Big blow to PTI IHC bars protests,

to engage PTI for

peaceful dialogue

However, the court has

Mohsin Naqvi to initiate

peaceful negotiations with

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) to ensure that future

protests are conducted

within constitutional limits.

Farooq issued a five-page

written order in response to PTI's petition challenging

Chief Justice Aamer

the restrictions on public progress.

CJCSC visits IDEAS-24,

holds wide-ranging talks with

officials of different countries

RAWALPINDI (APP): General Sahir Shamshad Mirza,

NI (M), Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee

(CJČSĆ) on Thursday visited the 12th International De-

fence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-24) and held wide-

Simultaneously published from Quetta, Gwadar, Hub, Karachi, Islamabad

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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The IHC directed the

Interior Secretary to form a

committee, either under the

leadership of the Interior

Minister or a suitable offi-

cial, to facilitate dialogue

also brief PTI leaders on the

security sensitivities linked

President's upcoming visit,

stressing the need for

sioner of Islamabad was

also directed to join the

committee, as the court

expressed confidence

that this outreach would

likely foster some

aceful proceedings.

The committee will

the Belarusian

The Chief Commis-

with PTI's leadership.

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vd: XXVI No. 92, Jamaadi ul Awwal 19, 1446 AH Friday November 22, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs. 15

At least 40 killed in gun attack on passenger vans in Kurram district

SHO says 25 people injured; Kurram DC says two separate convoys were of members of the Shia community; President Zardari, KP ČM condemn attack.

least 40 people were killed and several others injured when unidentified gunmen opend fire on passenger vehicles in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's (K-P) Kurram district on Thurs-

The convoy, which was en route from Parachinar to Peshawar, came under heavy fire in the Ochut area, a remote part of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

According to police, the gunmen targeted the convoy from surrounding hills, hitting several vehicles with automatic gunfire.

Authorities reported that the attack left 40 dead, including a woman, while several of the wounded are in critical condition, raising

KURRAM (Agencies): At concerns that the death toll may increase.

Soon after the incident, medical teams quickly responded, transferring injured passengers to nearby

The provincial government has deployed additional security forces to the region, while officials confirmed a perimeter has been established around Ochut as search operations continue

for the attackers. hind the ambush remain relevant lawmakers, and the unclear, and no group has yet claimed responsibility. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, while condemning the incident at a press conference in Islamabad, confirmed that conference in

Following the incident, Naqvi contacted Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur to discuss the growing terrorist attacks in the province Both agreed to enhance cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

Gandapur emphasised the need for stronger coordination on security matters. Condemning the attack, he ordered The motivations be- the provincial law minister, chief secretary to visit Kurram, closely monitor the situation, and submit a detailed report.

President, PM strongly

Continued on page 2



GoB decides to hold "Balochistan **Business Summit" for promotion** of investment in Balochistan

CM Sarfraz Bugti assures foolproof security and all other facilities to investors in province; facilitation centers to be set up to facilitate local and foreign investors

Independent Report

QUETTA: In a significant development for the cause of attracting investors in Balochistan, the provincial government has decided to old "Balochistan Business Summit" for promotion of

estment in the province. The government has also decided to make the Balochistan Board of In- in the chair here on Thurs-

Independent Report

OUETTA: The Governor

Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar

Khan Mandokhail has

stated that the shrinking

globe is near to pen less and

paperless future and em-

bracing the new phase of

artificial intelligence and

robotic technology very

first time in human history.

this fourth industrial revo-

lution is a transitory phase

The Governor said that

vestment and Trade day. Certain suggestions (BoI&T) effective. In addiwere considered for promotion to this, the government decided to set up facilitation centers to facilitate the local and foreign investors

These decisions were made during a meeting of the Board of Directors of BoI&T held with Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Bugti

ing before our eyes, which

is characterized by fusion

of technologies that is blur-

ring the lines between

physical, digital and bio-

convocation of the Univer-

sity of Balochistan (UoB)

held in premises of the Uni-

versity here on Thursday.

ter for Education, Ms.

The Provincial Minis-

The Governor was ad-

logical sciences.

in the province.

of AI & robotic technology

the decisions and other ini-Continued on page 2

Governor addresses 21st convocation of UoB: President of Belarus Shrinking globe is near to to undertake official pen-less& paper-less future visit to Pakistan from Nov 25-27 and embracing new phase

ISLAMABAD (APP): At the invitation of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko will undertake an official visit to Pakistan from November 25-27.

were considered for promo-

tion of investment during

The meeting approved appointment of head of the

Bol&T. The Chief Minis-

ter formed a committee

headed by the Chief Secre-

tary for implementation on

the course of meeting.

will hold extensive talks with Prime Minister dressing the 21st annual and discuss areas of bilateral cooperation and engagement. Several agreements and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) will also be signed during the visit, according to a curtain raiser

President Lukashenko

The CJCSC held separate meetings with numerous officials including Defence Ministers, Commanders of Armed Forces and other important officials from different countries, including Turkiye, Azerbaijan, South Africa, Argentina, Malaysia, UAE, Cambodia, Kingdom of Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif | Eswatini, Gambia, Brunei, Maldives and Malawi, said a news release issued by Inter Services Public Relations During the aforementioned meetings, key aspects of the defense and security relationship were discussed. All parties reflected on various areas of bilateral security and

ranging talks on the sidelines.

cooperation, especially in defense production. The dignitaries expressed a strong interest in deepening their engagement with Pakistan's defense sector.

The CJCSC also gave a keynote speech at a seminar, itled "Pakistan's Defence Production and Potential: Chal-

enges and Way forward"

The Chairman JCSC emphasized that Pakistan's defence industry is the force behind equipping the battlehardened Armed Forces of Pakistan.

He further said that through superior R&D and using nnovative and cost-effective solutions, Pakistan's defence industries are not only fulfilling country's essential defence requirements but also exploring avenues of collaboration in the international defence market. He noted that the platform of IDEAS is an ideal opportunity for publicizing Pakistan's well-developed Defence Industrial Complex to the international community.

38 people were martyred in

QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over meeting of Board of Directors of Balochistan Board of Investment and Trade. CEO Major Kabeer Khan Zarkoon and Vice Chairman Bilal Khan Kakar are also present.

PM for ensuring third party validation in all government procurements

ISLAMABAD (APP): rected to establish a com-Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday directed the relevant authorities to ensure third party validation including quality insurance in all the government procurements.

Chairing a meeting held here to review good governance and public procurements, the prime minister also directed to bring reforms in Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) and purge the authority of any type of in-

"Procurement of services and purchasing in all government institutions in a transparent way is the top priority of the government," the prime minister said adding that ensuring transparency in the government institutions' procurement would help building the foreign investors' confidence on Pakistan.

The prime minister di-

mittee, separate from the procurement agency, to address complaints related to the procurement process.

He also stressed to appoint qualified, professional, and experienced experts at PPRA on merit.

The prime minister instructed all government departments to use e-Procurement (e-PADS) besides establishing special procurement cells in government departments for purchasing and acquiring services.

Transparency in government affairs is essential for national development, he said.

During the meeting, the prime minister was informed that the review of the PPRA Ordinance and related rules and regulations



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Nagyi in a meeting with British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Hamish Falconer.

SCP summons IGPs. Home Secretaries in missing children case

ISLAMABAD (APP): stitutional Bench of the The Supreme Court of Pakistan has expressed serious displeasure over the comprising Justice Jamal reports on the state of Khan Mandokhial, Justice missing children and di- Muhammad Ali Mazhar, rected all provinces to submit a detailed report that Rizvi, Justice Musarrat how many children have Hilali and Justice Naeem been abducted and how

many are being recovered. The Court summoned Inspectors General of Police and Home Secretaries of all the four provinces for next hearing to be held on 28 this month.

The six member Con- SCP has done nothing yet.

SCP, headed by Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan and Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Akhtar Afghan was hearing a petition regarding missing children in Paki-

The petitioner informed the Court that the Committee for missing children constituted by the

vacates NA-262 Quetta seat ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday disqualified Adil Bazai, the PML-N Member of the National Assembly, and declared

vacant.

ECP strikes down Adil Bazai's membership,

the NA-262 Quetta seat

The ECP announced a reserved judgment on a petition filed by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif under Article 63-A, referring to Bazai's failure to vote on the budget and the 26th Constitutional Amend-







AJK President vows

to thwart Indian

Government's plans

MIRPUR (APP): Azad Azad Kashmir stand in soli-

Jammu Kashmir President

Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has made it clear

that Kashmiris will never

accept the division of their

state as a settlement of the

held by the District Bar As-

sociation in Kotli district on

Thursday, Chaudhry em-

phasized that Kashmiris on

both sides of the Line of

Control (LOC) will reject

division under any circum-

the Indian government's brutalities in Kashmir, stat-

ing that the Modi govern-

ment has broken records of

barbarism and oppression.

However, he assured that

no amount of oppression

can stop Kashmiris from

fighting for their right to

self-determination. The

Chaudhry condemned

Speaking at a function

Kashmir dispute.

stances.

Regional climate coalitions to forward diplomacy, inclusive collaborations must for climate resilience: Romina

BAKU (APP): The global experts at a critical discussion on the sidelines of the global climate conference COP29 highlighting linkages among water security, peace and biodiversity advocated for multilateral coalitions among regional states of the global south amid emerging tech revolution transforming climate vulnerable sectors.

The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cul-Organization (ICESCO) in collaboration with the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) organised the sideline event titled "Fostering Water Security, Biodiversity and Peace Through Innovation and Earth Observations" here at the COP29 venue.

In her special remark, Prime Minister of Pakistan's Coordinator for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam said the climate crisis has been accelerating at an unmanageable pace that pushes the world to spearhead out of the box solutions like regional cooperation as the lead forum for

gentsia. She added that in Pakistan the rising impacts of climate change and policy challenges have augmented the need of holistic and inclusive policy solutions that cater for all the regional partners and not merely a single community or na-

Romina Khursheed Alam pointed out that the scale of climate catastrophe is gigantic with its risks and hazards permeating into every aspect of life which was evident during the 2022 devastating floods that totally dismantle life, livelihoods, development and social fabric in the affected ar-

Pakistan, she said had a clear agenda at the COP29 demanding sincere pledges for climate finance, debt neutral just energy transition, loss and damage fund mobilization, and attention of the developed towards adaptation related finance for the developing countries as they also needed adaptation along with mitigation.

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI said

mate change whereas the use of cutting edge technology was crucial in transforming the global approach towards enhancing resilience of the vulnerable

Dr Suleri cited the example of landmine detecting technology usage in detecting water and soil quality in the arable land to ascertain the resources required to reap desired yield in a particular amid climate change impacts.

He added that the new emerging technologies like unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) usage in agriculture and other such new emergng technologies were proiding an opportunity to address climate-induced challenges of the impacted

Dr Salim AlMalik, Director General ICESCO said the water management was an archaic practice that lead to traditional approaches with different scope and success ratio. The ICECO had the vision to collaborate with its member states for the transfer of technology and knowledge sharing as key pillars towards climate re-



QUETTA: Traders of Quetta, Abdul Rahim Kakar, Nasrullah, Rasheed Nasir and others addressing a press conference, in Quetta.

ment to make it so.

their needs so that you can

twinkle into different col-

ors. They (parents) sup-

ported in believing you

unconditionally. Today is

a day for each and every

one of you to express your

tended congratulations to

the graduates saying "to-

day, you enter a new phase

students, Governor said

riod of human history.

of practical life."

The Governor ex-

While addressing the

Shrinking globe is near to...

Continued from page 1

Durrani, Iranian Consul General based in Quetta, Hassan Darvishvand, personalities from different lives of thousands of walks of the life, senior concerned high ups, Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazai, members of the faculty, graduates and their parents participated in

the convocation. The Governor gave away degrees to some 501 students graduated from the University in different disciplines. They were included 25 Ph.D and 27 M.Phil scholars, besides 415 graduates. In all 34 students were also conferred the gold medals in the convocation. Worth mentioning was that a female graduate received her degree from the Governor while carrying her infant child in

The Governor said that it is a great privilege for him to address on the occasion of 21st convocation of the UoB. He said that the significant contribution of UoB to our nation building are dynamic educationists, researchers, leaders and managers in numerous

walks of life. He said that "today, in young blood of this going on graduation ceremony, I openly see the visionary and dynamic leaders and scientists of tomorrow. I have great expectations that you will ensure both brighter enlightened Balochistan. In this connection, modern science and technology is real path-

way to move ahead." While addressing the deans and faculty of the University, Governor said that the constant pursuit of knowledge is everlasting. Undoubtedly, you have made UoB a very vibrant

learning house. He said that it is your intellect, compassion and commit-

"You have changed the brighter future. Your service in shaping the minds of young generation is hicles

highly appreciated," he The president, in statement, expressed grief Addressing the graduating students, the Governor said that "your parents, are your pillars of mane act. strength. They sacrificed

thorities concerned to take perpetrators of the attack

for peace for the departed souls and strength for the

and emphasised the best possible medical treatment to them.

that you are fortunate Prime Muhammad enough that you are graduating at a truly historic pe-"You generation is the most connected without

any barriers of time and gedren in district Kurram. ography. Just imagine when a billion minds get connected what breakinjured in the incident. through can occur."

He said that "you are growing up in times of technology with the world available at your fingertips. It excites me to think of what all of you could achieve in your

He said that the golden opportunities in front of you all are limitless and at the same time, you all have great responsibilities on your shoulders. In addition to this, you are bound to shape add new feathers to the crown of entire human-

At least 40 killed in gun... Continued from page 1

Meanwhile President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday strongly condemned youngsters here for the the incident of firing took place in Kurram district targeting the passengers ve-

> over the loss of precious lives in the incident and called it a coward and inhu-He instructed the au-

on innocent citizens to the President Zardari prayed to Allah Almighty

bereaved families to bear the He also prayed for early recovery of the injured

Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the convoy of innocent civilians including women and chil-

He directed to provide best medical care to those In a statement issued by the PM Office Press Wing,

> to bring those involved in the attack to justice. Terming the attack on the innocent civilians, an act of barbarism, the prime minister emphasized that the enemies of the nation will fail in all their nefarious attempts to destroy

the prime minister ordered

the peace of the country. He vowed that the perpetrators involved in this incident will be identified and given exemplary punishment.



KARACHI: Visitors take keen interest in military ammunitions during the 12th International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024) Exhibition held at Expo Center in Karachi.



tional Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS)2024.

Pakistan draws world attention to Kashmiri children's sufferings as over 100,000 already orphaned

the international commu-nity observed World Children's Day on Thursday, Pakistan drew its attention to the plight of Kashmiri children living in an environment of "fear and intimidation" due to ongoing Indian atrocities, as over 100,000 had been or-

phaned. "Living in a highly militarized territory, the trauma faced by the Kashmiri children is immense leaving indelible scars on

their psychological and mental health. Over 100,000 children have become orphans as a result of Indian oppression in the IIOJK (Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir). Their plight deserves international attention," Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said at her weekly press briefing.

She called on the international community to stand up for the rights of Kashmiri children and demand an end to their suffering and reaffirmed Pakistan's political, diplomatic, and moral support to Kashmiri people for a just and peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, under the UN Security Council resolutions.

She welcomed the latest report of the UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices, reIsrael's warfare practices in the occupied territories as

acts of genocide. She said Pakistan welcomed the condemnation of the ongoing smear campaigns and attacks against the UNRWA and called on all member states to fulfill their legal obligations to prevent and stop irregular violations of international law and hold Israel account-

The spokesperson expressed regret over the result of Wednesday's vote at the UN Security Council and the inability to reach consensus on the resolution calling for a ceasefire in

Gaza.

"Pakistan reiterates its call for an immediate, unconditional, and permanent ceasefire, unhindered access to humanitarian assistance, and full support to the UNRWA and its mandated humanitarian activities.

Highlighting the diplomatic activities that took place during the last week, the spokesperson mentioned the visit of a highlevel parliamentary delegation from Spain's Senate Foreign Affairs Committee; the visit of UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Hamish Falconer, the second round of Pakistan-Bosnia and Herzegovina Bilateral Political Consultations and the third round

of Pakistan-Kazakhstan



posal to establish revolving

funds for the construction

and maintenance of

schools. The Chief Minis-

ter reviewed a proposal to

launch a mobile bus library

project in government

schools in order to promote

study culture among students.'

She added,"Uniforms

should be properly enforced

The authorities concerned

presented a report on the

ongoing school meal pro-

gram in three districts of

PUBLIC NOTICE

South Punjab.

in government schools.

BAKU: Prime Minister of Pakistan's Coordinator Romina Khurshid Alam calls on COP29 President. Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mukhtar Babayev.

Punjab CM orders building 5,000 new classrooms

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has ordered to construct 5,000 new classrooms under the Public Schools Reorganisation Programme (PSRP).

While chairing a special meeting of the School Education Department to review its various projects and their related issues, she added, "Modern labs will be established to increase learning capacity of stu-

She agreed to a pro-

GoB decides... Continued from page 1

tiatives of the government. Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister said that Balochistan has a long coastal belt along with the mineral resources. He added that this is the most suitable region for investment.

He assured that foolproof security would be provided to the investors in the province. In addition to this, all necessary facilities would also be provided to the investors for establishing factories, he added.

He urged the investors to come to Balochistan fearlessly, we would provide full security to them.

Mir Sarfraz Bugti mentioned that private investors have deep interest for establishing more industrial estates in the province.

He also said that we would provide conducive environment to the investors by ensuring provision of sui gas, water, infrastructure and other basic facilities. He directed to the BOI&T to formulate such projects, which may increase the resources of province in future.

He said that the province would gain financial self sufficiency with investment to be made by the in-

the Pakistani delegation.

partnership between Pakistan and the EU, providfostering mutual understanding in areas of bilateral cooperation.

Prime Minister Shehbaz

will hold extensive talks with Prime Minister Shehbaz and discuss areas of bilateral cooperation.

Asked about the recent surge in terror activities. the spokesperson reiterated Pakistan's call on the Afghan authorities to take action against the terrorist elements having hideouts in Afghanistan and risking not only Pakistan's peace but also the whole

ATC issues arrest warrants for PTI leader in Askari Tower attack case

ATC Judge Manzer Ali Gill passed the orders on an application filed by the Gulberg po-

The investigation into hiding to avoid arquested the court to issue bailable arrest warrants for the accused.

during the May 9 riots.

ISLAMABAD (APP): As leased last week describing Bilateral Political Consul-

She told the media that the 14th Session of the Pakistan-EU Joint Commission would take place on the day. The EU delegation will be led by Deputy Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific, Paola Pampaloni, and Secretary Economic Affairs Division Dr. Kazim Niaz will head

She said that the dialogue reflected the growing ing a valuable platform for meaningful discussions and

Spokesperson Baloch announced that President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko would visit Pakistan from November 25-27, at the invitation of

President Lukashenko

LAHORE (APP): An anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Thursday issued bailable arrest warrants for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Khalid Gujjar in the Askari Tower attack case related to the May 9 riots.

lice for the purpose.

officer submitted that Khalid Gujjar had gone rest in the case and re-

The court accepted the application and issued bailable arrest warrants for Khalid Gujjar.

The Gulberg police had registered a case against PTI leaders and workers on charges of attacking Askari Tower

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crucial role of lawyers in establishing the rule of law and providing justice in society.He praised the legal community's exemplary role in Kashmir's lib-

darity with their Kashmiri brethren in this struggle, he

Chaudhry in his address also highlighted the

eration struggle against In-The president expressed optimism that the people of occupied Kashmir will soon achieve freedom from India's illegal oc-

conclusion Chaudhry urged the legal community across Azad Kashmir to raise their voices against Indian atrocities and use social media to sensitize the world about the situation in occupied



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Women Development Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti.

Chairman PRCS highlights locally led Climate adaptation at COP29

BAKU (APP): Chairman of Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari underscored PRCS's extensive humanitarian work in Pakistan, especially during the 2022 monsoon floods.

Addressing a special event hosted in the Pakistan Pavilion during the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, he emphasized the critical role of community-led adaptation, advocating for building local capacities and learning from grassroots experiences to enhance disaster response and recovery. Highlighting Gilgit-Baltistan as a case in point, he addressed the threats posed by glacier melting and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF) in the region. He detailed the organization's ongoing recovery programs and proactive measures to tackle climate challenges, reaffirming PRCS's dedication to easing the hardships of vul-

nerable communities. The event, titled "Empowering Communities: The Case for Locally Led Adaptation in Climate Resilience," emphasized the urgent need for collective action against climate change to mitigate the impacts of disasters.

A documentary showcasing PRCS's humanitarian initiatives and climate adaptation efforts provided attendees with an in-depth understanding of the

organization's work. Chairman Laghari also acknowledged the support extended by partner organizations including IFRC, ICRC, Norwegian Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent, German Red Cross, Kuwait Red Crescent, Saudi Red Crescent, Qatar Red Crescent, Egypt Red Crescent, Iran Red Crescent, and the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Cen-

Prominent figures including Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Senator Ms. Samina Mumtaz Zehri, representatives from the German Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), National Societies, and other key humanitarian stakeholders participated in the event.

It is to inform that the N.I.T published under AB No. 483/12.11.2024 vide TSE-242511588331 dated 13.11.2024 in daily newspapers Quetta, Details of Green Challan against which the amount need to be deposited have been rectified in bidding documents, under Head of Account C03-Miscellaneous Receipt, C031-Economic Services Receipts-Food & Agriculture, Account number: C-03136 Agriculture Others through Green Challan into National Bank of Pakistan. Last date for submission of bids on EPPS system has been extended till 02-12-2024 (10.00 AM). Rest of the terms & conditions will remain

AB No.514/21-11-2024 🚭 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🐷 @dpr

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On the above application to objections of public at large an invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission

PUBLIC NOTICE

otter of Administration uccession Certificate by Ms upsha with regards to oveable & immoveable assets deceased Ms. Shahida citizer umber 5440048563172 hat seen received. Following are

for issuance Administration

INCHARGE AGRICULTURE **EXTENSION BALOCHISTAN** QUETTA

PUBLIC NOTICE

dpr.gob f @dgpr.baloch

Application for issuance Letter of Administration Succession Certificate by M Sabar Jamala with regards to noveable & immoveable asset of deceased Ms. Gul Bashr citizen number 5540120002734 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. Sabar Jamala (Daughter)

On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the ned for submission objection (if any) within fourtee 14) days after publication of th

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for issuance Letter of Administration uccession Certificate by Malma with regards to moveat eceased Mr. Muhammad Sh itizen number 5440049039561 has been received. Following here declared as legal heirs.

.Salma (Spouse)

On the above application the objections of public at large an invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission objection (if any) within fourte 14) days after publication of t



PID(I)3484/24

Increased productivity, quality, innovation 'instant solution' to economic challenges: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday mentioned increased productivity, quality and innovation (PQI) as the 'instant solution' to the economic diffi-culties faced by the country in the absence of the required investment volume. "These [PQI] are the not what you do with what basic pillars on which the national competitiveness of any country depends," he said while addressing the inauguration session of the two-day National Productivity, Quality and Innova-

tion (PQI) Summit-2024. The summit, titled "Driving Growth Through Excellence in Productivity, Quality, and Innovation," has been organized by the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, with PQI identified as key drivers for achieving sustainable economic growth and enhancing Pakistan's global competi-

Narrating success stories of developed countries that attained economic participants to explore prosperity, the Planning minister said they first ing public, private, indusadopted key drivers of progress: productivity in to move forward in line 1980s and innovation in the hanced PQI. 1990s, all triggered by the 'knowledge explosion.'

"Competitiveness is you have inherited; competitiveness is all about what you are capable of creating," Ahsan Iqbal quoted Michael E. Porter, considered the Father of Competitive Strategy.

He regretted that Pathe National Competitiveness Index out of 140 countries, as reported by the World Economic Forum, adding, "Unfortunately, we stand nowhere

stressed the need to improve capabilities and follow international trends and be included in the leading tal.

economies of the world. He urged the summi ways for all sectors includtry, agriculture and services the 1970s, quality in the with the principles of en-

"The key to tackling the economic challenges is export-led economic growth, which can open the door to success for Pakistan by increasing exports from the current \$30 billion to \$100 billion," he remarked. Ahsan Igbal informed

the audience that friendly countries, especially Guli States including Saudi kistan was ranked 110th in Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Oatar had an overall investment portfolio of \$29 billion in diverse fields in Pakistan.

He said Pakistan was turning around due to the The Planning minister difficult decisions taken by the current government of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), at the principles "if we want to cost of its 'political capi-



SLAMABAD: Chief guest Rana Mashood, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Program and Van Nguyen, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Pakistan in a group photo with percipients during a market-driven vocational and technical skills training program concluded ceremony organized by Government of Japan, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Sarhad Rural Support Program.

Pakistan's future leaders shine at PM's University Olympiad 2024: Chairman

sports landscape, Chairman lighted. of the Prime Minister's lashhood Ahmad Khan Thursday unveiled the sity Olympiad 2024 a national platform for university students to showcase their athletic prowess and foster unity.

In an exclusive interview, Khan promised an thrilling event, bringing together 3,000 athletes from universities nationwide to compete in various sports.

Pakistan's exceptional young talent will take center stage, showcasing sportsmanship and skill, he

The Olympiad embodies the government's

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a tion, skill development and

ity education and sports opportunities, both domestically and internationally.

He also praised initiatives like the Pakistan Education Endowment Fund, Punjab Information Technology Board and Pakistan Danish Authority, which provide educational opportunities and promote inno-

Responding a question, he shared the remarkable strides PML-N led government has made in education, adding, the forefront of this progress is the Pakistan Education Endowment Fund, established to provide educational oppor-

major boost to Pakistan's entrepreneurship, he high- Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) has Khan said the been instrumental in pro-Youth Programme, Rana government's focus on qual- moting IT education, inspiring a new generation of innovators.

The Pakistan Danish Authority, born from the Punjab Danish Authority was another shining example of progress. Its network of Danish schools and centers of excellence offered free education to countless children, empowering them to shape their destinies.

Youth festivals have also uncovered talented individuals like Arshad Nadeem, he added.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz harif, Pakistan is prioritizing education. Initiatives like the Pakistan Education Endowment Fund demonstrate this dedication.

Impersonator gang busted; cash, uniform recovered

SLAMABAD (APP) slamabad Police Sumbal police station team arrested two wanted members of the impersonator and snatcher gang involved in numerous snatching activities and recovered snatched cash and police uniform from their possession on Thursday.

A police spokesperson told APP that the Sumbal police team used technical and human resources and succeeded in apprehending two wanted members of the imperson-

identified as Ishfaq and Aman. Police team also recovered the snatched cash and police uniform from their possession. Cases were registered against the nabbed accused and further investigation is underway.

The police were alerted about these robberies by a citizen who was targeted by the two accused while they were wearing police uniforms. The criminals approached the victim in front of his house, where they robbed him of his purse and cash. The victim immediately called the emergency helpline "Pucar-15" and reported the incident. Following the citizen's prompt report, the police took swift action and launched a dedicated effort to apprehend the criminals. With relentless hard work, the police successfully arrested the two suspects in-

volved in the crime.



ISLAMABAD: The Minister for of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal inaugurated the National Productivity, Quality, and Innovation (PQI) Summit 2024, This two-day event revolves around the theme "Driving Growth Through Excellence in Productivity, Quality, and Innovation".

France backs global fight against polio in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): French Ambassador to Pakistan, Nicolas Galey, has reaffirmed France's support for Pakistan's polio eradi-cation efforts, highlighting international collaboration as key to tackling this pressing health challenge.

Speaking at a gathering hosted at the French residence, Ambassador Galey welcomed prominent figures, including Secretary Niaz, Ayesha Farooq, the Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio, and Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, the Prime Minister's Coordinator on Health. Repre- Pakistan and for the

Chairman Capital Develop-

ment Authority (CDA)

Muhammad Ali Randhawa

on Thursday called for an

ambitious revamping plan aimed at improving Rural

Health Centers (RHCs) and Basic Health Units (BHUs). The CDA chair-

man while chairing a meet-

ing directed the implemen-

tation of steps aimed at in-

troducing "one patient, one

ID" system. He instructed

the development of a com-

prehensive business model

Oversight Board (POB), diplomatic missions, NGOs, and other organizations were also present. The ambassador opened by emphasizing the importance of the event, which brought together diverse stakeholders from Pakistan and abroad. He commended the collective commitment to

across sectors and borders. "If so many organizations are rallying around this cause, it is because it is a critical and urgent one, for

generating essential revenue

resources for the uplift and

maintenance of these health

tor of Capital Hospital

briefed the meeting on new

health initiatives to im-

prove health facilities at the

hospital. He stated that the

process of hiring specialists

and doctors was under pro-

cess, bio metric attendance

for all CDA employees as

well as electronic medical

The Executive Direc-

related infrastructure.

CDA chairman for

revamping rural

health centers

ISLAMABAD (APP): for BHUs and RHCs for

ISLAMABAD: Van Nguyen, Deputy Resident Rep-

resentative, UNDP Pakistan viewing skills during

a market-driven vocational and technical skills

training program concluded ceremony organized

by Government of Japan, the United Nations Devel-

opment Program (UNDP) and Sarhad Rural Sup-

Health ministers urge parents

to prioritize polio vaccination

amid rising misinformation

Rafique announced that de-

spite only one reported

case of polio in the prov-

ince, the situation remains

under control thanks to the

government's proactive

measures. To further com-

bat the disease, the govern-

ment is taking all necessary

steps to enhance Expanded

Programme (EP) coverage

and launch standardized

emphasized the importance

of taking polio drops seri-

ously and urged parents

not to compromise on their

children' s health. Bakht

Muhammad Kakar, the Pro-

vincial Minister of Health in

Balochistan has emphasized

the importance of improv-

ing sanitation and hygiene

systems, addressing paren-

tal refusal and boosting rou-

tine immunization.

Punjab Minister also

awareness drives.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Ministers on Thursday ap-

pealed the parents to safe-

guard their children against

polio through vaccination,

as misinformation about

polio vaccines spreads rap-

idly. They emphasized the

critical role of standardized

polio awareness drives in

remote areas and routine

immunization in controlling

the disease. Ministers from

three provinces while talk-

ing to PTV news channel

have joined forces to stress

the importance of collective

action in eradicating polio.

safeguard their children

against this debilitating dis-

ease through vaccination,

amidst the alarming spread

of misinformation about

Punjab Health Minis-

Khawaja Salman

They urged parents to

eradicating polio, a mission

requiring concerted efforts

sentatives from the Polio world," Galey stated. He acknowledged the invaluable role of POB visits to Pakistan and Afghanistan, which enable partners to assess on-ground realities, evaluate progress, and finetune strategies. Ambassador Galey praised the Pakistani government's strong political commitment to polio eradication, as observed by POB Chair Dr. Chris Elias and the delegation during their visit. He singled out Ayesha Farooq for her leadership in coordinating national and international stakeholders to address the

Gandapur as absconder

ISLAMABAD (APP): An Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) on Thursday initiated process to declare Chief Minister KP Ali Amin Gandapur as proclaimed offender and ordered to summon him through advertisement.

Abbas Sapra heard the ter rorism case against PTI leaders registered in I-9 Police Station. During hearing, the court rejected the one time exemption from attendance requests of accused Faisal Javed and Wasiq Qayyum, and also canceled their surety bonds for bails.

The court also initiated the process to declare Ali Amin Gandpaur as absconder on his continuous disappearance in the

tively.

The water level in Mangla ,050 feet.

The inflow and out flow of water was recorded as 5,900 cusecs and 27,000 cusecs respectively.

The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 50,000, 50,200, 36,700 and 6,000 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 12,700 cusecs of water released Nowshera and 3,000 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala

challenge. **Court initiates** process to declare

The ATC Judge Tahir He made these reby Quality Enhancement by HEC.

IRSA releases 96,800 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Thursday released 96,800 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 49,600

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1505.41 feet and was 107.41 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 22,900 cusecs and 49,000 cusecs respec-

River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1165.60 feet, which was 115.60 feet higher than its dead level of

ISLAMABAD: Workers busy in placed heavy shipping containers near Faizabad flyover along Islamabad Highway for road block ahead of upcoming

PTI protest, in the Federal Capital.

Defense opposes NAB request of remanding back Toshakhana-I reference

(IHC) on Thursday adjourned hearing till November 27, on appeals of PTI founder and Bushra Bibi against their sentences in Toshahana-I reference.

The legal team, during this day hearing, opposed the NAB request to remand back the case to the trial court and prayed the bench to decide the appeals on

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb heard the appeals of two accused. The trial court had announced 14-year jail term each to PTI founder and Bushra Bibi.

Defense Lawyer Barprosecution had concluded

ISLAMABAD (APP): its case in trial court and The Islamabad High Court now it is requesting for retrial of the reference. The prosecution wanted to revise the whole process, he said. NAB's Special Prosecutor Amjad Pervaiz said that the accused didn't cooperate with the trial court due to which this hap-

The chief justice remarked that we also have to view that if the bench could go towards the merits of the case. This court had taken the decision in two months in cypher case, he said. The chief justice remarked that this case couldn't be compared with cypher case because the defense was not given opportunity to cross examine the witnesses and the staterister Ali Zafar said that the ment of section-342 was also not recorded.



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to PM on health Dr Mukhtar Bharath addressing National Action Plan For Health Security 2024 -2028.

Dr Zia for enhancing Pakistan's int'l reputation in health, education sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ex- Cell of Khyber Medical ecutive Director of Higher University (KMU) to Education Commission strengthen quality assur-(HEC) Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum has emphasized the importance of sustained efforts to enhance Pakistan's international reputation in health and education sectors.

While acknowledging the challenges in ensuring quality at all levels, he has emphasized that higher education is crucial for socio-economic develop-

marks during a ceremony organized here yesterday ance mechanisms in its affiliated and constituent in-

The event aimed to expand KMU's quality enhancement measures, originally implemented in line with HEC Quality Assurance Agency guidelines, to its medical, dental, nursing, and allied health sciences institutions Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum

urged stakeholders to view quality assurance as a shared responsibility rather than an obligation imposed

Maintaining peace and tranquility in capital utmost priority; DIG

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Deputy Inspector General of Police DIG Sved Ali Raza has instructed the police officials to be highly alert and ready all the time to deal with any emerging law and order situ-

"Will take every possible necessary measure to protect the lives and property of citizens as well as private and commercial property and ready to

Ali Raza said while addressing the police officials on Thursday, a public relation officer told APP.

DIG Ali Raza said that all the officers are putting their best efforts to maintain the law-and-order situation in the capital. Islamabad Police will never allow anyone to disturb the peaceful environment of the city and will take all necessary steps to protect thwart adventurism from the lives and property"



ISLAMABAD: Rector COMSATS University Islamabad, Prof. Dr. Sajid Qamar awarding degree to a graduate student during the 35th and 36th Convocation at Convention Center.

COMSATS holds 35th, 36th convocation ceremony ISLAMABAD (APP): with pride and to face fu-

COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI) celebrated its 35th and 36th convocation at the Convention Centre on Thursday, honouring 2,629 graduates. According to the press release, this group included 76 PhDs, 775 MS degrees and 2,193 BS degrees. The ceremony featured two sessions with 1,261 graduates including 29 PhDs in the morning and 1,368 graduates including 47 PhDs in the evening.
Professor Dr. Sajid

Qamar, Rector of CUI congratulated the graduates and their families, expressing appreciation for the faculty's dedication.

He emphasized the importance of knowledge and urged graduates to embody the teachings of the Holy Quran in their lives, promoting truthfulness and integrity. Incharge of Islamabad Campus, Professor Dr. Sohail Asghar, encouraged graduates to carry forward the legacy of CUI campuses nationwide.

ture challenges with determination. The ceremony featured the presentation of degrees across various disciplines Bioinformatics, Physics, **Economics and Business** Administration. The Minister of Sci-

ence and Technology, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui served as the Chief Guest for the morning session, awarding 34 Gold Medals, 33 Silver Medals and 24 Bronze Medals to highachieving students. In the evening session, Ambassador Dr. Mohammad Nafees Zakaria addressed the graduates, highlighting the importance of focusing on industry, innovation and technology in higher educa-

COMSATS University Islamabad established in 1998, is recognized for its contributions to research and education in Pakistan and has expanded to seven



Yaseen Group's joins in the CDA Employees Union

Shaza Fatima calls for collaborative efforts for **Child Online Protection**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Thursday emphasized the need for strong collaboration at national and international levels to address the growing challenge of child online protection. "We must unite our efforts to combat online threats and safeguard our children's future. Every child deserves a safe and secure digital world where they can learn, grow, and thrive," the minister said while addressing the Youth Safety Summit Pakistan, hosted by TikTok in collaboration with the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). The event aimed to foster a safer digital environment for the youth. She said that Australia has enacted legislation to regulate children's use of social media, while the United States has approved laws focused on online child protection.

The minister high lighted the importance of raising awareness about responsible social media content creation and reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring the digital safety of Pakistan's youth.

'In today's digital world, online threats are rapidly increasing, putting internet users—especially children and young people—at greater risk. Due to their curiosity and innocence, children are particularly vulnerable to online dangers. As we advance technologically, it is imperative to address these concerns to protect our

youth," Shaza Fatima said. She highlighted the government's efforts to enhance cybersecurity and improve Pakistan's digital ecosystem. "Our country is proud of its growing cybersecurity infrastructure, increasing teledensity. expanding broadband penetration, and flourishing IT freelancing sector.

ator gang. The accused were

Daily Soice of Masse. Independent

Friday November 22, 2024

Military option

Considering that Balochistan has been experiencing a steady wave of terrorist violence over the past few months, particularly involving Baloch separatist groups, it is no surprise that the state has decided to use armed force to quell the insurgency.

Using the platform of the Apex Committee, the civil and military leadership said on Tuesday that an operation would be launched to counter terrorism and separatist violence in the province. while Nacta would be revitalised under the vision of Azm-i-Istehkam. The meeting also announced that a National and Provincial Intelligence Fusion and Threat Assessment Centre would be created and a "wholeof-system approach" adopted.

It is clear why the state has to take firm action to restore peace in Balochistan. In August terrorists launched a coordinated series of attacks in different parts of the province; such incidents have been occurring since then with disturbing regularity. They include the massacre of miners in Dukki in October, as well as the bombings in Mastung and at the Quetta railway station earlier this month. In fact, the railway station atrocity, in which a large number of civilians were martyred along with security personnel, may have played a decisive role in the state's decision to launch a military opera-

Apart from these incidents, there have been numerous grisly murders of non-Baloch workers, as well as the suicide bombing in October outside Karachi airport in which two Chinese nationals were killed. The latter incident threatened to imperil Pakistan's relationship with ral out of control in early 2021 and reached an incurrent account deficit, Beijing. All these violent acts have been linked to Baloch sepa-

Yet it should be remembered that although Balochistan has witnessed numerous military operations over the decades, they have largely failed to bring long-lasting peace to the province. This time, with Nacta on board, things could be different. While the state goes after terrorists, innocent people should with one's first encounter. not be hauled away and there I met Khaled in the winter must be transparency regarding the operations. If relatives of the insurgents, especially women and children, are targeted in the name of tackling terrorism, it will be counterproductive and breed more disaffection.

As this paper has said before, while restoring peace is esaddressing Balochistan's socioeconomic deprivation is equally important as terrorists exploit poverty and underdevelopment in the resource-rich province to turn people against the state. Moreover, the state will need to keep channels open with the Afghan Taliban to ensure that Baloch insurgents are not able to find swain Konstantin. Khaled had a lesser role as the vilsanctuary in their country.

Better ties with Kabul can help thwart the malignant designs of the "hostile foreign powers" that the Apex Committee identified. Some regional states, such as India, are deepening relations with the Afghan Taliban. For peace Balochistan and elsewhere in the country, Pakistan cannot afford to ignore these developments and must keep the lines open with Kabul.

Delivering clean air dence, revealing that Pakistan's urban air pollu-

Ali Tauqeer Sheikh tion ranked among the worst In recent days, we saw economic and social life in alglobally and significantly exceeded international most all of Punjab and KP limits. The report showed come to a standstill. The air that air pollution contribquality in Punjab, the most uted to approximately populous and most 235,000 premature deaths urbanised province of the and over 80,000 hospital country and parts of KP admissions annually. The air endowed with pristine quality reduced life expectmountains has become a ancy by up to 2.7 years more serious climate crisis across Pakistan. It seems than the magnitude of the that the report in 2014 was 2022 floods

With almost 100 million people inhaling polluted air — 10 times more oxic than WHO standards - the scale of this crisis has become a health emergency. The rain will provide temporary respite as it will help improve visibility but not permanently bring pollution levels down to

ealthy standards. The problem has not emerged suddenly, nor can it be resolved quickly. How an Pakistan reverse the rapidly deteriorating situation? We need to set realistic targets for 2047 to commemorate our first 100 years as a nation.

in air pollutants by 2030 The brewing challenge and 81pc by 2040. These goals required coordinated was recognised in 2014, by interventions across trans-World Bank-compiled portation, industry, agriculstudy Air Quality in Pakiture, and waste managestan: A Review of the Evi-

ment sectors, supported by orient their policy on clean strengthened institutional air: capacity and regulatory frameworks

The Lahore High Court's Smog Commission (2017) and the Judicial Water & Environment Commission (2019), could not persuade the provincial government to bring the issue to the forefront.

Ironically, it was only

in March last year that the National Clean Air Policy was approved. Within a month, it was followed by the Punjab's Clean Air Plan. Both NCAP and PCAP have shifted the signposts: achieving a 38pc reduction in PM2.5 emissions by 2030, compared to baseline levels, and to 81pc by 2040. In reality, a credible scientific baseline still does not exist. The policies' effectiveness is further compromised by limited air quality monitoring infrastructure. While Punjab has begun to install such infrastructure, Balochistan, KP, Sindh, and Gilgit-Baltistan lack monitoring networks entirely.

Several complex factors drive this crisis. Some developing countries have used the following five framework principles to

First: adaptation and mitigation are intrinsically linked. We need to bust the myth that as a developing country, emissions reduction or mitigation is not our priority, and only adaptation is. The present air pollution crisis is proof that it is perilous for Pakistan to ignore mitigation measures. Second: policies are

for implementation. Start-

ing with the National Envi-

ronment Policy (2005), a

stack of policies have high-

lighted the need for ambient air quality. Despite several trillion rupees worth of PSDP, air quality hardly received any investments. Further, the policies beg implementation, not a downward revision of targets. NCAP and PCAP have both relaxed air quality parameters that fall behind the WHO's 2021 guidelines. No reasons are offered for lowering standards. By reverting to pre-2021 WHO interim targets, Pakistan has effectively loosened the existing Na-

tional Environmental Qual-

ambitions of Nationally Determined Contributions (2021). Instead of assessing the barriers for its slow implementation, an important thought leader has recently stated that NDC 2.0 has "unrealistically high ambition". In reality, the NDCs still lack an implementation plan, costing, or a secretariat to monitor its progress. Far from scaling down its sovereign commitments, Pakistan needs to scale up climate action for

a convincing narrative for

greater access to climate fi-

Regrettably, some

functionaries are now also

arguing for reducing the

Third: align with global trends. The present crisis provides Pakistan an opportunity to join the glodrive decarbonisation, now gaining new momentum after Donald Trump's announcement of exiting the Paris Agreement. This is the right time for Pakistan to commit to net zero. At this time, about 75pc of states have set net-zero targets accountity Standards from 2013. ing for 98pc of global GDP Some experts believe that and 88pc of greenhouse gas it will potentially raise emissions. The list includes PM2.5 levels by more than our neighbours Bangladesh,

China, India and the Maldives. This decision can serve as a compass for the direction of our journey Fourth: decentralised

clean air plans and engaging stakeholders. Technical capacities as well as willing ness exists in academia, think tanks, start-ups, and the private sector to engage in data generation, map emissions hotspots, deliver research analytics and carry out advocacy campaigns This is particularly important as the data generated by the government is expensive, delayed, and unusable. The Punjab government can give legitimacy to independent datasets and spearhead their environmental data generation. Fifth: formally engage with the government of Indian Punjab. Air quality is a transboundary issue, even if crop-burning is a small contributory factor. A dialogue is needed for cleaner air or both sides of the border, and for early closure of two coalfired power plants closer to the border: Guru Hargobind Thermal Plant and Guru Gobind Singh Super Thermal Power Plant. The agenda and purpose, however, has to be collaborative rather than accusatory. Courtesy Dawn

Is the economy improving?

Khurram Husain

It has now become a routine question. Every TV anchor and people I meet in any gathering all want to know: is it true that the economy is 'improving'?

The short, and best, answer here is 'yes and no'. Yes, because the deficits that plagued it have been plugged. No, because growth remains a far-off dream. The proper term to use is 'the economy is stabilising', but it is not yet, and will not be for a long time, ready to grow. This presents a prob-

lem. Without growth, you don't get employment generation to absorb the new entrants to the labour force, of which there are an estimated two million every year. You also don't get income growth, meaning all the purchasing power that was destroyed in the inflationary fire of 2021 to 2024 will not be recovered. At least not in the

2021 and reached an in-ferno by 2023. It means which returns every few economy is nearly bank-

no shrill warnings of default, at least not for a few years, and no catastrophic deva-luations, rationing of foreign exchange reserves, import controls, and so on. All that belongs to the past now, mercifully. Pakistan dodged a bullet in the summer of 2022, when foreign exchange reserves ran so low that they brought the country to the very edge of a disorderly and potentially catastrophic default. Then it dodged the same bullet again, in the summer of 2023, when it re-

predicting the newspaper

headlines of November

nored by policymakers,

even though the study also

pointed out that air pollu-

tion was costing up to 6.5

per cent of GDP annually.

Healthcare expenditures

amount to \$47.7 billion

(about 5.8pc of GDP),

while lost labour output

reaches \$6.6bn. The cost of

environmental degradation

at the time was estimated

the challenge, the study set

a target of 70pc reduction

Given the gravity of

Rs365bn annually.

The warnings were ig-

tion one more time. Since July 2023, a set of policies have been implemented steadfastly that have finally averted the dire situation we faced back then. These policies included a very high interest rate and very high tax burden to be borne mostly by those already in the tax net. Between them, these future. measures extinguished But stability means economic growth and the end of inflation, the choked much of the othplateauing out of prices which had begun to spiactivity. But the net re-

turned to the same posi-

years to drain our foreign exchange reserves, vanished and turned into a surplus. And the fiscal deficit came under manageable control, despite some issues below the surface with provincial surpluses and other line

These deficits were the main reason why the country's foreign exchange reserves had depleted and inflation reached historic highs. With both deficits under control, the reserves stabilised and prices plateaued. So far so good. 're in a good place. But we cannot stay

here for very long. This stabilisation is what happens every time in the first year of an IMF programme. There are no surprises here. This is precisely what the IMF medicine is supposed to do. Every government that has ever implemented an IMF programme in its the state cannot operate first year in power has a national airline or a touted these achieve-ments as its success. This history goes back to 1988, and even earlier. It has happened every single time. A new government

rupt. The new govern- ate state-owned enterment signs onto an IMF programme. In the first year of the programme the deficits stabilise, growth plummets, reserves rise. The government claims

But the hard-fought stability that comes as a result of the painful decisions made under IMF auspices is only the beginning. The real story is in securing the kind of changes in the structure of the economy that will enable it to grow without depleting its foreign exchange reserves and giving rise to inflationary pressures. The real game is in ensuring growth returns, but either without deficits destabilised it, or with the

nying, sustainable way to finance them. What exactly are these changes? Consider for example, the fact that power sector without accumulating massive losses. Or consider that the country's exports remain wedded to the same commodity they were

deficits but an accompa-

prises in a way that doesn't lead to the accumulation of such massive losses? How do we build an export base beyond

These are the kinds of questions that require answers urgently to make the transition from stabilisation to growth. But successive governments from 1988 onwards have failed to make this transition. This is the main reason we remain stuck in an endless loop of the same policies that first stabilise the economy, then pump it for growth which growth destabilises it again making another round of stabilisation necessary. So if you want to

whether the economy is 'improving', ask yourself this question: are deep-rooted changes taking place? Or do you see even the beginnings of deep-rooted management of the macchanges being brought about? The answer is a the government now faces

One feeble first step was just attempted in the privatisation of PIA, and we all saw how that ended wedded to in the 1980s: in an embarrassing fiasco,

ministers in the government are now blaming each other for the mess.

Until we can see deep-rooted changes being brought about to improve power sector efficiency, a reduction in the rate of accumulation of the circular debt, broadening of the export base as well as the base of revenues, expenditure management, plateauing in the rate of debt accumulation (both domestic and external), rising rate of investment driven by rising domestic savings, and so on, until we can see changes of this sort happening, we cannot say the economy is 'improving' We can at best say the economy is 'stabilising'

Here is the big problem with stability: it is temporary.

Having found a fragile stability, after almost 18 months of hard and intense discipline in the the real challenge of transitioning from stability to growth.

How well they manage this will decide whether or not we are seecotton. How do we oper- so much so that various ing 'improvement'.

Romancing the word

F.S. Aijazuddin

Could this space be better used than to pen a requiem to a fellow writer and columnist? Khaled Ahmed passed away last Sunday, in Lahore, just as the suffocating smog lifted, making life for those who have survived him livable.

Inevitably, any memoir of a friend must begin of 1966. I had returned from London after qualifying as a chartered accountant. Khaled was still studying at Government College, Lahore. We were invited Farrukhnigar Aziz to perform in Anton Chekhov's

heavy drama The Seagull. Nawab Kalabagh (then governor West Pakistan) had banned plays being performed by men with women. Mixed students in Government College could not act together but the GC stage was available to host amateur Farrukhnigar cobbled together a small group which christened itself the Alpha Players (the

first of hopefully many). Shamim Ahmed (later Mrs Zafar Hilaly) played the lead role of Nina. Agha Ghazanfar (later Khaled's colleague in the Civil Service) played her love sick lage doctor Dorn. With more ambition than talent, I played the lead role of the amorous novelist Trigorin. I also volunteered to design the Rus-

sian costumes and the sets. The challenge came in finding a dead seagull in upcountry Lahore. I fabricated a facsimile in cloth. It should have worked, exthat Konstantin tossed the bird at Nina's feet, it bounced, bounced, and

After graduating but before joining our Foreign Service, Khaled worked with Sohail Iftikhar (son of the Congress politician Mian Iftikharuddin). Sohail had established Nigarishat, with the aim of publishing Urdu translations of historical classics. Khaled's bilingual talents were evident in its first publication — a translation into Urdu of Niccolao Manucci's Storia Do Mogor, Vol. 1: Or Mogul India; 1653-1708, an account of Mughal history under Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb.

Khaled often recalled Nigarishat's teething problems, of Sohail's oversize desk that got wedged on the staircase, forcing every visitor to clamber up or slide down. Khaled's facility with

languages enabled him to master Russian. He served in Moscow under ambassador Jamsheed Marker. Khaled recalled Marker and himself being summoned to the Kremlin in the early hours one wintry morning. The Russians wanted to express their displeasure over the Indo-Pak conflict in December 1971. Ambassador Marker and Khaled were made to wait for some time. Then they heard feet stride purposefully along a very long corridor. The sound reached the door of the waiting room. A senior Russian diplomat entered, looked at them, and said: "You will regret this." He then left as abruptly and slammed the door behind him. His footsteps resounded as he retraced his

In time, Khaled left diplomacy to its own devices. He rejoined an earlier love — philology. He consorted with a harem of words. He chose to live in his own world, one in which suits and ties and personal ambition had no place. He preferred a motorcycle to a motor car. He wore shalwar-kameez long before and after Mr Z.A. Bhutto and Gen Ziaul Haq had made it mandatory

heavy tread along the cav-

ernous corridor.

He helped an upwardly mobile Pathan entrepreneur Rehmat Shah Afridi establish an English newspaper The Frontier Post, here in Lahore. Despite Khaled's editorial skills, the newspaper lost money by the bagful. Once, Rehmat Shah admitted that when he asked his co-Pathan sponsors in Peshawar whether they should not cut their losses, he was told: "Your job is to run the paper. Our job is to find the money for it." He added candidly: "We see it as an admission fee. How else can we penetrate the Punjabi upper

During his long ca-reer, Khaled jumped from one journalistic ice-floe to an--other — writing for whichever paper or journal could sustain his intellectual weight. He wrote inimitable articles and editorials, ending his career as consulting editor with the Pakistani edition of Newsweek.

On a personal level, Khaled mentored my wife Shahnaz during her early days as a writer. He became a kind and perceptive reviewer of my books as and when they came out. We exchanged our publications as politicians trade un-pointed barbs, more out of professional respect rather than a venal rivalry. Khaled's only son

lives abroad. Khaled's lineal descendants though are his writings. His genealogy is traceable in his kinship with words. Khaled Ahmed has gone. He has left behind

20 books and a plethora

of informed, often pro-

vocative, always thoughtful opinions. His enduring legacy though is that special aura, what the French philosopher Gaston Bachelard described as "a special kind of beauty ... born in language, of language, and for language". -- Courtesy

Umer Farooq

Pakistan has turned to two US law firms to fend off Tehran's penalty claim over the delayed gas pipeline project with Iran. Does this sound familiar? It should if we recall Reko Diq. Just recently, Pakistan settled a lawsuit with Barrick Gold over the Reko Diq mining project. And here we are again, staring down the barrel of another costly legal showdown — estimated around \$18 billion.

Pakistan's most profound lesson from history may be this: it seldom truly learns from it. The same mistakes are replayed like a broken record. The past seems to hold wisdom, but for some reason, we don't heed it, and then arrive at a point when the world's courts have to chase us down. Action only begins when a summons arrives — until then, we're content to sit back and watch.

Pipelines have become synonymous with anti-climate pursuits, often cutting through indigenous lands and infringing on land rights. But the Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline isn't just about energy; it's a display of global power dynamics. Here, geopolitics takes centre stage, overshadowing environmental concerns and indigenous

In 2009, Islamabad inked a deal with Tehran to import up to a billion cubic feet of gas daily via a cross-border pipeline. Fast forward to 2024, and Pakistan has yet to lay a single pipe on its side. The reason? Ostensibly the fear of American sanctions. Iran, having completed the pipeline at its end, is demanding that Pakistan fulfil its commitment or face a hefty \$18bn penalty. In response, Pakistan has

law firms to defend its inaction. This legal manoeuvring underscores a decade of missed opportunities and geopolitical hesitations. As energy shortages persist, one wonders when Pakistan will move beyond excuses and pipelines on

The US threat of sanctions over this pipeline project with Iran is a payer money on lawsuits. reminder of Western influence dictating local energy choices. Pakistan faces a massive gas supply-demand gap that is only growing wider. This cross-border pipeline could deliver up to a billion cubic feet of gas per day to an energy-starved nation, which is desperate for relief.

winds of The change are blowing, and America is set to have a different administration; however, its Iran policy may remain unchanged or even take a harsher turn compared to the one under the Biden administration. Hence, expecting a different stance from the energy needs. By resolv-US on the Iran-Pakistan pipeline is not realistic. As the global bal-

ance shifts from West to East — despite the election of Donald Trump as the next US president the rules of the power game are bound to change. Western hegemony is on the decline. Pakistan – and many other countries — may no longer have to navigate their energy needs under the shadow of Western power. This transfer of power will not only alter the way international challenges are addressed but will also redefine the very nature of those challenges. Pakistan has come to realise its potential in abundant natural resources and the pressing need to meet its own energy demands independently. Yet, we still lack effective policies related

Resource dilemma enlisted two US-based to the resources management, be it exploration or import of resources. For a country of our size, meeting energy demands requires solid, wellthought-out plans. Major decisions must account for global consequences. Poor management will leave us vulnerable to court battles. In a dollarstarved economy, we cannot afford to waste tax-

> With Trump's reelection, Pakistan faces even greater urgency in addressing the pipeline issue. We must anticipate a hard-line stance from the new Trump administration, which is likely to increase the pressure on Pakistan to abandon projects that involve Iran, thus raising the stakes for our economy. Avoiding cost--ly fines and tensions with Iran requires immediate action.

> Pakistan should explore alternative financing and partnerships for its energy projects, ones that align with global dynamics yet meet our critical ing this quickly, we can protect our economy from punitive measures and redirect funds to essential sectors rather than legal battles.

> Looking forward, Pakistan needs a strategic, long-term approach to energy and resource management. This means establishing policies that leverage our natural resources sustainably while remaining adaptable to geopolitical Develop-ing our domestic infrastructure for enindependence. coupled with smart international alliances, will better position Pakistan to navigate external pressures without compromising on economic stability. It is time to prioritise a resilient energy strategy that safeguards the country's future. -- Courtesy Dawn

Governor

Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim

Kundi on Thursday

expressed grave concern

over the deteriorating

security situation in the

province and announced to

convene All-Parties

Conference (APC) in early

security and governance

released here by the

Governor Secretariat, he

criticized the provincial

government over its negligence in addressing the

recalled that he repeatedly took up the KP's issues

with the Prime Minister

and the President but

provincial government had

failed to take meaningful

steps to ensure the safety

organizing protests in

Islamabad or seeking the

release of their party's

founder, while the province

is left at the mercy of

terrorists. The government

has completely failed to

protect the lives and

property of the people," he

'They are busy in

unfortunately

of its citizens.

In a video message

issues in the province.

He said the APC would bring together all

political parties in the

province to discuss

solutions for security

challenges, resource allocation, and KP's issues

unity among political forces to address these

crises. "We will present

KP's case to the federal

government with reason

and evidence," he said,

calling on all provincial

party leaders, including the

Chief Minister, to participate in the meeting.

the alarming increase in

violence, with daily reports of attacks on

soldiers, FC personnel,

provincial government on

this unrest is criminal. No

cabinet meetings have been

held, nor has the provincial

assembly been convened to

address the issue," he

remarked. The Governor

criticized KP CM Ali

Ameen Gandapur for

contradictory statements,

noting that, while earlier

demanding the withdrawal of the military from KP.

and civilians.

Kundi also pointed to

'The silence of the

Governor

Governor Kundi to convene

APC to address security,

governance issues in KP

with

December to address emphasized the need for

government.

CM Sindh says:

IDEAS 2024 further solidifies Pakistan's position as key player in global defence, diplomacy

Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Thursday said that IDEAS 2024 has further solidified Pakistan's position as a key player in global defence and diplomacy, with the nation firmly committed to and mutual respect in fostering peace through strength and collaboration.

He noted that Karachi witnessed a momentous occasion today as Pakistan hosted the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS) 2024 under the theme "Arms for showcased Pakistan's military prowess, technological advancements, unwavering commitment to peace and regional

Addressing Nishan-e-Pakistan, which the Pakistan Navy for cybersecurity, and climate

diplomats and industry leaders worldwide, the CM expressed sincere gratitude to international guests for interests. their participation. "Your presence underscores the importance of collaboration addressing common challenges. Events like these remind us of our stability, peace, and diplomacy," he remarked.

The Karachi Show, a key highlight of IDEAS 2024, featured spectacular Pakistan Army, Navy, and Air Force. The CM said freedom and democracy.

At the event, special included senior military organizing an impressive change.

LAHORE: Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo

with a delegation of Parliamentary Leader of PPP Punjab Assembly, Syed Ali

KARACHI (APP): Sindh officials, defence experts, display, highlighting its dedication to safeguarding the country's maritime

> Muradreaffirmed that Pakistan's philosophy of "strength for peace" was emphasized. He stated "Military capability should serve as a deterrent shared commitment to to conflict rather than as an instrument of aggression. Our goal remains peace and stability.'

showcased Pakistan's demonstrations by the advancements in the defence industry, with indigenous products that the show emphasised Pakistan's readiness to standards, reflecting the defend its borders and nation's progress toward uphold the values of self-reliance. Delegates explored opportunities for collaboration on challenges esteemed audience at recognition was given to such as terrorism, piracy,



Group Commandos for counter terrorism activities on the sidelines of the 12th International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024) under the aegis of Defense Export Promotion Organization (DEPO), held at Nishan-e-Pakistan Park located on Seaview Beach Karachi.

Maryam meets NDU delegation, briefs participants on Punjab development initiatives

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif Thursday met the participants in the 26th National Security Workshop of the National Defence University (NDU), who gave her the title of 'Super CM'.

the She gave participants a two-hour briefing on the government performance. The head of the National Security Workshop delegation said that it was a blessing to come to Punjab, where sincerity and effort for the people is clearly visible. By coming to Punjab, we have come from darkness to light," he added.

The CM said, "The control smog as soon as overall situation in Punjab possible. Positive effects

LAHORE (APP): Punjab

Information Minister

Azma Bokhari has said that

90 per cent of Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

members are opposed to the protest scheduled for

on Thursday, she said that

by chanting the slogans of

'Al-jihad Al-jihad', the PTI

Pakistan). She said that

In a statement, issued

November 24.

Azma Bokhari says:

PTI's 90pc members

against Nov-24 protest

had proven itself the caused a rift among her

political wing of TTP members in the assembly, (Tehrik-e-Taliban adding that Aliya Khan and

party

LAHORE (APP): Punjab is better than other of government's measures provinces. recommendation in any sort of appointment has been made in Punjab. I do not pay heed to anyone on the issue of merit. Every sector is in a state of decline due to lack of accountability. journey of development and prosperity gets affected due to political instability. Unfortunately the governments are not allowed to function properly."
She added, "Every

work that has a positive impact on the lives of 15 crore people is my priority. We want to

activists of the jihadist

had

themselves with weapons,

shells, slingshots, glass and

rubber bullets, etc. She said

Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa

chief minister was being

used as a pawn against the

federation. The minister

said Imran Khan's wife

Bushra Bibi's authoritarian

and demeaning attitude had

are coming to light. People lose their lives due to lack of health and treatment facilities. "We are all Pakistanis irrespective of our political affiliations. Our aim is to promote patriotism. Inflation is low and foreign exchange reserves are increasing in Pakistan. The stock market has broken all records; IT exports are increasing. With increasing exports, dependence on foreign aid decreases, we will be able to live our lives with pride and dignity." Maryam Nawaz said, "Controlling inflation is an uphill task, bringing it down from 38 per cent to 7 per cent is a

Man killed, son injured in road accident

mega achievement.

FAISALABAD (APP): A man was killed and his son suffered injuries in a road accident near Gatwala on

Wednesday night. According to police, Tahir Nadeem (51), along with his son Zeeshan (20), was going on motorcycle near Gatwala on Sheikhupura road when they collided with another

motorbike coming from the opposite side. Meanwhile,



PESHAWAR: Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry and President City University Sabur Sethi awarding degree to a graduate student at the 13th Convocation of City University of Science and **Information Technology.**

KP CM condemns armed attack on passenger vehicles in Kurram

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief concerted efforts to

Thursday. Expressing deep sorrow over the tragic loss of lives in this heinous incident, the chief minister has tasked a delegation comprising the provincial law minister, the local MNA, MPA, and the Chief Secretary to visit Kurram, assess the ground realities and submit a detailed report. Furthermore, the minister has jirga to help stabilize the vowed

Ali Amin Gandapur emphasized that the institutions are making

situation in the area.

Minister of Khyber improve law and order in Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin the region. As part of these a speeding car ran over Tahir from the rear side.

Khan Gandapur, has measures, he directed the strongly condemned the concerned authorities to As a result, Tahir Nadeem died on the spot. armed attack on passenger vehicles in the Uchaat area of a Provincial Highways of Kurram district on Police to ensure the safety of all major routes across

the province.

Extending heartfelt condolences to the families of those killed in the attack, the chief minister prayed for the deceased and patience for the bereaved families. He also announced financial assistance for the victims families.

He termed the targeting of innocent instructed the reactivation civilians as deeply tragic of a previously held tribal and reprehensible and that those responsible for the incident would not escape justice.

He assured that all provincial government, necessary steps would be police and all relevant taken to bring the perpetrators to account.



GUJRANWALA: Group photo of Deputy Secretary Shrines Abandoned Waqf Estate Board Abdullah Owais with Sikh Special Jatha at Gurdwara Rohri Sahib Eminabad.

Health week revolutionary step to provide medical facilities to people: Jahangir

ATTOCK Member district monitoring committee and former provincial Minister Jahangir Khanzada has said that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif is among the population and taking revolutionary steps to provide medical facilities

to the people. during the inauguration ceremony of health week at tehsil headquarters hospital

Hazro on Thursday.
PML-N tehsil Hazro chapter president Malik Ansar Ahmed, assistant commissioner Ayesha Badar, well-known journalist Nisar Ali Khan, DDHO Hazro Dr. Rasheed Khan, MS Dr. Shaukat Mehmood, Admin officer Shakir Ejaz and officials of Hospital.

(APP): local administration were also present on this occasion.

He said that the initiative aims to identify undiagnosed diseases provide timely treatment and awareness. He said that citizens

He expressed these will be able to visit screening camps for diabetes, tuberculosis, pulmonary health and hematology screening while pregnant women will undergo checkups and children under two years of age will be vaccinated.

He added that at DHQ Hospital, specialized counters have been set up and daily diagnostic targets have been established including ,000 individuals at DHQ

PPP is not in favor of bill to impose agricultural tax on farmers: Governor

Independent Report LAHORE: Parliamentary Leader of Pakistan People's Party in Punjab Assembly, Syed Ali Haider Gillani, and Member of National Assembly, Syed Ali Qasim Gillani met with Governor Punjab, Sardar Punjab said that fertilizers Saleem Haider Khan in and seeds are very Governor House Lahore. expensive. He said that the During the meeting, various

were discussed. Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that the country's economy depends on agriculture. Farmers play an important role in the country's economy. He said that Pakistan People's Party has always raised its voice in favor of farmers. Governor Punjab said that People's Party is not in favor of the bill to impose agricultural tax on farmers. He said that Pakistan People's Party walked out during the presentation of rehabilitation project from the recent bill of imposing

agricultural tax on farmers in the Punjab Assembly. Governor Punjab said that the support price of wheat was announced at Rs 3900 by the government, but it was sold in the market at a much lower price. Governor farmer is already perturbed over inflation, adding that 45% agricultural tax is injustice to the farmers. Governor Punjab said that the People's Party will not leave the farmers alone and will raise their voices on every platform to protect their rights according to the

vision of its leadership. Meanwhile, on the instructions of Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, the Chairman Planning and Development Board has been asked to provide funds for the early completion of the tourism highway construction/ Lower Topa Murree via



HYDERABAD: Doctor busy in medical checkup of disable persons during One Window Medical Camp, organized by Department of empowerment Person with disabilities Government of Sindh with collaboration (NGO) NDWPDP at Public School

UNODC delegation calls on Minister Arora

LAHORE (APP): A primarily focused on delegation from the United UNODC's efforts in the Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODČ) Pakistan, comprising Syed Arslan Malik and Fatima Raza, along with Executive Director of the Youth Development Foundation, Shahid aligning the ongoing Rehmat held an important meeting with Provincial Minister for Minorities Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora and Secretary of Human Rights and Minority Affairs Punjab Ali Bahadur Qazi.

The meeting was held to discuss UNODC's ongoing projects in Punjab for collaboration with the Minority department to further welfare and development of minority

region, especially those aimed at promoting minority rights, social inclusion, and sustainable development.

delegation emphasised the need for projects with the Punjab government's long-term strategies for supporting marginalized and minority communities.

One of the key proposals discussed was the launch of a pilot project for the upgradation of the Misaaq Center, community-based and explore opportunities initiative aimed at empowering minorities. The delegation proposed that this centre be strengthen initiatives for developed into a model of excellence for minority education, development, and social meeting services.

Haider Gillani, and MNA, Syed Ali Qasim Gillani in Governor House. **Kundi condemns** attack on passenger vehicles in Kurram

PESHAWAR Khybéi Governor Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, strongly condemned the attack on the passenger vehicles in Lower Kurram district on Thursday and expressed his deep sorrow over the loss of more than 30 precious lives.

He prave elevation of the deceased's ranks and offered his heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the grieving families, wishing them patience and strength.

Governor Kundi described the firing as an extremely heinous act and expressed grave concern the incident, especially considering it occurred despite the presence of a convoy.

He emphasized that the ruthless perpetrators, responsible for shedding the blood of innocent passengers, should receive no leniency.

Rangers seize NCP goods worth millions

KARACHI (APP) Pakistan Rangers Sindh and Customs officials recovered non-custom paid (NCP) goods worth millions of rupees in a joint operation.

According to a tatement issued on Thursday, the Pakistan Rangers Sindh and Customs, acting on a tip off, seized NCP goods during a checking of a truck at Dera Mor check post on the Sindh-Balochistan border, including a large quantity of dry milk, tyres, Chinese salt and various types of food items were ecovered.

The accused were smuggling the NCP goods from Balochistan to Punjab through trucks. The value of recovered goods was more than Rs. 20 million.

The recovered NCP goods have been handed over to the Customs authorities for further legal

Health minister for timely completion of UCHS main building LAHORE (APP): Punjab healthcare and education in Health Minister Khawaja Pakistan. During the directed the Infrastructure

Club for the revival of the students' union.

Salman Rafique has Development Authority Punjab (IDAP) to ensure timely completion of the main building of the University of Child Health Sciences (UCHS). Presiding over the 12th Syndicate meeting of the UCHS on Thursday, the minister emphasized the government's commitment enhancing the university's capacity, recognizing it as Pakistan's

first medical institution producing pediatric nurses. The Health Minister reiterated the government's focus on expanding the UCHS's academic and clinical capacities, ensuring

it serves as a benchmark

institution for child

meeting, Registrar of the also reviewed Deputy university's budget and the

RAWALPINDI: Activists of JI Students' Union protesting outside the Press

Customs House here Thursday, said SP Cantt Aitzaz Arif. He said the University presented the agenda, and Khawaja Salman Rafique ratified all Additional Commissioner In-land Revenue FBR decisions made during the identified as Irfan Ullah, resident of Swat, presently 11th Syndicate meeting. He residing in Shaheen Muslim implementation report of those decisions. The Town here shot dead a citizen, Abdur Rehman Health Minister received a detailed briefing from which the police said was probably a result of some IDAP officers regarding the construction progress of the main building. The meeting approved several key decisions, including creation of posts for Deputy Controller Examination, Deputy Auditor, and Assistant Treasurer, approval of the

monetary However, in a prompt action by Town Police, the accused was arrested and a double barrel gun was recovered from him. Police said the accused seemed to be mentally disturbed. A video of the incident showed a man laying on the

road with his children and

wife crying around his

lifeless body

dispute.

FBR officer

shot dead a

citizen over

monetary issue

PESHAWAR (APP): A man was killed by an

officer of FBR in front of



PLA budget, appointment

of Professor Muhammad

Saleem.

LAHORE: A delegation of APNS meeting with Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari. Punjab Secretary Information Tahir Raza Hamdani is also present.

Ethiopian embassy, TDAP agree to join hands for **Single Country Exhibition**

ISLAMABAD (APP): strategies to sensitize the The Embassy of Ethiopia and the Trade countries about the Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) on Thursday agreed to forge collaboration for holding the Single Country agriculture and agree of the Single Country agriculture agric the Single Country Exhibition in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during the next year in a successful manner.

crucial collaboration came under discussion during a meeting between Dr. Jemal Beker Abdula, Special Envoy and Ambassador Extraordinary of Ethiopia to Pakistan, and Zubair Motiwala, Chief Executive of the

Karim Memon DG TDAP, and Ibrahim Tawab, Honorary Consul to Ethiopia in Karachi.

sectors including agriculture and agro process in g, pharmaceutical, surgical items, automotive, Information Technology, leather and leather and leather measurements for attracting the foreign direct investment.

He said the capital city of Ethiopia—Addis Ababa—is a third diplomatic hub hosting a measurement for attracting the foreign direct investment. material, steel and

aluminum. mobilize the business The meeting was also attended by Sheryar Taj, Secretary TDAP, Abdul in the Single Country Exhibition.

Ambassador Dr.

products, construction number of international conferences every year including the African They agreed to launch Union Summit. "This a joint awareness shows the strategic campaign in all the major importance of Ethiopia and cities of the Islamic safe and secure
Republic of Pakistan to environment for the global citizens.

He said Ethiopia maximum participation offered a comparative in the Single Country advantage to the Pakistani investors in terms of strategic location, cheap, Jemal said the Government clean and green energy, of Ethiopia has undertaken skilled labour, and on top Home Grown of that full-fledged support



KARACHI: Syed Hafeezuddin, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Industries & Production is chairing the meeting at Indus

Canadian-Pakistanis briefed about Roshan Digital Account's benefits

OTTAWA (APP): The Head Pakistan High Remit Commission, Ottawa, on Wednesday hosted a webinar at which the Canadian-Pakistani community was apprised of the benefits and opportunities offered by the Roshan Digital Account (RDA), a flagship programme of the State Canada. A press release of Bank of Pakistan (SBP) in the High Commission said collaboration mercial RDA allows oversees Pakistanis to have comprising over half a access to banking services within Pakistan without having to visit a consulate, embassy, or a bank branch.

The webinar was organized in cooperation with the Bank of Punjab and State Bank of Pakistan to engage with the Pakistani diaspora across Canada. The panelists included Shah Faisal Kakar, Acting High Commissioner; Syed Ali Raza, Head of Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI) at the State Bank of Pakistan; Nofel Daud, Chief Digital Officer, Bank of Punjab; Salman Saeed,

Remittances Division: Ishtiak Ahmed Akil Consul General, Montreal; Khalil Ahmed Bajwa, Consul General, Toronto; Ghulam Hussain, Acting Consul General Vancouver; and Altamash with webinar highlighted the integral role of the Canadian Pakistani community individuals million contributing significantly to diverse sectors such as finance, technology, healthcare, and economic development. professional success has driven a robust demand for financial products that facilitate seamless connectivity with Pakistan's banking and financial systems, it said. Key highlightsofthe webinarincluded:

Roshan Digital Account (RDA):

A digital platform enabling

overseas Pakistanis to remotely

open and operate personal bank

accounts in Pakistan.



Ambassador (R) Farukh Amil addressing the closing ceremony of two-day consultative sessions for the development of Pakistan's National Intellectual Property Strategy organized by the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) at local hotel.

LCCI, ANF organise seminar on 'Guidelines for Precursor Control'

LAHORE (APP): Lahore seminar, LCCI President Chamber of Commerce and Mian Abuzar Shad Chamber of Commerce and Mian Abuzar Shad Industry (LCCI), in acknowledged Chief of the collaboration with the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Punjab, a seminar Precursor Control', here at Lahore Chamber on Thursday.

The seminar featured prominent speakers the ANF Board, including ANF Director highlighting the importance General Brigadier Sikandar Hayat Chaudhry, LCCI Senior Vice President Engineer Khalid Usman, Vice President Shahid Nazir Chaudhry and former LCCI President Mian Anjum Nisar. The ANF DG presented an overview of the agency's operations and achievements Addressing

Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir's efforts in securing borders 'Guidelines for and reviving the economy, and expressed the business community's appreciation. He called for genuine representation of traders in of balancing regulatory measures with business needs. He praised the ANF's efforts and proposed setting up a facilitation center at LCCI to assist members, particularly those in the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, in navigating regulatory the challenges.

Kazakh Dy FM meets Tanveer

ISLAMABAD (APP) Kazakhstan Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bek Bakayev on Thursday met with Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain.

During the meeting, they discussed potential cooperation in industrial and agricultural sectors, said a news release.

Rana Tanveer reaffirmed the friendly ties between Pakistan and Kazakhstan, highlighting the importance of collaborative efforts in

these sectors. Additionally Kazakhstan Minister expressed Kazakhstan's keen interest in learning from Pakistan's agricultural expertise.

Pak total liquid foreign reserves near \$16 billion

KARACHI (APP): The total liquid foreign reserves of Pakistan stood at US\$ 15,967.7 million as of November 15, 2024 while the forex reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan increased to \$ 11,288 million.

"During the week ended on 15-Nov-2024, SBP reserves increased by US\$ 29 million to US\$ 11,288.0 million," the State Bank of Pakistan, informed in a statement issued here on Thursday. Meanwhile, net foreign reserves held by commercial banks were recorded as \$ 4,679.7 million.

Total liquid foreign reserves held by the country, in the previous week ended on November 08, 2024, were \$ 15,965.5 million.

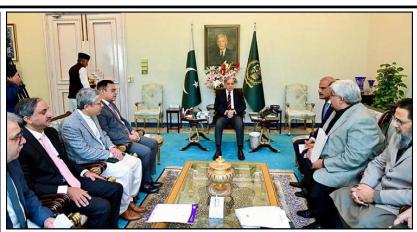
Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where six ships, Atlantic Ibis, Maersk Cape Town, ST. Michaelis, Milaha Ras Laffan and Khairpur carrying Container, Palm LNG

Mogas, berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal, Liquid Cargo Terminal. Port Gas Terminal and FOTCO oil Terminal respectively during last 24 hours. Meanwhile three more ships, Xpress Salween. Kaisa-1 and Al-Deebal Container, LPG and LNG are also arrived at outer anchorage during last 24

hours.

A total of eleven ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them three ships, Atlantic Ibis, Maersk Cape Town and Kouras Queen left the port on today morning, while three more ships, Xpress Salween.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in a meeting with FBR officials to appreciate their performance for Sales Tax fraud

NA Standing Committee on Industries & Production visits Toyota Indus Motors

KARACHI (APP): Assembly National Standing Committee on Industries & Production chaired meeting under the chair of Syed Hafeezuddin Member National Assembly at Toyota Indus Motors Karachi on Thursday, where the CEO of Toyota Indus Motors, Ali Asghar Jamali briefed the Committee regarding

Motors The CEO Toyota Indus apprised the committee that the auto sector contributes 2.8% of

manufacturing and production process of the vehicles at Toyota Indus

appealed the committee to work on the local steel manufacturing units in Pakistan that would not only boost the Pakistan economy but also would support auto industry in Pakistan.

The members were also informed regarding that 1 billion rupees have been spent on different social work by Toyota under corporate social responsibility. Abdul

Baloch, the member of the committee and the National Assembly, advised the CEO of Toyota Indus that the local community of the the country's GDP being area should be given due the fastest growing right in the employment country. Moreover, he opportunities.

The members visited assembling and manufacturing plants of the Toyota, where they were briefed regarding the overall process of manufacturing and assembling the vehicles and spare parts.
The Committee later

held meetings with K-Electric, SSGC, and Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation officials. Syed Salahuddin Ahmed, CEO of KWSC, was directed to solve the water supply issue of the Steel Town and Gulshan Hadeed on priority and humanitarian grounds as the residents of the areas were suffering serious problems of water supply.

TAPI project crucial for meeting country's energy needs: Dr. Musadik

ISLAMABAD (APP): which the Minister Federal Minister for Petroleum, Dr Musadik Malik, emphasized Pakistan's determination to complete the Turkmenistan-

Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, calling it crucial for meeting the country's energy needs. In a meeting on Thursday with Turkmenistan's Ambassador to Pakistan, Atadjan Movlamov, the expressed Minister

unwavering commitment to the TAPI initiative.

warmly appreciated. During the meeting, Ambassador Movlamov commended Pakistan's recent economic progress and highlighted an

improvement in the country's financial situation. He noted growing international investor interest in Pakistan, attributing the credit to Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and his team's

efforts. gratitude for Both sides reaffirmed Turk menistan's their dedication to Both sides reaffirmed strengthening bilateral ties and agreed to explore The ambassador opportunities for invited Dr. Musadik Malik collaboration in energy, for



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Pakistan, Atadjan Movlamov calls on Federal Minister for Petroleum Dr. Musadik Malik.

PCJCCI stresses establishing 'Digital Silk Road'

LAHORE (APP): development is progressing Pakistan-China Joint steadily for the China Chambers of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) has urged the government to take a lead in developing "Digital Silk Road" for having maximum benefits out of the economic corridor to be constructed by China in the Asia-Pacific region

PCJCCI President Nazir Hussain stated this during a think tank session held here at PCJCCI Secretariat Thursday. He said the roads and railways are easy enough to build, but it is hard to cultivate mental harmony among people that holds more importance in regional connectivity. Information has become a core resource and is crucial to international cooperation. "The next leap for regional connectivity is to create Asia-Pacific Information

proposed Belt and Road Initiative, but parallel with a communication and infrastructure network connecting Asia, Europe, and Africa, there is dire need of breaking the barriers of information among the connecting nations, he added. Nazir Hussain hoped that such initiatives would emerge Pakistan as a leader of the region. He assured of his full cooperation on behalf of the PCJCCI in this move, which would also have the full support of all Chinese companies operating in Pakistan. PCJCCI Senior Vice President Brig. (retd) Mansoor Saeed Sheikh said that people-to-people bond provides the public support for implementing the strategic initiatives "We should carry forward the spirit of friendly cooperation of the Silk Road by promoting.



ZHENGZHOU: Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Khalil Hashmi addresses the 2024 SCO 'Digital **Technology Empowering Green Development'** Program.

PRA integrates

LAHORE (APP): The Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) is integrating its Electronic Invoice Monitoring System (e-IMS) system with the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) Points of Sale (PoS) system.

The integration of PRA's e-IMS with PoS system would simplify tax processes for taxpayers as they will not require integration with two separate system of two revenue organisations, according to PRA spokespersons here Thursday. She added that this would also reduce expected to curb tax rooted relationship and renewable energy evasion by minimizing reliance on manual receipts as well as it will be pivotal in documentation of transactions thus helping in documentation economy. The rollout of

integration plan would be completed in phases: in first phase eIMS-PoS integration for restaurants would be made till the end of December this year whereas this will be extended to other sectors before the end of February next year.

Public hearings continue across LESCO region

LAHORE (APP): On the special instructions of the Ministry of Power Division, a series of Open Kachehry (public/ customers hearings) are being held in the LESCO region with the aim of solving the problems faced by the consumers in electricity bills and other matters immediately.

Chief Executive Engineer Shahid Haider said here Thursday that public/customers hearings are being conducted in all eight circles of LESCO. The public is also being informed about this in advance through the media.

All the SDOs along with their teams are ensuring regular holding of open kachehry in their subdivisions on a daily basis. Superintending Engineers (SEs) and Executive Engineers (X-Ens) are reviewing these public hearings.

Rupee gains 09 paisa against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Thursday appreciated by 09 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 277.95 against the previous day's closing of Rs 278.04.

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 277.50 and Rs 279.00 respectively.

The price of Euro decreased by Rs 1.07 to close at Rs 292.89 against the last day's closing of Rs

Pakistan wins "Best Pavilion" award at **Global Sourcing Expo**

ISLAMABAD (APP): In the visionary leadership of the Federal Minister for Oceania region, featured

OMMERCENEWS

In a moment for Pakistan, the country's pavilion was awarded the prestigious "Best Pavilion" award at the Global Sourcing Expo held at the Melbourne Convention Center from November 19 to 21, 2024, said a press release issued here on Thursday.

This achievement approach.
highlights leadership of Hedi
Federal Minister for Investme Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, whose strategic directives ensured Pakistan's outstanding representation on the international stage.

The Global Sourcing Expo, the largest exhibition exports.

Commerce Jam Kamal exhibitors from major Khan, Pakistan won the "Best Pavilion" Award at Global Sourcing Expo. exporting nations, including China, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, and South Africa. Amid fierce competition, Pakistan's pavilion stood out for its superior design, engaging displays, and the exceptional quality of its

showcased products. This success is the result of Federal Minister Jam Kamal Khan's forward-thinking

He directed Trade and Investment Officers (TIOs) to prioritize the creation of world-class pavilions at international exhibitions, emphasizing the importance of promoting Pakistan's diverse and high-quality



ISLAMABAD: The Deputy Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan, Alibek Bakayev, meets with Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana

Sharjah-Pakistan Business e-IMS with Pos | Roundtable highlights shared vision for economic growth

SHARJAH (APP): The values, traditions, and a Sharjah FDI Office (Invest collective commitment to Pakistan Business Council in Sharjah hosted the Pakistan and the ÛAE Sharjah-Pakistan Business share mutual trust and

Thursday. The event brought together over 200 investors and entrepreneurs to explore opportunities for strengthening economic ties and fostering bilateral natural resources, offers investments between

Sharjah and Pakistan. Speaking at the event, Consul General Hussain opportunities between Pakistan and Sharjah's investors and the UAE.

progress. He further noted Roundtable here on confidence and have a strong desire to expand political, trade, and economic relations.

"Pakistan, with its resilient workforce, and abundant immense potential for collaboration. Pakistan's economy is diverse, with procedural redundancies. Muhammad highlighted agriculture, textiles, The integration is also the historic and deep- information technology,

> businesses could greatly He emphasized that benefit from exploring the bond between the two countries is built on shared sectors", said Mr. Hussain.

SMBR says: No NOC for housing societies near rivers

Member Board of Revenue SMBR) Punjab Nabeel laved has said that the Punjab government has decided not to issue no objection certificates (NOCs) for housing schemes or construction near rivers, streams, and flood channels under the Irrigation Department with an aim to prevent loss of life and property during flood situations.

He was addressing a meeting on private housing societies The meeting Thursday. was attended by Secretary

AHORE (APP): Senior Housing Tayyab Fareed Special Secretary Admin Muhammad Arshad, DG LDA Tahir Ali, and other officials. He further revealed that Punjab has a total of 3,715 housing societies, of which 3,119 are approved schemes. In Lahore, 443 housing societies are approved, 171 are illegal, and NOC processes are ongoing for 35 societies. Nabeel Javed emphasized that no modifications will be allowed to the master plans of government-approved housing schemes.



H.E Hussain Muhammad, Consul General attends the Sharjah business Roundtable hosted by Sharjah FDI Office (Invest in Sharjah) and the Pakistan Business in Sharjah.

Pakistan, Oman discuss collaboration in IT, telecom sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): participate in Comex 2025 Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, held discussions with a high-level delegation from Oman on Thursday, focusing on mutual interests, collaboration in the IT and telecom sectors, and preparations for the global tech event Comex 2025, scheduled to take place in Oman next September.

The delegation invited Pakistani companies to

emphasizing the event as a significant platform for showcasing Pakistan's capabilities in IT and innovation.

Congratulating Oman on hosting the prestigious event, Shaza Fatima highlighted Pakistan's robust potential in IT and telecom. She expressed confidence that the event would foster stronger ties between the tech industries of both nations.

"We aim to enhance Pakistan-Oman relations in the IT and telecom sectors.

ICC issues arrest warrants for Israel's PM Netanyahu, Gallant

Monitoring Desk

THE HAGUE: The International Criminal Court (ICC) on Thursday issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former defence Minister Yoav Gallant, as well as Hamas's military chief Mohammed

Deif.
"The Chamber issued for two warrants of arrest for two individuals, Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant, for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed from at least October 8, 2023, until at least May 20, 2024, the day the prosecution filed the applications for warrants of arrest," the Hague-based ICC said in a state-

A warrant had also been issued for Deif, it added in a separate state-

The arrest warrants had been classified as "secret", to protect witnesses and to safeguard the conduct of the investigations,

"However, the Chamber decided to release the on July 31, the ICC earlier information below since said in a statement. conduct similar to that addressed in the warrant of Deif was killed by a strike

ing," the tribunal said. "Moreover, the Chamber considers it to be in the interest of victims and their ducted its October 7, 2023 aware of the warrants' ex-

arrest appears to be ongo-

ICC chief prosecutor Karim Khan in May requested the court issue arrest warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant over alleged against humanity in Gaza. Netanyahu sacked

Khan also sought warrants against top Hamas leaders, including Deif, on suspicion of war crimes and

crimes against humanity.

According to Israel, on July 13 in southern Gaza, though Hamas denies he is dead.

families that they are made attack, the deadliest in Israeli history, Israel has been waging a devastating military offensive in Gaza.

Hamas's stunning cross-border raid resulted in the deaths of 1,206 people, mostly civilians, according war crimes and crimes to an AFP tally of Israeli official figures. The health ministry in

Gallant as defence minister on November 5. the Gaza Strip said today that at least 44,056 people had been killed in more than 13 months of fighting between Israel and Hamas.
The toll includes 71

deaths in the previous 24 prosecutor hours, according to the dropped the application for ministry, which said former Hamas chief Ismail 104,268 people had been Haniyeh on August 2 "be- wounded in the Gaza Strip



Chief adviser of Bangladesh's interim government Muhammad Yunus with former premier and Bangladesh Nationalist Party chairperson Khaleda Zia at a reception in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Ukraine's use of American-

ICBM — which can exceed

5,500 kilometers (3,400

miles) — is beyond what is

needed to attack Ukraine.

But such missiles are de-

signed to carry atomic war-

heads, and the use of one

even with a conventional

payload, would serve as a

chilling reminder of Russia's

nuclear capability and a

powerful message of po-

tential escalation.

The range of an

Ukraine says Russia launched an intercontinental missile in an attack for the first time in the war

Monitoring Desk

KYIV: Ukraine claimed made longer-range missiles Thursday that Russia inside Russia and the Kremlaunched an intercontinen- lin lowered its threshold for tal ballistic missile over- launching nuclear weapons. night at a city. If confirmed, it would be the first time Moscow has used such a weapon in the war.

Ukraine did not provide any evidence that an ICBM was used in the attack on the central city of Dnipro, apparently armed with conventional warheads. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said a missile used "matches the speed and altitude" of an ICBM. The Kremlin refused to comment on the

The attack comes in a force said an intercontinenweek when tensions have tal ballistic missile was fired repeatedly soared, as the at Dnipro, along with eight U.S. eased restrictions on other missiles.

US govt calls for breakup of Google and Chrome

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: The US

government on late Wednesday asked a judge to order the dismantling of Google by selling its widely used Chrome browser in a maioi antitrust crackdown on the internet giant.

In a court filing, the US Department of Justice urged a shake-up of Google's business that includes banning deals for Google to be the default engine on smartphones and preventing it from exploiting its Android mobile operating system.

In a statement Thurs-Antitrust officials day on the Telegram messaid in the filing that saging app, Ukraine's air Google should also be made to sell Android if the proposed remedies don't prevent the tech company from using its control of the mobile operating system to its advantage.

Sri Lanka's president makes U-turn on IMF bailout

Monitoring Desk

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's new leader on Thursday backed a controversial bailout of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), marking a U-turn from his election pledge to renegotiate the deal secured by his predecessor.

Leftist President Kumara Anura Dissanayake, who tightened his grip on power last week after winning a huge majority in the legislature following his own victory in September, vowed to maintain the IMF programme.

Sri Lanka went to the IMF for a rescue package after the country defaulted on its \$46 billion external debt in April 2022 during an unprecedented economic

The shortage of foreign exchange that left the country unable to finance even the most essential imports of food and fuel led to months of street protests and forced then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa

The \$2.9bn loan secured early last year required Colombo to sharply raise taxes, remove generous energy subsidies and agree to restructure more than 50 loss-making state enterprises

Dissanayake's National People's Power party had said it did not agree with the International Monetary Fund's debt assessment and would renegotiate the bailout programme

Pope says Vatican's pension fund faces 'serious imbalance'

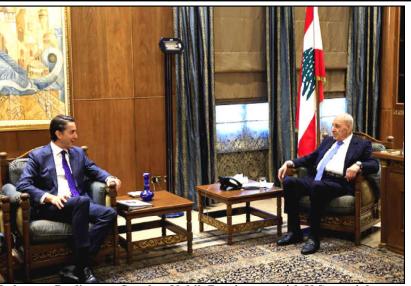
Monitoring Desk VATICAN CITY: Pope Francis said on Thursday the Vatican's pension fund is facing a "serious imbalance" that may require changes to its operating structure, and appointed a senior cardinal to take over

the fund's administration. In an unusual letter sent to all the world's cardinals and to the leaders of the Vatican's various offices, the pope did not quantify the scope of the issue.

He said the changes would include "making difficult decisions that will require particular sensitivity, generosity, and willingness to sacrifice on the part of



SEATTLE: A drone view shows fallen trees after a powerful storm hit north-west US and western Canada, causing power outages and disrupting road travel.



Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri meets with U.S. special envoy Amos Hochstein in Beirut, Lebanon.

Hezbollah says Israel 'cannot impose conditions' for truce

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Hezbollah's leader delivered a defiant speech on Wednesday (Nov 20) saying Israel cannot impose its conditions for a truce, as US envoy Amos Hochstein headed from Lebanon to Israel to try to end the

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar, in a near-simultaneous statement, said any ceasefire deal must ensure Israel has the "freedom to act" against Hezbollah.

nounced in Lebanon that he would head to Israel on from its backer Iran.

Wednesday to try to seal a ceasefire agreement in the war in Lebanon, which escalated in late September after nearly a year of deadly exchanges of fire across Israel's northern

Israel expanded the focus of its operations from Gaza to Lebanon, vowing to secure the north and allow tens of thousands of people displaced by the cross-border fire to return home.

It has also intensified strikes on neighbouring Syria, a key conduit of weapons for Hezbollah

Bangladesh ex-PM Khaleda Zia makes first public appearance in 6 years Monitoring Desk Hasina fled to neighbou

DHAKA: Bangladesh's illness-stricken opposition leader Khaleda Zia made her first public appearance in six vears on Thursday, months after her release from house arrest following the ouster of longtime foe Sheikh Hasina. The ferocious rivalry between the two former premiers — born in blood and cemented in prison — has defined politics in the nation for decades.

Zia was jailed in 2018 for graft but was released in August, hours after chatting amiably.

Hasina fled to neighbouring India when a student-led national uprising brought an end to her 15 years of ironfisted rule. Her presence on Thursday at a reception to mark the country's Armed Forces Day marked her first public appearance since her conviction. She was welcomed by Muhummad Yunus, a Nobel laureate helming an interim government charged with restoring the country's democracy, with the pair photographed sitting together and

Russia, North Korea agree to boost charter flights after trade meeting Monitoring Desk

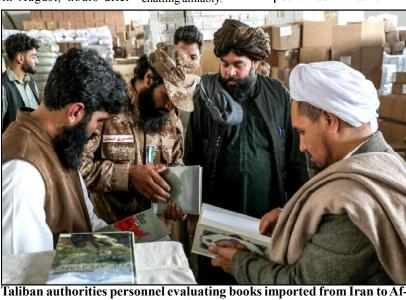
SEOUL: North Korea and Russia have signed a protocol on cooperation after meetings covering trade, the economy, science and technology in Pyongyang, North Korean state media KCNA said on Thursday.

There were few details in the KCNA report, but Russia's TASS news agency said on Tuesday that the countries agreed to increase charter flights following the meeting, citing Russia's ministry of natural resources.

Between January and September, the number of tourists travelling between Russia and North Korea amounted to over 5,000 people, with more than 70% travelling by air, it said. The increased charter flights are expected to take off not only from Russia's eastern region close to North Korea, but also from major Russian cities in other areas, TASS said, citing the ministry.

KCNA said on Thursday that the Russian delegation led by natural resources minister Alexander Kozlov, which met North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Monday, had now departed from Pyongyang.

During the delegation's visit, zoo animals were transferred to North Korea as gifts from Russian President Vladimir Putin.



ghanistan at a customs warehouse in Herat.

Taliban govt clearing 'un-Islamic' books from Afghanistan shelves

Monitoring Desk

KABUL: Checking imported books, removing texts from libraries and distributing lists of banned titles — Taliban authorities are working to remove "un-Islamic" and anti-government literature from circu-

The efforts are led by

a commission established under the Ministry of Information and Culture soon after the Taliban swept to power in 2021 and implemented their

lamic law, or sharia. In October, the ministry announced the commission had identified 400 books "that conflicted with Islamic and Afghan

values, most of which have been collected from the markets" The ministry has not provided figures for the number of removed books, but two sources, a publisher in Kabul and a government employee, said texts had been collected in

the first year of Taliban rule strict interpretation of Is- and again in recent months.

Gautam Adani says US charges 'baseless'; India opposition demand arrest Monitoring Desk

NEW DELHI: India's Adani Group on Thursday called US charges that their billionaire tycoon founder Gautam Adani had paid more than \$250 million in bribes "baseless", as the opposition leader demanded his arrest.

The stiff denial came after shares in the industrialist's conglomerate nosedived more than 23 per cent in Mumbai, the morning after a bombshell indictment in New York accused him of deliberately misleading international investors.

Adani, once the world's second-richest man, is a close ally of Hindu nationalist Prime Minister

Narendra Modi and critics have long accused him of improperly benefitting from their relationship. "The allegations made

by the US Department of Justice and the US Securities and Exchange Commission against directors of Adani Green are baseless and denied," the conglomerate said in a statement. "All possible legal recourse will be sought," it added.

However, Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi said the businessman should be taken into custody. "We demand that Adani be immediately arrested. But we know that won't happen as Modi is protecting him."

Chinese defense minister declines meeting with Pentagon chief

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: China's defense minister declined a meeting with US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin during a meeting of defense leaders in Laos, a move the Pentagon chief said on Wednesday was unfortu-

Multilateral gatherings of national security officials in Asia have been used in the past for meetings between US and Chinese defense leaders, but China declined a meeting request by Austin during this week's Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-Plus defense ministers meeting. "It's unfortunate. It

affects the region because the region really wants to see us, you know, two significant players in the re-gion, two significant powers, talk to each other,' Austin told reporters.

"I don't think that it has any sort of implications for the future I just think that it's

something that they chose to do at this point in time and only they can explain why they chose to not take advantage of a good oppor tunity," Austin added.

Austin met China's defense minister, Dong Jun, on the sidelines of a Singapore conference earlier this year, reiterating their differences on Taiwan and other issues but emphasizing the need to keep military-to-military communications open.

No hostages-for-prisoners swap deal with Israel unless Gaza war ends: Hamas

Monitoring Desk CAIRO: Hamas' acting Gaza chief Khalil al-Hayya said in remarks broadcast on Wednesday that there would be no hostages-for-prisoners tinian enclave ended.

the war, there can be no prisoner swap," Hayya said in a televised interview with the group's Al-Aqsa television channel, reiterating the group's position on how to bring the war to an end. "If the aggression is not ended, why would the

"Without an end to

resistance and in particular Hamas, return the prisoners (hostages)?" he said. "How would a sane holds the Islamist group or an insane person lose a responsible for the stalled strong card he owns while talks.

the war is continuing? Efforts to negotiate truce for Gaza have stalled, and the US on Wednesday vetoed a UN Security Council resolution calling for an unconswap deal with Israel un-less the war in the Pales-ceasefire. Washington's UN ambassador said the US would only support a resolution that explicitly calls for the immediate release of the Israeli hostages as part of a

ceasefire. Hayya, who led the group's negotiating team in talks with Qatari and Egyptian mediators, blamed the lack of progress on Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who in turn

US again vetoes **UNSC** attempt for Gaza truce

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: The

United States on Wednes-day vetoed a UN Security Council resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza, drawing criticism of the Biden administration for once again blocking international action aimed at halting the 13month conflict.

The 15-member council voted on a resolution put forward by 10 non-permanent members that called for an "immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire" and separately demanded the release of Israeli prisoners. Only the US voted

against, using its veto as a permanent member to block the resolution.

Robert Wood, deputy US ambassador to the UN, said Washington had made clear it would only support a resolution that explicitly calls for the immediate release of prisoners as part one' of a ceasefire.

the US had sought com- needed to begin to address promise, but the text of the desperate situation on the proposed resolution the ground," she said.

would have sent a "dangerous message" to Hamas that "there's no need to come back to the negotiating table'

Israel has killed nearly 44,000 people in Gaza.

Members roundly criticised Washington for blocking the resolution put forward by the Security Council's 10 elected members: Algeria, Ecuador, Guyana, Japan, Malta, Moza-mbique, South Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia and Switzerland.

"It is deeply regretted that due to the use of the veto, this council has once again failed to uphold its responsibility to maintain international peace and security," Malta's UN Ambassador Vanessa Frazier said after the vote failed, adding that the text of the resolution "was by no means a maximalist

"It represented the Robert Wood said bare minimum of what is

UN nuclear chief welcomes Iran's 'concrete step' on uranium stockpile

Monitoring Desk VIENNA: UN atomic watchdog chief Rafael Grossi on Wednesday welcomed Iran's "concrete step" on agreeing to cap its stockpile of highly enriched uranium after Tehran implemented preparatory steps to stop adding to its inventory. "I think this is ... a concrete step in the right direction we have a fact which has been verified by us," Grossi told reporters in Vienna. "I attach importance to the fact that for the first time... since the distancing of Iran from its past obligations, they are taking a different direction," he said.

But he said he could 'not exclude" that Iran's commitment might falter as a result of further developments".

The comments by

powers submitted a resolution censuring Iran for its poor cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to its board meeting. Earlier Wednesday, Grossi said "a lot" of work still needed to be done, while urging countries to "avoid unnecessary escalations, in particular, in a region that has suffered too much". Last week, Grossi travelled to Tehran for talks with President Masoud Pezeshkian and other top officials.

During the meeting, Iran agreed to freeze its sensitive stock of near weapons-grade uranium enriched up to 60 percent. According to the IAEA, Tehran is the only non-nuclear weapon state to enrich uranium to 60 percent, a short step from the 90 percent level needed Grossi came after Western for atomic weapons.

Ferocious cyclone pounds northwest US, leaves 600,000 without power

Monitoring Desk SEATTLE: A powerful

storm was clobbering Washington state on Wednesday, knocking out power to hundreds of thousands while wreaking havoc on road travel and causing at least one death and two injuries.

A woman was killed on Tuesday when a tree fell on a homeless encampment in Lynnwood, just north of Seattle, local fire department officials said on social media. Two people were also injured when a tree fell on their trailer in Maple Valley, southeast of

Schools across western Washington cancelled classes or postponed the start of school on Wednes-

The storm with hurricane force winds of 50 miles per hour and gusts around 70mph felled trees and power lines overnight. It knocked out electricity to more than 600,000 homes and businesses in Washington, Southwest Oregon and Northern California, according

Poweroutage.us. "The storm is just be-

meteorologist with the NWS Weather Prediction Centre in College Park, Maryland. "We haven't gotten a ton of rain yet, just 2-3 inches over Southwest Oregon and Northern California," Otto said.

But the storm, called "bomb cyclone" which happens when the storm rapidly intensifies, is going to stall over Northern California in the next few days, he said. "The biggest surge is Thursday. We're looking at 10-15 inches of rain by Friday, some places, 20-inches," Otto said, with the main concerns for southwest Oregon and Northern Califor-

A bomb cyclone rapidly intensifies in 24 hours or less when a cold air mass from the polar region collides with warm tropical air in a process that meteorologists bombogenesis

The weather service has issued a plethora of warnings and watches across the Pacific Northwest for high winds, flood watches and warnings, and including blizzard warnings from Northern Washington ginning," said Rich Otto, a to the Sierra Nevada Range.

Afghan administration should stop its land from being used for terrorism: FO spokesperson

concern over support being provided to terror groups in Afghanistan has said Afghan administration should stop its land from being used for terrorism. "Terrorism is grave threat for both of the countries. There should be immediate ceasefire in Gaza, this was said by

Office Foreign Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch in her weekly news briefing here Thurs-

She said Pakistan on several occasions have shared with Afghan authorities concrete evidence regarding the terror groups. We have grave con-

cerns over safe havens of

authorities will consider terrorism as a serious threat not just to the region but to their own security and fulfill their obligations under various international agreements including Doha agreement.

Kashmir, the spokesperson

urged the international

community to stand up for

their rights and demand an

continue to extend political.

moral and diplomatic sup-

port to their Kashmir

brothers and sisters for the

just and peaceful settlement

of Jammu and Kashmir dis-

pute in accordance with the

UN Security Council Reso-

lutions. She held special en-

voy of China for Afghani-

stan and special envoy of

Russian federation for Af-

ghanistan recently visited

Pakistan and they held

meetings with additional

secretary Afghanistan and

West Asia Ahmad Naseem

Naqvi, UK's

Hamish discuss

strengthening

Pak-UK ties

SLAMABAD (APP):

Federal Interior Minister

Mohsin Naqvi on Thurs-

day met with Hamish Fal-

coner, the UK's Deputy

Foreign Minister for Paki-

stan and Afghanistan, to

discuss enhancing bilateral

ties and areas of mutual in-

Islamabad, was attended by

British High Commissioner

Pakistan's High Commis-

sioner to the UK, Dr.

on fostering closer collabo-

ration and implementing

joint measures to bolster

pressed warm wishes to

Falconer and reaffirmed his

commitment to further so-

lidifying the historic friend-

ship between the two na-

Aleem highlights

Pakistan's

investment

potential at

COP29

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Federal Minister for Com-

munications, Privatization and Board of Investment,

Abdul Aleem Khan high-

lighted Pakistan's invest-

ment potential in key meet-

ings with Turkish Minister

for Transport and Infra-

Uraloglu and Azerbaijani

Minister of Digital Devel-

opment and Transport

Rashad Nabiyev at COP29.

meetings with Turkish and

Azerbaijani ministers, fo-

cusing on strengthening ties

in transport, infrastructure,

global forum, Aleem Khan

met with Turkish Minister

for Transport and Infra-

Uraloglu. Both ministers

discussed enhancing the ex-

isting brotherly and trade

relations between the two

countries. Aleem Khan

highlighted the decades-

long friendship between

Turkiye and Pakistan and

invited Turkish investment

and digital development.

Aleem Khan said

On the sidelines of the

Abdulkadir

Abdulkadir

structure

structure

Discussions centered

Minister Naqvi ex-

Muhammad Faisal.

Pak-UK relations.

The meeting, held in

Marriott and

She said Pakistan will

end to their sufferings.

The spokesperson regretted the result of last night's vote at the UN Security Council and its inability to reach consensus on the resolution calling for ceasefire in Gaza. She reiterated Pakistan's call for an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire, unhindered access to humanitarian assistance and full support to UN Relief and Works Agency and its mandated humanitarian ac-



QUETTA: MNAs Sardar Yaqoob Khan Nassar and Jamal Shah Kakar meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti.

CAS Zaheer visits 12th edition of **IDEAS-2024**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Air lease. The visit of Air Chief Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force on Thursday made a comprehensive visit to the 12th edition of the International Defence Exhibition IDEAS-2024 at Karachi

Expo Centre. This event showcases latest advancements in defence and aerospace technology, attracting both diverse array National and International audience, said

Chief Marshal Zaheer underscores the importance of technological collaboration and innovation in enhancing national defence capabilities. During the visit. the Air Chief visited various stalls within the National Aerospace Science & Technology Park pavilion, which is prominently showcasing cutting-edge technologies in Space, Cyber, Artificial Intelligence, Electronic Warfare. Aerospace Designing, Sensors and Simulators domains. an Inter Services Public engaging in detailed discussions with national partners.

ATC indicts Qureshi, others in May-9 case

LAHORE (APP): An anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Ali Gill conducted the Shah Mehmood Qureshi, produced. along with party workers, in a case related to the torching of police vehicles in Mughalpura during the

May 9 riots.
Dr. Yasmin Rashid, Omar Sarfraz Cheema, Ejaz Chaudhry, and Mian Mehmoodur Rasheed were among others who were in-

Thursday indicted several proceedings at Kot Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Lakhpat Jail, where the

charged the accused, who pleaded not guilty and expressed their intention to contest the charges

Following this, the court adjourned the proceedings until December 2 and summoned the prosecution witnesses to record



Constabulary Agha Muhammad Yousaf presiding over a meeting regarding security of Chinese. **Educational Festival comes to an end in Chaman:**

The court formally



Government taking steps to bring Chaman at par of other areas in education and other sectors: Add. Secretary Home The Speaker was ad- Chaman have proved their

> on Thursday He highly appreciated the interest and fondness of the students in the Educational Festival held at the Boys and Girls Degree Col-

nology.

He said that the nations which paid special those participated in the attention on acquiring modern education and got the modern education in science and technology, are Auhammad He said that no nation can progress without getting skills in science and

technology in the today's modern era The Speaker said that the students have both time and opportunities, therefore, they should pay attention on their studies without wasting time and opportunities so their fu-

By Sardar Khondai

CHĂMAN: The Speaker

Balochistan Assembly,

Captain (Retd) Abdul

Khaliq Achakzai has ex-

horted the students to take

wholehearted part in the

curricula and extra curricula

activities in the present era

of modern science and tech-

reigning the world.

ture is bright and prosperof Balochistan and Chaman is in the hands of students and they have to shoulder

dressing the closing ceremony of Educational Festival at the College, Chaman

Speaker BA exhorts students to take

wholehearted part in curricula & extra

curricula activities in modern era of S&T

lege on Thursday. Prominent among

closing ceremony were: Additional Chief Secretary Home, Shahab Ali Shah, Commissioner Quetta, Hamza Shafqaat, CO, 79 Wing, Wing Commander Lt. Colonel Irfan, Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Habib Ahmed Bangulzai, SSP Shehryar Afridi, besides other senior officers, tribal elders, teachers, students and people from different

The Speaker said that we have lot of expectations with the future builders. He said that there's no two He said that the future opinion that our future is in the safe hand of the talented and hard working in the Festival and praised youth. He said that the stu-

walks of life.

mettle in education and sports, so we are proud of

The Additional Chief Secretary Home, Syed Shahab Ali Shah also addressed the ceremony and stressed that it is equally essential to get modern education along with conventional education. He said that the government is taking steps to bring Chaman at par of other areas in education and other

In this regard, he referred to the Chaman Educational Festival.

Meanwhile, other speakers appreciated holding of the Chaman Educational Festival and termed it welcoming for development of Chaman In the end, Deputy

Commissioner Chaman and the College administration thanked all the guests coming from different parts of the province and country. Earlier, the chief guest visited different stalls set up

the creative work of the stu-

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf being briefed at a stall during

Ahsan Iqbal for urgent action on commercialization of New **Gwadar International Airport**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday expressed concerns over delays in developing a comprehensive plan to commercialize the recently inaugurated New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA). Chairing a high-level meeting, the minister highlighted the critical importance of positioning Gwadar as a hub for international air-

He stressed that if airlines are not attracted within six months of inauguration, the likelihood of success diminishes over the

lines, said a news release.

To incentivize longhaul flights from regions such as South Africa and

Australia, the minister proposed providing attractive rates for at least five years. emphasizing technical landings as a key strategy.

Created through a

(m2), is equipped with necessary production and auxiliary buildings (police stapower supply, HVAC etc.), air traffic control facilities

communication, navigation,

minister on safety evaluations and airfield regularizagrant of \$230 million by the Chinese government, the tion, assuring operational New Gwadar International clearance by December. Airport has a 3648m long NGIA Faiz Ullah Khattak, runway. Its passenger terminal building, having an area of 14,000 square meter and DG Commercial the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) Abdul

tion, safe checking, security, garage, warehouse, etc.), Public utility facilities (water supply and drainage, (including meteorology,

ment departments, ware-houses, and tenders. However, the minister expressed disappointment at the twoyear delay in commercialization planning and directed the PCAA to expedite efetc.), community hospital, school, family area and forts to attract airlines, develop air cargo facilities. **CNS** visits **IDEAS 2024**



BAKU: Turkish Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Abdulkadir Uraloðlu with Federal Minister Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan on the

BFA hosts successful **SOPRAN** project training workshop

Independent Report ance, quality control sysing workshop was held at the Balochistan Food Authority Head Office under the SOPRAN project, organized by the Benazir In-

QUETTA: A one-day train- tems, and nutrient testing in food items, including

Provincial Minister and Chairman of BFA Haji Noor Mohammad Dumar.



come Support Program, GIZ, and Nutrition International. The Social Security Support Programme for Adolescent Nutrition (SOPRAN) aimed to educate the authority and food department officials on the significance of food fortification and the provinciallevel strategies for its implementation. Participants were trained in capacity building for quality assur-

Secretary Food Muzaffar Zeeshan Lehri, and Director General BFA Atiqullah Khan attended the workshop. Speaking on the occasion. Food Minister Haii Noor Mohammad Dumar highlighted the Balochistan Food Authority's commitment to providing safe food to the public and acknowledged the support from Nutrition Intl and other governmental and nongovt organizations.

An education-friendly initiative of Govt: **BISE Quetta decides to** waive off examination fees of orphan students from the examination year

Independent Report QUETTA: Th The

Balochistan Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Quetta has decided to waive off the examination fees of the orphan students appearing in the Board's examinations. According to an offi-

cial statement issued here on Thursday, the BISE has made a very commendable decision regarding waiving off the examination fees of the orphan students. The decision has been

made in light of the resolution adopted in 180th meeting of the Inter-Board Coordination Committee. As per the policy, the initiative would be enforced

plicable only on the students who are regular, and

for 2026.

whose parents have been For they would have to produce the death certificate duly verified by the NADRA, it was mentioned

The decision of waiv-

ing of the fees would be ap-

in the official statement. The facility would be limited to the prescribed examination fees not on the late, double or triple the prescribed fees.

Moreover, the facility would also not be available for the examinations of additional subjects, it was further mentioned.

PM announces Rs5 mln award for FBR officer to identify massive sales tax fraud ISLAMABAD (APP): the tax-evaders and their

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday announced a Rs5 million award and gave away a commendatory shield to an FBR officer Ijaz Hussain who identified a sales tax fraud worth trillions of ru-

The prime minister, talking to the officer, who called on him at the PM House, appreciated his dutifulness and honesty.
The act of the FBR

officer is the outcome of the prime minister's ongoing drive for FBR reforms and

Additional DG Paki-

Project Director

Basit, provided updates on

ongoing initiatives, includ-

ing allotments for govern-

Independent Report

KARACHI: Chief of the

Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, visited the

ongoing International De-

fence Exhibition and Semi-

nar (IDEAS) 2024 at Expo

miral Naveed Ashraf inter-

acted with foreign military

officials, industry represen-

tatives, and exhibitors; en-

gaging in discussions on

advancements in naval tech-

nology, global security

trends, and potential areas

for future collaboration. He

also commended the inno-

vative solutions on display

and highlighted the impor-

ships in bolstering regional

Ashraf's visit to IDEAS

stan Navy's commitment to

enhancing its capabilities

and fostering cooperation

LHC moved

action against

Bilawal, Ayaz

for violating

election act

AHORE (Online): Peti

tion has been filed in Lahore

High Court (LHC) against

chairman PPP Bilawal

Bhutto Zardari and Na-

tional Assembly (NA)

speaker Sardar Ayyaz Sadiq

for violating Election Act.

Bilawal Bhutto and Sardar

Ayyaz Sadiq have been

made respondents in the

petition. The petitioner

took the plea Bilawal

Bhutto Zardari was elected

member of NA on the ticket

of Pakistan Peoples Party

Parliamentarians. Bilawal

Bhutto is chairman PPP

too. it has been said in the

petition Pakistan Peoples

Party Parliamentarians and

PPP are two separate po-

NA speaker on November

litical parties.

being violated.

Election Commission,

with global partners.

international partner-

Admiral Naveed

During his visit, Ad-

Karachi

stan Airport Authority

(PAA), Air Vice Marshall

Zeeshan Saeed briefed the

facilitators and strictly

punishing them. He instructed the FBR to thoroughly investigate the identified tax fraud and take the perpetrators to the task by engaging an highly capable legal team

In the briefing, it was told that the credentials of an 80 years old lady was used for the sales tax fraud which was pointed out by Ijaz Hussain on March 4, this year.

It was told that under the sales tax fraud, Rs370



curbing the tax evasion, according to a PM Office press release.

In the meeting, the prime minister said that there was no dearth of duers but they needed to be acknowledged.

initially which was being recovered as a main culprit has already been arrested. Prime

Shehbaz directed to identify and punish the FBR tiful and competent offic- officers who facilitated this tax fraud. He said the govern-

Expressing satisfac- ment was striving to widen tion over the positive out- the tax base and the meacomes of FBR reforms, the sures like the FBR reforms prime minister called for and digitisation would also tightening the noose around help prevent such offences.

PTI founder's jail statement reflects growing anxiety, frustration: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): an admission of the Federal Minister for Information Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Thursday said that the PTI founder's statement from jail, seeking release to delay protests, reflected his growing anxiety and frus-

In a striking comment on the PTI founder's statement, Attaullah Tarar said that the statement, "If you release me from jail, I will postpone the protest," was violated.'

prisoner's frustration and

Tarar stated that it has been proven that the call for chaos on November 24 was aimed at securing a 'deal.' He remarked that the

person who once vowed never to engage in a deal was now incessantly shouting 'deal, deal' and was set on waging war against the federation. Tarar stated, "The only deal you'll get is with the law, which you have



CHAMAN: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Secretary Home Shahab Ali Shah, Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafqaat and other high officials a stall during Chaman Educational Festival.

Govt. determined for prosperity & sustainable development of Balochistan: Khetran

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE) Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has stated that the government is determined for prosperity and sustainable development of the province under visionary leadership of Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti. He said that establish-

Election Act-2017 is ment of law and order, provision of relief to masses A letter was written to and livelihood opportunities and sustainable devel-01 regarding this violation opment and economic stability are included in the trial and trade activities. by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

priorities of government. For the purpose, planning has been made for completion of the ongoing reforms and development initiatives in the province.

While the public genda has been successfully launched, which is based on the multidimensional initiatives of the government. The people are benefiting from the positive impacts of the practical steps in different sectors, he added. These initiatives are aimed at ensuring social protection, promotion of indus-

Naseem representing Balochistan in 29th Climate Change Conference

QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister for Climate

Independent Report

Change and Environment, Rehman Mullakhail is representing Balochistan in the 29th Conference on Climate Change continued in Baku city of Azerbaijan. Naseemur Rehman

went to Baku on special directives of the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

here that the heads and rep-juncture. resentatives from 80 countries including Pakistan are participating in the vital conference to be continued for two weeks. Addressing the confer-

ence, Advisor to Chief Minister for Climate Change stressed the need to formulate world climate financial framework for meeting the requirements of trol programme is also beweak countries as we are standing at an important level, he added.

He also shared the initiatives taken by the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti for coping with the challenges of climate change, with the participants of conference.

He said that not only the legislation is being made for coping with the challenge but the climate coning introduced at the local

