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PM unveils three-month electricity relief package for winter season

Package offers household consumers a flat rate of Rs26.07 per unit for additional electricity use in Dec-Feb; PM believes package will "ensure that industries and business will run smoothly and our economy will be strong."

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday unveiled a three-month Electricity Relief Package for the winter season providing a relief of up to Rs26.7 per unit for domestic, Rs15.5 for industrial and Rs22.71 for commercial consumers.

The prime minister, addressing an event to commemorate the birth anniversary of Allama Muhammad Iqbal being celebrated on November 9 here, told the gathering of ministers, students, and artists that the relief package would remain in force from December 2024 to February 2025.

"Under the package, the domestic consumers

will get a relief of up to Rs 26.7 per unit for their power consumption surpassing 200 units of the protected category. It will help them save Rs11.42 to Rs26 per unit in the three months of winter," the prime minister said.

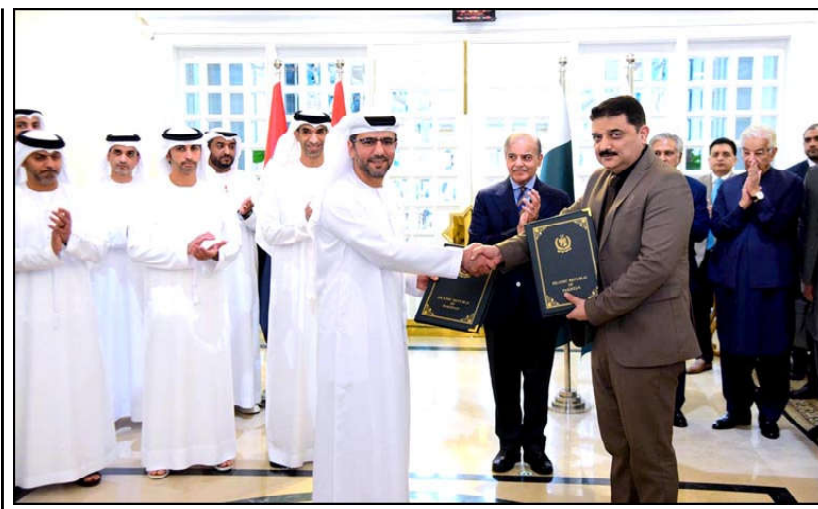
Similarly, the industrial sector will save 18-37% or Rs 5.27 to Rs 15.5 per unit under the package to help boost industrial production, growth and livelihoods. The commercial consumers will be given a 34-47% saving or Rs 13.46 to Rs 22.71 per unit subsidy in the package.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the package would stimulate a

quantum jump in the country's economic progress by boosting agriculture, industrial productivity, business activity and exports.

He said that the commitments and vision of the current government were being translated into actions through the relief package that would become the harbinger of improved economic resilience.

Besides thanking the IMF for permitting the government to announce the package, he also commended the cabinet members and relevant senior officers for their efforts and teamwork in working out the relief package.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif witnessing exchange of MoUs between Pakistan and Abu Dhabi Ports.

Pakistan, AD Ports sign MoUs for collaboration in rail, airport, maritime sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Abu Dhabi Ports Group on Friday signed four Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to enhance collaboration in multiple fields including rail, airport infrastructure and maritime shipping and logistics. The MoUs were signed as a high-level delegation of UAE investors led by UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif here, according to a PM Office press release.

The prime minister witnessed the exchange of MoUs relating to the ministries of maritime affairs, aviation, railways and Federal Board of Revenue with the Abu Dhabi (AD) Ports Group. As per MoUs, Pakistan and AD Ports Group will explore potential collaboration in customs, rail, airport infrastructure and

maritime shipping and logistics sectors.

The MoUs are aimed at improving digital customs controls, developing dedicated freight rail corridors, upgrading Pakistan's maritime fleet and marine services, and Pakistan's international airports.

In the meeting with the delegation, the prime minister expressed gratitude to UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum for their steadfast support to Pakistan.

He underlined that the fraternal Pakistan and UAE ties were rooted in shared history and culture. The prime minister highlighted the comprehensive economic partnership between the two nations across sectors such as trade, energy, and investment, which had contributed to growth and prosperity in both countries.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Overseas Foundation, Syed Qamar Raza, called on the Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Despite PTI's tactics for chaos, economy on path of growth now: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Friday said the national economy had not only been stabilised but now it was on the path of growth despite Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf tactics to create disorder and chaos.

Addressing a press conference, he said economic stability and growth had now started to benefit common man. He said the price of wheat and flour and petroleum products had markedly decreased in addition to reduced electricity tariff.

Currently, all economic indicators were positive and foreign exchange

reserves had crossed \$ 11 billion mark, besides enhanced foreign remittances, he added.

He said that the Prime Minister was working day and night to improve the economy and milestones achieved on the economic front were the outcome of his efforts.

He said a United Arab Emirates delegation would be visiting Pakistan to discuss prospects for investment.

He said due to the efforts of the Prime Minister, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar were investing in Pakistan whereas Azerbaijan had also announced 2 billion dollars investment in Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: H.E. Brig General Hojjatollah Qoreishi Deputy Minister for Defence of Islamic Republic of Iran Called on Minister for Defence & Defence Production, Khawaja Muhammad Asif in federal capital.

To live empowered lives CSSP holds consultation on creating an enabling environment for women and girls

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Civil Society Support Program (CSSP), in collaboration with NCA in Pakistan, organized a provincial consultation on creating an en-

abling environment for women and girls to live empowered lives. This consultation brought together key stakeholders including the Minister for Women Development, and Chairper-



representatives included Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), faith actors, women activists, and district networks including Women Leadership Forum (WLF) and Community Support Group (CSG).



ISLAMABAD: The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan/Chairman Supreme Judicial Council Justice Yahya Afridi presiding over the meeting of Supreme Judicial Council at Supreme court of Pakistan.

Sharjeel says PPP understands pain of flood victims, housing project is more than a project

ISLAMABAD (APP): Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the Sindh government's People's Housing Scheme is more than just a project.

The leadership of the Pakistan People's Party and the government of Sindh understand the pain of those, who lost their homes and everything in the floods, a communique said on Friday.

He said, "Chairman of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's vision goes beyond building houses; it is about public service and restoring hope and dignity

of the flood victims.

The Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the Sindh government was not only building new houses for 2.1 million families but also rebuilding their lives.

Under the guidance of the PPP Chairman, the Sindh government was actively working to restore the dignity of the flood victims.

He said that the housing project was a testament to the Sindh government's unwavering support for the people, and that the People's Party consistently prioritized public service and overall welfare.

ATC accepts bail plea of PTI founder in May 9 related 4 cases

LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Lahore has accepted bail plea of PTI founder in 4 cases related to May 9 incident. Bail pleas from PTI founder in four cases including torching PML-N office in Lahore came up for hearing in ATC Lahore Friday.

The court while rejecting the plea of PTI founder lawyers for giving more arguments said to counsel Suleman Safdar "you have already given your arguments. Time will be wasted by giving the arguments repeatedly. Now there should be decision on bail pleas.

Toshakhana-2 case Imran, Bushra could not be indicted

RAWALPINDI (Online): Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi could not be indicted in Toshakhana-2 case.

Hearing of Toshakhana-2 case took place in Adiala jail. Special judge central Shahrukh Arjumand took up the case for hearing Friday.

PTI founder and Bushra Bibi were likely to be indicted Friday.

The arguments of respondents on acquittal pleas of the accused were completed.

The court reserved judgment on acquittal pleas of the accused persons which will be announced on November 12.

Bilawal extends tributes to Great Poet Allama Iqbal

KARACHI (INP): Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has extended heartfelt tribute to Allama Muhammad Iqbal on the occasion of Iqbal Day, marking the 147th birth anniversary of Pakistan's national poet and visionary philosopher.

According to the press release issued by the Media Cell Bilawal House, Chairman PPP, in his message, highlighted Iqbal's timeless influence on the nation and his profound contributions toward the intellectual and ideological awakening of the Muslim community in South Asia.

"His vision provided a blueprint not only for a separate homeland but also for a moral and just society that embodies compassion, courage, and progress," stated Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

He stressed that

Iqbal's teachings on self-reliance, resilience, and commitment to one's values continue to inspire millions of Pakistanis, especially the youth, to actively contribute to building a prosperous and peaceful Pakistan.

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reaffirmed the Pakistan Peoples Party's dedication to the values of social justice, democracy, and equal rights—principles that resonate deeply with Iqbal's vision for the nation.

He called upon the nation to honor Iqbal's legacy not just in words but through action, fostering a society rooted in tolerance, integrity, and progress. "Let us carry forward Iqbal's dream by embracing his ideals in our personal and collective lives, and by striving toward a Pakistan that reflects his vision of justice, peace, and equality for all."

Maj Gen Shamraiz assumes charge as DG Rangers Sindh

KARACHI (INP): Major General Muhammad Shamraiz on Friday officially assumed the office as Director General (DG)

It is worth mentioning here that as the local police failed to control criminal activities and provide security to the citizens in



Sindh Rangers.

According to the spokesperson, the command of Sindh Rangers was officially transferred from Major General Azhar Waqas to Major General Muhammad Shamraiz.

Today, a ceremony took place at the Rangers headquarters in Sindh, IG Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon and several high-ranking officials were also in attendance, the spokesperson added.

Karachi, Sindh Rangers came forward and shared essential information on how citizens can seek help in emergencies.

Deputy Superintendent Rangers (DSR) Mazhar Abbas stated that Pakistan Rangers in Sindh are committed to protecting the lives and property of young citizens, with their emergency helpline, 1101, providing swift assistance upon receiving calls for any urgent situation.

Markets run under KMC to be solarized: Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, has announced that the markets run by the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation will be converted to solar energy systems.

The Mayor Karachi said this while chairing a meeting of a meeting of the KMC Estate Department on Friday.

He said that the first phase of this initiative will begin with the Bahadur Shah Zafar Market located on M.A. Jinnah Road, and gradually, other markets under KMC's management will also be transitioned to solar energy.

Additionally, efforts will be made to improve both the external and internal conditions of these markets. The record for shops and other transactions, including the issuance of challans, will be computerized.

On this occasion, Municipal Commissioner KMC, Afzal Zidi, and officials from the Estate Department were also present.

During the meeting, Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab reviewed a detailed briefing regarding the revenue collection targets for the current financial year.

He directed that the Estate Department must meet the revenue targets for 2024 and 2025.

For the fiscal year 2023-24, the revenue target was set at 290 million rupees, while for 2025, the target has been raised to 315 million rupees.

The Mayor Karachi further instructed that the rent of shops in KMC markets, which currently have an 11-month lease, should be increased based on the market value.

PAC seeks record of Rs 600m subsidy to farmers for solar tube-wells in Sindh

KARACHI (APP): The Public Accounts Committee of Sindh Assembly on Friday sought the record of Rs 600 million subsidy to farmers in the province for solar tube wells and solar water pumps. The provincial Public Accounts Committee meeting held with Nisar Khuhro in the chair, also directed to submit him details of those who had received the subsidy from Agriculture Department.

According to statement issued on Friday, the PAC also directed DG Audit Sindh to verify the Audit report of providing Rs. 600 million subsidy to farmers for solar tube wells within a week.

The meeting after deliberation also sought the expenditure of special grants of Rs 49 million issued to the DG Agriculture Extension Hyderabad. The meeting reviewed the audit reports of the Agriculture Department from the year 2019 to 2021.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary of the Department Rafiq Burriro, Committee Member Qasim Siraj Soomro, DG Audit Sindh and other officers of the department.

In the meeting, the DG Audit Sindh raised objections to the complete record of Rs 600 million spent on solar tube wells and solar water pumps.



Federal Minister for Planning & Development Ahsan Iqbal chairing a high-level meeting on the "Framework for Processing Concept Proposals for New Projects under the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Phase 2" in Islamabad.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

IHK resolution

If the Indian state is serious about its democratic credentials, then it should listen to the voices emanating from held Kashmir's legislature calling for a restoration of the region's special status.

On Wednesday, IHK's assembly, which was elected last month after a decade, passed a non-binding resolution calling for the safeguarding of the disputed territory's "identity, culture and rights".

Though the resolution, piloted by the pro-India National Conference, which now rules IHK in a coalition with Congress, made no explicit reference to Article 370, the message to Delhi was clear.

The assembly has done its job," said Omar Abdullah, IHK's chief minister. Mr Abdullah had during the election campaign pledged to restore Article 370, discarded by India in August 2019, as well as the held region's statehood.

Last month's election results, as well as the recently passed resolution, clearly show that the people of held Kashmir are not happy with New Delhi's snatching of their limited autonomy, and want India to reverse these dubious moves.

While statehood, and the unity of held Kashmir — India has broken up IHK into two union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh — are important, the special status granted to the disputed territory under Articles 370 and 35A must also be restored.

Along with meeting a key demand of the Kashmiri people, reinstating the aforesaid articles would also help improve India's ties with Pakistan.

After the Modi government made its controversial move to strip IHK of its unique status, bilateral ties quickly nosedived. Therefore, if the BJP administration were to shed its rigidity on the matter and listen to the Kashmiris, it could pave the way for the resumption of the political process in IHK, along with removing a key obstacle in improving ties with Pakistan.

Hardliners in New Delhi may be telling themselves that the Kashmir question has been resolved, but the reality suggests otherwise. The IHK assembly resolution, in fact, offers New Delhi a face-saving option to restore Kashmir's autonomy, as the administration can say it is only responding to popular demand.

Islamic learning

Ghulam Shabbir

Man's superiority over all creatures lies in his faculty of creative knowledge, which the heavens, despite their heights, the mountains, and the earth, despite its vastness, refused to take on (Quran 33:72).

This points to the faculty to discern the properties of things and give them 'names' (2:31). This is man's inherent capability to unravel the mysteries of the universe and employ the same for his mastery over nature.

Therefore, man's real test lies in 'mastering' that mastery of the universe. So, 'al-amana' or the 'trust' which the universe trembled to bear, according to late Islamic scholar and thinker Fazlur Rahman, was to discover the laws of, and thus achieve mastery over, nature or in the Quranic terminology, to know the 'names' of all things and then use this mastery — under the human initiative — to create a positive world order.

To the Quran, all knowledge — intellectual, scientific or intuitive — comes from God. It sets high value on knowledge and excludes no category of learning whatsoever, with the overriding principle that this knowledge should be utilised through proper and constructive channels. Man's essential task is to reconstruct a scientific picture of the objective reality and employ the same to create a healthy moral order. So, to engage in scientific pursuit without harnessing it for the creation of a just moral order —

know the 'names' without utilising them — would be, in the words of the Quran, 'abath' or a vain, dangerous, indeed Satanic pursuit.

Pristine Islam combined metaphysics and social reality — the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) religious experience concerned both monotheism and socioeconomic justice. With an inherent symbiotic relationship, both monotheism and socioeconomic reforms assume fusion and flow like a seamless singular stream from the inner unity of the Quran and the immaculate conduct of the Prophet. Closer examination reveals that it was not monotheism but rather its entailing social reforms that invoked a vehement reaction from the Makkani oligarchy for they were least bothered by the monotheism of the Hanifs — certain Makkans who arrived at monotheism through self-deliberation — not linked with social reforms.

Islam, unlike the ancient world, combined metaphysics and social reality. Earlier, the streams of pure intellect and transcendentalism had flowed independently despite the coexistence of Jews and Greeks for a considerable period of time at Alexandria. To Christianity, excepting the gospels, everything was futile.

Islam focused on the fusion of religious and positive knowledge; it made history a field of divine activity to objectify moral values.

The Quran inspired Muslims to pursue all branches of knowledge irrespective of the dichotomy of the sacred and the profane and to utilise the same for the benefit of mankind.

Born out of a violent break with its past, the modern West will seek no negotiation with any spiritual system or moral ideology. In such

a situation, what else but the Quran can steer the world out of its crisis? For Islam was the only genuine movement in history which ethically 'oriented' the raw materials of history rather than compromised with them under the convenient cover of secularism. Later, vested interests broke the fusion of metaphysics and social reality. Orthodoxy's nexus with dictators led to the dichotomy of state and religion, while many Sufis' neutrality to social phenomena triggered 'personal-ism' at the cost of collectivism. Ever since, orthodox religious knowledge is quarantined in the ma-dressah, having no organic link with the positive knowledge of the external world.

The world of Islam in contradistinction to the 'material' West and the 'spiritual' East stands as a 'gold median community' (2:143) tasked with arbitrating their conflicts. On this premise, Iqbal has said: "Although we [Muslims] are coiled up in ourselves like a bud; should we perish, the whole garden [of the world] must perish."

Dr Fazlur Rahman similarly challenged the West along the lines that you can ignore the law of gravity but Islam cannot be ignored. Muslims have become prisoners of the past and if they do not take the initiative to rediscover Islam, their future is bleak.

Muslims owe it to themselves and to the world at large to recover the fusion of moral values and social phenomena by the crystal-clear Weltanschauung of the Quran.

This would be a potent step for them to assume the steering wheel of history. For how long must the Muslim faith remain in the grip of the past? -- Courtesy Dawn

Which ideology?

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

Of all the congratulatory messages which poured in from the world's political leaders when it became clear that Donald Trump had, in the end, quite comfortably defeated Kamala Harris in the US presidential election, the tweet by Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari stood out.

The young scion of the PPP called Trump's victory an anti-war vote, reflecting the desire of the US electorate for global peace.

The reference was obviously to Palestine and the ongoing Israeli genocide which has been backed unflinchingly by the Biden-Harris administration. But Trump did not win because he is anti-war. Some voters may have punished Harris over Palestine, but the Democratic Party's failings extend beyond foreign wars.

The real quandary is making sense of how Bilawal, who claims to be 'progressive', is making common cause with an arch-conservative in Trump.

Let there be no mistake: Trump is not about to dismantle the huge military-industrial complex that undergirds US imperialist power across the world. Among other things, Trump is firmly committed to Zionism, and is unmistakably anti-China.

But it is also not to be understated that Trump has spouted consistent rhetoric about unnecessary spending on wars abroad — his slogan of 'Make America Great Again' reflects a relatively insular vision involving less war-making around the world, blocking immigration, and generating industrial

jobs by rolling back outsourcing and offshoring.

The far right thrives on slogans, of course. Trump did not do a lot of things he had claimed he would during his first term. But this is all the more reason for us to think about why certain slogans continue to garner him — and many other similar political leaders — the support that they do.

The fact that a far-right Republican leader is able and willing to call for a rollback of America's foreign wars is an indicator of how muddled the contemporary ideological landscape has become. Ideological confusion is reaching fever pitch in this country too.

Look no further than Bilawal and the PPP — a leader and party that still claims, every once in a while, to be committed to leftist ideals. When election season rolls around, the slogan 'roti, kapra aur makan' magically reappears. Even the word 'socialism' sometimes drips off the tongue of PPP leaders.

But these claims have virtually no connection to the PPP's actual politics. At present, the PPP and PML-N are competing to prove their loyalty to the military establishment. The PPP runs the Balochistan government which is presiding over the continuing brutalisation of Baloch youth.

Sindh government. And as far as Pakistan's internal class war is concerned, the PPP makes no bones about the fact that it is far more committed to the IMF, big landed families, real estate moguls and other profiteers than it is to the proverbial worker and peasant.

Let's take this analogy back to America. The preliminary details about who voted for Trump and Harris are remarkable insofar as they confirm that the Democratic Party — with its comparatively pro-labour history — has largely abandoned the working class, the latter voting in significant numbers for Trump. Even non-white Latino and Black working people rejected the Democratic Party despite Trump's persistent anti-immigrant rhetoric.

Once upon a time, to be on the left meant to oppose unbridled capitalist profiteering, imperialist wars and to stand with the lower orders of society. Today, it is the far right that is rhetorically aligning itself with such positions, and successfully tapping into the rage of working people by peddling hate.

Meanwhile, the historic social-democratic parties who could once claim to represent the class rage of the lower orders are left only to appeal to a vacuous identity politics and lament the racism and misogyny of the right. Is there still the possibility of an ideological politics of a left-progressive vintage that reclaims class and imperialism from the hatemongers while also offering meaningful horizons on other pressing matters like the ecological crisis? We must hold out the hope that there is, but such a politics will only crystallise when the so-called 'pro-gressive' old guard is exposed and displaced by genuinely anti-establishment forces. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Govt resolved to achieve \$25 bln IT exports target in three years: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday highlighting the government's efforts to promote the telecommunications sector, reiterated his resolve to meet the target of \$25 billion in IT exports in the next three years.

The prime minister, in a meeting with a five-member delegation of VEON Group led by Chairman Augie K Fabela here, said that the government was taking measures to introduce 5G internet service to provide fast and reliable internet connectivity even in remote areas.

Group in IT, digitisation and artificial intelligence. The members of the delegation appreciated the government's efforts for economic stability and said that Pakistan had become an important investment destination for the IT and telecom sector.

Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunications Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Ali Pervaiz Malik, Coordinator to PM Rama Ehsan Afzal and relevant senior officers attended the meeting.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of VEON Group calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Finance Minister says: Digitization, key requisite for driving economic growth

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, on Friday described digitization of economy as a key requisite for driving economic growth and mobilizing ample resources for growing development requirements to end country's reliance on persistent financing.

The delegation was led by Augie K. Fabela, founder and chairman of the Board Veon Group, Kaan Terzioglu, Group CEO VEON, Ms. Marine Babayan, Group Director of Corporate Affairs VEON and Aamir Ibrahim, CEO Jazz, were also present.

During the meeting, the Minister reiterated the government's resolve for tax reforms with a focus on people-processed technology and end-to-end digitalisation to enhance transparency, plug leakages and improve services.



RAWALPINDI: Ashopkeeper arranges garlands and festive decorations, ready to welcome customers seeking to celebrate in style as the wedding season kicking off in the twin cities.

CCP issues report on state of competition in Power Sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has officially released its detailed research report titled "State of Competition in the Key Markets in Pakistan: Power Sector." The report highlights the significant presence and impact of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) on competition within the power sector, offering strategic insights for fostering a more competitive market environment, said a press release issued here.

Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, in his message emphasized the critical role of a competitive power sector in driving economic growth and ensuring affordable energy for consumers. "This report is a testament to CCP's commitment to promoting fair competition and addressing market inefficiencies in every sector of the economy," he stated.

Gold prices increase by Rs.2,000 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24 karat per tola gold increased by Rs.2,000 and was sold at Rs.278,800 on Friday compared to its sale at Rs.276,800 on last trading day.

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.1,715 to Rs.239,026 from Rs.237,311 whereas the price of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.219,107 from Rs.217,535, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

Pak-Malaysia agrees to renegotiate bilateral FTA in near future: Malaysian HC

ISLAMABAD (APP): On Friday, the High Commissioner of Malaysia, Dato' Mohammad Azhar Mazlan said that Malaysia and Pakistan have agreed to renegotiate the bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the renegotiation process will start soon.

The High Commissioner said that from Pakistan's side Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan will shortly participate in the dialogue process in this regard to renegotiate the bilateral FTA and there will be a also discussion between the two countries on other economic and trade issues. He said this at an event hosted by the high Commission of Malaysia, Islamabad which was attended by more than 50 prominent Pakistani industry leaders and stakeholders.

The event was organized as a follow-up to the recent official visit of the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Anwar Ibrahim to Pakistan in October 2024, with a particular focus on enhancing trade, investment, and business collaborations between the two countries.

The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) for Closer Economic and trade ties between Pakistan and Malaysia was signed on November 08, 2007 at Kuala Lumpur Malaysia and this Agreement is the 1st bilateral FTA between two brotherly Countries and members of OIC.

KP Govt inks agreement with BoK, AMB for provision of loans

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Department of Youth Affairs on Friday signed agreement with Bank of Khyber (BoK) and Akhtar Microfinance Bank (AMB) for provision of interest free loans to youth under Ehsaas program.

This program consisted of two phases, it said adding that one billion and ten crore rupees had been allocated in the current budget for the first phase. Under the program, Rs one million to Rs five million interest-free loans would be given to clusters of three to five youth between the ages of 18 and 35 which would be repaid under a flexible schedule of eight years.

In this regard, a ceremony was held at the Chief Minister House here in which the Chief Minister launched the online portal.

According to a press release issued by the CM Secretariat, the three billion rupees Ehsaas Youth Program was a three-year project.

Ambassador Hashmi sees tremendous opportunity for Pak trade growth at CIE

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi, emphasized the immense potential for Pakistani businesses to expand their reach in China through the ongoing 7th China International Import Expo (CIE) held in Shanghai.

textiles, and agricultural goods, including well-known rice and clothing brands he told China Economic Net (CEN).

Ambassador Hashmi underscored that China economic approach, which combines openness with shared prosperity, provides a powerful avenue for Pakistani companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). As the e-commerce industry is making an increasingly significant contribution to China GDP, the ambassador urged Pakistani businesses to explore online platforms to boost their visibility and sales within this expansive market.



LAHORE: A delegation of Traders from Lahore led by its leader Azmat Shah meeting with Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan.

LHC orders to close markets at 8pm in Punjab

LAHORE (Online): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday issued orders for closing markets across Punjab at 8pm and stopping entry of cars, buses and other heavy traffic to Lahore in connection with eradication of smog.

Justice Shahid Karim of the LHC conducted hearing of the case regarding eradication of smog and air pollution in Lahore.

The court remarked "Trucks and trailers are the biggest contributors of smog. Dolphin police and police men be deployed for controlling traffic. On every hearing we kept on saying government to take steps

to control smog. Emission of smoke by heavy traffic is cause of smog.

Justice Shahid Karim remarked if notices have been issued to buses then as to why they have not been stopped from entering into city. Fine amounting to Rs 50000 be imposed on smoke emitting buses.

How can the vehicle go on road without fitness certificate. Transport department should take steps. The court remarked we are taking these steps to help government. Government is perhaps not seeing court's orders with good looks.

If there is pressure of government on DC and others then they will work.



LAHORE: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, poses for a group photo with officials of the Punjab Social Protection Authority during his visit to the Punjab Social Protection Authority (PSPS).

ATC fixes Nov 16 for indictment of PTI founder, others in GHQ attack case

RAWALPINDI (Online): Judge Amjad Ali Shah of Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Rawalpindi has fixed November 16 for indictment in GHQ attack case due to non completion of attendance of all the accused including PTI former chairman, former foreign minister and others.

The court distributed copies of case among the remaining accused persons and adjourned the hearing of the case.

The court has reserved judgment on acquittal plea of former federal minister Sheikh Rashid which is likely to be announced on next hearing.

Under the orders of court Jail administration presented report on telephonic contact between PTI founder and his sons. Umar Ayoub, Zartaj Gul, Raja Basharat, Shibli Faraz, Sadaqat Abbasi, Raja Arshid Hafeez, Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi, Col (Retd) Ajmal Sabir, federal and provincial ministers, members of assemblies and other accused including PTI founder were to be indicted on Friday. But indictment could not be framed due to non holding of hearing of case in jail.



LAHORE: The Officers of 36th Senior Management Course from 16 different departments led by Chief Instructor NEPA Islamabad, Dr. Samreen Zahra in a group photo with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

Kundi says Bushra, Gandapur running parallel govts in KP

LAHORE (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi Friday visited the Punjab Social Protection Authority (PSPA) and discussed its issues.

PPP Central Punjab General Secretary Hassan Murtaza, Vice Chairperson PSPA Jahan Ara Wattoo, CEO PSPA and others were present. Vice Chairperson Jahan Ara Wattoo briefed the governor about the Punjab Social Protection Authority and its functioning. She said that the department run many programmes for poor,

transgender and elderly people with the support of the Punjab government. She also briefed him about Punjab Social Economic Registry, Nayee Zindagi Programme, Punjab Human Capital Investment Project and other programmes. The governor appreciated the initiatives by the department and promised of his full support. Kundi said that he was very happy to come to the Punjab Social Protection Authority. "It is a very important program of the Punjab government for the welfare of the poor. Benazir Income Support Program is also running successfully and in this context the Punjab government is taking it forward by creating Punjab Social Security Authority," he maintained.

He also congratulated the entire PSPA team, announcing rewards for them and also appreciated the Punjab government for supporting such departments. Talking to media persons, the governor said, "If supporters believe that the PTI founder is not involved in any wrongdoing then he will be released." He said that provincial governments are supporting their poor people, adding that Balochistan is also watching it. "There should be a healthy trend in the provinces. Roads are blocked in Parachinar due to which medicines could not reach there. We all should focus on law and order in the provinces instead of other issues," he added.

The governor said that two governments were running in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, one of Bushra Bibi and the other of Ali Amin Gandapur.

Horse & Cattle Show kicked off in Peshawar

PESHAWAR (APP): The first-ever three-day cultural show in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's history commenced formally at the Sher Khan Stadium in Peshawar and will continue from November 8 to November 10.

Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Sardar Ali Amin Gandapur inaugurated the event organized under the auspices of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Sports Department here on Friday.

The ceremony was attended by Corps Commander Peshawar Lt. General Umar Ahmad Bukhari, Provincial Sports Minister Syed Fakhar Jahan, Ministers Meena Khan Afridi, Fazal Hakim Khan, Pakhtunyar Khan, Commissioner Peshawar Riaz Khan Mehsud, Secretary of Sports Matiullah Khan, DG Sports Abdul Nasir, members of the assembly, senior government officials, athletes, and numerous spectators who enjoyed a variety of entertaining activities.

The show commenced with a free-fall jump and an air gliding display which captivated the audience. The event also featured traditional music and dance performances presented by bands of Frontier Corps North parties while dog and camel races and a horse dance display were also part of the first day events.



PESHAWAR: A paratrooper commander presents the national flag to Chief Minister KP, Ali Amin Gandapur, at a horse and cattle show organized by the Directorate General of Sports Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at Col. Sher Khan Stadium.

Iqbal's philosophy: A beacon of light nation

PESHAWAR (APP): Amidst challenges of changing world dynamics in education, politics, economy, societal and other arena of life, the vision of great leaders provide a beacon of light for nations to compete internationally and pave way for their progress and prosperity.

Revered and visionary leaders like Allam Dr Muhammad Iqbal with their philosophical and acumen, cover major aspects of human life, providing a path to successful future and build a nation to excel indigenously and earning laurels globally.

Born on November 09, 1977 at Sialkot in Sheikh Noor Muhammad's family, Allama Muhammad Iqbal became a great visionary poet and philosopher who dreamt a separate homeland for the Muslims of subcontinent that appeared on world map in the shape of Pakistan.

With the meanings of his name 'Good Fortune,' Allama Iqbal's birthday is celebrated on November 09 every year, symbolizing a rare moment of opportunity to benefit from his teachings and reach a respectable pinnacle after treading on his footsteps. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, a luminary in literature, religion, philosophy and

politics, also known as 'Poet of the East' is honored world over with colleges and universities within the country and abroad having dedicated departments teaching 'Iqbaliat.'

"Iqbal's poetry transcended borders, making him a respected figure from Asia to Middle East and Europe to America. His ability to inspire and awaken Muslim youth in British India was a glaring testament to his genius," said Prof. Dr Naushad Khan, former Vice Chancellor, Islamia College Peshawar. "He also carried forward the renaissance movement started by great educationist, Sir Syed

Ahmad Khan. Struggle for a separate homeland for Muslims of sub-continent waged by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah was also a vision of Allama Iqbal revealed at Allahabad address in 1930," he said.

Dr Naushad said, Allama Muhammad Iqbal had sparked the flame of resistance against colonialism, encouraging Muslims to stand up for their rights and identity through peaceful struggle. "His poetry often delved into profound symbols like 'Shaheen' (eagle), the concept of Khudi (Self) the relationship between Allah and humanity and propagation of true spirit of Islam, as outlined in the Holy Quran." The iconic poet in his book *Asrar e Khudi*, explained 'selfhood' significance with an aim of a person's self-realization, believing in one's own abilities and mutual coexistence.

Dr Khushad also refers to five key attributes of Dr Iqbal's Shaheen—farsightedness, fearlessness, independence, contemplation and resilience, noting these qualities as reflective of his belief in self-empowerment and a sense of responsibility toward collective wellbeing.

"Iqbal's intellectual journey through English, Arabic, Urdu, and Persian literature, combined with his exposure to Greek and German philosophies, shaped his unique worldview," he said.

"His philosophy and poetry even after 147 years, remains a beacon of light for Muslims around the world, instilling a positive hope and direction for their goals of a better and prosperous future."

As Allama Iqbal's philosophy was not limited to political or social concerns, Professor Dr Muhammad Younas Khan, Chairman, Pakistan Studies Department at ICP sees it as deeply humanistic and solution based with the great poet also advocating for peace.

International News

Nearly 70% of verified Gaza war dead women and children, UN rights office says

Monitoring Desk
GENEVA: The U.N. Human Rights Office said on Friday nearly 70% of the fatalities it has verified in the Gaza war were women and children, and condemned what it called a systematic violation of the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law, including distinction and proportionality.

The U.N. tally since the start of the war, in which Israel's military is fighting Hamas militants, includes only fatalities it has managed to verify with three sources, and counting continues.

The 8,119 victims verified is a much lower number than the toll of over 43,000 provided by Palestinian health authorities for the 13-month-old war. But the U.N. breakdown of the vic-

rights' age and gender backs the Palestinian assertion that women and children represent a large portion of those killed in the war.

This finding indicates "a systematic violation of the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law, including distinction and proportionality," the U.N. rights office said in a statement accompanying the 32-page report.

"It is essential that there is due reckoning with respect to the allegations of serious violations of international law through credible and impartial judicial bodies and that, in the meantime, all relevant information and evidence are collected and preserved," United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said.

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not immediately respond to a request by Reuters for comment on the report's findings.

Israel's military, which began its offensive in response to the Oct. 7, 2023 attack in which Hamas fighters killed about 1,200 people in southern Israel and seized more than 250 hostages, says it takes care to avoid harming civilians in Gaza. It has said approximately one civilian has been killed for every fighter, a ratio it blames on Hamas, saying the Palestinian militant group uses civilian facilities. Hamas has denied using civilians and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, as human shields.



Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan and Greek Foreign Minister George Gerapetritis give statements to the press at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Athens, Greece.

Yoon Suk Yeol says Seoul-Washington alliance will strike back if North Korea attempts nuclear attack

Monitoring Desk
SEOUL: South Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol said the country was prepared in its alliance with the United States to strike back if North Korea attempted a nuclear attack against it, Newsweek reported on Friday. Yoon also said South Korea could rely on US nuclear weapons to defend the country and did not need its own, according to the US magazine.

"I believe that it would be irrational for them to decide to wage a nuclear attack against the Republic of Korea and should they do so the nuclear-based ROK-US alliance will immediately strike North Korea with the US nuclear weapon," Newsweek cited Yoon as saying. North Korea flexed its military muscle with the test of a huge new solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile dubbed Hwasong-19 on Oct. 31, amid accusations from Washington and Seoul that it has deployed troops to aid Russia in Ukraine.

Yoon, a conservative, has taken a harder line than his recent predecessors on North Korea.

Lebanon says 3 killed, UN peacekeepers wounded in Israel strikes

Monitoring Desk
SIDON: The Lebanese army said an Israeli strike on a vehicle near a checkpoint in the southern city of Sidon on Thursday killed three people and wounded troops and UN peacekeepers.

"The Israeli enemy targeted a car while it was passing through the Awali checkpoint," the main northern entrance to Sidon, the army said.

Putin praises Trump, says Russia is ready for dialogue

Monitoring Desk
SOCHI: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday (Nov 7) congratulated Donald Trump on winning the US election, praised him for showing courage when a gunman tried to assassinate him, and said Moscow was ready for dialogue with the Republican president-elect.

In his first public remarks since Trump's win, Putin said Trump had acted like a real man during an assassination attempt on him while he was speaking at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania in July.

"He behaved, in my opinion, in a very correct way, courageously, like a real man," Putin said at the Valdai discussion club in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi. "I take this opportunity to congratulate him on his election."

Putin said remarks Trump had made during the election campaign about Ukraine and restoring relations with Russia deserved attention.

"What was said about the desire to restore relations with Russia, to bring about the end of the Ukrainian crisis, in my opinion this deserves attention at least," said Putin.

Trump said during campaigning that he could bring peace in Ukraine within 24 hours if elected, but has given few details on how he would seek to end the biggest land war in Europe since World War II.

The 72-year-old Kremlin chief gave just one note of caution: "I do not know what is going to happen now. I have no clue."



Newly appointed German Finance Minister Joerg Kuehns stands next to Transport and Justice Minister Volker Wissing, and his predecessor, Christian Lindner.

German chancellor urged to call vote after coalition collapses

Monitoring Desk
BERLIN: Germany's embattled Olaf Scholz faced heavy pressure on Thursday to quickly call elections after his unruly coalition collapsed just as Donald Trump celebrated his return to the White House.

The centre-left chancellor has vowed to cling on in a minority government for now, and to ask for a confidence vote in

Pentagon pledges 'orderly' transition of power to Trump

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin told troops in a memo released on Thursday that the Pentagon was committed to an orderly transition to the incoming administration of Donald Trump, and that the military would not get involved in politics and was ready to carry out "all lawful orders".

Trump was elected president on Tuesday, capping a remarkable comeback four years after he was voted out of the White House and ushering in a new US leadership likely to test the resilience of democratic institutions at home and relations abroad. During an interview last month, Trump was asked if he was expecting "chaos" on Election Day and he appeared to suggest the military could be deployed against citizens.

Greece, Turkey to keep talking on maritime boundaries agenda, ministers say

Monitoring Desk
ATHENS: Greece and Turkey still disagree on the extent of issues needing to be tackled over the designation of their maritime boundaries but talks will continue, the Greek and Turkish foreign ministers said after meeting on Friday.

Neighbours Greece and Turkey, NATO allies but historic foes, have long been at odds over issues including where their continental shelves start and end, energy resources, migration, flights over the Aegean Sea, and the ethnically partitioned island of Cyprus. After years of tensions, the two countries agreed in December last year on a roadmap to reboot relations.

Greek Foreign Minister George Gerapetritis and Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, who met in Athens on Friday,

Indonesia preparing scenarios to anticipate Trump's policies

Monitoring Desk
JAKARTA: Indonesia has prepared scenarios to anticipate the impact of potential policies from US president-elect Donald Trump, a finance ministry official said on Friday.

The head of the ministry's fiscal policy agency, Febrio Kacaribu, said the scenarios were designed not only to mitigate negative impacts, but also to find opportunities under a Trump administration. He did not provide further details.

Facing Trump's return, EU confronts economic challenges

Monitoring Desk
BUDAPEST: Confronted with the return of Donald Trump, EU leaders on Friday are set to commit to deeply reform Europe's economy and tackle challenges highlighted by a blockbuster report.

Ex-European Central Bank head Mario Draghi was tasked last year with preparing the report that would steer the direction of the next five years of the EU's executive arm.

The big takeaway? Europe must invest up to 800 billion euros (\$863 billion) more a year to avoid falling further behind the United States.

But with Germany mired in political turmoil, divergent national interests and bitter disagreements over how to face the challenges ahead, there is no guarantee that the EU will be able to step up to the mark.

If the European Union does not take heed of his report's recommendations published in September, Draghi warned the 27-country bloc would face a "slow agony" of decline.

His report has taken on greater urgency, experts say, with Trump's resounding comeback on Tuesday's US election.

On the campaign trail, Trump repeatedly professed his love for tariffs and threatened to punish Europe for taking advantage of the United States with higher duties. "The Draghi report itself, in a way, becomes even more interesting and urgent in relation to this outcome," said Ian Lesser, vice president at the German Marshall Fund of the United States think tank.

There is a lot in Draghi's 400-page tome for the leaders to digest before lunch. Besides his call for more investment to improve economic output, Draghi controversially called for common borrowing.

Mushahid Hussain presents 5-point action plan for Palestine-ME peace

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Mushahid Hussain presented a five-point action plan for Palestine and Middle East's peace and calls for Arab-OIC Emergency Summit on November 11 to take concrete steps to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people.

In his keynote address at IPI Conference on Middle East here, the senator said the first step should be for Arab-OIC Emergency Summit on November 11 to take concrete steps to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people and take the lead by forming an International Leaders Delegation, also comprising leaders from the Global South and Europe, including Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Africa, Algeria and Brazil, plus PMs of Norway and Ireland (as they have recognized the State of Palestine) who should visit Washington immediately to meet President-elect Donald Trump.

They should urge the new US President to reverse the one-sided American policy of blatantly supporting Israel, have ceasefire immediately, provide humanitarian assistance and to take steps for lasting peace through establishment of an independent Palestine State.

Second, he said that given their strong Navies, Turkiye, Pakistan and Indonesia should form a Joint Naval Humanitarian Flotilla for Peace to help break the Israeli blockade of Gaza after getting authorization from the UN General Assembly.

"This will send a powerful and positive message to the oppressed Palestinian people that the Muslim Ummah is not an impotent entity, rather it has the vision and political will to undertake concrete initiatives."

Third, recalling the joint initiative of President Erdogan and Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir in 2019 to launch a global Media initiative to



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif waving the Pakistani flag at a ceremony to celebrate Allama Muhammad Iqbal's Birthday.

Planning Minister chairs meeting on Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Phase-2

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal on Friday chaired a meeting on the "Framework for Processing Concept Proposals for New Projects under the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Phase 2."

The meeting was attended by Higher Education Commission (HEC) chairman Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, Member Science & Technology Dr Najeeb Ullah, and a senior representative from the British Council James Hampson, Country Director Pakistan, British Council and Sarah Parvez Head of Education, British Council, a news release said.

During the meeting, officials from the relevant departments briefed participants on the achievements of the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Phase 1, highlighting that the British Council successfully facilitated 21 Research Travel Grants and eight large-scale Research Partnership Grant projects.

In addition, research capacity-building training was provided to over 1,000 researchers and reviewers across Pakistan, and 51 universities received certification for their Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC).

The officials further outlined that Phase 2 of the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway aimed to build on the partnerships and successes of Phase 1.

UN panel adopts four Pak resolutions on strengthening regional, world peace

UNITED NATIONS (INP): A key committee of the United Nations General Assembly has adopted Pakistan's four annual disarmament-related resolutions aimed at underpinning regional as well as international peace and security.

Three of these resolutions, adopted yesterday by the 193-nation Assembly's First Committee (Disarmament and International Security), received overwhelming support from member states even as the global non-proliferation and disarmament regime is facing challenges. The texts are expected to come up for endorsement by the General Assembly next month. The resolutions deal with regional disarmament, conventional arms control at regional and sub-regional levels as well as Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) in the regional and sub-regional context.

The resolutions titled, "Regional disarmament" and "Confidence-building Measures in the regional and sub-regional context" were adopted by consensus. The text titled, "Conventional arms control at the regional and sub-regional level" received 179 votes in favour, with India voting against, the only country to do so, and its ally—Israel—abstained.

The overwhelming support for the resolution reflected the international community's acknowledgement of Pakistan's advocacy for conventional arms control, restraint and balance in defence capabilities of States located in the same region or sub-region.

Diplomats at the UN have expressed appreciation for Pakistan's initiatives, over the years, to promote the goals of regional disarmament, conventional arms control.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior, Mohsin Naqvi visiting Cascade Facilitation Center, at Diplomatic Enclave in Islamabad.

All set for KMC Metropolitan Cup Football Tournament 2024 to begin on Nov 10

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, has said that all arrangements have been finalized for the first-ever KMC Metropolitan Cup Football Tournament 2024, which will begin on November 10.

A total of 24 teams will participate in the tournament, 23 of which are from the town administrations, while one team from KMC will also take part, said a statement on Friday.

The winning team of the KMC Metropolitan Cup Football Tournament will receive a trophy along with a cash prize of 1 million rupees, the runner-up will be awarded 500,000 rupees, and the third-place team will receive 250,000 rupees in cash.

The tournament matches will be held at football grounds across all seven districts of Karachi, while the semi-finals and final will be played under floodlights.

To supervise the tournament, FIFA-approved referees and other technical staff have been hired, and consultations with former football players and experts have also been ensured to make this first-ever KMC Metropolitan Cup Football Tournament a world-class event in every regard. The aim is to provide football fans with an exceptional viewing experience of top-tier football.

Managers of the participating teams from different towns have been invited to the Culture and Sports Department, where they have been given specially designed kits for their teams and continuous communication with them is being maintained.

Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab further instructed that all selected football grounds for the tournament must be equipped with necessary facilities for both players and spectators, and the Culture and Sports Department is taking steps in this regard.

Muhammad Ali Malkani says: SAU paves way for Farmer-Friendly Innovations & Agricultural Innovation

HYDERABAD (APP): Provincial Minister for Universities and Boards, Muhammad Ali Malkani, underscored the transformative potential of agriculture in driving Pakistan's economic growth, lauding Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tando Jam for its commitment to modern, farmer-centric research.

Speaking at an awareness session on Friday, he praised SAU's progress in developing certified seeds and establishing disease-resistant nurseries with cutting-edge technologies, describing these innovations as significant advancements for the agricultural sector.

Provincial Minister Muhammad Ali Malkani highlighted SAU's vital role in developing a skilled workforce in both agriculture and livestock management. He emphasized the need to improve per-acre yield and introduce new crop varieties such as wheat, cotton, and mango. Additionally, he pointed to the productive potential of barren and desert lands, advocating for urban agriculture, the preservation of genetic diversity among indigenous livestock breeds, and the creation of job opportunities for young graduates in agro-based industries.

The minister also encouraged universities to implement modern, technology-driven systems, including student portals and faculty development programs, to keep pace with evolving industry needs.

Vice Chancellor of SAU, Dr. Fateh Marri, highlighted the university's leading role in certified seed research across Sindh.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Ji vows to resist against rigging in Nov 14 LG by polls in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Karachi Ameer Momen Zafar has vowed to resist against rigging in the upcoming Local Government by polls in Karachi to be held on November 14.

The JI leader expressed these views while addressing a press conference held at Idara Noor-e-Haq—the JI Karachi headquarters, here on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, he referred to several wrongdoings on part of the Election Commission of Pakistan and highlighted that 2080 outsiders were shown as voters in a union council of Liaquatnagar Town, despite the fact that at least one of the two, permanent or temporary, address on the CNIC of the voter should be fallen in his constituency.

In another incident, he said, polling stations were designated one and half kilometers away from the area in a union council of Model Town, district Korangi.

Similarly, he added, the polling stations at the polling stations were also appointed from the DMC Korangi—itself a violation of the ECP rules.

DC stresses to make plantation in graveyard

SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Commissioner (DC) Khairpur, Syed Ahmed Fawad on Friday directed the authorities of the Forest Department and Revenue staff to make plantations in the graveyard.

Presiding over a meeting at his office, the deputy commissioner said plants should be grown in the spaces between the graves, walls with installation of entrance and exit gates should be constructed around the graveyards.

DC Fawad also directed the concerned officials for upgrading the place for funeral prayers and making spaces for more graves.

Mirpurkhas hosts provincial consultation regarding empowering women

MIRPURKHAS (APP): Civil Society Support Program (CSSP) and NCA Pakistan on Friday organized a provincial consultation in Mirpurkhas, in order to create a supportive environment for women and girls.

The event brought together key stakeholders, including Provincial Minister for Women Development Shahina Sher Ali, Information Secretary Nadimur Rehman Memon, and Sindh Human Rights Commission Chairperson Iqbal Detho.

The consultation emphasized the urgent need for an integrated approach to prioritize victims' rights, protection, and access to justice. Government officials, civil society representatives, and local stakeholders engaged in constructive discussions to improve existing referral system mechanisms.

On this occasion, CSSP Head of Programs Abdul Wahid Sangrasi and Project Manager Mohammad Bakhsh Kapri highlighted the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration.

Sindh Human Rights Commission Chairman Iqbal Detho in his address emphasized the need to focus on women's issues and underlying problems in Mirpurkhas.



LARKANA: Members of Shaikh community are holding protest demonstration against the killing of Aijaz Ali Shaikh and demanding justice for him held at Larkana press club.

Journalists plays role of eyes, ears in society: Barrister Arslan

SUKKUR (APP): Spokesperson to Sindh Government and Mayor Sukkur Barrister Arslan Sheikh has said that journalists have complete freedom in Pakistan and they were playing the role of eyes and ears in the society. He was talking to a delegation of Islamabad-based Journalists who arrived here in Mayor Sukkur House, said a release issued on Friday.

Arslan said that historically, the press in Pakistan has served as a watchdog, uncovering injustices, exposing corruption.

Shah in his message on the birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal on Friday said that the national poet gave consciousness to the Muslims of the subcontinent through his poetry.

He said the dynamic character of Iqbal's poetry, with his verses focused on dignity, self-reliance, resilience and purity of soul.

He said Iqbal's poetry had a 'depth of thought and reflection' and the creation of the motherland had been accomplished due to his intellect.



HYDERABAD: Students of a private school present tableaux to pay tribute to national poet on his Birthday.

Conference on Computational Linguistics & Sindhi Language held

SUKKUR (APP): Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Shaheed Benazirabad, organized an international conference on "Computational Linguistics and Sindhi Language" for the first time in the history of the general universities.

According to a release issued here on Friday, the conference was held at the main campus of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Shaheed Benazirabad, and was presided over by Vice Chancellor Engineer Professor Dr Muhammad Madad Ali Shah.

The conference was attended by scholars, researchers, and students from various institutions, including Dr. Mansoor Talhu Makhdoom Bilawal, Abdul Majid Bhurgri, Professor Dr. Muhammad Qasim Baghio, Dr. Azhar Ali Shah, Dr. Muzaffar Ali Doto, Madad Ali Sindhi, poet Yasir Qazi, Dr. Fayyaz Latif Chandio, Dr. Sher Mehrani, Dr. Ayaz Keerio, Dr. Altaf Hussain Jokhio, Mukhtiar Abro, A.B. Lashari, Zia Abro, Engineer Amar Fayyaz Burriro, and others.

Addressing the conference, Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Madad Ali Shah emphasized the need for establishing a computational section for the Sindhi language, which would enable the university to become a member of the Unicoed Consortium.

He further stressed the importance of developing projects that cater to the needs of the Sindhi language and computer technology.

Shafqat Shah pays glowing tribute to Allama Iqbal

SUKKUR (APP): Senior Politician Advocate Syed Shafqat Ali Shah paid glowing tribute to the national poet, Allama Muhammad Iqbal on his birth anniversary.

Shah in his message on the birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal on Friday said that the national poet gave consciousness to the Muslims of the subcontinent through his poetry.

He said the dynamic character of Iqbal's poetry, with his verses focused on dignity, self-reliance, resilience and purity of soul.

He said Iqbal's poetry had a 'depth of thought and reflection' and the creation of the motherland had been accomplished due to his intellect.

AC checks prices of daily use items in several markets

SUKKUR (APP): On the directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sukkur, Dr MB Raja Dharejo, the Assistant Commissioner city, Sobia Falak Rao on Friday visited different markets of the and checked prices of daily use items including vegetable, fruit, kiriyana and grocery.

Assistant Commissioner on the occasion directed shop-keepers to sell essential items at Government fixed prices and no profiteering and hoarding would be tolerated at any cost.

The AC spent more than two hours in markets to review the prices of essential items being provided to the citizens.

She also talked to the consumers and inquired from them about the rates and quality of daily use items.



KARACHI: Laborers sit with their tools during the hot days, waiting for work at the roadside to earn a livelihood in the provincial capital.