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Global peace without end to Gaza bloodshed out of question: PM

Calls for collective global collaboration in realms of AI, education, health to overcome present-day challenges



RIYADH (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday, while underscoring the importance of knowledge-based economy driven by innovation in domains of artificial intelligence, education and health, called for collective global efforts and partnerships to overcome the contemporary challenges.

He said that no nation could overcome today's challenges alone and no single country could harness the potential of tomorrow without the support of

"Pakistan stands ready to join those who dare to dream big. We invite you to invest, to bring your expertise and creativity to Pakistan, as we build a future,

rooted in resilience and shared prosperity," the prime minister said during his address at the plenary session of the 8th edition of two-day Future Investment Initiative (FII)

The prime minister said that he was elated to share that Pakistan, too, was on a transformative journey; a journey of resilience, sacrifice, and a relentless pursuit of stability and growth.

Attended by global leaders, this year's FII is themed "Infinite Horizons: Investing Today, Shaping Tomorrow" and focuses on global investments aimed at addressing major issues such as artificial intelligence, robotics, education, energy, space, finance, healthcare, and sustainability.

The participating countries engage in the dialogue for the promotion of investment and a sustainable future while highlighting the strength of their respective

The FII conference featured discussions on artificial intelligence, robotics, education, energy, space, public health, and challenges, confronting sustainable development. The prime minister, citing future course, said Continued on page 2



QUETTA: A delegation of PML-N MPAs led by Provincial Minister Mir Saleem Khosa meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti.

in their nefarious designs.

terrorism act, Mir Sarfraz

Bugti said that terrorists are

cowards, who targeted the

innocent persons in the

ists would not be spared and

they have to be accountable

for the bloodshed of the in-

terrorists involved in the in-

cident would be taken to

task. The Chief Minister

expressed sorrow with the

bereaved families of the

martyrs. He also prayed

that may Allah Almighty

give the bereaved families

enough strength and pa-

tience to bear the loss of

darkness of night.

nocent people.

While slamming the

He said that the terror-

He asserted that the

Sarfraz Bugti condemns Paroom firing incident:

Terrorists opponent of dev. & peace, followers of anti state elements: CM

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has condemned the incident of firing in Paroom area of

In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the Chief Minister said that the incident of terrorism is unforgivable and condemnable.

He said that the terrorist are opponents of the development and peace and are the followers of antistate elements. The Chief Minister

also said that peace and development is just irritating

However, the terror-



ISLAMABAD: Acting President BNP-Mengal Sajid Tareen Advocate, Former federal Minister Agha Hassan Baloch and former MNA Mir Muhammad Hashim Notezai addressing a Press

Sajid Tareen says: Senators Ranjho, Naseema expelled from BNP-Mengal for violating party policy

(Online) - Sajid Tareen Ad-Balochistan National Party (BNP), announced the expulsion of Senators Qasim Ranjho and Naseema Ehsan Shah from the party due to their violation of party policy and support for a controversial constitutional

During a press conference at the Islamabad Press

nied by former federal minvocate, the acting central isters Agha Hassan Baloch the and central committee member Haji Hashim Notezi. He stated that the decision to expel both senators was made after consulting with party leader and former Chief Minister of Balochistan, Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal, and other

Continued on page 2

Cop martyred; 3 terrorists killed in polio team attack in Orakzai

PESHAWAR (APP): In an attack on police, escorting an anti-polio team in Upper Orakzai on Tuesday, a policeman was martyred while three of the terrorists were eliminated in retaliatory firing by the Frontier

Corps. SDPO, Orakzai, Muhammad Rahim said the incident took place in Dabori Badan area of Upper Orakzai where terrorists attacked an anti-polio team, and martyred a policeman, Sayyed Hameed. Another cop, Muzammil sustained bullet injury in the attack. The injured cop was shifted to DHQ Hospital Orakzai by the

police.

However, the jawans of Frontier Corps swiftly responded to the attack and eliminated three of the terrorists and arrested another in injured condi-

Pak-Iran border opened for 45-day thanks to Governor **Independent Report**

QUETTA: In a significant development, the Pak-Iran border has been opened after a long time at Taftan thanks to the untiring efforts made by the Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

According to an official handout issued here on Tuesday, the Governor Balochistan was making endeavours for opening the Taftan border. And now the border has been opened for 45 days, mentioned in the official release.

The very initiative has won the hearts of people especially the traders community and zayreen.

They have also thanked the Governor from core of their hearts.

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan addressing the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners Conference.

RIYADH: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia His Royal Highness Mohammed bin Salman on the sidelines of Future Investment Initiative Forum. **COAS** reiterates Pakistan's commitment to strengthening traditional defense ties with Russia

RAWALPINDI (Online): Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin, Deputy Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation, met General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at the General Headquarters (GHQ) to-

The meeting addressed the regional security environment and matters of mutual interest, including the enhancement of bilateral defense and secu-

rity cooperation.
COAS reiterated Pakistan's commitment to strengthening traditional defense ties with Russia, while both sides affirmed their dedication to bolstering collaboration in various

security and defense do-

mains.
Colonel General
Fomin commended the Pakistan Army's achievements in combating terrorism and highlighted the importance of a unified, cooperative approach among the global community to counter extremism.

Meanwhile, A high level delegation led by Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation, Colonel General Aleksandr V. Fomin called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force at Air Headquarters here on Tuesday.

Continued on page 2

Gas companies seek up to 53% price hike from **July 2024**

ISLAMABAD (INP): Another inflationary blow seems imminent as gas companies have requested to increase Sui gas prices by up to 53%, effective from July 1, 2024.

Sui gas prices are expected to rise by 53.47% for Sindh and Balochistan, while for Punjab Islamabad, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the proposed increase is 3.66%.

The Sui gas companies have submitted thei applications to the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) to increase the gas prices from the back date. Sui Northern has pro-

posed an average price increase of Rs 64.16 per MMBTU, raising the average rate to Rs 1,810.38 per MMBTU.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail in a group photo with members during 12th Senate session of BUITEMS.

Governor Balochistan says:

Govt ready to set new avenues of future, move on path of scientific development

Mandokhail insists we have to decide in all public sector universities keeping in view modern requirements and needs of 21st century

Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that we have to make decision in all public sector universities keeping in view the modern requirements and needs of the 21st century that which departments and faculties are to

be closed and which new

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor

This wise initiative would not only increase

our relevancy but it would also promote mutual understanding between the academy and market while adopting new changes. This means that we are

ready to set new avenues of future, move on the passage of scientific development and empower our fu-

Independent group's Rauf Atta elected president of SCBA

SC bar elects best person as its President: Atta Tarar

(Online): In the annual elections of the Supreme Court Bar Association, Mian Rauf Atta Advocate of the Independent Group, backed by Asma Jahangir's faction, emerged victorious over Munir Ahmed Kakar Advocate of the Professional Group led by Hamid Khan. Polling took place across the country, including in Quetta on Tuesday.

According to unoffi-

cial results, Mian Rauf Atta

OUETTA / ISLAMABAD

Advocate secured 1,270 votes, clinching the position of SCBA President, while Munir Ahmed Kakar received 1,155 votes. Rauf Atta Advocate received backing from political enti-ties including Jamiat Ulemae-Islam, Pakistan Muslim League (N), and Pakistan People's Party.

Vote distribution revealed regional support differences: in Ouetta, Rauf

Continued on page 2



day. According to initial reports, a rashly-driven van in the same incident.

PM Shehbaz lauds KSA's support for economic revival

Pakistan, Saudi Arabia to enhance bilateral trade, investment

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday highlighting the importance of deep-rooted brotherly relations between Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, appreciated Kingdom's support for the economic revival and stabil-

The prime minister met with Crown Prince and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al-Saud on the sidelines of the eighth session of the Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

RIYADH (APP): Prime stock of the ongoing bilateral engagements, especially in follow up to the decisions taken in previous high-level meetings held in Makkah and Riyadh in

> Apprising the crown prince on the government of Pakistan's economic, institutional and policy re-forms agenda, the prime minster said that the Kingdom had a central role in Pakistan' future economic plans. The prime minister appreciated Kingdom's efforts to promote regional peace and stability in the Middle East and reiterated Pakistan's unwavering commitment to standby the



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir exchanging views with Colonel General Aleksandr V. Fomin, Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation during meeting held at General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi.

Five labourers killed, two others injured in terrorists attack at Paroom dam

President, PM condemn terrorist attack on workers at Panjgur dam site

Independent Report two others injured when

ISLAMABAD: Five workers were ambushed to death and two others got injured in terrorists attack at the dam in Paroom area of Panjgur in wee hours of

in Paroom were killed while

The armed assailants fled from the scene after the

According to the spokesman, the dead bod-The spokesman of provincial government, ies of deceased persons and Shahid Rind confirmed that injured were shifted to the five workers engaged in the look after work of the dam

Continued on page 2

unknown armed assailants

attacked the site with weap-

ons. He said that local

people were targeted in the

DPM Dar says: Pakistan committed to CPEC-II to deepen agri, industrial cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar on Tuesday calling the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a "wonderful gift" of China to Pakistan, said that his country was committed to taking the project to the next level to deepen cooperation in the fields of agriculture, industrialization, renewable

energy and others. minister in his remarks at the International Conference "China at 75: A Journey of Progress, Transformation and Global Leadership" said that being the symbol of China-Pakistan cooperation, CPEC helped uplift the country's energy

Continued on page 2



rates ICU Cardiac Surgery at Civil Hospital.

Four killed, 5 injured near

The Governor was

chairing the 12th Senate

meeting of Balochistan Uni-

versity of Information

Technology, Engineering

and Management Sciences

(BUITEMS) here on Tues-

day. Those who were

present in the meeting were

Continued on page 2

hit a truck coming from opposite direction, resulted in killing of four persons on the spot. The five other persons were also injured

Rescue and Police team rushed to the site and shifted the dead and injured to Sibi district headquarter

Minister Health inaugurates Cardiac Surgery's ICU in Sandeman Hospital **Independent Report** present on the occasion.

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht

Muhammad Kakar inaugurated the Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit (ICU) established in the Sandeman Provincial Headquarter Hospital here on Tuesday.

The Medical Superintendent of Sandeman Hospital, Dr. Noorullah Musakhail, cardiologist from USA, Dr. Usman, Chief of Taraqee Foundation, Amjad Rasheed, provincial Head of Alfalah Bank, Sanaullah and other concerned high ups were It may be mentioned

here that the repair and renovation of the Cardiac Surgery ICU was done by the Taragee Foundation and Alfalah Bank Addressing the cer-

emony, Provincial Minister said that it is our priority to facilitate the patients in hospitals by extending them all necessary healthcare facilities there.

He appreciated the role of Taraqee Foundation and Bank Alfalah in improving the healthcare facilities in the hospitals.

"We will miss them,

but ahead of a major event

like the Champions Trophy

we want to test various

combinations and hope

they will settle before the event," Rizwan told report-

ers. Pakistan recalled Azam

and pace spearheads Shaheen Shah Afridi and

Naseem Shah for the series

after dropping them for the

last two Tests of the En-

gland series they won 2-1

includes Aamer Jamal, Arafat Minhas, Faisal

Akram, Haseebullah, Muhammad Irfan Khan and Saim Ayub who have yet

ously untested players included in the T20I squad.

we need to combine well

and bring good results on a tough tour," said Rizwan.

Continued from page 1

to play the format.

The ODI squad also

Jahandad Khan and Salman Ali Agha are previ-

"Whoever is the coach

Pakistan have won

last week

Rizwan hopes Australia tour helps new Pakistan squad find their footing

Sports Desk LAHORE: Pakistan's new white-ball skipper Mohammad Rizwan said Tuesday he hopes a newlook squad will settle into form on their Australia tour, after a saga of upheaval for

when white-ball head coach Gary Kirsten resigned over differences on selection just days before the Australia tour. Test coach Jason Gillespie will stand in as a replacement.

Three one-day international matches will kick



AJK President urges

Kashmiri expatriates to use

influence to raise Kashmir

cause at international level

Rizwan was appointed captain of limited over formats on Sunday, replacing Babar Azam who had two turns in the post but wasn't able to allay a run of disastrous tournament performances.

Pakistan suffered fur-ther tumult on Monday were dropped on fitness and disciplinary issues.

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP):

Azad Jammu and Kashmir

(AJK) President, Barrister

Chaudhry on Tuesday

called upon the Kashmiri

diaspora community

abroad especially the UK-

based expatriates to accel-

erate their all out efforts to

promote Kashmir cause ex-

posing increased Indian

brutalities in Indian Illegally

Occupied Jammu and Kash-

mir (ÎIOJK) at the interna-

tional level. He expressed

these views during a meeting

with an overseas Kashmiri

delegation that called on him

at President house in the state

Kashmir Peace Forum In-

ternational (KPFI), UK

Chudhary Majid Ismail, the

off in Melbourne on November 4, followed by the same number of T20Is in a test of the team ahead of next year's Champion Tro-

Openers Fakhar Zaman and Imam-ul-Haq

human rights situation in

the Indian held territory had

further deteriorated since

the Indian government ab-

rogated article 370 and

35A, which granted special

status to the held territory.

India, he said, was hell-bent

only two of their last 16 ODIs in Australia and lost three of the four T20Is. Pakistan's..

The meeting remained focused on bolstering military cooperation and industrial collaboration between the two sides while exploring new avenues to fortify expresident KPFI, Chudhary isting ties through joint mili-Khadim Hussain president tary exercises and technical KPFI Midland and others. support for PAF equip-Barrister Chaudhry ment, an Inter Services said that the political and

> lease said. Chief The Air emphasised on strengthening military ties with Russia, focusing on collaborative training programs, joint military drills and industrial collaboration.

> > Senators..

Continued from page 1

Tareen criticized both sena-

tors for their betrayal, stat-

ing they provided facilita-

vidual interests.

ties with the party.

tice of the situation, high-

lighting that the senators

who voted in favor of the

Ahmed Lehri District Kalat,

Email: xenphedkalat@gmail.com

PRQ No.1680/29-10-2024

bill had been "bought."

Public Relations news re-

on changing the region's General Colonel demographic character. Aleksandr V. Fomin com-The occupation aumended the recent impresthorities in Kashmir had issive advancements in Pakisued thousands of fake dostan Air Force under the micile certificates to non current leadership. The Kashmiris, the AJK presi-Russian Deputy Defence dent said, adding that settle-Minister reiterated his rement of outsiders in the solve to play his role in furvalley and other parts of the ther consolidating the existdisputed territory was a ing collaborative defence delegation was comprising deep rooted conspiracy. partnership with Pakistan through military to military cooperation and technical support for PAF equip-

ment.



QUETTA: MPA Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti.

Pakistan committed..

Continued from page 1

infrastructure to address the load-shedding woes of the people. He said the government was taking action to materialise the Chinese offer of sending 1,000 students to China for training in agricultural technology. He said that Pakistan

deeply valued China's support in addressing longstanding issues including Kashmir and Palestine and reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support to the One-

China policy. He said that being time-tested friends, both China and Pakistan supported each other in all cir-

cumstances whether they were natural disasters, economic disruptions, or geopolitical shifts.

Lauding China's development journey, Deputy Prime Minister Dar said that over the past 75 years, China, despite leg pulling from certain parts unprecedentedly achieved a

milestone through a "lightspeed" and was also contributing to a better world.

Citing the commitment and hard work of the Chinese leadership and the people, he expressed the hope that China would become the biggest economy in due course



TSE-242510582083 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Executive Engineer Maintenance Division-II C&W,PP&H invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2%

S.No Name of Work/s Additional Scope of Work of Jamia Masiid Abdul Aziz Chaman Phatak District Quetta, Additional Rooms for Pesh Imam Bathrooms with Tiles.

PSDP No. 6011/Z2024.2474 Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 20,799,930 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Bid Security Green Challan Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, 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 undersigned 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 13 November, 2024during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 13 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 PM Address: executive engineer maintenance Division-II C&W,PP&H quetta

Phone no: 3318472745 Email: cwpphpishin2022@gmail.com

PRQ No.1678/29-10-2024 🕏 www.dpr.gob.pk. 💌 @dpr_gob 🙍 dpr.gob 👖 @dgpr.ba

Maintenance Division-II C&W,PP&H Department Quetta

KARACHI: On instructions of Prime Minister, Pak NDMA Dispatched 17th Consignment of 17 tons of relief items for affected people of Lebanon through chartered flight from Jinnah International Airport.

PTI failed to deliver in KP despite 3rd consecutive term in Govt: Amir Mugam

SWAT (APP): Federal Minister for Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan Affairs and States and Frontier Regions, Engr Amir Muqam here Tuesday that Pakistan Tahrik e Insaf has completely failed to address the masses' problems despite its third consecutive government term in Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa. Addressing a big public gathering after the formal inauguration of two electricity feeders at Khwazakhela here, Engr Amir Muqam said the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have been deceived by the name of socalled "Change" since 2013 and the province were deprived of economic growth and development.

As a result of poor governance, rampage of corruption, maladministration, and agitation politics employment, poverty, and illiteracy have significantly increased in the province where provincial ministers and advisers started leveling corruption allegations against each other.

Engr Amir Muqam further claimed that the country was put on the verge of bankruptcy during the rule of PTI founder after started confrontation with national institutions, resulting in the people of Pakistan suffering.

He said the poor governance of the PTI founder has plunged the country into unprecedented price hikes, inflation and devaluation of rupee, marring the country's overall economic growth. Instead of focusing on the problems of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he said that CM KP has led protest demonstrations in Laĥore and Islamabad by using

payer money for personal He said PTI would not

allowed to deceive the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa through hollow sloganeering on social media anymore. He said that the faces of the com mission and corrupt mafia in KP were fully expose before the masses.

The Federal Minister said that on the other side "we have dynamic and committed leadership in the form of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif who were working tirelessly for the progress and prosperity of Pakistan."

He said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharifhas saved the country from an imminent economic default reduced price hikes from 40 percent to nine percent and his Govt economic.



Kamal Khan Bangulzai and others meeting with Chief of Sarwan and Former Chief Minister Balochistan Nawab Muhammad Aslam Khan Raisani regarding solution longstanding two tribes fued.

Global peace without end to..

Continued from page 1

Pakistan was laying the foundation for a knowledgebased economy driven by innovation in three pivotal domains, artificial intelligence, education, and health in which they looked forward to forging useful partnerships.

tion to the establishment and the so-called federal 'AI is more than a government while deceiving trend; it's a force revolutionthe people of Balochistan. izing economies, societies, He accused them of betrayand industries. At this critiing the ideology of Sardar cal juncture, Pakistan is not Attaullah Khan Mengal for just embracing AI, we are personal gain, claiming they committed to excelling in sold their votes for indiit," he said, adding their mission was clear and it was The BNP plans to file to; encourage young minds a reference against the senato redefine the boundaries tors with the Election Comof AI; training skilled engineers and data scientists as

mission, emphasizing that both have now severed all the backbone of Tareen stated, "They attempted to harm the national cause and failed to win councilor seats, yet they betrayed the party despite being made sena-He reiterated the party's rejection of the recent constitutional bill and ases. Since assuming office demanded the Supreme in March this year, he said, Court of Pakistan take no-

Pakistan's AI growth; and equipping their workforce to harness the power of AI across industries. Along with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and like-minded global partners, the prime minister said Pakistan envisioned AI as a force for good, free from bi-

the progress and prosper-

ity of people had been his

ment of their people and the

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE DIVISION KALAT Invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of

Tender Fee Rs.1500/- and Bid Security 2% for each work

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of

Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring

agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have

completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turnover of at least 23,11,177 PKR for (S.No.1) &

22,35,079 PKR Amount for (S.No. 2 & 3) & 25,59,023 PKR for (S.No. 4) & 24,52,315 PKR for (S.No. 5) &

25,04,960 PKR for (S.No. 6 & 7) and 23,78,153 PKR for (S.No. 8) in 3 subsequent previous years showing

financial capacity of the firm Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure

Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above

in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents car

be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,500 through green chalan on a/c of Tender documents

Fee C02726-others. Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 29 October,

2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted

latest by 19 November, 2024 till 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at

the office of the undersigned at 12:00 PM. Address: Kohing Kalat. Phone no: 0844210228

🚭 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob

following works for the Year, 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2022 on Percentage Rates.

Supply of PVC Pipes WSS for Mahmood Garam Killi Ahmed

Civil Work for WSS with Solar System at Killi Sardar Aziz

Civil Work for WSS with Solar System at Killi Takri Sharif

Civil Work for WSS At Killi Dasht Mahmood Bundhrku Kalat

Civil Work for WSS UC Bencha Fateh Muhammad Hassni

Langau Near Killi Muhammad Shahi Mangocher.

Muhammad Nichari Kohak District Kalat.

Civil Work for WSS Raij Peer Sahib Butt Kalat.

Civil Work for WSS Asad Abad Kalat

Civil Work for WSS Rodenio Kalat.

Through the commit-

government's laser focus.

support of their partners, like the brotherly country Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, they had restored macroeconomic stability and were now ready to enter a period of sustained growth and progress, he added.

Prime Minister Sharif said: "This journey is not just ours, it's a call to our friends across the world, because together, we are stronger. Together, we can shape a future defined by innovation, prosperity, and success.

He further elaborated that Pakistan was blessed with something truly precious, the youth who was their promise to tomorrow. Talented, resilient, and armed with an untiring

spirit, they are now ready

to take on the emerging challenges," he added. Inspired by Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, championed by Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, the prime minister said Pakistan shared a common

youth to shape the future. 'In this pursuit, it is not just a responsibility; it is our persistent endeavour to empower our youth with quality education, digital inclusivity, and the crosscutting tools they need to

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thrive in a rapidly evolving world," he opined.

The prime minister further said that in agricul ture, climate resilience, and the fight against misinformation, they could unleash AI's potential not merely to compete, but to uplift and empower.

'Our aspirations in Al and beyond are deeply rooted in a solid educational foundation. Through educational reforms, vocational trainings, and digital literacy, we aim to build a skilled, tech-savvy generation," he added.

He said projects like Daanish Schools and the Education Endowment Fund in Pakistan that his government steered, made quality education accessible to those who once saw it as

an unattainable dream. "Today, he said these graduates aren't just students; they are builders of tomorrow as doctors, engineers, and innovators. They are pioneers, driving progress and uplifting their mission and invest in their communities, a testament to the transformative power of accessible education. Their success stories reinforce my belief that education is a true equalizer and a game-changer for individuals and nations alike.

Independent..

Continued from page 1

Atta received 70 votes to Kakar's 120; in Peshawar, Rauf Atta scored 127 votes to Kakar's 125; in Lahore, Rauf Atta led with 592 votes to Kakar's 451 Karachi saw Kakar lead with 218 votes to Rauf Atta's 153. Additional support for Rauf Atta was seen in Dera Ismail Khan. Multan, and other cities. The Independent Group's win has further consolidated its influence in the legal community. Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Tuesday felicitated Asma Jahangir Group's candidate Mian Rauf Atta on getting elected as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association. The minister, in a news statement, also congratulated Head of the Asma Jahangir's Group Ahsan Bhoon for the achievement. The best person has been elected as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association

At UN, Pak says it neither wants, nor is engaged in arms race in South Asia

UITED NATIONS (APP): Gul Qaiser told the General over the continued supply advanced weapons and sensitive technologies to one state in South Asiaan obvious reference to India—saying it was fueling instability in the tensionridden region.

"At a time when the world is besieged by conflicts, when cooperation is most needed to bolster peace-building efforts, some states continue to prioritize financing wars over pursuing peaceful solutions," Pakistani delegate uting to atrocities

and International Security Committee on Monday. He said that efforts such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) have achieved only limited success in regulating conventional weapons.

'Despite its emphasis on assessing arms transfers based on humanitarian, legal, and security considerations, the reality is stark: advanced weaponry continues to flood volatile regions, often exacerbating disputes and even contrib-



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu exchanging views with Colonel General Aleksandr V. Fomin, Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation during meeting held at Air Headquarters in Islamabad.

Govt ready to set..

Continued from page 1

included: Judge of the High Court, Mr. Justice Aamir Nawaz Rana, Provincial Minister for Education, Ms. Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, Vice Chancellor of BUITEMS, Dr. Khalid Hafeez, Secretary Education, Hafeez Tahir, Principal Secretary to Governor, Hashim Khan Ghilzai, Dr. Hafeez Jamali, Dr. Akbar

the University's senate. The Governor especially directed to the concerned quarters to speed up work on the under construction buildings in all sub campuses of the BUITEMS.

He also directed to

Harifal, Additional Secre-

tary Finance and Director

General Higher Education,

besides other members of

increasing capacity of the manpower. He said that the

Senate's meeting is basically held to review the education system and policy making of the university. Besides, it also hap-

pens to be necessary for resolving the issues besides reviewing performance of the university and increasing sources of He stressed that we

have to pay full focus on the best financial discipline and strict academic discipline for putting the universities on the path of sustainable development.

He on the occasion appreciated performance of Vice Chancellor of the University and his whole team. However, we have to move take concrete measures for ahead together.

Five labourers..

Continued from page 1

local hospital. The condition of both injured workers is stated to be out of

The spokesman said that district administrative officers and concerned law enforcement agencies personnels reached the spot and investigations are continued into the attack.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari condemned the firing of armed men in Panjgur and expressed grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives in the terrorist attack. According to Presi-

dent House press wing statement, President Asif Ali Zardari expressed his condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the incident President Zardari said

velopment and prosperof the province. He said that terrorists do not want to see Balochistan to Tĥe President prayed for the speedy recovery of

that terrorists were en-

emies of the country's de-

the injured of the attack. The President also

prayed for high ranks of the departed souls in Jannah and patience for the bereaved families.

Prime Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday strongly condemned the attack that took place in the Paroom area of Panjgur district targeting the workers at a dam site, killing five of

The prime minister, in statement issued by the PM Office, called for apprehending the perpetrators and taking them to task.



Atta meeting with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achazkai.



Road Quetta In compliance to the instructions of the Chairman, NAB (B) holds Open Court (Khuli Kachehri) on the last Thursday of every month for inviting complaints from general public regarding mega financial scams in Balochistan province. The Director General NAB (B) personally listens to the complainants therein. In order to provide easy access to the complainants, Open Court will be organized on 31st October 2024 at 11:00 am to 01:00 pm at NAB Complaint Office situated at DC Office, Anscomb Road, Quetta. Applicants

 Name with parentage Copy of Computerized National Identity Card.

are required to provide following information in their complaint

Complete Postal Address.

paper from the complainants.

4. Thumb Impression / Signature 5. Contact Information: Cell / Landline number / e-mail

As per the revised SOP for complaints, NAB will no longer proceed on anonymous complaints. Only verified complaints which are within the purview of NAB will be dealt with, according to the law. NAB (B) will proceed on such complaints after obtaining affidavit on stamp

The general public is informed that complaint can be lodged with NAB in the following manner:

By post / in person at NAB office Shahra-e-Gulistan Road Quetta

2. Through E-mail balochistan@nab.gov.pk

3. By post / in person at NAB complaints office situated at DC office Anscombe Road Quetta

4. Through an Open Court while meeting with Director General (last Thursday of every month).

For more information, please contact Regional Complaint Cell NAB (Balochistan) on following numbers: 081-9203614, 081-9203468.

pressed Afghan interim

administration's commit-

ment to enhancement of

trade and investment be-

tween the two countries.

He acknowledged the recent

challenges in trade and eco-

nomic relations between

the two countries but felt

that Afghanistan was striv-

ing to revitalize the eco-

nomic relations. Besides the

security-related issues,

Mawlawi Shakeeb high-

lighted the Western sanc-

tions, frequent closures of

crossing points, limited

customs facilitation, sud-

den and unilateral increases

in tariffs, and frequent

checking of loaded vehicles

as major obstacles to trade

for the two countries to in-

vest in trade infrastructure,

streamline customs pro-

cesses, strengthen trade

facilities, develop transpor-

tation links, build mutual

trust, and enhance diplo-

matic dialogues for achiev-

ing long-term trade benefits.

He underlined the need

Afghan envoy says: **CPEC** offers great

opportunities for Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): one of the leading trade part-

Mawlawi Sardar Ahmad Shakeeb, the Chargé d'Affaires of Afghanistan said that CPEC created

many opportunities for the

region which could benefit

He was speaking at a seminar titled "Strengthen-

ing Economic Ties between

Pakistan, Afghanistan, and

Central Asia" organized by

the Institute of Regional

Studies (IRS) while empha-

sizing that Afghanistan will

not allow its soil to be used

by terrorist groups against

Pakistan, a news release

stated

Afghanistan's involvement

in the Belt and Road Initia-

tive would not only enhance

investments in its infra-

structure. but also bring the

regional countries closer.

'We believe that trilateral

cooperation among Af-

ghanistan, Pakistan, and

China can usher in a new

Terming Pakistan as

era of regional collabora-

Mawlawi Shakeeb

Afghanistan as well.

Ahsan Iqbal reaffirms govt's commitment to inclusive development for all Pakistani

Minister for Planning and Development Prof. Ahsan Igbal on Tuesday reiterated the government's commitment to an inclusive development framework that integrates and empowers every citizen, regardless of physical or mental limita-

Addressing the National Consultation on the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, the minister highlighted Pakistan's ongoing initiatives for disability inclusion, asserting that equitable progress must be at the core of the country's development strategy, said a news re-

The event was attended by a diverse audience of government officials, UN representatives and social sector stakehold-

Ahsan Iqbal emphasized the critical role of human-centric policies in Pakistan's long-term growth plans. He said, True development is centered on the empowerment of people, not merely the ture." Drawing attention to and inclusion for people rewarding," he said.

the government's Vision 2025 strategy, Prof. Iqbal stressed that Pakistan's development journey prioritizes advancing its people, including those with disabilities, as a central objective. "The foundation of Vision 2025 was laid to ensure that human development drives our progress," he remarked, underscoring the importance of equal op-

The minister outlined four essential pillars necessary for sustainable growth—peace, political stability, policy continuity, and progressive reforms.

portunities for all.

For any development plan to be effective, these pillars must be in place,' Prof. Iqbal said adding that Pakistan's Vision 2025, originally launched in 2013, aimed to integrate these principles.

However, he acknowledged that political instability has at times hindered Pakistan's progress, forcing the nation to restart its journey multiple times.

The Minister also highlighted several key government initiatives focused

with disabilities across Pa-

He referenced an impactful government project to distribute electric wheelchairs to students with disabilities in higher education institutions, initiated during his previous term as Planning Minister.

This program ensured that students with disabilities could independently access libraries. classrooms, and laboratories," he said.

Under the project. universities were mandated to install ramps and other accessibility features, enhancing campus environments to support all students' learning needs.

He said the resumption of the electric wheelchair distribution program during the recent term, which was previously interrupted, underscoring the government's dedication to providing a supportive infrastructure for students with disabilities.

"Witnessing the joy and confidence among students who could finally navigate their campuses inconstruction of infrastruc- on improving accessibility dependently was deeply



Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja witnessing MoU signing among Jazz, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) and National Information Technology Board (NITB) in Islamabad.

Shaza calls for adopting emerging technologies

Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Tuesday underlined the urgent need to adopt emerging technologies to drive the country's progress, calling for joint efforts to uplift Pakistan.

She expressed these views during a signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among Jazz, the National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST), and the National Information Technology Board (NITB).

Secretary IT, Zarrar Hasham Khan and Special

Member of the National As-

sembly (MNA) and Mem-

ber of Parliamentarians for

Global Action (PGA), Bilal

Azhar Kayani, on Tuesday

questioned the silence of the

international community re-

garding the ongoing genocide

Speaking at the 47th Annual Forum of Parlia-

mentarians for Global Action

(PGA), hosted by Pakistan,

he voiced disappointment

that international human

rights organizations remain

passive in the face of atroci-

ties being committed by Is-

rael against the innocent

During a session titled

"Effective Cooperation in sociations.

people of Palestine.

in Palestine.

Bilal questions

global silence on

Palestinian genocide

Azfar Manzoor, were also present. Shaza Fatima highlighted the necessity for Pakistan to stay aligned with global advancements in technology.

She said that the collaboration between Jazz, NUST and NITB would not only foster innovation but also position Pakistan as a leader in AI, aligning the country's capabilities with international standards. "This initiative marks a significant step in leveraging technology for national development," she

Shaza Fatima stressed

the Fight Against Impunity

for International Crimes,

Kayani also highlighted the

United Nations' failure to

implement its resolutions in Indian Illegally Occupied

Jammu and Kashmir

(IIOJK), where he said that

innocent civilians continue

to face violence by Indian

tional community to aban-

don its double standards in

addressing international

crimes. Kavani also ex-

tended a warm welcome to

parliamentarians from

around the world attending

the event in Pakistan, along

with international represen-

tatives from global bar as-

He urged the interna-

Large Language Model (LLM) within a defined timeline. She also pointed out that academia-industry linkages could generate job opportunities for the youth, emphasizing the need to equip them with the latest digital skills.

Speaking at the event, Jazz CEO Aamir Ibrahim highlighted the critical role of Artificial Intelligence and big language models in shaping the country's future. "We are committed to building a local ecosystem that meets the needs of our communities," he said.

in Intezar **Panjotha**

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has given time to Attorney General (AG)m till November 2 in the case of recovery of Intezar Panjotha, focal person of PTI founder. AG said he would give good news here on Friday. The petition seeking recovery of Intezar Panjotha came up for hearing in IHC Tuesday. Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer Farooq heard the petition. No progress could be made regarding recovery of Intezar Panjotha. AG Mansoor Awan said efforts are underway. Give me two days.

IHC gives time to AG till Nov 2 recovery case



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif departs for his two day official visit of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to represent Pakistan in Future Investment Initiative.

Calls for adherence to fair practices, promotion of best standards

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Wafaqi Mohtasib Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi said that Pakistan was among the few countries in the world which had a unique distinction of esance ombudsman institution which offered a sound oversight mechanism for judicious protection of the interests of various stake-

He was addressing an international webinar organized by the Asian Ombudsman Association (AOA) in cooperation with the Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat at Islamabad today.

Ejaz Ahmad Oureshi is the current President of the Asian Ombudsman Association (AOA), which is a

litical, professional body of the Asian region.

Addressing the participants Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi said, "The commitment to the protection and tablishing a dedicated insur- promotion of human rights is a corner stone of the country's Constitution. Pakistan has ratified several human rights instruments on the subject and is committed to achieving the collective aspirations of the internationally recognized human rights regime.'

He referred to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council and underlined the need to address the adverse human rights impact resulting from

47-member strong non-po-**NA Deputy Speaker** refers four bills to concerned committees

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah has referred four bills to the concerned committee including the Civil Servnet Amendment Bill 2024 which was introduced by Sahibzada Sibghatullah and two other bills were introduced by Shaista Pevaiz Malik (The Islamabad Healthcare Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2024)' and (The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Ms Shaista Pervaiz proposed amendment to the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill to provide speedy justice to the people, besides tightening rules to allow the practice of physiotherapy to only qualified persons.

She quoted the example of the Islamabad murder case where Zahir Jaffer, a mentally ill physiotherapist murdered a girl Noor Muqaddam. The parents of Noor still were in search of justice.

CDA board approves refund policy for overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD (APP): Capital Development Authority (CDA) Board, on Tuesday approved a full refund of processing fees for overseas Pakistanis who had invested in the Nelore Heights Housing Project.

The CDA held its 15th board meeting chaired by Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa, where several crucial decisions were made. The meeting focused on supporting overseas Pakistanis, affected residents of Islamabad, and CDA

staff members. The Board decided that plots in Sector C-14 would be allocated through a balloting process, with priority given to overseas . Pakistanis.

The CDA Board also addressed long-standing concerns of Islamabad's affected residents by forming a seven-member committee to scrutinize their cases.

A third-party validation committee was approved to review the findings, ensuring fair rehabilitation benefits for the affectees

A committee comprising the Member Administration and the Deputy Commissioner of Islamabad was established to amend CDA's land acquisition regulations.

Additionally, the board directed the law wing to develop recommendations for the establishment and restoration of covered markets within the city.

ISLAMABAD: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi presides over important meetings at the Central Police Office Effective policing, citizen

support key to reducing

PCRWR organizes national

youth contest on Water

Challenges of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- writing, documentary and

crime; IG Islamabad ISLAMABAD: Inspector points, and expand the General of Police (IGP) scope of patrolling. Islamabad Sved Ali Nasir

Islamabad, on Tuesday. During the meetings, IG Rizvi reviewed the performance of all officers and SHOs, instructing them to ensure effective patrolling within their precincts and to combat street crime and other criminal elements, a

police spokesperson told Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi emphasized that each SHO should eradicate criminal elements in their area with the help of the public, and also ensure the arrest of land grabbers and criminals involved in serious offenses, enhance station level.

kistan Council of Research

(PCRWR) in collaboration

with the partner organiza-tions including UNICEF,

UNESCO, IWMI Pakistan,

Islamic Relief, WaterAid,

Muslim Hands and Riphah

International University on

Tuesday organized a na-

tional youth contest on

'Water Challenges of Paki-

encouraging young minds of

the country to engage with water-related challenges

through creative posters,

thought-provoking debates,

and interactive water-themed UNESCO's board

games, said a press release.

Debate competition,

The event aimed at

Water Resources

Independent Report security duties at important

The IG further said Rizvi presided over important meetings at the Central Police Office, within their respective areas. Patrolling should be made more effective and purposeful, and all beat officers should remain present in their beats and stay informed about local

> Ali Nasir Rizvi directed the investigation incharges to form special raiding teams to ensure the arrest of criminal elements.

All SHOs were also directed to ensure their presence at police stations to address citizen grievances effectively, prioritizing complaint resolution at the

water board games compe-

titions were features of the

tion featured 16 students

from 08 schools, who pas-

sionately expressed their

views on topics related to

water conservation, waste-

water management, climate

The debate competi-

Naqvi flays terrorist attack on polio team in Orakzai

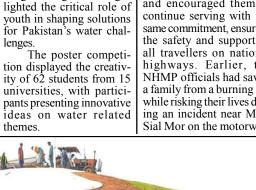
ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday strongly condemned the terrorist attack on a polio team in Orakzai. He paid tribute to the bravery of two police personnel who were martyred while fighting the terrorists.

Mohsin Nagvi commended the police personnel for neutralizing three terrorists, stating that the martyred personnel courageously foiled the terrorists' nefarious plans. The interior minister emphasized that the martyred police personnel are national heroes, who sacrificed their lives while safeguarding the polio team.

IG Motorway awards cash prizes to officials for rescuing a family

ISLAMABAD (APP): Inspector General (IG) Motorway Police Salman Chaudhry honoured the officers of the National Highways and Motorway Police (NHMP) with cash prizes and certificates of appreciation for saving a family from a burning vehicle, in a ceremony held.

change, and sustainable The IG praised the water management. Their NHMP officer's dedication insightful arguments highand encouraged them to continue serving with the same commitment, ensuring the safety and support of all travellers on national highways. Earlier, the NHMP officials had saved a family from a burning car while risking their lives during an incident near M-1-Sial Mor on the motorway.





ISLAMABAD: CDA workers are busy cutting surplus grass to maintain green belt area vegetation.

held at Model college for girls F11/3 organized by National book foundation. **Russian delegation visits** PNCA; admires art works

ISLAMABAD (APP): A distinguished Russian delegation during its visit to the Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) on Tuesday expressed their admiration for the creativity and cultural depth embodied in the art works of Pakistani artists displayed at different galleries.

The delegation was led by Speaker of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation, Ms. Valentina Matvienko. The delegation was

varmly welcomed by Director Publications Research and Reference along with PNCA officers including Designer Visual Arts Division (VAD), Saba Zia, who guided the delegation during a tour of the Council's galleries.

ISLAMABAD: Famous TV artist Leyla Zuberi telling story in a ceremony

The delegation had the opportunity to experience a diverse array of Pakistani art, particularly showcasing impressive artwork of masters and modern masters

During this visit, both sides engaged in meaningful discussions on shared interests and potential collaborations in arts and culture, further strengthening the cultural ties between Pakistan and

Missing child reunited with his family

ISLAMABAD (APP) Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police, Bhara Kahu police station team reunited a missing boy with his par ents on Tuesday.

A public relations of ficer told APP that a citizen, Salim Khan, submitted a report at Bhara Kahu police station, stating that his son, Tariq Shah, had been missing from Biji Dan Kot Hathial, Bhara Kahu, and could not be traced despite hectic efforts by family

He said Upon receiving the application, the police team registered a case and immediately started

Holistic regional dialogue critical for effective int'l law regime: Barrister Aqeel

ISLAMABAD (APP): Spokesperson of the federal government on legal affairs, Member National Assembly (MNA), Barrister Aqeel Malik on Tuesday emphasized upon the urgent need of a holistic regional dialogue for ensuring effective international law regime amid rapidly evolving global world order.

In his keynote address at the 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) hosted by Pakithe need to bring moderation to the existing legal and judicial systems across the globe for ensuring impartial justice. Barrister Aqeel

Malik in his special remarks during the session title Future Opportunities for International Criminal Justice said that amid a multi-polar world the alleged accusation pertaining of biases and dual standards in the international legal systems the Rome Statute.

stan, the government's le- were a matter of serious gal advisor highlighted concern that developed a perception of selective enforcement of laws and prejudices among the developing nations facing conflicts, climate and humanitarian crises

He added that the member countries to the Rome Statute and the International Criminal Court (ICC) should have to align their domestic laws as per the global legal framework, and mull over instruments to adapt

Daily Soice of Masse. Independent

Wednesday October 30, 2024

Regional trade

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb was correct in saying that not trading with your neighbours makes little sense.

In Pakistan's context, trade with regional states is negligible, and South Asia remains one of the least integrated regions in the world. Mr Aurangzeb was replying to a question at an event in Washington, and observed that while "political" and "geopolitical" issues were beyond his purview, Pakistan sought to expand its trade relations. He pointed out that this was one of the key reasons for joining the SCO, and seeking membership to BRICS.

Indeed, trade can be a key conduit to bring states closer and reduce tensions and conflict. But in Pakistan's case, the biggest obstacle standing in the way of greater regional commerce is its long-time strained relationship with India. Yet it is also true that if Pakistan and India were to improve trade ties, better bilateral ties could develop across the spectrum.

The ruling PML-N, with its 'pro-business' outlook, has historically always argued for better trade ties with India. Both the prime minister and the foreign minister have earlier expressed the desire to improve trade ties with our eastern neighbour, hence there is nothing novel in what the finance minister suggested in Washington. The issue is that important stakeholders within the state must be on board if there is to be a normalisation of trade nessary to create ef- making efforts to achieving target of virus in a child from facing an intense to vaccinate more

For example, despite the elected leadership's enthusiasm for trade with India, the cooperate with and general public case, increasing the Foreign Office had clarified in August that normalisation of commercial ties with Delhi was not on the agenda. This indicated that influential quarters were not overly enthused with Power is a double-edged the idea of trading with India. the idea of trading with India. absolute power corrupts absolutely. But it produces order as well. Without power, there is chaos. abrogation of held Kashmir's limited autonomy by India, though it has resumed slightly, while smuggling and indirect that is diffused vertically trade through the UAE continue.

For its own economic interests, Pakistan should trade with India, Afghanistan, Iran and all other regional states. and all other regional states. and all other regional states. But the last two years With reference to India, though have seen a huge reversal it is the larger economy, cross- of this progress, with border trade can offer Pakistani power illegitimately businesses new markets in India, while Delhi can tap Central Asian markets by transiting through Pakistan. If done plex and large state bodes ill for stability and peace. right, restored trade relations can also open the door to better bilateral ties. But for proper more in a state of limbo commercial ties to flourish, other ancillary facilities — a friendlier visa regime, direct flights, and hanking channels flights, and banking channels and the informal sway of — will be essential.

It remains to be seen whether hardliners in the Indian capital would be willing to to local ire, revolt and vioresume trade with Pakistan, while powerful quarters in this country must also be on board for cross-border trade to succeed. A blueprint for name of parliamentary, but in realistic according normalising trade finalised in 2012 can be used as a reference point to start the process afresh. As witnessed in other tive and parliamentary regions, economic interdependence can significantly help reduce chances of conflict.

Sentinels of Peace: Forces' selfless contributions in Balochistan

By Syed Farooq Shah

ntroduction Balochistan, Pakistan's largest province, has faced numerous challenges, including terrorism, poverty, and infrastructure deficiencies. Amidst these difficulties, the Pakistan Armed Forces and Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan have emerged as beacons of hope, rendering invaluable services to the people. This article delves into the forces' multifaceted contributions, transforming lives

and ensuring stability in the Health Services Medical Camps: Forces have established free medical camps, providing essential healthcare to remote and underserved

populations. Hospital Upgrades: Military hospitals have been renovated, enhancing healthcare infrastructure and services.

Emergency Response: Forces promptly respond to medical emergencies, evacuating patients to hospitals.

Mobile Health Units: Forces operate mobile health units, reaching isolated areas Telemedicine

Services: Forces have introduced telemedicine services, connecting patients with specialists. Social Welfare Relief Operations: Forces conduct relief

operations during natural disasters, distributing food, shelter, and essential sup-Community De-

velopment: They support local communities through infrastructure projects, law enforcement agencies in

such as roads, bridges, and maintaining law and order. water supply schemes. Vocational Training: Forces provide voca-

tional training, empowering locals with skills for economic empowerment. Women Empow-

erment: Forces support women's empowerment initiatives, promoting education and economic independence.

Child Protection: Forces have established child protection centers, safeguarding vulnerable

Education Schools and Colleges: Forces have established educational institu-

tions, offering quality education to underprivileged students. Scholarships: Meritorious students receive scholarships, encouraging academic excellence.

Literacy Programs: Forces conduct literacy programs for adults, promoting education and social uplift. Teacher Train-

training, enhancing education quality. tion: Forces have introduced digital education platforms, expanding access to quality

education

ing: Forces provide teacher

Counter-Terrorism: Forces have successfully countered terrorism, restoring peace and stabil-

Border Security: FC Balochistan ensures secure borders, preventing smuggling and infiltration. Law Enforcement: Forces assist local

4. Intelligence Sharing: Forces share intelligence with civilian agencies, preventing crimes.

Community Policing: Forces engage with local communities, promoting trust and cooperation. Infrastructure Devel-

opment Road Network: Forces have constructed and maintained roads, connecting remote areas.

Energy Projects: Military engineering teams have executed energy projects, electrifying vil-

Communication Networks: Forces have established communication networks, facilitating connectivity. Water Supply

Schemes: Forces have de-

veloped water supply

schemes, ensuring access to clean water. Irrigation Systems: Forces have constructed irrigation systems, supporting agricultural de-

Environmental Conservation and Waste Man-

agement The Pakistan Armed Forces and FC Balochistan prioritize environmental conservation and waste management, ensuring a cleaner and healthier Balochistan.

1. Tree Plantation: Forces have initiated tree plantation drives, promoting environmental conser-

Wildlife Conservation: Forces support wildlife conservation efforts, protecting endangered

ment: Forces have launched comprehensive waste management initiatives, includ-

Cleanliness drives Waste collection and disposal systems Recycling programs

Public awareness campaigns Humanitarian Assis-

Disaster Re-

sponse: Forces provide immediate aid during natural disasters. Food Distribution: They distribute food

and essential supplies to needy families. Medical Aid: Forces offer medical assistance to civilians.

Refugee Support: Forces support refugee rehabilitation, providing shelter and essential ser-

Emergency Rescue: Forces conduct emergency rescues, saving lives. Economic Develop-

Job Creation:

Forces have generated employment opportunities through infrastructure projects Skill Develop-

ment: Forces provide vocational training, enhancing local skills. Agricultural

Support: Forces support agricultural development, improving food security. Mineral Exploration: Forces assist in min-

eral exploration, promoting

economic growth. Entrepreneurship: Forces encourage entrepreneurship, supporting

Sports Promotion: Forces promote sports, encouraging youth participation.

Cultural Events: Forces organize cultural preserving Balochistan's heritage.

3. Youth Engagement: Forces engage with youth, promoting education and skills development. 4. Community

Centers: Forces establish

community centers, fostering social cohesion. Cultural change: Forces facilitate cultural exchange programs, promoting national unity.

Challenges and Future Directions Despite significant progress, challenges per-

sist. The forces face: 1. Resource Constraints: Limited resources hinder project expansion.

Security Threats: Terrorist elements continue to pose security risks. Infrastructure Deficits: Remote areas require improved infrastruc-

To address these challenges, the forces will: 1. Enhance Collaboration: Strengthen partnerships with civilian agen-

source Allocation: Prioritize resource allocation for development projects.

Innovate Solutions: Leverage technology for efficient service deliv-

Here is the conclusion: Conclusion The Pakistan Armed Forces and FC Balochistan

curity responsibilities. Their selfless contributions have transformed lives, ensuring health, education, security, social welfare, and economic development for the people of Balochistan. Their unwavering commitment has earned them the respect and gratitude of the

local population. As sentinels of peace, the forces continue to safeguard Balochistan, fostering an environment conducive to progress and prosperity. Their tireless efforts serve as a testament to their dedication to the nation and its people. Through their multifaceted initiatives, they have bridged gaps in infrastructure, education, healthcare, and economic development, empowering the people of Balochistan to build a brighter future.

The success of the forces' initiatives in Balochistan serves as a model for other provinces, demonstrating the potential for collaborative development and security efforts. As the forces continue to adapt to emerging challenges, their commitment to the people of Balochistan remains unwavering. Their legacy will endure, inspiring future generations to build upon the foundations of peace, progress, and prosperity.

In conclusion, the Pakistan Armed Forces and FC Balochistan have written a new chapter in the history of Balochistan, one marked by hope, resilience, and determination. Their story serves as a beacon of by inspiration, illuminating the path towards a brighter future for all Pakistanis.

Creating effective awareness among people against polio diseases essential

By Farah Naz Central and provinincreasing cases of respective areas of cases. polio which was re- the country including ported to enhance in Balochistan. the country including

Balochistan. among people but it was responsiagainst polio diseases bility of all stake-

cial governments are childrens to save ers in campaign of said. being taken practical them from crippling the polio for demeasures to prevent during polio drive in creasing surge of its the Regional Refer- Pakhtunkhwa, and circulating there," the

provide signicant the National Institute eral ernment along with partment including firmed the detection tioned official. In this regard, it is health teams are polio workers for of type 1 wild polio-

so that parents would holders, scholars ported another polio ince. formed polio teams to convey refusal overall tally to 41 in have been reported securive sewage lio eradication.

for administering anti parents to cooper- 2024, an official from from Balochistan, 12 samples have tested polio drops to their ate with polio work- the health ministry from southern Sindh positive from the dis-

ence Laboratory for one each from east- NIH official said. There needs to Polio Eradication at ern Punjab and fed-

loading section as FFC's

province, six from trict since June, indi-An official from northwest Khyber cating that the virus is Meanwhile, Pa-

capital kistan is set to Although, gov-training to health de-of Health (NIH) con-Islamabad, men-launch a nationwide vaccination cam-"Balochistan is paign from Oct. 28 fective awareness eliminate polio virus polio drive in the ar- Loralai district of the transmission of wild than 45 million chilcountry's southwest poliovirus type 1 this dren in various dis-Pakistan re- Balochistan prov- year. While this is the tricts, according to first case from Loralai the prime minister's So far, 21 cases of the year, four confocal person for po-

Imbalance of power

Dr Niaz Murtaza

sword. It corrupts and Eschewing absolute power in the hands of a few, the sages suggest a balance of power with checks and balances, one and horizontally among state organs. Power must be legitimate to reduce violations and revolt.

sucked upwards vertically and inwards horizontally. This concentration and illegitimacy of power in a diverse, com-

We had earlier devolved power. Sadly, loan omnipotent centre. The centre dominates the peripheries such as former Fata areas, leading

We now see autonomous entities being defanged: the ECP and NAB earlier and the higher courts now in the but in reality executive. sway. In parliamentary systems, executives come from parliaments. So, it's easy to confuse the execudominance. True parliamentary sway in hiring judges means legislators in cabinets, not sitting in appointing committees,

ago by executives on more sensible and complex ways evade rulers quite

Article 63-A's party discipline provisions.

A two-stage system with open applications and clear merit criteria is best where legal aces (judges, ex-judges, bar council heads and legal academics) first vet the applicants. Parliament rechecks their decisions, rejecting the nominees only if both aisles agree. This ensures that decisions don't reflect narrow executive concerns but those based on merit. We had a system like this, with its easily fixable gaps being lack of merit criteria and open applications. Instead of fixing them, we adopted an opaque, non-merit, execu-

tive-run system. Some people present long lists of post-2009 judiciary ills — oddly without a proper 'before versus after' review — to argue that 'free' courts caused us harm and deserve their fate. The logic mimics the clichéd one that democracy causes harm. Judicial freedom is a big part of democracy and basic rights such as fair trials; undoing it undoes democracy as well as basic rights of which we have had little experience.

A free judiciary forms slowly when it's not hired by executives Balochistan and the but emerges through a process of merit that employs able judges who do not succumb to pressure and who curb personal biases. It is strengthened by formal laws that enhance court freedoms and when agencies don't hound judges. The only formal freedom courts got briefly was the one via the 19th Amendment. So, the blame for the judiciary's many ills goes to the old system when its current old guard leadership was first hired long power lies elsewhere, ago by executives on

which also have cross- some judges misused the aisle parity and follow informal space. We are sadly back to that system. But the fruits of limited formal freedom will surely emerge once able judges hired in the high courts via the 19th Amendment adorn the judicial leadership. Six such judges have already shown unprecedented guts in their recent letter against the agencies, which many say spurred the apex court's judges to rule rightly against regime interests on reserved seats. So, the courts are being chained not for old wrongs but present re-

This sucking of po--w-er upwards and inwa-rds should mean a muscular, omnipotent exe-cutive in Islamabad. Od-dly, we see an emaciated one. Where did all the inflow of power go? Wise ones talk in hushed tones of the establish-

This then is our power (im)balance: topstuffed, illegitimate and opaque. Diverse and autarkic groups in large and complex states chafe at such power traits and pursue legal, peaceful avenues against them.

But they are all being shut with courts defanged, parliament disabled, media silenced and protests crushed. Unfortunately, in this case, legitimate gripes erupt in ugly forms: crime, mob rage attacks or terrorism. Nearby Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have shown the power of huge upheaval. Earlier years showed our struggles in conflict despite armed power, even against ragtag militants. The future will show if our muscles can curb upheaval. The right way lies in renewing power legitimacy and diffusion. But when more sensible and complex

It is unsurprising if easily. -- Courtesy Dawn

ers in Pakistan engage third-party contractors to carry out some or most of their work, many are not aware as to what type of work they can safely contract out and how the job will be managed adminis-

Human resource pro-

fessionals had believed that core jobs in the office or factory operations should not be assigned to contractors' employees. Such jobs required constant supervision by the company's staff, which provided an opportunity for the contractors' employees to claim the status of the principal employer's workers. The experts believed that ancillary services, or noncore jobs, such as housekeeping, gardening or canteen operations, could be safely contracted out as supervision by the company personnel was not

However, due to a

spate of Supreme Court judgments, employers now feel it has become risky to outsource even support services. The provisions of the draft labour codes have triggered caution because they state that permanent jobs cannot be contracted out. Nevertheless, a perusal of three SC judgments, since the 2013 landmark judgment in the Fauji Fertiliser Company (FFČ) case, reveals that none of them bars ancillary services' outsourcing. These judgments establish the principle that employees hired through contractors and working with the company's own staff under the same supervision are the latter's employees and not the contractor's.

In a landmark SC judgment on May 16, 2013, then chief justice Iftikhar Chaudhry confirmed the status of 112

Essential judgments

Parvez Rahim While almost all employ-

employees and not of the contractor. The reasons were valid: 1) The authority to hire and fire, including settlement of wages and benefits of the contractor's workers rested with the company; 2) their work was supervised, controlled and looked after by the incharge of the bagging department and his subordinate staff/ supervisors; 3) these workers had been continuously in the employment of the company

cleaning the machines and Prior to the judgment, this case had been pending in the lower courts for over two decades. FFC had purchased a plant at Mirpur Mathelo in Sindh from the Pak-Saudi Fertiliser Company, a state enterprise. The intention was to manage the plant professionally. But erasing irregular practices required time.

for a long time; 4) they

were also responsible for

The bagging and loading section was considered the most manpower-intensive area in a fertiliser plant. Another fertiliser plant of an American company at Daharki where I worked till 1982 was grappling with a similar situation. It was acquired by the Engro Fertiliser Company. When I visited it more than two decades later, I was amazed to see that the huge bagging and shipping area was now fully automated. Even the loading of urea bags on trucks was mechanised.

In the second SC judgment on Dec 8, 2017, a three-judge bench headed by chief justice Mian Saqib Nisar regularised the services of 210 employees at Pakistan State Oil. Ďuring the hearing, the top judge observed that unfortunately, companies, including large enterprises, do not regularise their employees. In fact, the hir- Dawn

workers of the bagging and ing was carried out through the contractor. The court also noted that it was sad that companies do not bother to own their workers. Instead of granting workers their rights, the companies file cases to the contractors' employees had been in service since 1984.

In the third SC judgment on April 4, 2024, the services of 20 employees, allegedly employed by contractors, were confirmed at IFFCO Pakistan (Private) Ltd, the user company. The judges stated "there is no bar to contract out the whole job, or in bits and pieces, to the outsource contractor, including human resource, within its own pre-mises or through toll manufacturi-ng agreements, but what is crucial is that the outsourcing should not be used as a weapon of circumvention of labour laws by means of sham agreements"

There is a common factor in the aforementioned judgments: the supervision and control of the employees hired through the contractors and regularised by the SC rested with user companies. Employers must bear in mind that they need to avoid hiring employees through contractors to save on costs or to retain the right to terminate their employment at will.

The judgment in IFFCO's case is significant as it clearly spells out the outsourcing of jobs in totality or partly, provided a lawfully executed agreement is complied with in letter and

employers should honour such verdicts by ensuring that the contrac-tors abide by the labour laws applicable to the establishment, and sepension schemes for their

IDEAS 2024 to strengthen Pak strategic relationship with int'l partners: CM Murad

Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the International Defense Exhibition and Seminar—IDEAS 2024 would not only strengthen Pakistan's strategic relationships with international partners but would also enhance commercial exchanges among delegates, trade visitors, defense officials, and OEMs from across Pakistan and around the

addressing the 3rd Steering Committee meeting of the 12th Edition of the International Defense Exhibition and Seminar— IDEAS 2024.

Provincial ministers, Major General Asad

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Nawaz Khan Hilal-i-Imtiaz Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, representatives from law enforcement agencies, and others attended the

of the International Defense Exhibition and Seminar—IDEAS 2024. He said this while IDEAS 2024 is set to take platform dedicated to place from November 19 to 22 at the Karachi Expo Centre. Shah said, "IDEAS has, since its inception in 2000, become a hallmark of national and industry."

He added that this (Military), DG DEPO, biennial event has steadily evolved into a renowned gathering, showcasing federal ministries, the Sindh government, the state-of-the-art technology and fostering knowledge Armed Forces of Pakistan, exchange within Pakistan and beyond.

The CM said that IDEAS is now recognized Shah convened the worldwide, a testament to meeting to finalize the the deep-rooted and comprehensive plans for mutually beneficial the upcoming 12th edition relationships we maintain beneficial with our international partners. "It provides a shared

advancing global peace, stability, and prosperity, bringing together foreign delegates. manufacturers, and thought leaders to discuss today's international defense defense and security challenges," he said.



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi presides over the meeting of Pakistan Red Crescent Society Merged Districts Branch

Opposition decries worsening law, order situation in merged areas, demand to convene APC

PESHAWAR (APP): Party, Arbab Usman said Opposition parties in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Tuesday demanded to convene All two months and writ of Parties Conference (APC) to ponder over the deteriorating law and order situation in merged areas and to address feelings of insecurity among people.

The proceedings of the day were presided over by Muhammad Idrees of Panel of Chairman. delay in investigation of Opposition benches demanded convening of and said that compensation APC to deliberate over law amount should be paid to and order situation while heirs of martyred. Ahmad treasury benches stressed Kundi of PPP said that o form a full house committee to assess the confined to district Khyber situation. Parliamentary but whole province is

merged districts during last government was being challenged time and time again. He suggested a meeting of APC and a visit of parliamentarians to meet members of affected families and express solidarity with them.

He also questioned attack on Bara Check Post insurgency was not leader of Awami National affected by these incidents.

Home minister orders intensified security of foreign nationals in Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Home Minister Zia-ul-Hasan Lanjar on Tuesday said that the security of Chinese citizens associated with China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and non-CPEC projects should be integrated and effective at all levels.

provincial minister ordered to review all the security SOPs on ongoing CPEC and non-CPEC projects in

He said that the overall security issues of foreign and Chinese nationals working on CPEC and non-CPEC projects should be made more exceptional with the support of the Sindh government.

Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar Presiding over a ordered scheduled meetings meeting, regarding the with all chambers, security of Chinese representatives of ordered scheduled meetings nationals, in his office, the industrial zones and others regarding the security of foreign experts and staff working on non-CPEC projects in the province.



LAHORE: Participants are holding Breast Cancer Awareness Walk organized by Lahore Press Club Administration, held in Lahore.

PITB, Al-Khidmat signs MoU

LAHORE (APP): The organizations. Key Punjab Information participants included PITB Director Skills and Al-Khidmat Foundation Pakistan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to empower women with digital and entrepreneurial skills. In this regard, an Al-Khidmat Foundation delegation visited PITB Chairman Faisal Yousaf, marking a significant step towards fostering inclusive growth within Pakistan's digital ecosystem.

PITB Director General (DG) General (DG) e-Governance Sajid Latif and Al-Khidmat Foundation Lahore President Engr Ahmad Hammad Rashid signed the MoU on behalf laptops and mobile of their respective phones.

Development Chaudhary Islam, Al-nt's Director Ahmad Khidmat's BanoQabil Program Lahore Dr. Usman Afzal, and Regional Head VMD Al-Khidmat Foundation Lahore Moawiz Bin Tahir. As part of the MoU. PITB will provide Al-Khidmat Foundation with

a database of highachieving and deserving female students from its SheWins program. Al-Khidmat Foundation will support these students by offering interest-free financing for essential digital tools, including

KPAssembly

passes DDACs

KPAmendment

Bill 2024 PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly with panel Chairman Muhammad Idress Khan here on Tuesday passed the KP Districts Committee Amendment

Bill 2024. The Bill pertaining to giving Chairmanship to Members National Assembly, was approved by majority members of the House. The Bill was presented by Provincial Minister Arshad

The KP Assembly also passed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Govt Rest Properties (Development, Management Regulation) Amendment

The Bill was aimed for better utilization of the government rest houses for facilitation of tourists.

High-level delegation from US, Canada and AKU visits KIU

GILGIT (APP): A highlevel delegation from the United States, Canada, and Aga Khan University (AKU) visited Karakoram International University (KIU) here Tuesday. The delegation met with the Vice Chancellor of KIU, Professor Dr. Attaullah Shah and discussed potential collaboration in promoting higher education and research.

During the meeting, the importance of joint efforts in enhancing educational frameworks and research initiatives was discussed. The delegation expressed its commitment to exploring possible partnerships that would benefit both students and promoting faculty, academic excellence and creating a conducive learning environment.

Five die, 2 injured in Mansehra road mishap PESHAWAR (APP): At

least five people were killed and two others injured when a passenger coaster overturned in Mansehra on Tuesday.

Local police said the passenger coaster, on its way to Rawalpindi from Gilgit overturned at Kalgan Mor in the Gandhian area, killing four passengers at the scene and injuring three othersThe Rescue 1122 team shifted the injured to King Abdullah Hospital in Mansehra where one of the injured succumbed to his injuries. Police said slippery road conditions caused the road mishap. The rescue workers later removed the coaster from the road, clearing it for vehicular traffic.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over the 3rd Steering Committee meeting for the 12th Edition of the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024), held at CM House in Karachi.

Governor Punjab credits President Zardari for stable coalition govt in country

RAWALPINDI (APP): Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan has said that positive criticism

government's performance. He credited President Asif Ali Zardari for a stable current coalition government.

"Pakistan People's Party always plays its positive role when the country faces challenges of national integrity and dignity", he said and added that the credit goes to President Asif Ali Zardari for present stable coalition government. The governor remarked this during his

Ambassador to Pakistan Alexandra Berg von Linde

called on Punjab Chief

Minister Maryam Nawaz

bilateral relations. The

discussions focused on

education, health, IT,

agriculture, trade, and

The meeting explored

avenues for strengthening environment

Sharif here on Tuesday.

Kahuta here Tuesday.

He said that education was meant for and health were the improvement of the responsibility of the government, unfortunately, the past governments did not pay attention to it. He further said that government owned schools should not be privatized.

"Where there is a shortage of staff, the government should fill this shortage", he maintained.

Appreciating the dialysis center and the health facility being provided to the poor by the GRQWF in Kahuta, address at the 8th annual session of Ghulam Rabbani people should come ahead

climate in Punjab.

CM Maryam Nawaz

emphasized a strong focus

on agriculture and support

for farmers, stating, "There is a favorable

investment in Punjab." She

assured investors that they

cooperation

LAHORE (APP): Swedish conducive investment

various sectors, including without fear of risk. The

e n v i r o n m e n t a l government's initiatives to

sustainability, with an protect minority and

Qureshi Welfare to serve the needy Foundation (GRQWF) in segments of the society. He segments of the society. He said that the poor are treated free of cost in Sindh province. He informed the audience that a dialysis center would soon be established at Tehsil Hospital Pindi Gheb, Attock. A large number of people including former federal minister Mehreen Anwar Raja and former MNA Ghulam Murtaza Sati participated in the

> The Governor Punjab visited Al-Fateh Women Vocational Free Technical Center, Computer Lab, Laboratory, Free Kidney and Dialysis Center and other departments established in GRQWF.

Swedish envoy, CM Police foil attack on agrees to strengthen polio team

KOHAT (APP): The terrorists, riding on motorcycle, Tuesday attacked a polio team in Daraywal Banda area which was foiled by the police. The

abandoned the motorcycle and mobile phone at the scene and escaped, the police spokesman said. District Police Officer

potential collaboration in can invest in the province (DPO), Muhammad Umar Khan reached the spot Swedish ambassador commended the Punjab immediately.

A heavy police force cordoned off the area and started search operation to



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Housing and Urban Planning Bilal Yaseen being briefed by DG LDA Tahir Farooq regarding re-modeling of Thokar

Fostering inter-religious harmony CS KP emphasizes collective responsibility of communities

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Chief Secretary (CS) Khyber communities. Senior Pakhtunkhwa, Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry here on Tuesday emphasized collective responsibility of all the communities in fostering inter-religious harmony and said that Islam teaches us to respect all religions and their followers.

He was chairing a meeting of Provincial Interfaith Harmony Committee at the Civil Secretariat. The meeting was also attended by prominent religious figures including Chief Khateeb Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as well as representatives

from Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Bahá'í and Kalash officials from relevant government departments and law enforcement agencies were also in attendance.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary said that interfaith harmony and brotherhood imperative in today's world and we must unite as one nation to play our part in the country's development through mutual respect and love. The meeting was also briefed about interfaith harmony initiatives and challenges at the district level



LAHORE: Lawyers gather for cast their votes on occasion of Annual Election of Supreme Court Bar Association 2024-25, held at Supreme Court Registry Building in Lahore.

KP Govt forms body to appoint VCs in universities

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has formed Academic Search Committee to appoint Vice Chancellors in public sector universities of the province.

A notification issued said that Professor Abdullah Malik had been appointed as the convener of committee while the other members included Anwar-ul-Hasan Gilani Muhammad Aslam Baig and Dr Sara Safdar while the secretary of higher education department had been appointed as secretary of the committee.

Smog engulfs Multan, disrupts routine life

MULTAN (APP): Early morning smog blanketed Multan and surrounding areas, intensifying pollution and disrupting daily life. According to Deputy Director Deputy Director Meteorological Department, Muhammad Arshad, the smog index hit 226 on Tuesday with a further rise expected over the next two weeks. He also dismissed the chance of rainfall, which could have helped clear the air. Public hospitals in Multan report a sharp increase in patients.

Kundi for promotion of merged districts

Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday urged the development of a comprehensive operational proposal to attract donor funding, highlighting that the Red Crescent should actively engage in fostering interest among potential donors regarding the merged districts. He said this in a

Red Crescent Society (PRCS) merged districts chapter was convened at the Governor's House. The meeting included participation from the

chairman, Imran Wazir, Vice President Farzand Wazir, members of the managing committee, and various officials. During the session,

comprehensive briefings

(APP): management, and Khyber administrative matters of sal Karim the merged districts

branch. discussions Kev focused on the availability of relief supplies for natural disaster response, annual income and expenditures, securing funds from donors, and the importance of volunteer services.

He said this in a Governor Kundi meeting of the Pakistan emphasized the effective use of PRCS-managed properties and the necessity of utilizing funds responsibly.

He also stressed the need for accurate reporting on bank rates related to the funds for the merged districts.

He said that various donor countries are keen to Khyber work in Pakhtunkhwa, and the Red were provided on the Crescent must promote the objectives, duties, financial areas of work effectively.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Miniority Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora distributing certificates amongst the students during annual convocation.

Minister attends 25th COTHM convocation

LAHORE COTHM (Global UK) organised its annual 25th convocation on Tuesday at Golden Pearl Hall, Faletti's Hotel, in which Provincial Minister for Minorities Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora participated as the chief guest.

A large number of students of various programmes, including hospitality, culinary arts, baking & patisserie and travel & tourism management were awarded appreciation certificates and medals. In his address, Ramesh Singh Arora congratulated all graduating students, emphasising that their achievements are a

and the blessings of Allah He lauded the role of COTHM in leading the youth towards economic empowerment through meaningful education and training. He said that COTHM does not just prepare graduates equipped with marketdriven skills but also produces graduates who are able to discover their own identity and serve the hospitality, travel and tourism industry in true

sense of the word. He remarked that COTHM graduates are equipped with marketdriven skills and are prepared to make significant contributions to result of their hard work, the hospitality, travel, and prayers of their parents, tourism industry.

EU delegation meets Sindh PA Speaker

KARACHI (APP): Head 2024-2029 were also European Union Mission to Pakistan Jeroen Willems called on Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Awais Qadir Shah here on Tuesday. Jeroen was accompanied by Huma Ikramullah, Provincial Coordinator 'Mustehkam Parlimaan", and Barbara from the European Union.

Speaker Awais Qadir Shah welcomed the European Union delegation to the Sindh Assembly.

Matters of mutual interest, including capacity building of the Provincial Assembly of Sindh, parliamentarians, Caucuses, committees and officers, were discussed during the meeting. Strategic plans for

Cooperation at deliberated, focusing on how the European Union and the Provincial Assembly of Sindh can collaborate to ensure effective implementation. Important issues such as the Internship

Program, E-Parliament Program, and Inter-Parliamentary Exchange Programs were also part of the discussion. The European Union

delegation thanked Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah for his time and valuable input during the meeting.

Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah expressed his gratitude to the European Union for its efforts toward the welfare of the people of Pakistan and for being a steadfast partner to the country.



PESHAWAR: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Central **Information Secretary and Member National** Assembly (MNA), Sheikh Waqas Akram addresses to media persons during press conference held at Peshawar press club.

KP Govt finalizes 'Maizban' tourism promotion project

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government finalized 'Maizban' a homestay project to promote tourism in the province. The project will be finally launched on December 15,

Initially, the project would be launched at a cost of Rs. 395 million, providing interest-free loans of up to Rs. 3 million to local house owners in tourists' attractive districts offer accommodation facilities to tourists.

The decision was made in a meeting of the Tourism Department, held here at Chief Minister's Secretariat on Tuesday with Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur in the chair. Besides, Advisor to

Chief Minister on Tourism Zahid Chan Zeb, Secretary Tourism Bakhtiar Khan and Director General (DG) KP Culture & Tourism Authority (KPCTA) Tashfeen Haider, the representatives of other relevant departments also attended the meeting.

Maritime Minister lauds China's economic model, strengthens bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): economic model as an ideal Federal Minister for for other countries, adding elevate Pakistan's maritime Maritime Affairs, Qaiser that Prime Minister sector to meet the Ahmad Sheikh, on Tuesday emphasized China's economic model as a global example during a conference, underscoring strengthening partnership between Pakistan and

Addressing the conference "China at 75: A Journey of Progress, ties. He expressed Transformation & Global Leadership," organized by the Pak-China Institute, Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh praised China's economic approach, which he said surpasses Western liberal Chinese government for and neo-liberal models. He prioritizing Pakistan highlighted the Chinese

Shehbaz Sharif is also standards of China's port

discussed strengthening strategic groups would not weaken partnership between the longstanding Pakistan and China, noting friendship between the two that the two nations consistently support each other in international fora, a reflection of their close Economic Corridor (CPEC) with China's continued

within South Asia.

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Shahid Usman Parliamenty Secretary, Industries and

He stated that China

science and technological

in Pakistan's development

joint ventures and Rahim Hayat Qureshi played in strengthening

China and Pakistan across

various sectors. He urged

delivered

comprehensive

presentation detailing the

fisheries sector in Pakistan

by the Pakistani government for Chinese

beneficial

Secretary of the

Production visits Engineering Development Board (EDB) for Briefing.

Chinese-Pakistani

companies participate in

B2B Investment Meeting

on Fisheries in Qingdao

BEIJING (APP): As many Partnership between as 45 Chinese and 28 Pakistan and China.

Pakistani companies He stated that China participated in the first was willing to strengthen

Investment Meeting on exchanges, industrial

Fisheries held on Tuesday cooperation, trade and

in Qingdao, Shandong investment, and cooperate

The event was the of the blue economy.

specific meetings to foster Board of Investment

partnerships between appreciated the strong

up to Prime Minister for increased partnership

Shehbaz Sharif's visit to among businesses from

China in June 2024 to both countries to foster

investment between the cooperation. Additionally,

Marine Development and the incentives offered

Pakistan-China B2B

first in a series of sector-

The event is a follow-

Committee Member of

CPC, Qingdao Municipal

Bureau, in his remarks,

reiterated the historic All

further promote trade and mutually

Huanjiang,

province on China.

two countries.

inspired by this approach.

The minister and shipping industry. He emphasized that terrorism the and actions by hostile

nations. He also assured that Pakistan's federal government is addressing the concerns of the Chinese government and investors optimism about the The minister completion of Phase II of reiterated the importance

China-Pakistan of CPEC for the nic Corridor (CPEC) development of Balochistan and other support and thanked the Chinese government for Pakistan's commitment to seeing all CPEC projects through to completion.

Tanveer lauds

services of

outgoing

Japanese Envoy ISLAMABAD (APP)

Minister for Industries

Production and National

Food Security Rana

Tanveer Hussain on Tuesday lauded the

services of outgoing

Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan Wada Mitsuhiro

in promoting industrial

cooperation between both

meeting, the minister also

acknowledged the key role

Japan's auto industry had

relations between Pakistan

expressed optimism about

indicators, adding, "The

country's economy is

heading in the right

research

MULTAN (APP): The

Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) and

Centre of Excellence in

(CEMB) have agreed on a

joint proposal to advance

Biology

"The government is

Rana

Pakistan's

direction.

emphasized.

Molecular

During the farewell

Tanveer

economic



Hayat Qureshi in a group photo with the representatives of participating companies of Pakistan and China.

Shahid Usman lauds **EDB** efforts in promoting innovation technologies

ISLAMABAD (APP): Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Industries and Production Shahid Usman on Tuesday commended Engineering Development Board (EDB) for its remarkable progress in promoting innovative technologies, aligning with the government's vision.

During his visit to the EDB for a detailed briefing on its activities, the secretary expressed his appreciation, said a news

The secretary praised the efforts of EDB's current management in formulation of Auto Export Policy(AIDEP 2021-26), Mobile Device Manufacturing Policy, interventions promotion of Solar and Allied Equipment.

He also applauded EDB new initiatives for development of engineering sector including New Energy Vehicles (NEV) Policy, Indigenization of Agriculture Implements, mainstream Petrochemical Policy and

preparing a comprehensive

Industry Development and adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs), including New Energy Vehicles (NEVs), in support of a sustainable transport system in Pakistan, energy efficiency, and the transition to clean technologies environment in the

> The secretary also admired participation international exhibitions organized in the past and urged that best practices be adopted consistently, without any policy shifts.

Rupee sheds

06 paisa

according to the Forex

Association of Pakistan

(FAP), the buying and

selling rates of the dollar in

the open market stood at

Rs 277.25 and Rs 278.75

respectively. The price of

Euro increased by 27 paisa

to close at Rs 300.23

against the last day.

Promoting.
Additionally, he commended the EDB for He praised the EDB for the transition of mobile phones from import.

issues first biodiversity and nature bond theme ISLAMABAD (APP): the Kunming-Montreal The Asian Development Global Biodiversity Bank (ADB) has issued its Framework while offering

Asian Development Bank

finance a pool of eligible projects across Asia and the Pacific. The A\$150 million (equivalent to US\$100

million), 10-year issue was purchased by the Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited of Japan and arranged by Credit Agricole CIB, according to ADB press release received here. The bond was issued under ADB's Theme

Bonds for Sustainable Development program, in coordination with its Environment group, it

"Investing in nature is emerging as one of the most impactful ways to combat change, climate biodiversity loss, and pollution. Through ADB's first biodiversity and nature bond, we are pleased to mobilize additional private sector capital to protect, restore and sustainable enhance management

ADB's theme bonds sustainable development act as a key vehicle to mobilize private

United Nations Sustainable

Development Goals and

first biodiversity and investors with a safe and nature theme bond to attractive investment opportunity ADB's AAA credit rating. "Dai-ichi Life is

pleased to have invested in the first Biodiversity and Nature Bond issued by ADB. We are committed to creating a positive impact on society by investing in assets that contribute to solving social issues," said Dai-ichi Life Managing Executive Officer and Chief General Manager, Investment Kazuyuki Shigemoto. "We strongly support ADB's Biodiversity and Nature Bond that will finance projects aimed at naturebased solutions, including biodiversity protection, nature mainstreaming, as well as supporting the

livelihoods of the communities," Dai-ichi ADB has long been committed to protecting biodiversity and nature. It is a founding partner of the mainstreaming," said ADB
Treasurer Tobias Hoschka.

ADB's themal Coral Triangle Initiative

marine ecosystems. At the Glasgow Climate Community of Practice in 2021, ADB capital in support of the along with nine other multilateral development



ISLAMABAD: Japanese Ambassador HE Wada called on the Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain in Islamabad.

New Service Center launched to enhance China-Pakistan cooperation in agriculture

QUETTA: President Anjuman-e-Tajiran

Balochistan Syed Amar ud Din Agha meeting

with Deputy Commissioner Quetta Lt. (retd)

Ch Shafay chairs

SMEs Council meeting

program

Small

enhancing business skills

for women investors was

approved. Under this

program, with the support

of the Asian Development

Bank, Women Resource

Centers will be established

in Faisalabad, Multan,

Rawalpindi, Gujranwala,

and Sialkot, following the

Lahore model. The meeting

also decided on the full

digitization of the Punjab

Corporation. It was agreed

to accelerate work on the

Provincial SMEs Plan 2024

in line with the National

meeting, Provincial Minister Chaudhry Shafay

Hussain emphasized the

significant role of SMEs in

economic growth, stressing

the need for collective

efforts to advance small and

medium-sized businesses.

While addressing the

SME Policy 2021.

Industries

Provincial

BEIJING (INP): The Tianjin Overseas Luban Workshop Agricultural Machinery Service Center, Pakistan was inaugurated at the International Conference Center in Changsha,

Hunan. taking practical steps to It aims at enhancing promote the auto industry," The minister agricultural capabilities in Pakistan and fostering greater cooperation between China and PCCC, CEMB Pakistan in agricultural mechanization, China Economic Net (CEN) to collaborate on cotton

reported on Tuesday. unveiling ceremony marked a collaboration between the Machinery Distribution Association (CAMDA),

Saad Bin Asad.

Provincial Minister for

Industry and Commerce

Chaudhry Shafay Hussain

chaired the first meeting of

the Provincial Council on

SMEs (Small and Medium

Enterprises) here Tuesday. The meeting took

several key decisions aimed

at promoting small and medium-sized enterprises

Director of Punjab Small

Industries Corporation

(PSIC) Saira Umar gave a

detailed briefing on actions

and strategies being taken to support SMEs.

During the meeting, it was decided to start a new

loan scheme with easy

terms for SMEs. This

scheme, to be advanced in

partnership with banks,

will provide easy loans to

promote solar energy in

small industrial estates.

Additionally, a new

Managing

(SMEs).

Vocational Technology College, Tianjin Tailai Import and Export Co. Ltd., Tianjin Agricultural Mechanization Technology Testing Service Center, and Wugu Media.

On the occasion, according to CEN Asif Honorary Shah, Consultant of the Pakistan Luban Workshop and Executive Board Member of the Punjab Agricultural Research Board, hailed Luban Workshop's success in training over a thousand skilled agricultural China Agricultural machinery operators and maintenance technicians in Punjab, Pakistan.



SAWAT: Engineer Amir Muqam Minister for Kashimir Affairs & Gilgit Balistan and SAFRON inaugurating feeders at Khawazakhela Grid Station.

UAF inks

Memorandum

with State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Banking Services Cooperation Faisalabad to establish long-term sustainable and mutually

Department SBP Abid Qamar signed the MoU

tangible results in terms of creating awareness about finance by arranging the seminars, conferences and exchange of information.

collaboration with UAF had launched Agriculture.

Shipping activity at Port Qasim KARACHI (APP): Four

ships, X-Press Salween, MSC Pamela, Sea Stellar Oasim Monday.

BYD debuts flagship electric vehicles at **Pakistan Auto Show**

LAHORE: BYD, the world's leading New Energy Vehicle (NEV) manufacturer and pioneer sustainable transportation solutions, participated in the prestigious Pakistan Auto

Independent Report

Show 2024 through local partner Mega Motor Company (MMC). The company unveiled its highly anticipated NEVs to the local market at the event as well as officially opened bookings for two flagship models, BYD expanding the company's ATTO 3 and BYD SEAL, portfolio of sustainable

impressive range of 650 km on a single charge. The BYD SEAL accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in just 5.9 seconds, showcasing the company's engineering excellence and commitment to performance.

In addition to these all-electric vehicles, BYD also showcased the BYD SHARK, a robust plug-in hybrid pickup truck designed for versatility in both adventurous off-road driving and everyday family utility, further



reinforcing its commitment to advancing the adoption of electric vehicles in Pakistan.

BYD ATTO 3, the company's electric crossover SUV comes equipped with BYD's innovative Blade Battery technology, offering a range of 410 km on a single charge. Its fast-charging capabilities, advanced infotainment system and safety features make it an ideal choice for ecoconscious consumers.

BYD SEAL is a highperformance electric sedan that can deliver an

transportation solutions. Post Auto Show MMC is accepting bookings for the BYD SEAL and ATTO 3 exclusively through its official website in Pakistan (http://byd-mega.com) Over the next few weeks, Mega Motor Company will establish temporary showcase facilities in Karachi and Lahore, where customers can experience the cars and make bookings. Meanwhile, the company targets to open at least 3 BYD flagship showrooms in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad.

Weather Cooperative investors. Chairman WAPDA reviews construction work on Tarbela 5th **Extension Hydropower Project**

TARBELA (APP): Chairman WAPDA Engr Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani (Retd) on Tuesday visited underconstruction 1530 MW-Tarbela 5th Extension and reviewed the progress on the project. The Chairman had a detailed visit of the key sites, which include the Raised Intake, the house, and witnessed construction work going on there, said a press release.

During the on-site briefing, the Project Director and the Construction Manager briefed the Chairman about the milestone achieved on these sites. Temporary support work in the tunnel is complete paving the way for commencement of construction on the connecting tunnel. Installation

equipment such as draft tubes of all three units -Contractor is all set to for the purpose, he said.

resume construction work on the Raised Intake structure once the water in the reservoir recedes to the

Tunnel and the Power and the Contractors. Overall progress on the project was discussed

simultaneously. Consultants and the Contractor to complete the Unit No. 18, 19 and 20 - is in progress at the Power Deployment of additional

presided over a meeting at

during the meeting. It was briefed that construction is continuing on all 6 work fronts project is likely to be completed in 2025-26. Thorough deliberations were also made on the work plan for meeting the timelines. The Chairman was of the view that concerted efforts are needed on part of the

required level. Following the site visit, the Chairman the project office attended by the GM Tarbela Dam, PD T5, the Consultants

house Site. While, the resources is also inevitable

cotton research and development in Pakistan. The initiative was agreed between Dr. Yusuf Zafar who represented PCCC, and Dr. Abdul Qayyum, on behalf of CEMB. Under this proposal, the PCCC will supply valuable genetic material, while CEMB would contribute cutting-edge gene technology to support research. Together, both

institutions aim to develop cotton varieties with higher yield potential that can withstand climate challenges. This initiative would surely modernize Pakistan's cotton sector, boosting resilience.

Dr. Yousaf Zafar highlighted the partnership as a unique opportunity to transform the cotton industry and expressed hope that it would bring Pakistan's cotton standards



LAHORE: Punjab Transport Minister Bilal Akbar presides over the 17th meeting of Steering Committee for provision of bikes to students.

MoU with SBP FAISALABAD (APP): University of Agriculture Faisalabad has inked a Understanding (MoU)

beneficial cooperation in areas of financial inclusion. UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Muhammad Sarwar Khan and Director Agriculture Credit & Financial Inclusion

during a formal ceremony. Dr Sarwar Khan said that the MoU will bring

He said that SBP in

and South Port are scheduled to load/offload Container, Rice and Furnace oil, berthed at International Container Terminal, Grain Terminal and FOTCO Oil Terminal respectively on

Meanwhile four more ships, GFS Ruby, PH Giang Minh, Sea Quest and Milaha Ras Laffan are scheduled to load/offload Container, Rice, Gas oil and LNG arrived at outer anchorage during last 24

arms exports Cespecially in terms of sending troops

Russia, escalation Cexpansion and

provocation. So we had a

good discussion about this.

Vladimir Putin has not de-

nied the presence of North

Korean troops, while

Pyongyang has not com-

mented. Stubb, who met

various European leaders in

recent weeks, said he deliv-

ered to Xi messages coor-

dinated with Finland's al-

lies in NATO and the EU.

fact that NATO has part-

ners such as South Korea or, say, Japan," Stubb said.

"If North Korea is basi-

cally facilitating a war on

Europe Cwe must be sure

borders

'There is dislike of the

Russian President

Stubb told reporters.

Finland warns Xi of

'provocation' by North

Korea in Ukraine war

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: Finnish Presi-

dent Alexander Stubb said

he told China's President Xi

Jinping that North Korean

activities with Russia were

an escalation and provoca-

tion in a message on behalf

of NATO and the EU dur-

ing talks in Beijing on Tues-

North Korea's foreign min-

Stubb and Xi met as

The U.S. estimates

"My message to the

now Cboth in terms of of its border.'

10,000 North Korean

troops have been deployed

president was that North

Monitoring Desk

tions of the laws of war in

the escalating conflict in

the Middle East are set-

ting a dangerous prece-

dent, aid workers in the

in eastern Russia.

Israeli strike in northern Gaza kills at least 60, officials say, as Hezbollah announces new leader

Monitoring Desk DEIR AL-BALAH: An Israeli strike on a five-story building where displaced Palestinians were sheltering in the northern Gaza Strip killed at least 60 people early Tuesday, more than half of them women and children, Gaza's Health

Ministry said. In a separate development, Lebanon's militant group Hezbollah said it has chosen Sheikh Naim Kassem to succeed longtime leader Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed in an Israeli airstrike last month. Hezbollah vowed continue with Nasrallah's policies "until victory is achieved."

Israel also faced backlash from aid groups after its parliament passed legislation that could severely restrict the ability of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees to operate in the Palestinian territories. The agency, known as UNRWA, is the largest aid provider in Gaza. Israel has long accused it of militant ties, allegations denied by

the U.N. children's agency said the decision "means that a new way has been found to kill children.'

Hezbollah said in a making Shura Council elected Kassem, who had been Nasrallah's deputy leader for over three decades, as the new secretarygeneral

Kassem, 71, a founding member of the militant ties said. group established following Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, had been serving as acting leader.

He has given several televised speeches vowing that Hezbollah will fight on despite a string of set-

Hezbollah began firing rockets into Israel, drawing retaliation, after Hamas' surprise attack out of Gaza on Oct. 7, 2023, triggered the war there. Iran, which backs both groups, has also directly traded fire with Israel, in April and then again this

US Vice President and Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris

speaks during a campaign rally at Burns Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

A spokesperson for September, as Israel unleashed a wave of heavy airstrikes and killed Nasrallah and most of his senior commanders. Israel launched a ground invasion statement that its decision- into Lebanon at the start of October.

Hezbollah fired dozens of rockets into northern Israel on Tuesday, killing at least one person in the northern city of Maalot-Tarshiha, authori-

Even as attention has shifted to Lebanon and Iran in recent weeks, Israel has continued to wage a large operation in northern Gaza and to carry out airstrikes across the territory.
Dr. Marwan al-Hams,

director of the field hospitals' department at the Gaza Health Ministry, announced the toll from Tuesday's strike in the northern town of Beit Lahiya at a news conference. He said another 17 people are missing.
The ministry's emer-

gency service said at least 12 women and 20 children The tensions with were among the dead, in-Hezbollah boiled over in cluding babies.



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the welcome ceremony for Finnish President Alexander Stubb at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China.

Russia's air attacks kill four in Kharkiv, injure four in Kyiv, Ukraine says

Monitoring Desk KYIV: At least four people were killed and another four injured in Russia's multi-wave overnight attacks on Ukraine's two largest cities of Kharkiv and Kyiv,

Tuesday. Four people were killed in Kharkiv after midnight on Tuesday in Russia's bombardment of the city's Osnovianskyi district, Mayor Ihor Terekhov said on his Tele-

Ukrainian officials said on

gram messaging channel.
That attack followed a Russian guided bomb

Monday that shattered much of the Derzhprom building, one of the most celebrated landmarks in the city, dating from the

In Kyiv, falling debris from a destroyed Russian drone injured four people and set a residential building on fire, the mayor of the Ukrainian capital said.

One of the people injured by debris in Kyiv's Solomianskyi district was taken to hospital, Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on his Telegram channel. He said several cars were also

Firework explosion at temple in India's Kerala injures over 150

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: Indian police detained two people on Tuesday after a temple fireworks show erupted into a ferocious explosion, leaving almost a hundred people in hospital, eight in a critical condition. Hundreds were crowded around a Hindu temple at Nileshwaram in the southern state of Kerala on Monday evening to

pers showed. Then, from inside a building, a surge of crackles can be heard, before a powerful ball of flame surges

watch the fireworks, videos

posted by Indian newspa-

high into the sky. "Around eight people are critical, and around 154 have been reported injured, out of which 97 people are admitted in hospital," local police chief Shilpa Dyavaiah told AFP.

"They burst firecrackers very close to the place where they have stored the firecrackers," Dyavaiah said, adding that sparks from the burst crackers reached the cache.

Indian media reports, citing officials, said the blaze caused burns to the the tightly packed crowd.

Hezbollah elects Naim Qassem to succeed slain head Nasrallah

ern suburb over a month

The group said in a written statement that its Shura Council had elected Qassem, 71, in accordance with its established mechanism for choosing a secretary general.

Israel votes to ban UN aid agency, **Palestinians** say 100,000 residents trapped

Monitoring Desk JERUSALEM: Israel's parsituation in Gaza.

the involvement of a handful of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees thousands of staffers in the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel and a few staffers' membership in faces and hands of those in | Hamas and other armed

ister arrived in Russia, with Western military alliance NATO and South Korea warning that Pyongyang's troops could soon be entering the Ukraine war on Moscow's side.

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Lebanese armed group Hezbollah said on Tuesday it had elected deputy head Naim Qassem to succeed slain secretary general Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed in an Israeli air attack on Beirut's south-

liament passed a law on Monday to ban the UN relief agency UNRWA from operating inside the country, alarming some of Israel's Western allies who fear it will worsen the already dire humanitarian

Israeli officials cited

region warn. Humanitarians say the warring parties are territory's health minisflouting international humanitarian law (IHL). "The rules of war are bepeatedly displaced. ing broken in such a flagrant way... (it) is setting a precedent that we have not seen in any other conflict," Marwan Jilani, the vice president of the Pal-

Korean activity right that it doesn't do that south

Middle East aid

workers say rules of

'war' being flouted

estine Red Crescent (PCRS), said. Speaking last week ing of the health sector". during a meeting in Geneva of the 191 national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, he lamented a "total disregard for human life (and) for interna-

tional humanitarian law". Amid Israel's devas-

same risks as the rest of the population, he said. GENEVA: Flagrant viola-The PCRS has more

than 900 staff and several thousand volunteers inside Gaza, where more than 43,000 Palestinians have been killed, according to the Hamas-ruled try, and where the UN says virtually the entire population has been re-

"They're part of the community," said Jilani. "I think every single member of our staff has lost family members." He decried especially what he said was a "deliberate target-

Israel rejects such accusations and maintains that it is carrying out its military operations in both Gaza and Lebanon in accordance with international law. But Jilani said that "many of our staff, tating operation in the including doctors and Gaza Strip, local aid work- nurses...were detained, ers are striving to deliver were taken for weeks (and) assistance while facing the were tortured"

US warns Iran at UN of 'severe consequences' in case of new attacks

Monitoring Desk

NITED NATIONS: The United States warned Iran at the United Nations Security Council on Monday of "severe consequences" if it undertakes any further aggressive acts against Israel or US personnel in the Middle East.

"We will not hesitate to act in self defense. Let there be no confusion. The United States does not want to see further escalation. We believe this should be the end of the direct exchange of fire between Israel and Iran," US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield told the 15-

member council. The Security Council met after Israel struck misin Iran before dawn on Saturday. It was retaliation for and proportionate" and Iran's Oct. 1 attack on Israel with about 200 ballis- fend itself.

tic missiles. Iran's UN Ambassador Amir Saied Iravani accused Washington of being 'complicit" through military support for its ally. 'Iran has consistently

championed diplomacy," he told the council. "However, as a sovereign state, the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its inherent right to respond at a time of its choosing to this act of aggression." Israel's UN Ambassador Danny Danon called on the Security Council to impose "crippling sanctions" on Iran's military and economic infrastructure and "take the necessary measures to prevent a lunatic regime from attaining nuclear capabilisile factories and other sites ties." He described Israel's strikes on Iran as "measured said it would continue to de-

Japan's PM vows to stay on despite election debacle

Monitoring Desk

vowed on Monday to stay in office despite his gamble of snap elections backfiring, with his party's ruling coalition falling short of a majority for the first time since

dia, the LDP and its junior coalition partner Komeito missed Ishiba's stated goal of winning 233 seats — a majority in the 456-member lower house.
The LDP won 191

caster NHK and other me-

seats, down from 259 at the last election in 2021, and Komeito 24, according to NHK's tallies. Official results were yet to be published. "As long as our own lives don't improve, I think everyone has given up on the idea that we can expect anything from politicians," restaurant worker Masakazu Ikeuchi, 44, said on Monday in rainy Tokyo.
On Monday, the

LDP's election committee chief, former premier Junichiro Koizumi's son Shinjiro Koizumi, resigned to "take responsibility" for the outcome. The most likely next step is that Ishiba will now seek to head a minority government, with the divided opposition probably incapable of forming a coalition of their own, analysts said. Ishiba, who has 30 days month low, sliding more to form a government, said on Monday he was not considering a broader coalition "at this point".

hopeful" message, a senior **Monitoring Desk** MICHIGAN: Kamala campaign official said Harris will urge Americans amid rumblings in the party to turn the page on Donald that she is focusing too Trump as she delivers her much on Trump and not enough on her Tuesday on the spot where cies. She will address some her rival rallied supporters 20,000 people on the Ellipse, a park outside the before the January 6, 2021

Harris to rally where

Trump riled Capitol

riot crowd

US Capitol attack. With polls in a dead heat exactly one week before Election Day, the Democratic vice president's campaign said she chose the symbolic site to push her case that

president is a threat to American democracy. But Harris will also

the Republican former

White House where Trump delivered a fiery

speech in which he ramped up his false claims that he won the 2020 election. Trump supporter then marched on the Capitol to disrupt the certifica-

tion of Joe Biden's victory in an assault that left a But Harris will also least five people dead and deliver an "optimistic and 140 police officers injured."

No new limits on Ukraine's use of US arms, says Pentagon

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: The United States will not impose new limits on Ukraine's use of American weapons if North Korea enters the fight, the Pentagon said on Monday, as Nato said North Korean military units had been deployed to Russia's Kursk region. The North Korea deployment is fanning Western concerns that the 2-1/2-year conflict in Ukraine could widen, even as attention shifts to the

It could be a sign of how Russia hopes to offset mounting battlefield losses and continue making slow, steady gains in east-ern Ukraine. "The deepening military cooperation between Russia and North Korea is a threat to both Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic security," Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte told reporters after talks egation about the North Korean deployments.

The Pentagon estimated 10,000 North Korean troops had been deployed to eastern Russia for training, up from an estimate of 3,000 troops last Wednesday. "A portion of those

soldiers have already moved closer to Ukraine and we are increasingly concerned that Russia intends to use these soldiers in combat or to suppor combat operations against Ukrainian forces in Russia's Kursk Oblast near the border with Ukraine, said Pentagon spokesper son Sabrina Singh, using a

term for a Russian region. Ukrainian military in telligence said on Thursday that the first North Korean units had been recorded in the Kursk border region.

China confirms **South Korean** detained for alleged spying **Monitoring Desk**

BEIJING: China confirmed on Tuesday it had detained a South Korean citizen for alleged spying, as Beijing ramps up vigilance against erceived threats to na

tional security. South Korea's Yonhap news service, citing diplomatic sources in Seoul, reported Monday that Chinese authorities had held the man in his 50s since late

last year. It said Chinese prosecutors had formally detained him "a few months ago" under a revised antiespionage law, marking the first time that a South Korean national had been tar-

geted in such a case. Beijing's foreign ministry confirmed on Tuesday that a South Korean citizen was arrested "on suspicions of espionage by relevant Chinese authorities in accordance with the law"

Green Party gets popular ahead of US election

Monitoring Desk CALIFORNIA: In the US presidential elections of 2024, the popularity of Green Party gets boost The Muslim organisations in US remaine successful in getting the favour of Green Party against the atrocities in Palestine.

A fund-raising event in California was organised by the American Muslims Public Affairs Committee, in which not only Muslim community but US citizens also participated in large numbers. The presidential candidate of Green Party Jill Stein, also addressed the ceremony and condemned the human rights abuses by Israel in Palestine.

Afghanistan's morality ministry spreads 'living

KABUL: Afghanistan's morality ministry is gradually introducing a ban on images of living beings in media, with multiple provinces announcing restrictions and some Taliban officials refusing to be photographed or filmed, journalists across the country said. Since mid-October the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice (PVPV) has held meetings with journal-

things' images ban

Monitoring Desk
ABUL: Afghanistan's images of living things—
images of living things namely people and animals — from a recent "vice and virtue" law would be gradually implemented.

A Lebanese army soldier stands near UN peacekeepers (UNIFIL) vehicles in

Marjayoun, near the border with Israel, amid ongoing hostilities between

Television was completely banned under the Taliban's previous stint in power from 1996 to 2001. but a similar edict had not been imposed since they ousted the Western-backed government three years ago. Enforcement of many articles of the "vice and virtue" law, which codifies the ists in one province after Taliban government's strict another. They informed interpretation.

Diamond-rich Botswana votes with President Masisi

Hezbollah and Israeli forces, southern Lebanon.

GABORONE: Botswana will hold a general election on Wednesday with President Mokgweetsi Masisi competing against three challengers for a second term in the diamond-rich

The poll could be competitive, analysts said, although a divided opposition gives the advantage to Masisi's Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), which has ruled the country of 2.3 million people since its independence from Britain in 1966. Botswana has enprosperity thanks to its diamond wealth and small

healthcare and education. It is the world's top producer by value of the gem.

diamond market has put a squeeze on revenues in the last few years, and the country has struggled to diversify its economy. Opponents say the BDP has been in power too long and accuse it of economic mismanagement and corruption. which it denies.

"Our diamonds have not been selling since April so yes, our revenues are down but the economic fundamentals still remain intact," said Masisi at a presidential debate last week.

kilometre from the port, Jim Puckett. Bangladesh immunity order sparks fears of

Ship with

suspected toxic

waste in Albania

Monitoring Desk

DURRS: A ship carrying

hundreds of tonnes of pos-

sibly toxic industrial waste

returned to Albania's larg-

est seaport of Durres on

Monday, months after set-

ting sail to dispose of the

Moliva container ship, be-

lieved to be carrying around

a hundred containers filled

The Turkish-flagged

material in Thailand.

Albanian authorities.

Monitoring Desk DHAKA: Hundreds died in the student-led revolution that toppled Bangladesh's autocratic leader Sheikh Hasina, but those impacted in the violent aftermath fear the new authorities' promise of justice will exclude

The family of 16-yearold Shahriar worry those who beat their son into a coma may never face trial, after sweeping immunity from prosecution was slapped on the protesters who took part in the

The quiet rise and fall of Shahriar's chest, on a ventilator in an intensive care unit in a Dhaka hospital, are the only signs that

media workers that a ban seeking second term **Monitoring Desk** population, which gets free

southern African state.

ioved stability and relative

justice denied

But a downturn in the

with suspicious waste, was TOKYO: Japan's Prime expected to be tested by Minister Shigeru Ishiba "The ship is anchored in Durres about one

2009. Ishiba called Sunday's election days after taking office on Oct 1, but voters angry at a slush fund scandal punished his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which has governed Japan almost non-stop since 1955. Ishiba, 67, insisted on Monday he was staying put, saying he would not allow a "political vacuum" in the world's fourth-biggest economy.

He said the biggest election factor was 'people's suspicion, mistrust and anger" after the party scandal, which helped sink his predecessor Fumio Kishida. "I will enact fundamental reform regarding the issue of money and politics," Ishiba told reporters.

The yen hit a threethan 1 per cent against the dollar. According to projections by national broad-



A crowd gathers to watch as first responders work after a tram derailed and crashed into a building in the center of Oslo, Norway.

ADB approves \$500 mln loan to support climate, disaster resilience in Pak

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$500 million policy-based loan to support climate change and disaster risk reduction and resilience in

The Climate and Disaster Resilience Enhancement Program (CDREP) will strengthen Pakistan's institutional capacity for planning, preparedness, and response; increase inclusive investment in disaster risk reduction and climate resilience; and support the scale up of disaster risk financing using a risk-layered approach, according to ADB press release received here Tues-

to climate change and disashazards in Asia and the Pacific. Average losses from disaster events exceed \$2 billion per year. Women and other vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected by climate change and di-

saster events. "This program builds on ADB's longstanding work in Pakistan to understand and reduce climate and disaster risks and support effective disaster response," said ADB Director General for Central and West Asia Yevgeniy Zhukov.

'We are proud to support an integrated and comprehensive approach to cli-

ters triggered by natural and adequate funding for disaster response," Zhukov

The program sup-

ports enhanced capacity for disaster risk mapping and modeling for investment and development decisions. It enhances coordination for disaster monitoring and response. It supports enhanced planning and prioritization of gender-sensitive and resilient public investments, including integrated flood risk management and naturebased solutions.

The program supports mobilization of climate finance from public and private sources. This mate and disaster risk man- includes issuance of a domestic green sukuk (Islamic



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning & Development, Ahsan Iqbal chairing a review meeting of the focal groups constituted by the PM to analyze recommendations made by the Chinese working team.

Planning Minister reviews draft plans

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal here Tuesday chaired a review meeting of the focal groups constituted by the Prime Minister to analyze recommendations made by the Chinese work-

The meting was attended by Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh; Secretary Planning, Awais Manzur Sumra; Chairman of the National Highway Authority and high-ranking officials from various ministries and divisions, includ-Natural Resources, Na- plan for the sector

tional Food Security, Power, Commerce, Economic Affairs, Interior, and This was the third

meeting chaired by Minister Ahsan Iqbal, following the Prime Minister's directives, to review the draft plans prepared by the focal groups. The Minister emphasized the need for action plans for implementation with timelines. He further stressed the need to highlight where Pakistan has already made progress.

During review of agriculture sector, the Ministry of Food Security highlighted that Pakistan lacks a longing Communication, In- term, comprehensive, and vestment, Petroleum & independent development

Kakar meets QESCO Chief, discusses issues of electricity in hospitals

Independent Report Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar met the Chief Executive Officer of Quetta Electric Supply

Ali, here on Tuesday. During the course of meeting, the Minister Health discussed with QESCO chief the issues of electricity load shedding in

Company, Engineer Shafqat

the hospitals of province. Speaking on the occasion, Bakht Muhammad Kakar said that modern equipments such as CT scan, MRI, Oxygen plants have been installed in the hospitals of Kech, Loralai and Khuzdar. These equipments are very important

for timely treatment and diagnosis of the patients. He on the occasion stressed the need to ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity to the hospitals so as to provide best medical facilities, he added

The Minister also stressed the need to supply electricity to the hospitals located in the adjoining areas of Quetta. In this regard, a com-

mittee has been formed comprising representatives of QESCO and Health Department.

Speaking on the occasion, QESCO chief assured to supply electricity to the important hospitals round the clock.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Sadiq Umrani meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti.

190 million pounds reference IHC extends till Nov 7 its order for stopping AC from announcing final decision

ISLAMABAD (Online):
Islamabad High Court
(IHC) has extended till November 7 its order for stopping Accountability Court (AC) from announcing final decision in 190 million

pounds reference. Counsel for PTI founder and Bushra Bibi presented record related to acquittal plea from trial court in IHC. NAB prosecutor said time be given to us to see the record. The hearing

be fixed after two weeks. Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer Farooq remarked you are seeking two weeks. But we adjourn the hearing

for hearing in IHC Tuesday.
CJ IHC Aamer Farooq

and justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb took up the pe-

titions for hearing.
Usman Gull, counsel for PTI founder and Bushra Bibi and NAB prosecutor Amjid Pervaiz appeared in the court. CJ IHC Aamer Farooq inquired trial has reached what stage.

NAB prosecutor Amjid Pervaiz said cross questioning of NAB investigating officer is underway.

President greets Turkish govt, people on 101st Republic Day

SLAMABAD (APP) President Asif Ali Zardar extended his greetings to the government and people of Turkiye as they celebrated the 101st Republic Day on Tuesday.

The president said that over the past century, Turkive had achieved immense development in various fields and expressed the hope that the country would reach more milestones under the leadership of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, according to a President House press release. He said that Turkiye always raised voice on the

The president said that the government and people of Pakistan desired the progress and prosper-ity of Turkiye as both countries supported each other in difficult times.

issues faced by the Mus-

PTI challenges decision on formation of **Punjab ETs**

SLAMABAD (Online): PTI has challenged the decision regarding formation of Punjab Election Tribunals (PETs) in Supreme Court (SC). Election Commission (EC) and others have been made respon dents in the petition.

PTI leader Suleman Akram Raja has filed review petition on September 30 decision of SC.

September 30 decision of SC be reviewed. Meeting between Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Chief Justice Lahore High Court (CJLHC) can not become reason for change of Election tribunals. Who will be judge of Election Tribunal, this power rests with Chief

Justice.

LHC registrar notified
6 election tribunals on April
4. Names of serving judges for election tribunals were returned following the meeting between CJLHC and chief election commis

IHC orders to conduct **MDCAT**

test again
ISLAMABAD (Online):
Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ordered to conduct MDCAT test again.

The court accepted the petition against MDCAT test besides directing that arrangements be made for conducting the MDCAT test again within a month.

Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir of IHC ordered university to conduct MDCAT test again. IHC ordered that Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto should conduct the MDCAT test again within

According to PMDC report out of syllabus questions were given in MDCAT paper.



Dar and Ambassador of Türkiye, Dr. Irfan Neziroglu, and others cutting the cake during the 101 Anniversay of Turkish National Day at a local hotel in

Visits Jamia Islamia Education System Institute: **Chief Minister vows to encourage** private sector for promotion of education in Balochistan

Independent Report ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has vowed to encourage private sector for promotion of education in

The Chief Minister said that no child would remain deprived of basic right of education. He was speaking on

Jamia Islamia Education System Institute here on During the visit, he nspected different parts of

government has initiated

steps to increase the num-

ber of Supreme Court of

Pakistan judges from 17 to

23, with sources revealing

that an official bill will be

introduced in the National

Assembly soon in this re-

will be consisting of 23 judges including Chief Jus-

tice of Pakistan and the bill

regarding the increment of

number of judges from 17 to 23 will be presented in

National Assembly on Nov

It is noteworthy that

1 (Friday).

Barrister

The Supreme Court

compatible with the educational requirements of the religion and modern era The Chief Minister

from the Institution to Muslim Abad, Airport He also announced to construct basic health center and sports complex in

the Jamia Islamia Institute. In addition to this, he announced to provide 10 acres of government land to the Institute in view of its the Institution and ex- services in the education pressed pleasure over the sector. He said that the land

Muslim League-Nawaz

(PML-N) has already pre-

sented the bill in a private

after the private bill, an of-

ficial bill to increase the

number of judges will be

tabled soon. They said the

official bill to amend the

current structure of the Su-

preme Court is expected

to be presented in the Na-

tional Assembly session

of Supreme Court judges,

including the chief justice,

According to sources,

proceeding.

on Friday.

will go up to 23.

Govt sets to increase

number of SC judges

from 17 to 23

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Chaudhary of Pakistan

enforcement of curriculum acquired from the land grabbers in Chatham Achozai would be allotted to the In-He also mentioned

that educational emergency announced to build road is already enforced in the province and government is doing a lot for bringing improvement in the education

He also mentioned that closed schools are being opened and the habitual absentee teachers are being sent home permanently.

He said education is basic right of the children as such no one would be deprived of it.

ToshaKhana case deferred

and his wife Bushra Bibi

Imran Khan was Bushra Bibi's request for opposed her exemption.

According to the proposed bill, the total count The court alllowed next appearance.

Imran, Bushra's indictment in new

RAWALPINDI (INP) Former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan were once again not indicted in new Toshakhana case on Tuesday. Special Judge Shahrukh Arjumand presided over the hearing at Adiala Jail.

resent in the court, while exemption from appear ance was accepted. FIA prosecutor Umair Majeed

Bushra Bibi's exemption but issued notice for her



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti talking to administration and local tribal elites during his visit to Jamia Islamia Educa

Ministers, BA Speaker say Terrorists' attack on labourers working on Paroom dam cowardly act

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar has condemned the incident of firing in Paroom in the strongest words. In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the Provincial Minister said that the terrorists attack on the labourers working on the dam is a cowardly act.

He said that the attack on the innocent people wouldn't be tolerated at all. The Minister Health

directed to the concerned high ups to provide immediate medical assistance to those injured in the cowardly attack. He said that those responsible of the attack would be taken to task. He also expressed

sympathy and grief over the loss of lives of innocent labourers with their bereaved families. The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai has strongly condemned the heinous incident of firing on the labourers engaged in the work on a dam in Panjgur. In a condemnation

statement issued here on Tuesday, the Speaker said that this hatred act of terrorism is a condemnable and unforgivable. He said that terrorists

are enemies of the peace, development and prosperity. He said that we are united against the terrorism and adding pledged to give justice to the victims. The Speaker provin-

cial assembly also expressed heartfelt condolence with the bereaved families of martyr labourers and prayed for the early recovery of those injured in the incident of firing in Panjgur. QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister for Women's Development, Dr. Rubaba Buledi expressed sorrow over the firing incident at an underconstruction dam in the Paroom area of Panjgur.

Martyrdom of over 60 labourers in two months matter of great concern: Khetran **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has strongly condemned the incident of firing on the labourers in Panigur. In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the Provincial Minister said that it is condemnable to kill labourers. He said that the local

labourers were targeted under a pre-planned conspiracy. The Provincial Minister said that martyrdom of more than 60 labourers during last two months is a matter of great concern. He said that there's an important role of labourers in implementation on the important development projects in the province and country. Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran said that we equally share the grief of the aggrieved families. He prayed for the departed souls of the deceased persons and grant of patience for their bereaved families.



QUETTA: Director General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran presides over the meeting regarding Journalists Welfare Fund.

PM for utilizing potential for Pakistan-Russia multiple cooperation

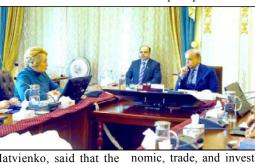
ISLAMABAD (APP): lations between Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that there existed a huge potential for cooperation between Pakistan and Russia in multiple fields, which could be utilized to achieve the de-

people of both countries. The prime minister, in a meeting with a parliamentary delegation, led by the Speaker of the Russian Federation Council Valentina

velopment goals of the

coming meeting of the Pakistan-Russia Joint Commission in December this year would provide an important opportunity to expand bilateral cooperation.

In the meeting, the two sides discussed the strengthening of banking channels, and the formation of a comprehensive roadmap to promote eco-



Matvienko, said that the strength and sustainability of the bilateral relations following the recent visits of Pakistan by the Russian senior leadership was welcoming, according to a PM Office press release.

The prime minister welcomed the Russian delegation to Pakistan and called their visit an important step towards strengthening the parliamentary re- eral trade and investment.

ment cooperation between Pakistan and Russia

Shehbaz said that the recent visit of a 70-member Pakistani business delegation to Russia led by the Communications Minister and participation in the Pakistan-Russia Trade and Investment Forum was a welcoming step for the promotion of bilat-

Ministers appreciate **Operational excellence** displayed by both PPL, BME in the mining sector

the Government of **Independent Report** KHUZDAR: The Minister for Mines and Minerals, Balochistan, plays a key role in the region's economic de-Government of Balochistan, velopment. Mir Shoaib Nosherwani, accompanied by Health Minister Mr. Bakht commended BME for its substantial contributions to Muhammad Kakar, Deputy Commissioner Mr. Yasir the local community and lauded the operational excellence displayed by both PPL and BME in the min-Dashti, and other officials, visited Bolan Mining Entering sector. He emphasized prises (BME) in Khuzdar. the importance of BME's continued role in driving

The delegation was warmly received by Mr. Zeeshan Asghar, Head of Bolan Mining Enterprises (BME)/BLZ, Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL). Mr. Zeeshan briefed the delegation on BME's operations, notable achievements, corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, and future plans

for its future endeavors. This visit highlights the government's commitment to fostering development in the mining industry and enhancing collaboration with enterprises for for growth. BME, a joint venture between PPL and upliftment of the region. socio-economic

regional growth and assured

the government's support

Minister Nosherwani

Russian Deputy Minister for Defence calls on **Naval Chief at NHQ**

sian Federation's Deputy Minister for Defence, Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin called on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf at Naval Headquarters here on Tuesday.

During the meeting, professional matters of mutual interest including bilateral collaboration and regional maritime security were discussed, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

The Naval Chief expressed that Pakistan greatly values its relations with the Russian Federation and desires to forge a long-

partnership with Russia. Various avenues including bilateral training, exchange of visits and conduct of bilateral naval exercises between the two Navies were also focused.

The visiting dignitary appreciated and acknowledged the Pakistan Navy's efforts and commitments in support of collaborative maritime security. Both the leaders agreed to further strengthen and diversify the scope of existing bilateral defence relationship particu-

larly in maritime domain and



ISLAMABAD: Russian Federation's Deputy Minister for Defence, Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin called on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf at Naval Headquarters.

PTI brings back TTP activists in Pakistan: Aimal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of the Awami National Party (ANP) Aimal Wali Khan, while criticizing Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Tuesday, accused PTI of bringing back Tehrik-e-Taliban Pacistan (TTP) activists to the country.

Speaking on a point of order in the Senate, he alleged that PTI was a 'Political Wing' of the Taliban movement, which had been launched as a project by General (Retd) Faiz Hameed.

Aimal said that when Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Awami National Party (ANP) were facing terrorist attacks in 2013, the PTI was inviting and establishing TTP offices in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), including Peshawar.

The ANP chief questioned the performance of the PTI-led provincial government in KP over the decade and claimed that from 1947-2013 the foreign loan burden was Rs 97 billion, which had soared to Rs 1500 billion during the PTI tenures, adding that if PTI continued in power till 2028, it was estimated to touch 3000 billion.

He went on to say that the provincial government led by PTI was selling the lands of universities and educational institutions.

Aimal added that the narrative, which began with the Cypher, now turned into a request from parliamentarians of Britain and the United States to release