved embarrassing for it. The key question is whether the government has secured its political future by this amendment. As a general rule, power cannot be secured by undermining institutions, which has deleterious consequences that kick in sooner or later. Weak-

such machinations. Ultimately, it is government performance and the legitimacy of its actions that guarantees its stability. Of course, our political history also shows that regardless of how a government acts, it is the establishment's support or lack of it that determines its longevity. But the enabling factors for the establishmen to withdraw its support from a government (or proactively move against it) are when it loses popularity and/or is governing poorly. In these circumstances, no legal or constitutional re-engineering can come to the aid of a government

The bottom line is that nothing makes any government invincible and impervious to challenges to its power. Governments can and do engage in autocratic practices the world over in the mistaken belief that manipulation of the law, repres sion and coercive tactics wil help them consolidate and accumulate power. But resort to such measures and

and made it subservient to tional move that changed the executive. The consti- the Constitution's basic separation of powers was

Maleeha Lodhi

While the PML-N-led

an independent judiciary

Television channels

An anxious govern-

wings

"Judiciary's

justice' Dusly undermined. The Karachi Bar As-The most significant sociation denounced the and the final version wasn't The Karachi Bar Asseriously undermined.

su-

### **Gwadar development**

#### Dr Noman Ahmed mal. Only 5pc of homes

and

are constructed with rein-Recently, the Chinese and forced concrete, while Pakistani prime ministers others are built with mud inaugurated the Gwadar and other unsuitable ma-International Airport terial. Only 18pc of resivirtually from Islamabad. dents have access to gas; most use firewood, kerospective, the airport is a sene and charcoal as fuel. useful addition and set to Livelihood conditions enhance the aerial connec-

are also challenging. Over two-thirds of the people are directly or indirectly connected with fishing, and foreign visitors to tion and repairs, transporaccess tation, storage of the catch of the day, etc. The people barely live above subsistence level, and have no opportunity to build asts to improve their lives.

The sale and pur-However, despite chase of developed, semiother developed and underdeveloped land is another visment initiatives, Gwadar's ible enterprise. People overall progress appears with financial resources are stymied — even though able to monopolise the acthe city was touted as a quisition of land for future core beneficiary of CPEC utilisation and investment for over a decade. Its purposes. It is of little privileged position in this benefit to ordinary folk context is clear from the who neither have savings extension and consolidanor the capacity to undertion of the port infrastructake land development ture, projects related to ventures. The recent rains and flash floods have caused colossal damage to Friendship Hospital, a the life and property of technical and vocational people in the district and institute, as well as the beyond. Many housepreparation of the Gwadar holds are still reeling from smart port city master the after-effects.

The worsening law development work is beand order situation has ing carried out, why do compounded the miseries the residents of Gwadar of Gwadar's residents. It and its adjacent areas is common for unknown assailants to emerge from A study by the Pakinowhere, kill and maim instan Poverty Alleviation nocent people, and then Fund reveals that Gwadar disappear. The regular pois lagging behind in almost lice control a fraction of all core social indicators. the district. The Levies, Only 21 per cent of small Frontier Constabulary and other formations are entrusted with the responsibility of securing the area.

More than seven decades of political alienation, mistrust between the state and the people, and the presence of clandestine agents of external Besides, housing invisible powers continue to haunt society

When acts of violence and disturbance cease, an uneasy calm prevails. Scores of missing people — young and elderly — are a lingering legacy in almost every household. The new leadership, whether in the form of the Haq Do Tehreek or the Baloch Yakjehti Committee, are at the forefront of the political and social dynamics of Gwadar and larger

Balochistan. With practically no voice in matters of local governance or the day-today running of the area, the people of Gwa-dar often consider the emblems of re--gional development — such as the new airport or port complex — as a rude joke. Whether it was the PPP party's Aghaz-

i-Huqooq-i-Balochistan package or subsequent development dole-outs, little to no benefit has trickled down to the common folk due to the unresolved discord between the core stakeholders. Saner voices have

suggested that the only way forward to ensure real development in Gwadar is for the authorities to engage with the local people in a serious and meaningful way.

Development priorities must be set in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the public. A small step in this direction could be the

launch of ventures to support the local fishermen and boating community. Building cold storages for their catch, constructing boat repair yards and upscaling fishing jetties can be the first step. Locational choices

must be made where the fishermen have an advantage. The city's master plan must yield to local preferences in land utilisation. It is the residents of Gwadar who must win. -- Courtesy Dawn

party and its allies pushed the next chief justice could for parliament to pass the rule favourably on petitions amendments. Various drafts or reviews of cases filed by of the constitutional packthe opposition PTI, possi-

ening checks and balances pursuit of unchecked power that limit arbitrary decisions has adverse implications for governance.

bly even order an audit of any guide no government in democratic processes the February general elec- has ever secured itself by and instruments.

Americans.

only shows how weak and vulnerable they really are. their lack of self-confidence If Pakistan's history is as well as absence of faith

# The Muslim vote

lessons from Muslim

Don't stop engaging:

Don't fear debate:

Wisdom of Crowds debate

featuring Shadi Hamid and

stifling the urge to punish

the Democrats for sup-

porting Israel's atrocities in

Gaza. He's voting for Har-

ris to minimise the overall

would result from a Trump

victory, and because he be-

within the system.

Moghul, on the other hand,

plans to abstain, because

he cannot in conscience

support a party that has

disagree, but they're still

remain focused on the

shared goals of defending

Palestinian rights and

strengthening US democ-

racy. Pakistanis who seek

the withdrawal of the mili-

tary from public life are

polarised and critical of

The commentators

facilitated war crimes.

electoral

### Huma Yusuf

Muslim Americans respect the power of their votes. Their how will Muslim Amerihandwringing is informed, grounded in a detailed understanding of both sides' policies. contested states such as The Muslim American Michigan and Pennsylvaconstituency's views are nia. They are single-issue divided, as captured in a

voters this year — Gaza. American Muslims are dismayed by the Biden - Harris administration's handling of the horrific war in Gaza, and feel dehumanised by Democrats' disdain for the plight of Palestinians. But they have not forgotten former US president Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' and the Repub-licans' inherent post-9/11 Islamophobia. Will they choose the lesser of two evils, or walk away from the process?

Polling suggests around 29.4pc will vote for Kamala Harris. This is bad news for the Democrats - 65 to 80pc of American Muslims voted for Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden in 2016 and 2020, while 80 to 92pc voted for Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012. Muslim Americans who reject Harris may vote for Trump or a third candidate or abstain altogether.

each other's approaches. Muslim Americans' They would benefit from voting predicament may constructive debate and strike a chord for collaboration. Pakistan's liberal left, which is facing criticism stitutions rather than indifor failing to push back viduals: Moghul's criticism against anti-democratic of the Democratic Party is forces, most recently manilargely grounded in prinfest in the passage of the ciple — the idea that the 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The more party is not obeying the captured our state institurules of democracy. Ameritions are, the less democans have not voted for cratically minded people the US's growing involveengage with them. Those ment in the Middle Eastwho participate in the sysern conflict and, in fact, tem are seen as complicit oppose foreign intervenin its degradation. But opttions. The Democrat ing out is tantamount to policy over the past year surrendering our demochas even ignored its own racy. What's a liberal to do? Perhaps we can learn some

sending arms to Israel). Focusing on institutions and systems enables subgroups to identify common goals, rather than fragment on the basis of individual preference.

Go local: Moghul won't vote for either presidential candidate, but will support local and state-level candidates. He's rejecting party leaders, not the democratic system. In Pakistan too, the best counter to elite Haroon Moghul. Hamid is state capture is to revitalise local government. This must be a key priority of democracy activists.

Think long-term harm to US democracy that movement not short-term victories: In their failure to influence the US's Middle East policies, Ameri-can lieves that pro-Palestine voices could find space in Muslims are re--a-lising a Harris administration and they have not, in Hamid' continue to fight from words, created "countervailing incentives" to respond to "the structural incentives that reward pro-Israel positions". This despite the recent political ascendancy of American Muslims: Keith Ellison became talking to each other, and the first Muslim Congressman in 2006 — by 2016 US representatives included Somali refugee Ilhan Omar and secondgeneration Palestinian

Rashida Tlaib. In Pakistan, we rally around individuals elevated as democratic saviours. Ours is a politics of emotion, not organisation. The hard slog of building Think in terms of in- a political movement does not come easy. This is because we are not trained on building democratic systems from the outset. As our state institutions are weakened we should go back to the basics: teach civics at school and empower student unions at university campuses. Systems are best changed from the bottom up, and from within. No matter who wins the US election, Muslim American politimembers' preferences cal participation should (77pc oppose the US endure. -- Courtesy Dawn

### As the US election approaches, a question dominates the news cycle: cans vote? Muslims comprise one per cent of the US population, but are a key constituency in hotly

Daily Aoice of Masse, Independent Quetta

2024 NID

# **KP CM for early issuance** electronic Property Cards in merged districts

### Gandapur also launches stipend programme for adolescent girls

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Monday directed the Revenue department to issue electronic Property Cards to citizens of merged district as soon as possible so that they could easily access their land records using mobile application.

Presiding over a meeting of Board of Revenue here, he said that issuance of electronic Property Card was an important initiative of the provincial government in relation to revenue reforms, adding that the provincial government was implementing effective use of information and communication technology for land record reforms.

He said that the Card would bring transparency in all matters of land records and would help end

PESHAWAR (APP): disputes related to Minister property ownership in addition to the provision of various facilities. Earlier, the CM was

informed during briefing that the Property Card would act as an e-passbook education. Under the program, enabling the citizens to monthly stipends of Rs easily access all their land records by scanning the QR

code on the property card through a smartphone. The officials of twelve. The programme would cost Rs 1.14 billion The Revenue department said that the Card would curb rupees, out of which 82 forgery in land record as the details of land owner in all the districts would be recorded in this card and could be verified through a mobile application facility. Programme. Apart from Provincial

The stipend would be Minister of Finance, Chief Secretaries, Senior Member merged districts.

of Board of Revenue and These scholarships

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Khan Gandapur on Monday launched the stipend programme for adolescent girls of merged districts to promote female

1000 would be given to each girl from grade six to KARACHI: A young girl under the age of five sits proudly on the lap of Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, showing the mark on her small finger East in Karachi.

percent would be provided by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government and the remaining 18 percent by the World Food

provided to 30,000 girls of 514 girls' schools of the

other concerned officials are subject to minimum 70 attended the meeting. percent att Meanwhile, Chief in schools. percent attendance of girls

# as proof of receiving her polio drops, at SMB Fatima Jinnah School Garden Murad expresses concern over high rate of polio vaccination refusals in Karachi, Hyderabad

AIGN

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that polio vaccine hesitancy and refusals Secretary remain major challenges for polio eradication efforts in the country, particularly in Sindh including Karachi and Hyderabad many parents refuse to allow their children to receive the oral polio vaccine He said this while launching the polio

Azma Bokhari says:

protesting for salaries

eradication campaign along with his cabinet members at SMB Fatima Jinnah School Garden, West.

(OPV)

The provincial minister – Syed Sardar Shah, Jam Khan Shoro, Zulfiqar Shah, and urtaza provided with oral polio were vaccine (OPV) to protect Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab,

School Education Zahid Abbasi, Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naqvi, Adl IG Karachi Javed Odho, Secretary Health Rehan Baloch, Coordinator EOC Irshad Ali Sodhar, WHO Director Polio EMRO Region Dr Hamid Jafery, WHO Polio Country Head Dr Zainul Abideen and others were present. immunity

others were present. Mr Shah said that in the week-long campaign, from October 28 to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 10.6 million children under the age of five across 30 districts of Sindh would be

million children aged 6 months to 5 years will receive Vitamin A supplements to boost their Murad Shah said that Vaccine hesitancy and refusals present significant

polio obstacles to eradication initiatives in Pakistan. In Sindh, particularly in the cities of Karachi and Hyderabad, a considerable number of parents are reluctant to permit their children to receive the oral polio vaccine (OPV). He added that the challenge is particularly severe in Karachi, where refusals account for 85 per cent of all refusals documented in

#### Two killed in Govt employees in KPK road accidents FAISALABAD (APP) Two persons were killed three others while sustained serious injuries construction of PIC-2 in in a road accidents in Lahore will also commence Faisalabad during last 12 soon. She expressed these hours. Rescue 1122 spokesman said on Monday that Abdul Ghafoor (60) along with his wife Hanifan Bibi (52) views in response to a statement by Barrister Saif. She remarked that a person sitting in Peshawar seems to think that was travelling on a

government hospitals in Punjab are going bankrupt, two-wheeler met a road accident near Chak No.252-GB.

As a result, Abdul

Ghafoor died on the spot

whereas, Rescue 1122

shifted his wife to Allied Hospital-II in a critical

c o n d i t i o n . Meanwhile, Allah Ditta(52) r/o Chak No.409-GB was killed

while Irfan (20) and Shazia

(50) were injured serious when a speedy motorcycle.

### **CM** inaugurates anti polio vaccination drive

Page 05

with them, and advised

briefed by the authorities

concerned about the anti-

polio app. She was briefed,

'During the anti-polio campaign, more than 20

million children will be

given polio vaccine." She

added anti-polio campaign

across Punjab will continue

from 28 October to 03

November. In Lahore,

Rawalpindi and Faisalabad,

the vaccination campaign

will be for 07 days while

campaign will continue for

Maryam Nawaz Sharif

workers will serve in the

that children missing out on

Minister

Synergy

System

05 days

Chief

Earlier, the CM was

them to work hard.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab She had a group photo Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has formally inaugurated anti-polio vaccination drive and administered anti-polio vaccination drops to children at Services Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS), here on

ational

ews

Monday. The CM said that children must be given polio vaccine to save them from lifelong disability. She set a target of zero polio in the province The CM appealed to

the parents to administer in other districts, the anti-polio vaccination drops to their kids. She took a baby named Naira in her lap and loved her, was also apprised that more than 200,000 polio administered her vaccine drops and gave her candies. She also gave gifts of candies to other children anti-polio vaccination campaign. She was briefed after administering them anti-polio vaccine drops.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif met vaccines are being tracked through with polio workers, and Evaluation appreciated their services. Application.



KARACHI: View of burning dumper, which torched by angry mob after an accident killed a motorist, at North Karachi Power House area in Karachi.

# **Present govt determined** to eradicating polio from Sindh province: Governor

KARACHI (APP): Sindh 10.6 million children in the Governor Mohammed province was a welcome Kamran Khan Tessori on initiative. Monday said he anti-polio campaign had commenced awareness about virus was in the Sindh province.

matter of concern.

very essential. He said that 12 cases He further said that of polio from Sindh was a the present government ter of concern. was determined to The Governor said eradicating polio from the that the goal of immunizing province.

He

said

that

Zero tolerance policy adopted against timber mafia: Pir Musawwir

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique presides over the 87th Board of Directors meeting at Punjab Health Initiative Management Company.

Additional

PHIMO

## Sindh Home Minister orders enhanced security measures for polio campaign

KARACHI (APP): Sindh patrols, snap-checking, Home Minister, Zia-ul- and blockades across all Hassan Laniar, has directed the officers concerned to ensure comprehensive advanced intelligence security arrangements for collection system for better the ongoing anti-polio coordination campaign.

efficiency. In a statement on further instructed district

districts. He also urged the reinforcement of the country's

and situation came under discussion. Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar Muhammad Sibtain

### Lunch hosted for **KP** Governor AHORE (APP): Former

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Punjab Assembly Speaker Azma Bokhari has said that Sardar Muhammad Ŝibtain universities are shutting Chan hosted a lunch for down in KPK due to lack Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim of funds. Kundi here on Monday.

She said the people of the 'Fitna Party' are dreaming of hospitals going bankrupt in Punjab. In On the occasion, political Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which is quite absurd. government employees can People from Khyber

accompanied by the CM and administered OPV to against the debilitating disease. Additionally, 9.5 children under the age of five during the event. Education Zahid Abbasi,

Sindh.

Monday, he emphasized the importance of securing all levels of the campaign, with a special focus on categorizing union councils to enhance security measures.

instructed the deployment of police commandos to safeguard polio workers and teams in sensitive union councils. He also stressed the ensure implementation of a "cordon strategy" during operations. security thorough ensuring surveillance of areas, streets, and routes by local police stations.

The minister called the seven-day anti-polio

Marriyum Aurangzeb has

directed the concerned

authorities to issue an

emergency alert for citizens in Lahore for the

implementation of safety

measures against the rising

been advised to wear masks

and keep windows and

doors closed to avoid

exposure to the pollution.

mention here that the smog

in Lahore is being

exacerbated by strong

winds bringing pollution

from Indian cities such as

Delhi, Amritsar, and

Chandigarh. Due to a

decrease in wind speed,

Lahore's Air Quality Index (AQI) fell from 800 to 191

It may be pertinent to

Provincial

levels of smog.

emphasized that SHOs must be present in their respective areas and Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar provide real-time updates via communication systems

wireless Additionally, the Home Minister ordered district authorities to ensure proper accommodation and meals for officers and personnel

assigned to security duties during the polio campaign. It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah launched

for increased police campaign on Monday.

risk of air pollution remains

**Minister for safety** 

measures against smog

LAHORE (APP): Senior yesterday, however, the

stated

vehicles

impounded

Minister

Khan lauded the efforts of SSPs to closely monitor the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa security arrangements Governor regarding during the campaign. He construction of Dera Ismail Khan Kallur Kot bridge. This bridge would play major role in connecting people besides promoting economic

activities, he added. Former Punjab Assembly Speaker said that Dera Ismail Khan and Mianwali were part of Siraiki culture, he said and added that joint efforts were needed for promotion and prosperity of this culture.

Governor

# **ANF** arrests

high today due to ongoing strong winds. Punjab Chief 82 kg drugs Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif and Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb have urged the citizens, particularly children, the elderly, and individuals The citizens have with heart and respiratory conditions, to avoid going outdoors. To ensure children's safety, school hours have been adjusted to start at 8:45 AM, and parents have been strongly net drug advised to ensure that their particularly

children must wear masks. Marriyum Aurangzeb that under government measures to He said, 500 grams

combat environmental pollution, smoke-emitting be

#### be seen protesting daily Pakhtunkhwa are still over unpaid salaries, she receiving treatment in added. Azma said new Punjab's hospitals. hospitals are being built in individuals who cannot Puniab, and renovations of existing hospitals are provide basic facilities like health, education, and

underway. Work has already begun on Punjab's first cancer hospital, while a cardiology hospital in Sargodha is in progress, she said and added that the blind, mute.

He also appreciated Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's agenda of women empowerment and youth engagement aimed at highlighting soft image of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

### five accused with over

RAWALPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force in nine operations conducted in different areas arrested five accused and recovered over 82 kg drugs worth Rs 6.4 million, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman. He informed that ANF is making efforts to dealers

those supplying drugs to the students of different educational institutions.

hashish was recovered from an accused rounded up near a university in Islamabad



Those incompetent

infrastructure in their own

province point fingers at

Punjab, she said and added

these people have become

LAHORE: Chairperson Punjab Women Protection Authority Hina Pervez Butt briefing media regarding launching of new programs.

### **Anti-corruption court** begins proceedings in **Chiniot Mines Case**

LAHORE (APP): An antiaccountability court, was corruption court on transferred to the anticorruption court on October 9, 2024, following Monday formally began proceedings in the Chiniot mines and minerals case the restoration of certain against former Punjab amendments to the Assembly Speaker Sibtain National Accountability Khan and others. Bureau (NAB) law.

The court issued In addition to Sibtain notices to the involved Khan, several other parties, scheduling the trial individuals, including for November 26, and Salman Ghani, Muhammad further Aslam, Abdul Sattar Mian, Antiand Imtiaz Ahmad Corruption Court Judge Cheema, were named as Sardar Iqbal Dogar accused. The charges presided over the hearing, against Sibtain Khan allege during which Sibtain Khan that he misused his appeared and marked his position to award a multibillion-rupee contract to a attendance. The case, previously handled by an firm of his choice in 2007.

### **Education initiatives** launched in Khanewal

with Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz's vision, a series of educationfriendly initiatives have been launched in Khanewal. Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali Bukhari approved the has construction of boundary walls for 13 government schools at an estimated cost of Rs 20 million, and construction is scheduled to begin within the next two weeks

adjourned

proceedings.

in Hafizabad road accident HAFIZABAD (APP): Three people were killed on Monday when a speeding bus collided with a motorcycle on Sargodha-Lahore Road in Hafizabad.

Three killed

According to a private news channel, the accident occurred due to over speeding, resulting in the killing of three people-a husband, wife and child. According to reports, the bus driver fled the scene after the crash. teams

promptly reached the site and shifted the dead bodies

Seven UCs witness rise in dengue cases PESHAWAR (APP): At-

least seven union councils (UCs) in the provincial capital are witnessing a surge in dengue cases where hundreds of people have been affected by dengue mosquitoes.

According to an official report, 47 new dengue patients were reported during the last 24 hours, from seven different UCs while the total number of dengue cases had climbed to 978 in the provincial capital Similarly, the total number education and district of dengue patients in officers, briefed the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had participants on their reached to 2,891. departmental performance.

PESHAWAR Special Assistant to the causing a hefty loss on provincial exchequer. He and Climate Change, Pir Musawwir Khan has said that the Forest Department had adopted zero tolerance policy against the timber million due to ban on mafia to contain timber smuggling. I He was presiding said

Corporation (FDC) here Monday wherein Muhammad Asif gave a detailed briefing on the achieved targets of the department during the last 50 years and overall performance. The Special Assistant

was told that due to the ban Department to ensure a on movement of timber. around 670,000 square feet of wood was stored at timber.

(APP): various depots of the FDC was further told that for the last one decade the FDC was facing an investment loss of Rs360 movement of timber

The Special Assistant coping with over a review meeting of environmental issues in the Forest Development province was a big challenge and cutting of trees for domestic and Managing Director Forest commercial use and then Development Corporation not planting new trees was a matter of concern. He directed the Forest Department to ensure maximum plantation in their respective jurisdictions.

He asked the Forest zero tolerance policy against illegal movement of



KARACHI: A large numbers of students gather to attend Aptitude Test Examination ceremony of the IT courses program under "Bano Qabil Mega Project 4.0" organized by Al-Khidmat Foundation, held at North Karachi Hockey Stadium in Karachi.

# **Punjab Home secretary** reviews implementation of prison reforms

LAHORE (APP): Home Secretary Punjab Noor Ul Amin Mengal presided over a meeting to review the progress on the installation of modern cameras in

prisons across Punjab. It was decided in the meeting that 9,200 modern cameras would be installed state-of-the-art cameras in 43 jails of Punjab under the Safe Prisons Programme. The Home Secretary directed the Safe also be operational to City Authority to complete the survey on the installation of cameras in prisons across Punjab attendance and movement within a week. The Home Secretary directed that body cams, public address system, access control secretary said.

system, panic button should be installed in all jails of Punjab. The meeting was told

that modern eight mega pixel cameras would be installed in all the jails under the Safe Prisons Programme. He said that capable of facial and vehicle recognition and a visitor management system would monitor all visitors in the prisons. Modern cameras would monitor the of the accused as well as prison staff with the help of artificial intelligence, the



will

**MUZAFARABAD:** School students protesting at Azadi Chowk for the establishment of Muzafrabad and Rawalkot Board.

# MULTAN (APP): In line

The approval was granted during a meeting of the District School Council, chaired by Deputy Commissioner Bukhari. The meeting was attended by ADC General Chulem Muttafa, Domtry Ghulam Mustafa, Deputy Director Development, and the Executive Engineer of Buildings. Officials from the education department, including the CEO of

Rescue to a nearby hospital. Daily Aoice of Masse,

Independent Tuesday October 29, 2024 Quetta

# Jam stresses need for strong shipping sector to achieve transshipment hub

Pakistan's Commerce Jam Kamal develop and support the country's shipping sector, asserting that without a robust shipping industry, Pakistan cannot achieve its Pakistan cannot achieve its ambition of becoming a regional transshipment hub

The meeting was attended Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Parlimentary Bhatti Secreatry Commerce Vice Admiral Ahmed Saeed, and President of the National Institute of Maritime Affairs, who met with the minister at his office to discuss key maritime strategies and opportunities, said a news

release

ISLAMABAD (APP): In Vice Admiral Saeed Pakista a meeting focused on highlighted the importance could necessary investment and services. protections. "The government is

location gives it a natural potential," said Khan, advantage, which, if adding that a thriving advantage, which, if properly leveraged, could make it an ideal shipping and logistics hub for global wider economic trade routes.

Pakistan's strong footing in the shipbreaking sector, an industry that has significant potential for recognized the potential for growth due to the country's proximity to major

maritime routes. The minister echoed the Vice Admiral's insights, serving both regional and

Vice Admiral Saeed Pakistan's shipping sector stimulate maritime of recognizing shipping as development across as potential, Minister for a formalized industry, many as 70 interlinked suggesting that the sector industries, from logistics Khan on Monday needs "industry status" to and warehousing to emphasized the need to thrive and attract the manufacturing and trade

He noted that committed to supporting Pakistan's strategic this sector and its growth development, creating jobs

> Both the officials new jobs and economic activity that could arise from elevating Pakistan's status as a shipping hub,

emphasizing that global markets.



ISLAMABAD: The Country Director Asian Development Bank (ADB) Ms. Emma Fan called on Chairman FBR Mr. Rashid Mahmood Lagrial today at Federal Board of Revenue Headquarters.

### **CM Murad directs Industries** Gold prices dip dept to improve structural, financial strength of SITE

KARACHI (APP): Sindh for Industries Jam Ikram Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has directed the Industries to CM Raheem Shaikh, Department to prepare a comprehensive business plan for the Sindh Industrial Trading Estate Limited (S.I.T.E) and the SITE LTD cannot disburse Sindh Small Industries salaries and pensions due Corporation (SSIC) to to excess employment.

ISLAMABAD (APP) The price of 24 karat per Dharejo, Chief Secretary tola gold decreased by Asif Hyder Shah, Secretary Rs.900 and was sold at Rs.283,400 on Monday Secretary Industries Yasin compared to its sale at Shar, MD SITE Ghazanfar Rs.284,300 on last trading Qadri and others. day. The CM was told that

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.771 to Rs.242,970 from Rs. drive industrialization, "There are 1,315 243,741 whereas the price boost economy and create employees and 754 of 10 gram 22 karat gold

LAHORE (APP): Punjab cultivated wheat from Chief Minister Maryam twelve and a half acres to Nawaz Sharif has said that 25 acres. She also announced to give free 10 projects of farmers worth Rs 400 billion have tractors to farmers with been made functional in a more than 25 acres. record period of only six The CM announced to provide agricultural Addressing the Kisan machinery on rent without

meeting of the Industries Department, at CM House in Karachi.

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a

Maryam increases kisan cards

from 500,000 to 750,000

Card ceremony in Hafizabad on Monday, the CM announced to increase the number of Kisan Cards from 500,000 to 750,000, said a handout issued here. personally gave Kisan

months

The CM also cards to the farmers and announced to give free laser congratulated the farmers leveler to farmers who belonging to Hafizabad

### WAPDA to build 5 small dams in GB to generate **13940MW electricity**

GILGIT (APP): Project Director Diamer Bhasha Dam Nizakat Hussain said that WAPDA has a plans to build five small dams in Gilgit-Baltistan with a total capacity of 13940 MW. While talking to media person at the site of Dame he said that the dams which include Shevik, Skardu Sho, Thargos, Elbo, and Bunji will be constructed by WAPDA and will provide much-needed electricity to the country. Additionally these dams will accelerate industrial development and bring significant changes to food security. According to Hussain, work on the five dams will commence in

Gilgit-Baltistan as soon as

0

possible with Bunji Dam generating the most electricity at 7100 MW. He informed that the smallest power project will be Shevik which will produce 4600 MW. He added the construction of these dams will not only increase the lifespan of Diamer Bhasha Dam, Dasu, and Tarbela Dams but also enhance their capacity. He revealed that the project aims to increase the height of Diamer Bhasha Dam and deepen the river to extend the life of lower dams. The project director Nizakat Hussain said that the construction of the Diamer-Bhasha Dam will help prevent soil from

upper areas.

namely Shah Nawaz Nakokar, Sanaullah, Farhat Razzaq, Abdul Ghafoor, Tariq Mehmood Gujjar.

OMMERCENEWS

"The trend of agriculture and wheat cultivation in Punjab is increasing. Inflated electricity bills reduce the any profit to the farmers. farmer's profit. I have She also announced to assigned the task of cultivating vegetables in every city" she said. The CM said that increase the number of Kisan Card dealers to 3000. CM Maryam Nawaz

beople only raised slogans for farmers and the PML-N did substantial work for the farmers

#### Commodities China. rate re-fixed

FAISALABAD (APP) District Price Control Committee (DPCC) has re-fixed the rates of various commodities to facilitate the general public in Faisalabad.

The DPCC reviewed prices of various items of daily use and decided that white grams (big) would be available at Rs.310 per kilogram (kg) in whole sale while its retail price would

Similarly, white grams (small) would be sold at Rs.260 per kg and Rs.270 per kg, black grams (big) at Rs.360 per kg and Rs.370 per kg, black grams (small) at Rs.345 per kg and Rs.355 per kg, gram pulses (big) at Rs.380 per kg and Rs.390 per kg, gram pulses (small) at Rs.355 per kg and Rs.365 per kg, mung pulses (un-washed) at Rs.350 per kg and Rs.360 per kg.

LAHORE Governor akhtunkhwa. Faisal Karim Kundi, on Monday of various mushroomemphasized that leveraging mushroom cultivation can enhance the agricultural different types of economy and contribute to mushrooms, he praised the a healthier society through hard work of mushroom increased consumption of farmers. organic products. Governor organizers and farmers The expressed these views were pleasantly surprised while attending a one-day Mushroom Festival, organized by Discover understanding Pakistan in collaboration mushroom production and with the Lahore Organic nutrition. Village and the Agri-Tourism Development Corporation in Lahore.

economy: Faisal Kundi (APP): products and value-added Khyber items, expressing great

The

**Mushroom cultivation** 

enhances agricultural

enjoyment for the flavors

based foods. With over a

hundred stalls showcasing

to learn that Governor

Kundi has a deep

He also revealed that

Encouraging farmers

portion of land at the

Governor House has been

festival

be Rs.320 per kg.

**Director calls on Chairman FBR** ISLAMABAD (APP): envisages making FBR The Country Director more dynamic, modern and Asian Development Bank in line with the (ADB) Ms. Emma Fan international standards.

headquarters.

**ADB** Country

called on Chairman Federal The chairman said Board of Revenue (FBR) that the purpose of reforms Rashid Mahmood Lagrial was to maximise revenue on Monday at FBR growth while facilitating tax compliance. The Country Director expressed support for During the meeting, they discussed the progress on ADB funded projects FBR's initiatives and

and various other areas of reiterated the ADB's mutual cooperation, said a resolve to continue news release. Chairman supporting the revenue FBR apprised about the mobilisation efforts in Transformation Plan which Pakistan.

Page

06

# **Envoy Hashmi meets China leadership Yangling Agricultural High-Tech Fair**

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan of the boundless Ambassador to China opportunities offered by Khalil Hashmi held a possible joint ventures in bilateral meeting with the leadership of the Yangling the field of agriculture. In the afternoon, he

Agriculture Demonstration also attended China-Zone Leader, participated in the Global Introduction Pakistan Agriculture Matchmaking Meeting and and Marketing Conference interacted with Chinese and Pakistani businessmen and convened matchmaking meeting of and encouraged B2B Pakistani and Chinese partnerships between the businesses working in the two countries. Leaders field of agriculture during from Yangling Agricultural second day of his visit to Demonstration Zone, Yangling, Shaanxi province,

He also noted the need to

agriculture, improve efficiency of water usage

and increase the efficiency

Emphasizing on the synergy between Pakistan

vast agricultural resources

and China technological

prowess, he urged the

of supply chains.

adopt

climate-smart

Shaanxi Foreign Affairs Office. related Speaking at the Global Introduction and departments, and Chinese agriculture enterprises Marketing Conference, joined the meeting. Many Ambassador Hashmi highlighted the priority Pakistani enterprises, business leaders and accorded by the Government of Pakistan to scholars also attended the matchmaking meeting. Ambassador Hashmi agricultural modernization and technical advancement. participation in the 31s

China Yangling Agricultural High-Tech Fair and related activities in Yangling highlights Pakistan commitment to fostering collaboration

agricultural technology. Establishment of Pakistan Pavilion and B2B matchmaking meetings between Pakistani and businessmen of the two Chinese businesses will countries to take advantage enhance trade ties.

employ e n t pensioners. The annual opportunities.

The SITE and Small industries should be selfsufficient organisations, but they are stuck up in financial crisis due to over employment, lack of planning and absence of business plan, he directed while presiding over a meeting of the industries department to review its issues and development schemes, at the CM House whereas funds under ADP here Monday. The meeting was attended by Minister Rs.846.892 million are

LCCI wants private sector's role in policy making of country

former

meeting

Committee

the

LAHORE (APP): The trader's leader Babar Lahore Chamber of Mahmood, Syed Saleem commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Monday called for private sector role in policy making in the larger good of economy.

"Unless and until, the private sector is consulted before the formulation of policies, it would be very difficult to gear up the economy.

These views were expressed by the LCCI President Mian Abuzar Shad, Senior Vice President Engineer Khalid Usman and Vice President Shahid Nazir Chaudhry while talking to a delegation of City Traders Association led by the President Sheikh Muhammad Fayaz here. Former LCCI President underscored Muhammad Ali Mian and former Senior Vice between the government President Ali Hussam and Asghar also spoke while community.

from Rs. 223,430, the All expenditure on account of salary, pension, service dues, including outstanding liabilities and miscellaneous per year comes to Rs.2.592 billion against a total revenue/ recovery of Rs.2 billion per annum, showing a shortfall

of Rs.592,957,861" Infrastructure at Nooriabad and Kotri is in deteriorated condition,

Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained unchanged at Rs.3,350 and Rs.2,872.08 respectively.

The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$9 to \$2,739 from \$2,748, the the Association reported.

went down to Rs. 222,722

by **Rs.900** to

**Rs.283,400** 

per tola

Shipping activity at

**Port Qasim** KARACHI (APP): Four ships, Apollon-D, Captain Dimtris, EVA Green and Zarrar Hanif scheduled to load/offload Container, Cement, Chemicals and Coal, berthed at Qasim Mahmood, Syed Saleem International Container Ullah, Farooq Ahmed, Terminal, Multi-Purpose Faheem Mahmood, Javed Terminal, Engro Vopak Siddiqui, Shahzad Nazir, Terminal and Pakistan Nadeem Nazir, Zeshan Bulk International Iftikhar, Amir Riaz, Umair Terminal respectively on Ismail, former VP Tahir Sunday. Meanwhile three Manzoor Ch., Executive ships, South Port, Sc Hong Committee members of the Kong and Lowlands Amstel Lahore Chamber, Ahsan are scheduled to load/ Shahid, Karamat Ali Awan, offload Furnace oil, Umar Sarfraz along with Chemicals and Coal arrived Executive at outer anchorage during members last 24 hours. Eight ships Usman Malik and Zeeshan were engaged at PQA berths Sohail Malik were the key during the last 24 hours, out

participants of the of them two ships, Saga and Port Fiscardo left the port LČCI President Mian on today morning while Abuzar Shad, Senior Vice three more ships, African President Engineer Khalid Harrier, X-press Salween Usman and Vice President and Apollon-D are Shahid Nazir Chaudhry expected to sail on today the afternoon. Cargo volume of importance of collaboration 91,400 tonnes, comprising 73,275 tonnes imports business cargo and 18,125 tonnes export.



LAHORE: LPG Transporters Association Chairman, Irfan Nazir addresses to media persons during press conference, at Lahore press club.

### PSX stays bullish, gains 201 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): 179 of them recorded gains The 100-Index of the and 222 sustained losses, Pakistan Stock Exchange whereas the share price of (PSX) witnessed bullish 55 companies remained trend on Monday, gaining unchanged. The three top 201.55 points, a positive change of 0.22 percent, closing at 90,195.52 points trading companies were Fauji Foods Limited with 53,645,675 shares at Rs 10.44 per share, K-Electric Limited with 29,876,223 shares at Rs 4.36 per share as compared to 89,993.97 points on last trading day.

total A total of 567,264,435 shares were traded during the day as compared to 695,544,676 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 29.210 billion against Rs. 37.873 billion on the last trading

As many as 456 companies transacted their Rs 111.47 rise in its per shares in the stock market, share price to Rs 1,226.19.

day

against dollar ISLAMABAD (APP) of Rs 277.64. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the and Sui South Gas with buying and selling rates of

the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 277.25 and Rs respectively.

The price of Euro decreased by 62 paisa to close at Rs 299.96 against the last day's closing of Rs 300.58, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)

# **Foreign service personnel briefed** on economy at FPCCI: Atif Ikram

Independent Report FPCCI, has apprised that the apex body has briefed the group of personnel from Foreign Service of Pakistan (FSP) at its Head Office in Karachi – with the aim to orient them on macroeconomic issues & challenges; export promotion requirements of the business community; trade diplomacy and branding of a country's export offerings on an international scale.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh elaborated that the FSP delegation was told that IT & IT-enabled Services: value-added agricultural produce; processed foods; economy blue &

infrastructure; processed stressed that foreign KARACHI: Mr. Atif minerals & chemicals and services representatives and trade & investment should be given priority in officers of Pakistan should promoting Pakistan's act like salesmen of the



economic, investment and country; and, position trade relations. Pakistan – as a country – a Mr. Saquib Fayyaz formidable brand in the Magoon, SVP FPCCI, export markets

allocated for regular Governor The received a warm welcome mushroom cultivation. upon his arrival, with Discover Pakistan CEO Dr. to cultivate mushrooms in Qaiser Rafiq presenting Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, him with a bouquet, Governor Kundi assured accompanied by traditional them of land allocation and horse dancing and drum beats

all possible support. He commended the During his visit, establishment of the Governor Kundi toured the Lahore Organic Village, stalls featuring mushroom praising Dr. Rafiq's



**KARACHI: The Deputy Governor of the State Bank** of Pakistan, Saleemullah, addresses the ceremony for the Japan Traveling Exhibition 'Yokai Parade,' featuring supernatural monsters from Japan, at the State Bank Museum.

# Govt fully committed for promoting export

federal government led by Pakistan Muslim League

(Nawaz) was fully

Commerce and

He said the main

SARGODHA (APP): The and reduce imports.

Dr Zulfigar Ali Bhatti said they were working for the prosperity of future committed to promoting generations and resolving the issues faced by industrialists and traders. He announced that Sargodha would soon be connected to the nearest point on the motorway. with approval granted for S a r g o d h a - J h a n g Motorway. He added that passport services would soon be available at the Additionally, SCCL tenders had been issued for the construction of Sargodha Ring Road, and projects such as establishing an expo centre the clear stance of Prime and IT Park in Sargodha Minister Shehbaz Sharif would also soon be was to increase exports established.



LARKANA: A vendor entices budget-conscious shoppers with a display of used shoes of various styles on roadside near Jinnah Bagh Chowk in the city.

Pakistani rupee on Monday depreciated by 04 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 277.68 against the previous day's closing

**Rupee sheds** 

04 paisa

278.75

27,406,470 shares at Rs 12.83 per share.Unilever Pakistan Foods Limited

witnessed a maximum increase of Rs.333.00 per share price, closing at Rs 19,018.00, whereas the runner-up was Siemens (Pakistan) Engineering with Daily doice of Masse **Independent** Quetta

Tuesday October 29, 2024

# **International News**

Page 07

# Netanyahu says strikes on Iran 'hit hard' as war on Gaza, Lebanon rages

**Monitoring Desk** JERUSALEM: Israel's air strikes "hit hard" Iran's defences and missile production, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, but Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Ayatollah Ali Knamenci said the damage from Saturday's attack should not be exaggerated. With warfare raging in Gaza and Lebanon, direct

confrontation between Israel and Iran risks spiralling into a regional conflagration. But a day after the air strikes, there was no sign they would spark another round of escalation.

However, heavy fight-ing in Lebanon between Is-raeli forces and Iran-backed Hezbollah, which sharply intensified over recent weeks, continued on Sundav with an Israeli airstrike killing eight people in a resi-dential block in Sidon, med-

ics said. "The air force attacked throughout Iran. We hit hard Iran's defence capabilities and its ability to produce missiles that are aimed at us." Netanyahu said in a speech, calling the attack "precise and powerful" and saying it met all its objectives.

The Islamic Republic has not signalled how it will respond to Saturday's longanticipated strikes, which involved scores of fighter jets bombing targets near the capital Tehran and in the western provinces of

Ilam and Khuzestan. The heavily armed arch-enemies have engaged in a cycle of retaliatory moves against each other for months, with Saturday's strike coming after an Iranian missile barrage on Oct 1, much of which Israel said was downed by its air defences. Khamenei said Israel's calculations 'should be disrupted". The attack on Iran, which killed four soldiers and caused some damage, "should neither be downplayed nor ex-

aggerated", he said. The Iranian parliament speaker, Mohammad Bager Qalibaf, said Iran was entitled to self-defence and its response "will be definite, in compliance with the

requirements" US President Joe

to stop Hezbollah rocketing northern Israel. Separately, Israeli De-fence Minister Yoav Gal-Displaced Palestinians ordered by the Israeli military to evacuate the northlant said Iran was no longer able to use its allies Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon against Israel. The two groups "are no longer an effective tool" of Tehran, he said in a speech.

Gallant added that Hamas was no longer functioning as a military network in Gaza and that Hezbollah's senior command and most of its missile capabilities had been eliminated. Hamas has repeatedly

said it is still able to function militarily, and Israel has recently conducted major new operations in devastated north Gaza against what it calls regrouping Hamas militants.

Biden called for a halt to escalation that has raised fears of a wider Middle East war arising from the year-old Israeli-Hamas conflict in Gaza and Israel's thrust into south Lebanon

> ern part of Gaza take a rest as they flee amid an Israeli military operation, in Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip. **Spanish PM in India** soldiers killed in seeking to bolster trade ties **Monitoring Desk**

NEW DELHI: Spanish 18 years.

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez was welcomed to India on Monday with a flower-filled open-top parade alongside counterpart Narendra Modi, as Madrid seeks to boost investment in the world's fifth-largest The duo waved to crowds in a vehicle smoth-

ered in orange marigold garlands on their way to inaugurate a military aircraft factory, a collaboration between Tata Advanced Systems and Airbus, in Vadodara in Gujarat state.

liveries made last year the 40 remaining will be built in India. The Indian plant in Vadodara will complete the first "Made in India" C295 aircraft in 2026. "This factory will not

It is the first visit by a for the World' mission.

# France hijab bans in sports 'discriminatory': **UN experts**

### **Monitoring Desk**

PARIS: United Nations rights experts on Monday slammed decisions in France barring women and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez with his Indian counterpart Narendra girls who wear the hijab from sports competitions as "discriminatory", demand-

economy.

ing they be reversed. France invoked its strict rules on secularism to ban its athletes from wearing religious symbols, including the hijab, during the Paris 2024 Olympics.

France's football and basketball federations have also opted to exclude players wearing the headscarf from competitions, includ-

election in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Spanish premier to India for

country's presidency said on Monday.

President Mahamat Idriss Deby launched an operation to track down the assailants, the statement said.

The presidency did not name the group responible for the attack.

The region is often attacked by the Boko Haram insurgency, which erupted in northeast Nigeria in 2009 and spread to the west of Chad.

### Swiss president backs lifting re-export ban on arms to Ukraine Monitoring Desk

ployed to the Kursk region," NATO Secretary-BERN: Switzerland's president said on Monday reporters. she was in favour of revising a ban that currently premove represents "a signifi-cant escalation" in North vents Swiss-made arms from being re-exported from Korea's involvement in the another country to Ukraine, conflict and marks "a dansaying the embargo was gerous expansion of hurting her country's indus-Russia's war." His remarks try and security.Calls for Switzerland to break with came after a high-level South Korean delegation including top intelligence

centuries of tradition as a neutral state have been growing both at home and abroad since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022. Its parliament has already recommended that the arms rules be eased.

### Sudanese need protection, but conditions not right for UN force, says Guterres

**Monitoring Desk** world's largest displacement crisis.

NITED NATIONS: United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appealed to the Security Council on Monday for its support to help protect civilians in war-torn Sudan, but said conditions are not right for deployment of a UN force. "The people of Sudan are living through a nightmare of violence with thousands of civilians killed, and countless others facing unspeakable atrocities, including widespread rape and sexual assaults," Guterres told the 15-mem-

War erupted in mid-

North Korean troops have

been sent to Russia to aid

in its almost three-year war

some have already been de-

ployed in Russia's Kursk

border region, where Rus-

sia has been struggling to

push back a Ukrainian in-

that North Korean troops

have been sent to Russia,

and that North Korean mili-

tary units have been de-

General Mark Rutte told

and military officials as well

as senior diplomats briefed

(LDP).

closed on Sunday.

The Japanese people

"expressed their strong de-

sire for the LDP to do some

Rutte said that the

"Today, I can confirm

cursion

ber council.

'Sudan is, once again, rapidly becoming a nightmare of mass ethnic violence," Guterres said, referring to a conflict in Sudan's Darfur region about 20 years ago that led to the International Criminal Court charging former Sudanese leaders with genocide and crimes against hu-

manity The current war has roduced waves of ethnically driven violence blamed largely on the RSF. The RSF killed at least 124 people in a village in El Gezira State on Friday, ac-April 2023 from a power tivists said, in one of the struggle between the conflict's deadliest incidents.

The RSF has previously denied harming civilians in Sudan and attributed ian rule, and triggered the the activity to rogue actors.

### NATO confirms that North Korea has sent troops to join Russia's war in Ukraine **Monitoring Desk**

ambassadors at NATO headquarters in Brussels. BRUSSELS: NATO on Monday confirmed that

Rutte said NATO is 'actively consulting within the alliance, with Ukraine, and with our Indo-Pacific against Ukraine and that partners," on developments and that he is due to talk soon with South Korea's president and Ukraine's defense minister. "We continue to monitor the situation closely," he said.

Adding thousands of North Korean soldiers to Europe's biggest conflict since World War II will pile more pressure on Ukraine's weary and overstretched army, as well as stoking geopolitical tensions in the Korean Peninsula and the wider Indo-Pacific region, including Japan and Australia, Western officials say.

Russian President Vladimir Putin is keen to reshape global power dynamics. He sought to build a counterbalance to Western influence with a sum-mit of BRICS countries, including the leaders of China and India. in Russia the alliance's 32 national last week.

**Monitoring Desk** lier this week. WASHINGTON: Asia.

Modi waving to crowd in India's Gujarat.

**IMF** official

"For these three reawhich is contributing 60 sons, this region is contribpercent to global growth, is uting a lot more than other clearly the powerhouse of regions," he said. In its lat-the global economy said est World Economic Out-

look (WEO) report released

on Tuesday, the IMF main-

tained its global growth fore-cast in 2024 at 3.2pc, con-

sistent with its projection

in July. Emerging and de-

veloping Asia, meanwhile,

is expected to grow 5.3pc.

"Emerging markets in Asia are pulling their weight

much more than advanced

economies," as advanced

economies are still seeing

interest rate tightening and

weak domestic demand

### Asia clearly the powerhouse Pressure mounts to oust of global economy, says Bangladesh President Shahabuddin

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Bangladesh's President Mohammed Shahabuddin faced growing pressure on Monday to quit from leaders of the revolution that toppled autocratic ex-prime minister Sheikh Hasina in August, who argue he was her appointee.

India's defence ministry agreed to a \$2.5 billion deal for 56 cargo and troopcarrying C295 aircraft from Airbus Defence and Space in 2021. While 16 will be assembled in Seville in Spain — with the first de-

only strengthen India-Spain relations, but also the 'Make in India and Made

ing at the amateur level. These decisions "are disproportionate and discriminatory, and infringe on

their rights [of French athletes] to freely manifest their identity, their religion or belief in private and in public, and to take part in cultural life," said a state-ment signed by eight independent UN experts.

'Muslim women and girls who wear the hijab must have equal rights to participate in cultural and sporting life, and to take part in all aspects of French society of which they are a part," they said.

#### attack on Chad Sudanese army and the military base paramilitary Rapid Sup-Monitoring Desk port Forces ahead of a DAKAR: Around 40 solplanned transition to civildiers were killed in an attack on a military base in Chad's Lake region on Sunday, the central African

Around 40

Krishna Srinivasan, director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Asia and Pacific Department.

"This is the most dynamic region of the world. It has a huge amount of labor force. A lot of that is also skilled labor force. It's a region which is highly integrated in global supply chains. And lastly, it's a region which has seen huge increase in productivity growth," Srinivasan told Srinivasan said. Xinhua in an interview ear-

Virginia asks US Supreme Court to reinstate removals of 1,600 voter registrations

### Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Virginia asked the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene to allow the state to remove roughly 1,600 voters from its rolls that it believes are noncitizens.

The request comes after a federal appeals court unanimously upheld a federal judge's order restoring the registrations of those 1,600 voters, whom the judge said were illegally purged from the rolls under an executive order by the state's Republican governor.

Gov. Glenn Youngkin says he ordered the daily removals in an effort to keep noncitizens from voting. But on Friday, U.S. District Judge Patricia Giles said Youngkin's program was illegal under federal law because it systematically purged voters during a 90-day "quiet period" ahead of the November election.

The Justice Depart ment and a coalition of private groups sued to block Youngkin's removal program earlier this month They argued that the quiet period is in place to ensure that legitimate voters aren't removed from the rolls by bureaucratic errors or last minute mistakes that can'

be rectified in a timely man-Youngkin said he was simply upholding a state law that requires Virginia to cancel noncitizens' registration.

On Sunday, a three-judge panel of the 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, sided with the judge who ordered the restoration of voters' registrations.

gee Jamal Hijazi and in 2021 was ordered to pay The appeals court said Virginia is wrong to assert damages. He was also made that it is being forced to resubject to an injunction prestore 1,600 noncitizens to venting him from repeating the voter rolls the libellous statements.

Shahabuddin, 74 widely known as 'Chuppu", was elected by parliament in 2023 by Hasina's now ousted Awami League, but while the post is largely ceremonial, his potential removal from the role has sparked fears of a constitutional vacuum.

"Any decision regarding the removal of the president will be based on olitical consensus, Shafiqul Alam, press advisor to the interim government that replaced Hasina.

### **UK anti-Islam** activist 'Tommy **Robinson' jailed** for breaching

Egypt's president aninjunction nounced Sunday his coun-**Monitoring Desk** try has proposed a two-day LONDON: British anticease-fire between Israel and Muslim activist Stephen Hamas during which four Yaxley-Lennon, known by the pseudonym Tommy Robinson, was jailed for 18 months after he admitted contempt of court on Monday by breaching an injunc-

tion made after he was suc-President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi said the processfully sued for libel. Yaxley-Lennon was posal includes the release of sued for libel at London's some Palestinian prisoners High Court by Syrian refuand the delivery of humanitarian aid to besieged Gaza.

**Monitoring Desk** 

NEW YORK CITY: Canada and the US must get

tougher on Indian Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's

government for trying to

silence dissidents on foreign

soil, a controversial Sikh

separatist who was the tar-

get of an alleged India-led

murder plot said in an in-

terview. The US Justice

Department has unsealed

indictments against two In-

dian nationals in connection

with an alleged plot to kill

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun,

a dual US-Canadian citizen,

cused included an ex-gov-

ernment official, who the

The two Indian ac-

in New York.

**Monitoring Desk** RAMAT HASHARON: It aims to "move the situation forward," he said, adding that negotiations would continue to make the ceasefire permanent.

operates in US and Canada

### in effort to the release of 4 hostages repair ties **Monitoring Desk** PARIS: French President Emmanuel Macron will

travel to Morocco on Monday, kicking off a three-day visit during which the two countries are expected to sign multiple agreements and discuss their "new ambitions for the next 30

French President Emmanuel Macron will begin his visit to Morocco on Monday, in a bid to repair relations with the North African country following years of tensions.

### **Police out in** force to prevent rowdy Halloween celebrations in Shanghai

#### **Monitoring Desk**

SHANGHAI: Shanghai police patrolled the downtown streets over the weekend to crack down on Halloween celebrations in China's most international city

Local authorities appeared to be trying to pre-vent a repeat of last year, when Halloween revellers thronged central Shanghai, with some dressed in costumes that poked fun of the Chinese stock market, youth unemployment and strict COVID-19 policies.

This weekend, the police presence, online multi-billion dollar free-meal postings about a crackprogramme, his signature down and constant rain kept election campaign promise. the revelry to a minimum.

# pressure after debacle election

Japan PM under

**Monitoring Desk** said. National broadcaster NHK and other media out-TOKYO: Japanese Prime lets reported that the Minister Shigeru Ishiba LDP—which has governed was on thin ice on Monday almost non-stop since 1955 — had fallen short of an after his ruling coalition was projected to have lost absolute majority on its its parliamentary majority own for the first time since in disastrous snap elections. 2009. Ishiba, 67, called

Even worse the pro-Sunday's vote days after jections suggest that the previous coalition of the taking office on October 1, but voters angry at a slush LDP and the smaller fund scandal punished his Komeito party had missed Liberal Democratic Party Ishiba's election goal of winning 233 seats in the "We are receiving severe judgement," Ishiba,

456-member lower house The LDP won 191 who the LDP chose as leader seats and Komeito 24, aclast month precisely because cording to NHK tallies as he was seen as popular among voters, told national of Monday morning. broadcaster NHK after polls

Ahead of the election. local media had speculated that if this happened, Ishiba could potentially quit to take responsibility, becoming Japan's shortest-servreflection and become a party that will act in line ing prime minister in the with the people's will", he post-war period.

# **Indonesia's Prabowo** wants key buildings in new capital ready in 4 years

**Monitoring Desk** AKARTA: Indonesia's further there should be no new leader Prabowo Subianto wants to complete key government and parliamentary buildings in the country's \$32 billion new capital city in the next four years, according to a cabinet minister. The capital project, an

initiative of former President Joko Widodo, seeks to move Indonesia's seat of power about 1,200 km (745 miles) away from sinking and congested Jakarta to Nusantara, located in a jungle of Borneo island.

"He (Prabowo) even hopes that the inauguration of the next Indonesia president and vice president in 2029 could be done in Nusantara," forestry minister, Raja Juli Antoni, said on Saturday on his Instagram account. The remarks on Prabowo's intentions come amid doubts that he will pursue the project at the same speed as Widodo, who tacitly backed him for the election, and whether the state budget can stretch to fund Nusantara alongside his

Raja Juli, however, said questions of Prabowo's commitment to continue his predecessor's legacy project, as he has already guaranteed he would complete it. "For him (Prabowo), Nusantara is the capital of politics. That is why in the next four years. apart from government buildings, we must complete buildings for legislative and judiciary bodies," the minister added.

Key government buildings, like the presidential palace and some state officials housing were re-cently completed, while toll road and airport construction are underway

Since construction started in 2022, the project has faced difficulties in attracting foreign investment, which will help to expedite s progress.

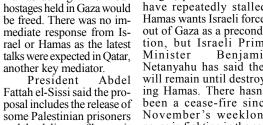
The government had agreed that only a fifth of the total budget would come from the state

It received its first foreign investment last month when Chinese property firm Delonix Group invested 500 billion rupiah (\$31.80 million) to build hotels and offices.

Japanese Prime Minister and leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)

Shigeru Ishiba speaks next to LDP lawmakers during a press conference a day after Japan's lower house election, at the party's headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.





ing Hamas. There hasn't been a cease-fire since November's weeklong pause in fighting in the earliest weeks of the war. Sikh separatist claims Indian 'spy network'

Talks in pursuit of a longer, phased cease-fire have repeatedly stalled. Hamas wants Israeli forces out of Gaza as a precondition, but Israeli Prime years' Benjamin

Netanyahu has said they will remain until destroy-

indictment said worked as

an intelligence officer at the

time and had orchestrated

earlier this month that the

Modi government should

not be allowed to conduct

hostile activity in foreign

countries and said India's

consulates in the US and

Canada were running a

spy network", although he

did not provide any proof.

"need to put their foot

down that regimes like

Modi's ... should not be

allowed to come to America

or Canada, challenge their

sovereignty and get away

with it.

The US and Canada

Pannun told Reuters

the assassination plan.

### **Observers from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe** (OSCE) attend a briefing dedicated to the Georgian recent parliamentary Key mediator Egypt proposes France's Macron to visit Morocco a 2-day Gaza cease-fire and

### Daily **Independent**, Quetta

# Gilani, Matvienko reaffirm commitment to regional security, bilateral coop.

Chairman of the Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, and Speaker of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Ms Valentina Matvienko, on Monday reiterated their commitment to regional security, particularly in combating illicit drug trafficking through joint initiatives.

In a meeting with the Russian delegation led by Ms. Matvienko, the Chairman extended a warm welcome as the two nations marked the 76th anniversary of diplomatic relations. The discussions highlighted the evolution of bilateral ties since 1948, with both leaders emphasizing the importance of ongoing cooperation in defense, economic infrastructure, and energy sectors.

Recalling previous discussions with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Yousuf Gilani noted the constructive exchanges aimed at enhancing collaboration. He commended Russia's contributions to Pakistan's oil and

ISLAMABAD (APP): gas industries and infrastruc- desire for Russian support ture development, including to secure BRICS membersignificant projects such as the Pakistan Steel Mills and Guddu Thermal Power Sta-

He acknowledged the terest in deepening cooprecent momentum in bilateration with BRICS. eral relations, catalyzed by high-level meetings, esperole of cultural diplomacy cially between Prime Minin fostering bilateral relaister Shehbaz Sharif and tions, referencing the President Putin at the SCO awarding of the Pushkin summit, where energy co-Medal to a Pakistani literoperation and trade initiaary figure in 2017 as a symves were focal points. bol of shared values and

The dialogue also celcollaboration. ebrated surpassing \$1 billion in bilateral trade in pressed a commitment to 2023, with both sides keen advancing parliamentary to maintain this upward exchanges and regional cotrajectory. Key initiatives, operation, with a focus on including the North-South stability. The meeting un-Transport Corridor, were derscored a continued efdiscussed, positioning Pafort to strengthen ties, enkistan as a critical gateway suring mutual benefit across to global markets. various sectors.

The two sides ex-

In a significant devel-

opment, the Senate of Pa-

Council of the Russian Fed-

eration signed a historic

standing (MoU), marking a

istan and the Federation

He emphasized the importance of direct business ties and timely project execution under the Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, and Memorandum of Under-Scientific Cooperation.

new chapter in Pakistan-During the meeting, Gilani conveyed Pakistan's Russia relations



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi, Saleem Khosa, Mir Sadiq Umrani, Barkat Rind and MPAs Mir Zabid Ali Raiki, Mir Asadullah Baloch, Maulana Hidayatur Rehman, Junaid Raiki and Khalil-ur Rehman Dhani negotiating with activists of Mekran Border Trade Alliance protesting in front of Balochistan Assembly.

# Aleem Khan lauds NHA's 100pc revenue surge, **M-Tag implementation**, technical upgradation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Communications, Board of Investment and Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan on Monday visited the National Highway Authority (NHA) headquarters, inspected the National Traf-Khan stated. fic Operation Center and commended Pakistan's motorway and GT road notable revenue growth and

technological upgrades. Aleem Khan exressed satisfaction over the transition of 99 percent of vehicles on the Lahore-Rs 64 billion. Sialkot Motorway to the

stitution

tion

here on Monday.

in

the first time a public instigreatly reduced traffic congestion and streamlined toll operations. "The shift to tution will generate an ad-ditional Rs 50 billion in rev-M-Tag has improved trafenue," the minister said. fic flow significantly and I am pleased with NHA's ef-The federal minister directed the NHA to reduce forts to modernize the toll cash lanes across all

collection process," Aleem motorways and increase the number of M-Tag Aleem Khan further booths highlighted the record-He also instructed that breaking financial achieveall toll plazas be equipped

ments of the NHA, reportwith camera systems to ing a 100 percent increase monitor vehicles and capin revenue, with the proture license plate informa tion, emphasizing that these updates should be available jected target rising to Rs 110 billion from last year's to the Secretary of Commu-"This is an unprecnications and the NHA

M-Tag system, which has edented milestone, marking Chairman.

### 26th amendment to safeguard democracy, constitution: Fazl

(APP): Jamiat-e-Ulema-Is-lam Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman has said the 26th constitutional amendments would play a key role in safeguard-ing democracy and the con-

He expressed these loss of public trust in these views while addressing

system in Pakistan was not only part of their manifesto and ideology but was also fundamental to the very

#### Âssembly on Monday. In a written response, Minister for Energy (Power Division) Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari stated that the completion of the survey was a vital step toward implementing solar solutions that would ben-

Tuesday October 29, 2024

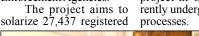
**Balochistan's first phase** 

survey for solarizing

efit the farmers and enhance agricultural productivity. The survey was conducted in collaboration with the Energy Department of Balochistan, QESCO teams, and representatives from the Zamindar Action Committee, with support from Law Enforcement Agencies.

50 tubewells completed ISLAMABAD (APP): The tubewell connections at an estimated cost of around Rs detailed surveys for solarizing 50 agricultural feeders, 55 billion, with funding diout of a total of 581 vided as 70 percent from the tubewells, have been successfederal government and 30 fully completed in the first percent from the provincial phase, as informed during the government. An MoU was question hour in the National signed on July 8, 2024, to

formalize this initiative. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on July 8, 2024, for the solarization of agricultural tubewells. It is important to note that compensation of up to Rs. 2.01 will be provided for the solarization of each tubewell. Additionally, five RFO/Gas/Imported Coal-based IPPs totaling 3,742 MW have been commissioned in various areas of Balochistan with the facilitation of the Private Power Infrastructure Board (PPIB), while a 300 MW imported coal-based power project in Gwadar is currently undergoing financial





**QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Irrigation Mir** Sadiq Umrani, MPAs Mir Sadiq Sanjrani and Ashok Kumar meeting with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai.

### **Development**, prosperity of Balochistan govt's top priority: Ministers OUETTA They said that our

(APP): Balochistan Minister for first priority was to com-Communication and Work plete all the ongoing devel-(C&W) Mir Saleem Ahmed opment projects in the province on time so that the Khosa and Minister for people of the province get Planning and Development (P&D) Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi on Monday said the fruits of these development projects. that the development and Both ministers said prosperity of the province was the top priority of the

that if the province develops, peace and prosperity would come and it was the government for providing first priority of their gov-ernment to make the prov-They expressed these views while during meeting here. Provincial Minister of ince developed and prosperous

God willing, the day is not far when our provtwo ministers had a detailed ince will be developed and prosperous, they said add ing that their focus was on important issues of roads,

**Independent Report** equality and justice. OUETTA: The Governor He was speaking to Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that

the delegation of lawyers the law profession has very leadership of provincial important role for maintaining justice and protec- president of Pakistan Mus- being faced by the lawyers lim League-N lawyers wing, Anwar Nasim Kasi hare et the tion of human rights in the

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications and Privatization, Mr.

Abdul Aleem Khan, visits the National Highway Authority (NHA) headquar-

Law profession has important role in

maintaining justice, protection of

human rights: Mandokhail

masses but also promote tice can bring about positive and constructive

changes in the society. Earlier, the members who called on him under of delegation apprised the Governor about the issues The Governor gave DERA ISMAIL KHAN Pakhtunkhwa Balochistan, resulting in a lack of security for people's lives and property. He underlined the need

for taking solid measures for the integrity and dignity of the state and its institutions while describing the

institutions as a grave issue. He also added that the scholars and dignitaries at elimination of the usurous Jamia Arabia Naumania

The JUI-F chief also expressed concern over the poor law and order situa-Khyber foundation of the country.

and

### Petrol, diesel prices expected to drop from November 1 ISLAMABAD (INP): Petrol

prices in Pakistan are likely to go down further from November 1 amid decline in global oil prices.

The fuel prices in the global market have decreased by \$1.5 and \$2.5 per barrel respectively in the last 15 days.

NA Speaker

urges global

action on

common

challenges

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has

called for unified global ac-

tion to address challenges

being faced by the world community. He was ad-

dressing inaugural cer-emony of 45th Annual Fo-

rum of Parliamentarians for

Global Action in Islamabad

Monday. The Speaker said

climate change is a looming

threat which requires con-

certed international efforts Highlighting the plight

of innocent Palestinians in

Gaza, the Speaker said ev-

ery Parliamentarian should

raise his voice in every Par-

liament of the world to end

these atrocities. He said dia-

logue is the only way out to

resolve issues and even end

wars. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq

Keeping in view the current exchange rate and current tax rates, the gov ernment is likely to provide relief to masses by reducing the prices of petrol and HSD by Rs3 and Rs2.30 per liter, respectively.

He said that our lawyers are the guardians of House on Monday. human rights. The lawyers not only play role in dis- that the professional experpensation of Justice to the tise and honest legal prac-

ters in federal Capital.

patient hearing to the issues here at the Governor's of lawyers and assured The Governor said

them of his every possible cooperation to resolve them.

# **Nazeer Tarar calls for** global cooperation to uphold rule of law

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar, on Monday emphasized the need for collective efforts to ensure the rule of law, protect human rights, and prevent crimes against ĥumanitv.

Speaking at the 47th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), hosted by Paracy kistan, the minister reiterated the country's commitment to working with the international community to achieve global peace and justice.



struction

**QUETTA: Chief Executive Officer QESCO Engi**neer Shafqat Ali addressing the field operation officers during online review meeting.

Sardar Khetran says: Speedy development of districts important part of our priorities

may benefit the people.

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has stated that speedy development of the districts is an important part of the government's priorities.

He said that the present government is taking steps for development of the districts under a comprehensive strategy. He said that he would raise forceful voice resolving the public issues at the district level.

no injustice would be done Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran was speaking to with any election constituency when it comes to talk different delegations who about the execution of decalled on him here on Monday. During the course of velopment projects.

ISLAMABAD (APP): The envoys of Kyrgyz Repub-lic, State of Palestine, Demo-During the session cratic People's Republic of titled "The Regional Per-Korea, Uzbekistan, Kenya spective on the Enforceand the Republic of Turkiye ment of Rome Law and presented their diplomatic Reforms in Local Legislacredentials to President Asif tion," the Senator high-Ali Zardari, during a credenlighted Pakistan's dedicatial ceremony, held at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Monday. tion to promoting peace, stability, and respect for The president rehuman rights.

ceived credentials from the He said that parlia-Ambassador-designate of mentarians played a key Kyrgyz Republic, Avazbek role in safeguarding human Atakhanov, the Ambassarights and advancing democdor-designate of State of Palestine, Dr Zuhair Mohammad Hamdallah He also reaffirmed Pakistan's active partici-Zaid, Ambassador-desigpation in global efforts to nate of the Democratic prevent the proliferation People's Republic of Koof weapons of mass de-

rea, Choe Chang Man, the Ambassador-designate of Uzbekistan, Alisher Tukhtaey, the High Commissioner-designate of Kenya, Lt Gen (Ketd) Peter Mbogo Njiru and the Ambassador-designate of Turkiye, Irfan Neziroglu who also held separate meetings with the President.

2 pilgrimages die, 11 injured as bus overturned HUB (APP): A bus carry-

ing pilgrimages to Dargah, Shah Noorani on Monday overturned due over speeding near hotel Mosely and two persons were killed and eleven others sustained injuries. Two injured were in critical condition, Rescue

meeting, the members of delegation apprised the 1122 sources said. Minister about their issues. Ambulances of Rescue Speaking on the occa-1122 and Adhi shifted the insion, Sardar Abdul Rehman jured to Civil Hospital Khetran said that all the Trauma center, Karachi. Lev-

development projects ies forces said the bus went would be devised with conout of control of the driver sultation of the elected repdue over speeding and all inresentatives of the districts. jured were belonged to Karachi. In this regard, the basic needs of the people would

be kept in view, he said adding that the projects would be given preference which The Minister said that

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan presides over the meeting to review action taken on the directives of Prime Minister.



**QUETTA: Balochistan Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, Asghar** Ali Tareen chairs a meeting held in Quetta.

According to the

Secretary, Transport De-

partment has cancelled

permits of 44 buses on

overspending. Besides, the Depart-

ment is taking measures for

improvement in Transport.

### Govt. approved 9 Green & 3 pink buses for Balochistan, says Secretary Transport Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz

Independent Report QUETTA: The Govern-Bugti has approved three ment of Balochistan has ap-Pink Buses for women in Quetta. Only the women proved nine Green and three would travel on the Pink Pink buses in the province. Buses in Quetta, he added. According to the re-

ports quoting Secretary Transport, Hayat Khan Kakar, nine Green Buses were approved for Quetta and Turbat. Out of these, five Green Buses would be run in Ouetta while four others have been approved in Turbat.

He said that the permits The Secretary Trans-port maintained that the transporters on merit. would be issued to the

### **PML-N's Ashok Kumar** takes oath as MPA on minority reserved seat Independent Report

Ashok Kumar in the ses-sion chaired by him on QUETTA: The PML-N's Monday afternoon.

> here that the reserved seat of assembly had fallen vacant due to the death of Saint Patrick Maseih





P&D Mir

facilities to masses.

In the meeting, the

discussion on the progress

of the ongoing development

# **Resolution regarding issuance** of Blue passport to MPAs & family members adopted in BA

## **Independent Report** QUETTA: Th

Balochistan Assembly adopted a resolution about issuance of the Blue passports to the members of provincial assembly and their family members here on Monday

The Speaker, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai was in the chair. The resolution regarding issuance of the blue passports to the members of assembly and their fam-

ily members was tabled by The the Parliamentary Secretary mbly for Population Welfare, Hadia Nawaz.

Later, another resolution was also adopted demanding establishment of the sub campus of Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University in Jaffarabad.

The resolution was tabled by the Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Majeed Badini. Later, the session was adjourned for an indefinite period.



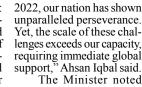
QUETTA: National Party (NP) Chief, Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch addresses during 7th National Congress and Balochistan Wahdat Convention held in Quetta.

### **Pakistan prepares for COP2024, calls for support** to combat climate crisis

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof Ahsan Iqbal here on Monday chaired a high-level meeting in preparation for the upcoming COP2024 to

be held in Baku, Azerbaijan in November, emphasizing Pakistan's urgent call for international support to combat the intensifying climate crisis. The Minister highlighted Pakistan's critical vulnerability to climate impacts, with recent floods positioning the country as a pivotal case study on the frontlines of climate resilience and adaptation.

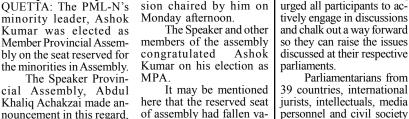
"Pakistan is not only the worst victim of the climate crisis but also the most resilient. Despite the devastating floods of 2010 and



that while the catastrophic floods of 2010 led to huge number of fatalities, strategic preparedness efforts helped reduce the toll during the 2022 floods.

Although three times more severe, these efforts brought fatalities down, underscoring the life-saving impact of resilience planning. "Our success in mitigating human loss shows that preparedness is not only crucial but lifesaving. However, continued resources and expertise are essential to sustain this progress," he added.

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bly on the seat reserved for the minorities in Assembly.

The Speaker Provincial Assembly, Abdul Khaliq Achakzai made announcement in this regard,

