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## Grand Jirgah held in Turbat attended by Governor, CM, Corps Commander: No one to be allowed to create hurdle in peace & development of Balochistan, asserts Chief Minister

Tribal elders highly appreciate key role of law enforcement agencies for establishing peace in province; assure wholehearted cooperation

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir the provincial government Sarfraz Bugti has categorically declared that no one would be allowed to create hurdle in peace and development of the province.

He said that martyring innocent labourers in Balochistan is sorrowful and the State is standing with the oppressed.

He also asserted that those challenging the State would be dealt with strictly.

He announced that the provincial government would extend assistance to the bereaved families of the innocent people martyred in the acts of terrorism af-

He also announced that would bear the educational expenditures of children of the martyrs.

The Chief Minister was speaking to the partici-pants of Grand tribal Jirgah in Turbat on Thursday.

The Grand Jirgah was participated by Governor ness men, women, students Balochistan, Jaffar Khan and representatives of Mandokhail, Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, Corps Commander, Lt. General Rahat Nasim Ahmed Khan, Inspector General Frontier Corps, Major General Bilal Sarfraz Khan, provincial ministers,

Senators, regional elders, high civil and military high officials, women, students and local people.

In start of the Jirgah participants laid floral wreath on the monument of martyrs and offered fateha for them

The participants of Jirgah also had meeting with the tribal elders, busiother segments of the society belonging to Makran Division

During the course of interaction, problems of the people were discussed.

Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of Turkiye, Irfan Neziroglu calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

#### PM Shehbaz to visit KSA, Azerbaijan next week for Arab Summit, COP29

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Azerbaijan next week to attend the Second Joint Arab Islamic Summit being held in Riyadh and World Leaders Climate Action Summit in Baku.

The prime minister will visit Saudi Arabia to participate in the Second Joint Arab Islamic Summit being held in Riyadh on November 11, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said.

Being convened at the initiative of the Saudi government, the summit will be a follow-up to the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit held on November 11, last year in Riyadh to discuss the situation in Gaza and other occupied territories, she said at her

ISLAMABAD (APP): ficials from Arab League and OIC member countries are expected to participate in the summit.

> She said that at the summit, the prime minister would reiterate Pakistan's full support for the Palestinian cause and call for an immediate end to the genocide in Gaza, an urgent and unconditional ceasefire, and an immediate cessation of ongoing Israeli adventurism in the region that endangers the security of countries in the Middle East. Pakistan will also call for international protection for the Palestinian people and the establishment of an independent State of Palestine on the borders of 4 June 1967 with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as

> its capital, she added. On the sidelines of the summit, the prime minister is also expected to hold bilateral meetings with leaders from other Arab League

weekly press briefing. The heads of state and



ISLAMABAD: Brig Gen Hojjatullah Qureshi Deputy Minister of Defence & Armed Forces Logistics Islamic Republic of Iran called on Vice Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Ovais Ahmed Bilgrami at Naval Headquarters.

#### 5 Khwarij terrorists killed, 4 sons of soil embrace martyrdom in SW: ISPR

Acting President, PM pay tribute to security forces for killing terrorists

RAWALPINDI (APP): As martyrdom during intense many as five Khwarij terrorists were killed in exchange of fire between the Security Forces and Khwarij in general area Karama, South Waziristan District while four personnel of the Security Forces also embraced martyrdom.

The Khwarii terrorists were killed due to effective engagement by the Army troops, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The four brave sons of soil who valiantly embraced

fire exchange were identified as Naib Subedar Taib Shah (age: 38 years, resident of District Tank), Lance Naik Gulab Zaman (age: 30 years, resident of District Karak), Lance Naik Muzammil Mehmood (age: 30 years, resident of District Karak) and Lance Naik Habibullah (age: 28 years, resident of District Orakzai), having fought

Shahadat. Continued on page 2

embraced

gallantly,

#### Tarar, Kundi call for joint efforts to improve law, order situation in KP

SLAMABAD (APP) Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage, and Culture, Attaullah Tarar, and Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, met on Thursday to call for joint efforts aimed at improving the law and order situation in the prov-

During the meeting at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, both leaders expressed concern over the deteriorating security situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and criticized provincial

government's apparent indifference. They discussed potential measures to address and improve the situ-

The conversation also touched on the federal government's efforts to promote economic development and involve the youth in positive, constructive activities.

Governor Faisal Kundi emphasized that steps would be taken in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to steer the youth away from anarchic politics and towards more productive pursuits.

#### **Govt increases** allowances for judges of SC, **High Courts**

SLAMABAD (INP) - The government on Thursday increased the perks and privileges for the judges of Supreme Court and high

According to details, the house rent and judicial allowance were increased for the judges.

The house rent has been increased from Rs68,000 to Rs350,000 for the judges of apex court.

Similarly, the judicial allowance was increased from Rs428,000 to Rs1,168,000 for the judges of top court. Meanwhile, the house rent for the judges of high courts has been increased from Rs65,000 to Rs350,000.

The judicial allowance for the judges of high courts were increased from Rs342,000 to Rs1,090,000.

A notification in this regard was also issued by the law ministry after the approval of acting president.

#### TURBAT: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti addressing participant of grand tribal jirga. Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Corps Commander Balochistan Lt. General Rahat Naseem Ahmed Khan, Provincial Ministers and other high officials are also present. PM stresses further deepening Pakistan-Turkiye trade,

defence cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday ex-pressing satisfaction at the growing bilateral coopera-tion between Pakistan and Turkiye, stressed the need to further deepen bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, and defense sec-

The prime minister said this in a meeting with newly-appointed Ambassador of Turkiye to Pakistan Irfan Neziroglu, who called him at the PM House.

The prime minister welcomed Ambassador Neziroglu, who presented his credentials to President Asif Ali Zardari on October 28, 2024, and said that he looked forward to working closely with the ambassador to further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries, according to a PM Office press

Recalling the historic,

ties between Pakistan and Turkiye, the prime minister expressed gratitude for Turkiye's consistent support to Pakistan on Kashmir and said that Pakistan would also continue to lend its strong support to Turkiye on its core inter-

The regional situation, particularly in Gaza and the Middle East also came un-

The prime minister conveyed his warm greetings and best wishes to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and reiterated his invitation to the Turkish President to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his earliest convenience.

Ambassador Neziroglu thanked the prime minister for warmly receiving him and assured him of his full commitment and support to further strengthen the strong and historic bonds of friendship between both

#### Naqvi reaffirms commitment to Chinese security after Karachi incident

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi visited the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad following an incident in Karachi where two Chinese nationals were injured by gunfire from a security guard.



Showing solidarity and diplomatic engagement during his meeting with Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zedong, Minister Naqvi expressed regret over the incident and conveyed Pakistan's commitment to ensuring justice and enhancing security for Chinese nationals in the country.

He conveyed heartfelt sympathy to the injured Chinese nationals and their families, underscoring that Pakistan places the utmost priority on the well-being and security of Chinese citizens, particularly those working on projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Continued on page 2

#### Pakistan's maritime sector earns 90 bln rupees profit in last FY: Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaisar Ahmed Sheikh on Thursday said Pakistan's maritime sector recorded a profit of 90 billion rupees in last fiscal year due to strategic initiatives and investments aimed at transforming Pakistan into a regional maritime hub.

Addressing a press conference here at Press Information Department (PID), the minister said the share of maritime earnings in across the globe are almost 8 percent of their GDP, whereas Pakistan's maritime earnings are 0.5 percent of our GDP which s less than 2 billion.

The minister highlighted the growing importance of natural ports, noting that larger vessels are now docking at the country's ports. Previously, ships carried around 4,000 to 5,000 containers; however, vessels with capacities of 20,000 to 22,000

Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh addressing a press conference at PID Media center.

## CJP emphasis ATCs to clear backlog for swift justice

Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Yahya Afridi on Thursday expressed concern over the backlog at antiterrorism courts (ATCs) across the country and emphasized the importance of expediting these cases to ensure justice was not delayed. A meeting of the Administrative Judges of Anti-Terrorism Courts (ATC) was held at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, chaired by the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Yahya

The meeting reviewed the performance of ATCs and took stock of key challenges to ensure the swift and efficient dispensation of jus-

tice in anti-terrorism cases. It was attended by monitoring judges from Supreme Court Justice, Jamal Khan Mandokhail (via

#### Chairman PAC summons meeting of DCs of different districts to discuss about unused funds **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Chairman Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Asghar Khan Tareen has summoned the meeting of Deputy Commissioners of different districts on November 14 in the committee room of Provincial Assembly here.

The meeting has been summoned by the Chairman PAC to discuss the matter of unused funds by the Deputy Commission-

This was decided in a meeting of the PAC chaired by Chairman, Asghar Tareen here at the committee room of provincial assembly on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by the members of PAC Zabid Ali Reki, Fazal Qadir Mandokhail, Senior Member Board of Revenue, Qambar Dashti, Director General, Audit, Shuja Ali, Additional Secretary PAC Siraj Lehri.

The meeting decided with the Senior MBR that all the concerned Deputy Commissioners would be called according to the paras of audit report.

It was informed that around Rs. 19 billion are unused in the accounts of different Deputy Commissioners for different projects.

#### **DC** imposes ban on all kinds of hunting in Quetta Independent Report

QUETTA: The Deputy Commissioner Quetta had imposed ban on all kinds of hunting in the district. According to an offi-

cial notification issued here from the office of Deputy Commissioner on Thursday, all kinds of hunting has been banned in Quetta district with immediate effect and until further or-

According to the notification, stern action would be taken against those found violating the ban. They would be arrested and their weapons and vehicles would be confiscated on the violation of ban, it was warned further.

Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Musarrat Hilali, Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan and monitoring judges of ATC courts and Prosecutors General from all provinces and ICT. The meeting was also

attended by Registrar, Supreme Court and Secretary, Law and Justice Commission were also present. Opening the meeting,

the Chief Justice welcomed the participants and outlined the purpose of the session, which was to assess the current status and performance of ATC cases, as well as to identify and address barriers to the efficient delivery of justice.

He reminded the participants of the immense responsibility that they carry in dispensing justice, out fear or favor.

During the meeting, it was disclosed that a total of 2,273 ATC cases are currently pending in Pakistan, with a significant portion -1,372 cases —awaiting resolution in Sindh alone.

The Chief Justice exressed concern over the backlog and emphasized the importance of expediting these cases to ensure justice is not delayed.

Key challenges facing ATC courts were discussed, including: Ensuring adequate security for witnesses, facilitating online appearances for witnesses, Establishing and enhancing Forensic Scientific Laboratories (FSL) to support evidence-based decisions, creating additional ATC courts to manage high caseloads



#### President Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. **Acting President for** further strengthening bilateral ties with Qatar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Acting President Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani on Thursday said that Pakistan greatly valued its relations with Oatar and underscored the importance of further expanding bilateral relations in the areas of mutual benefits.

He expressed these views while talking to the Ambassador of Qatar, Ali Mubarak Ali Essa Al-Khater, who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Talking to the Ambassador, the acting president stated that both brotherly countries had great scope for increasing economic and trade relations. He highlighted that Pakistan offered investment opportunities and Qatari companies should benefit from the investment-friendly environment of Pakistan. Syed Yousaf Raza

Gilani applauded Qatar on

the successful holding of the FIFA World Cup 2022. The acting president also thanked the Government of Qatar for hosting a Pakistani Diaspora, which

served as a strong bridge to

promote cultural linkages between the two countries. Appreciating Pakistan as a business-friendly country, the ambassador said that Qatar's Minister for Investment would soon visit Pakistan with his delegation to explore the possibilities of investment in various sectors that would help

promote economic rela-



QUETTA: DG Levies Naseebullah Kakar meeting with Provincial Advisor for Trade and Industry Mir Ali Hassan Zehri.

#### Raheela Durrani pledges to give comprehensive road map to revamp education

QUETTA Balochistan Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani on Thursday raised concerns over 39 percent of children in Balochistan who have never attended school and pledged to give a comprehensive road map to revamp the education sector and improve the quality of

education. Raheela said that the students getting scholarships from Islamic Relief Pakistan should play their vital role in the development of the country and serve the

The minister said that due to the tremendous efforts of President Pakistan Continued on page 2

Govt announces

public holiday on

Allama Iqbal's

birthday

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Federal government on

Thursday announced the

decclaration of public holi-

day on the occasion of the

birth anniversary of Dr

Allama Muhammad Iqbal,

to be observed on 9th No-

vember, 2024(Saturday).

cation issued by the Cabi-

net Division, it was an-

nounced that Saturday, the

9th November, 2024 shall

be a public holiday through-

out the country on the oc-

casion of Allama Iqbal Day.

**Justice Kayani** 

visits Federal

Judicial Complex;

inspects court

operations

According to a notifi-

## Govt striving to provide world-class facilities for athletes'

PM felicitates cueist Asif on winning World Snooker Championship

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday congratulated Pakistani cueist Mohammad Asif for winning the IBSF World Snooker Championship title for the third time.

In a thrilling final of the International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) World Snooker Championship, Asif defeated Iran's Asian champion Ali Ghareghozlou 5-3 to claim

'Mohammad Asif has made the nation proud by clinching the World

Snooker Championship title for the third time. Asif's family members and coach also deserve felicitation," the prime minister said, according to a PM Office statement.

Lauding the efforts by Mohammad Asif to win the title, he said Pakistan's capable youth were bringing fame to the country in the sports field. The government is also striving for world-class facilities for sportsmen as a priority to enable them to com-

#### UK Kashmiris call for peaceful resolution of Kashmir issue

MIRPUR-AJK (APP): British Kashmiri politician Chaudhry Liaquat Ali, a former Mayor of Waltham Forest on Thursday emphasized the desire of the UK-based Pakistani and Kashmiri diaspora for a peaceful resolution to the Kashmir conflict.

In a statement issued to media, Speaking at an event, Chaudhry Liaquat reaffirmed community's commitment to advocating for the freedom of occupied Kashmir from Indian control.

Chaudhry Liaquat Ali was joined by prominent figures including Ch. Shoukat Ali, Chairman of Muslim Friends of Labour. businessman Chaudhry Muhammad Ali, Colonel

Rethard Mohabbat Ali from Inspad and senior journalist Zafar Mughal.

Ch. Liaquat Ali high lighted the tragic history of the Jammu massacre, stating that it remains a painmemory for Kashmiris.

He urged the need for coordinated efforts among Kashmiri organizations to create a unified action plan and initiate new strategies for the freedom move-

Shoukat Ali stressed the importance of learning from past mistakes and reinvigorating the movement with fresh

He expressed confidence in the Labour Party's commitment to the Kashmir issue during this term.

JUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Trade and Industry Mir Ali Hassan Zehri



QUETTA: MPA Mir Zabid Ali Reki meeting with Provincial Minister for PHE Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran. President Secretariat Association Younis Zehri is also present.

#### Pakistan welcomes UN rapporteur report calling out Israel's genocidal acts in Gaza, seeking decisive action

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Thursday welcomed the report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Francesca Albanese calling out Israel for pushing through a systematic agenda of forced displacement, annihilation, and genocide in Gaza and the West Bank

"Pakistan endorses Ms. Albanese's stance that Israel is obstructing international investigation efforts, including denying the entry of fact-finding teams from the United Nations. We support her call on the international community to act decisively in ending Israel's unbridled atrocities against Palestinians and to ensure unhindered humanioreign Office spokesper

tarian assistance to Gaza, as well as full financing and protection of UNRWA," son Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said at her weekly press briefing. The report highlights how Israel has been committing genocide against the Pal-

estinian people through acts

of territorial expansion and ethnic cleansing.

The spokesperson expressed concerns about Israeli actions against relief workers and agencies, including UNRWA, and its ongoing war on hospitals and vaccination centers.

"After destroying Gaza's health infrastructure, Israeli occupation forces are now targeting hospitals in Lebanon. So far, 34 hospitals have been damaged, 111 emergency medical technicians killed, and 107 ambulances targeted in Lebanon,' she said and reiterated Pakistan's call for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Gaza, Palestine, and Lebanon, the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, and unhindered humanitarian access and healthcare to those in urgent need. Referring to the reports of the deteriorating health of Kashmiri leader Muhammad Yaseen Malik, who is on a hunger strike protesting poor conditions and insufficient medical care in New Delhi's Tihar Jail, she urged the Indian authorities to provide quality medical care and immediately re-

also apprised the media of the recent visit of Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi who met

Continued from page 1

tion is being conducted to

eliminate any other Kharji

found in the area as Secu-

rity Forces of Pakistan are

determined to wipe-out the

menace of terrorism and

soldiers further strengthen

our resolve," it further said.

President Syed Yousaf

Raza Gilani and Prime Min-

ister Shehbaz Sharif on

Meanwhile Acting

In their separate mes-

sages, the acting president

and the prime minister also

'Sanitization opera-

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar wherein two sides agreed to strengthen regular high-level exchanges, advance cooperation and dialogue on trade, energy, and security, and enhance border management and people-to-people contacts. The spokesperson announced that Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif would visit Saudi Arabia to participate in the Second Joint Arab . Islamic Summit being held in Riyadh on November 11

Being held at the initiative of the Saudi government to discuss the situation in the Middle East, the summit will be a follow-up to the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit held last year on the subject.

immediate cessation of on-

going Israeli adventurism in

the region that endangers

the security of countries in

sorrow over the martyrdom

of soldiers of the security

forces Naib Subedar

Tayyab Shah, Lance Naik

Gulab Zaman, Lance Naik

Muzammil Mehmood and

They saluted the secu-

Lance Naik Habibullah.

rity personnel who sacri-

ficed their lives while fight-

ing against the Fitna al-

Khawarij in defense of their

fices of the brave soldiers

the elevation of the mar-

tyrs' ranks in Jannah and

for grant of patience to their

families to bear the loss

will never go in vain.

with equanimity.

a big breakthrough.

They said the sacri-

They also prayed for

homeland.

the Middle East.

5 Khwarij terrorists killed....

ISLAMABAD (APP) Heads of state and gov-Islamabad High Court's ernments and senior officials from Arab League and OIC Justice Mohsin Akhtar member countries are ex-Kayani on Thursday made pected to participate in the an official visit to the Fed-Summit. The spokesperson eral Judicial Complex in said that at the summit, the Islamabad prime minister would reit-During his visit, he erate Pakistan's full supobserved operations at variport for the Palestinian ous courts within the comcause and call for an immeplex. Justice Kayani started diate end to the genocide in Gaza, an urgent and unconditional ceasefire, and an

by visiting both Anti-Terrorism Courts, where he spent time at Judge Abul Hasanat Zulgarnain's Court of ATC 1 and Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra's Court of ATC 2. His visit continued to the Accountability Courts 1, 2, and 3, where he reviewed the facilities and workflow of each. expressed deep grief and

Similarly, Justice Kayani also paid a visit to the Anti-Narcotics Court and made a comprehensive review of these critical judicial branches.

#### Complex in capital SLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday directed the quarters concerned to

Ahsan directs timely

completion of

Jinnah Medical

ensure completion of the Jinnah Medical Complex, a state-of-the-art healthcare facility designed to revolutionize healthcare standards in Islamabad, within the given time-frame of three He passed these direc-

tives while chairing a meeting to review the progress of the Rs120 billion project, which attended by Minister for National Health Services. Regulations and Coordination (NHSRC) Dr Nadeem Jan, Health Coordinator Dr Mukhtar, Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Chief Health, DC Health, senior officers from the Capital Development Authority (CDA), and officials from the departments concerned, a news elease said.

this landmark Rs120 billion project includes a Center of Excellence, Diagnostic and Treatment Podium, Student Housing, Academic Podium, Academic and Research Towers, Physical Plant, Grid Station, Auditorium, Mosque, Emergency Department and a hotel to cater to the needs of medical tourism and pa-

Addressing the meeting, the minister highlighted the necessity of a stringent selection process for hiring qualified staff and credible contractors to ensure the project's successful mpletion.

To further strengthen efficiency and transparency, the minister directed that the project be executed under the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode rather than through regular budgeting.

The government has allocated Rs5 billion in the fiscal year 2024-2025 under the Public Sector De-Program velopment (PSDP) to start the project. While the CDA has earmarked 200 kanals of commercial land in Sector H-16 for the Jinnah Medical Complex, which underscores the government's commitment to strengthening healthcare infrastruc-

Ahsan Iqbal high-The master plan for lighted that the project's strategic location in Islamabad, near the airport and national highways, has made it an ideal hub for regional and international medical tourism, adding a steering committee has been established to oversee the project's progress and ensure that all time-lines and milestones set forth by the Prime Minister were

#### Toshakhana vehicle case against Zardari, Nawaz, Gillani: NAB requests for transferring case

(SLAMABAD (Online): NAB has requested for transferring Toshakhana vehicles case against president Asif Ali Zardari, former prime ministers Nawaz Sharif and Yousuf Raza Gillani and others rom Accountability Court AC) Islamabad to Special ıdge central.

Toshakhana vehicles reference against president Asif Ali Zardari, former Sharif and Yousuf Raza Gillani and others came up for hearing in AC Islamabad

NAB filed reply in AC with reference to returning the reference following restoration of changes in NAB NAB said in its reply

the total value of this reference stands at Rs 4 crore 82 lac. This case does not fall in the jurisdiction pow-



presiding over meeting of PAC Board of Revenue.

#### inaugurating facilitation center in Bostan Industrial Estate. Raheela Durrani pledges to

Muslim League Mian tackle the issues caused by Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, education opportunities are being provided to the students of

Raheela Durrani urged the members of Balochistan Assembly to take on an educational institute each and strived for its improvement to make it as model

Addressing the scholarship distribution ceremony held under the 'Wasila Program' of Islamic Relief Pakistan, she said her vision regarding bringing reforms in education department is clear and taking efforts to bring the out of school children to school and ensure best educational opportunities at their door

She linked the poverty ratio with school enrollment, said that the school enrollment ratio can be increased with the decreasing of poverty numbers.

Raheela Durrani said the provincial government under the leadership of chief minister Mir Sarfarz Bugti is working hard for the improvement of education sector to ensure best educational facilities to the public and the children who are getting scholarship should move forward and play a role for the development of the country and the

Muhammad Asif Shirazi, Country Director of Islamic Relief Pakistan said that Islamic Relief is paying special attention to

Quetta press club.

climate change along with Islamic Relief had provided support to the floodaffected people, occurred in 2022, as over 11,000 floodaffected houses have been reconstructed across the

He said that scholarship checks have been distributed to the students at Union Council level which was affected by the flood of 2022 so that their financial issues can be reduced and to help them to con-

tinue their education. On this occasion. Country Director of Islamic Relief Pakistan Asif Shirazi, Chairperson Proince, he added vincial Commission on Status of Women Balochistan

Fauzia Shaheen, Area Program Manager Islamic Relief Anwar Adil, Senior Advocacy Officer Advocate Rizwan Kasi, Director of BUITMS Ahsan Achakzai, Dr. Jamaluddin, Dr. Yasir them Bazi from University of Balochistan and others

views in the ceremony. In the first phase of the program, scholarships worth of Rs 10 million were distributed however, another amount of Rs 26 million scholarship will be distributed in the second and third phases. As many as 40 students from University of Balochistan, BUITMS and Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University were received their checks in the first phase of Wasila program by Islamic

QUETTA: Members of Artists Welfare Organization are holding protest dem-

onstration against unemployment and for acceptance of their demands, at

were also shared their

#### No one to be... Continued from page 1

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister anwhich the provincial govdents doing Ph.D abroad.

In addition to this, the Chief Minister added, the provincial government would also bear expenditures of education of 16 vears of top 10 students of Matric and Intermediate examinations from all districts of the province.

Besides, the skills development programme is also being launched for the youngsters and unemployed people of the prov-

The tribal elders and others highly appreciated the key role of the law enforcement agencies for establishing peace in the province and assured wholehearted cooperation to

They also expressed complete confidence and satisfaction over the steps taken for development and peace in the area by the provincial government and

#### Thursday paid tribute to the security forces for killing five terrorists of Fitna al-Khawarij in Karama area of South Waziristan.

nounced the Benazir Scholarship Programme under ernment would bear all the expenses of educated stu-

armed forces.

Meanwhile, the chief guest distributed prizes among the students demonstrating outstanding performance in the speech competitions organized by FC Balochistan (South) to introduce the philosophy and message of Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The competitions were organized to mark the Iqbal

#### Pakistan's maritime sector....

Continued from page 1 containers are now arriving. This shift has led to a reduction in global freight costs and significantly increased activity at nearby

This year, key among these achievements, the Karachi Port Trust's global ranking improved from 84 to 61, signaling a boost in operational efficiency, he added.

He said the inclination of all companies towards our ports has increased. The world's biggest companies are showing their interests to invest in Pakistan because from here they can transport their goods to Central Asian States easily.

The minister said Abu Dhabi Ports will invest \$330 million over the next three years, and global shipping company Hutchison Ports has agreed to invest \$1 billion. These partnerships reflect Pakistan's growing appeal as a destination for maritime invest-

Qaisar said a \$2 billion investment agreement was signed with Denmark in the maritime sector. Through this MoU they would invest in infrastructure around ports for the quick consignment movements.

The federal minister said his ministry was focusing on improving port efficiency and container management to streamline the processing of these goods, ensuring that shipments were processed in a timely and cost-effective manner.

He said recent visit of Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Arsenio Dominguez Antonio Velasco to the Pakistan is great milestone and he personally went to Gadani Ship Breaking Yard and assured his all-out assistance to Pakistan in various areas especially promoting Green

energy, port infrastructure. The minister said holding of the International Maritime Conference was

About water pollution, minister said it is a critical environmental issue as most of the untreated sewage waste are being discharged directly into the sea. This practice not only degrades marine ecosystems but also endangers marine life. He stressed the role of Sindh government to counter this practice and added the performance of the Marine Pollution Control Board is much better

than before. The Federal Minister highlighted the ongoing improvements at Gwadar port's dredging system, aimed at enhancing the port's efficiency. Pakistan is also adhering to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards in ship recycling, reflecting its commitment to global maritime protocols. For the first time, Pakistan has become a party to the Hong Kong Convention of the International Maritime Organization, he added.

On the aquaculture front, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs is working to strengthen export capacity. Reforms are also underway at the Karachi Dock Labour Board to improve labor standards.

government Our brought amendments to the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation Ordinance, which improved its performance, he added and said that in the next couple of months, permanent chairmen of all port authorities will be appointed. The US Department of Commerce has extended the export of fisheries from Pakistan for two years. Shares of Pakistan National Shipping Corporation increased by 40%, he said

## Naqvi reaffirms commitment ...

Continued from page 1 He briefed Ambassador Jiang on the incident's details and assured him of a swift, transparent investigation to bring those re-

sponsible to justice.
Naqvi highlighted Pakistan's commitment to aligning its developmental goals with robust security measures, referencing China's own model of integrated development and se-

curity.
Naqvi stated, "We fully agree with the Chinese approach of combining development with security. and we will ensure the safety of Chinese nationals and projects as a top priority." Addressing concerns surrounding the security of CPEC projects, Naqvi affirmed that Pakistan is taking "all possible measures" to protect Chinese citizens and assets linked to CPEC. He revealed that additional security protocols are be-

safe and stable environment, especially in regions where Chinese nationals reside or work. rity forces are actively working to bolster protective measures, particularly in Karachi, to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

Naqvi further assured that Pakistan's law enforcement agencies are coordinating to enhance security at all CPEC project sites, with a focus on strengthening communication, surveillance, and emergency response capabilities.

Ambassador Jiang expressed China's appreciation for Pakistan's quick response to the Karachi incident and its dedication to securing Chinese interests in the region. He reiterated that China views Pakistan as a "true and enduring partner," describing the two nations as "iron brothers"

ing implemented to create a who share a resilient and strategic partnership.

Through joint efforts, our friendship and cooperation have grown continuously. We value Pakistan's support and are committed to building a secure environment for mutual growth,'

Jiang stated. He emphasized that China is willing to further advance security cooperation and provide resources to enhance Pakistan's institutional capabilities to pro-

tect Chinese nationals. The two officials reached an agreement on developing a joint strategy to prevent similar incidents in the future, emphasizing the need for close communication and a shared approach to security. Ambassador Jiang thanked Minister Naqvi for Pakistan's hospitality and security arrangements during the recent visit of Chinese Prime Minister Li Qiang.

#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

TSE-242511586374 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Request for Proposal for selection of Consultancy service invited on Electronic Public Procurement System (EPPS) from well reputed national/International firms (JV) / service provider meeting with eligibility criteria, viz having registration with FBR for Income Tax and BRA and who are on Active Taxpayers List (ATL), and are not black listed in any procuring agancyv or authority for prepration of Hiring of "Consultancy Services from Consulting Firms" Titled as CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN REVIEW AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF MARA TANGI DAMS, DISTRICT LORALAI, BALOCHISTAN Detail as under:

E/Cost S.No. Description CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN REVIEW AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF MARATANGI DAMS. DISTRICT LORALAI, BALOCHISTAN

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: 2 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity Turn over of at least 30,000,000 PKR Amount in 3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Payer List BRA Registration Certificate The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan PEC/PCAD Registration PEC Valid Certifications along with the relevant code 1205 Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of of amount 10,000 PKR specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. The FINANCIAL PROPOSALS shall be opened of those consultants whose technical proposal is considered and approved. The Selection of Consultants shall be made as per Evaluation Criteria method as mentioned in the 'Date Sheet' of this "Request for Proposal" document. The incomplete request for proposal or received after due date mentioned above will not be considered. The RFP Documents can be downloaded from BPPRA Website (www.bppra.gob.pk). Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 21 November, 2024 till 12:02 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 01:02 PM Address: EPPS Phone no: 0335380033 Email: irrigationdivisionloralai@gmail.com

PRQ No.1847/07-11-2024

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIV: LORALAI** 

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## Romina Alam highlights Pakistan's commitment to environmental protection

Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam has said Pakistan is focusing on environmental conservation, climate and glaciological research, protected armanagement, ecotourism and the socioeconomic development of

mountain communities. Addressing a press conference jointly organized by the Ministry of Climate Change and EvK2CNR on the occasion of launching, "The new inventory of 13,032 glaciers in Pakistan: the "glaciers and students' project", the PM's aide lauded the role of the Italian government and the support to Pakistan and particularly in Gilgit-Baltistan and added that the contribution of EvK2CNR and UNDP in carrying out comprehensive studies develop the new glaciers inventory of Pakistan that has revealed the new remark-

able number of 13032 gla-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The National Assembly's

Standing Committee on

Planning, Development and

Special Initiatives (PD&SI)

on Thursday stressed the

need for swift and transpar-

ent execution of strategic

development projects, in-

cluding the Main Line-1

(ML-1) of Pakistan Rail-

Farhan Chishti, focused on

ensuring timely progress

and transparent reporting

on these crucial initiatives,

which are vital for national

economic growth and

infrastructural moderniza-

the Planning Ministry

briefed the committee on

previous project recom-

mendations, noting that

several key projects remain

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: The Inspector General of Police

(ÎGP) Islamabad Syed Ali

Nasir Rizvi chaired a meet-

cal officers at the Central

the IGP reviewed the func-

tionality of the Safe City

cameras, the use of modern

technical resources, and

public facilities aimed at

crime prevention in the fed- and expand its scope.

**IHC summons** 

supdt Adiala jail on

During the meeting,

Police Office Islamabad.

Representatives from

faced by Pakistan and underscored the need for international collaboration.

Romina said Pakistan has long been grappling with climate-triggered disasters that have caused significant loss of life and property. In recent years, she said that the frequency and intensity of these events have increased, reminding us of the severe impact of global warming and climate change on our

the most affected regions is Gilgit-Baltistan, which faces particular vulnerabilities and requires urgent, sustained interventions, especially from our trusted international partners such

She said the government of Pakistan, through the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental ship with EvK2CNR", she Coordination, places im- noted.

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina

Khurshid Alam addressing a press conference on the launch of new inven-

tory of glaciers in Pakistan along with Italian Ambassador, Marilina

NA body calls for quick execution

of ML-1, strategic projects

During the meeting,

members raised concerns

about delays in fund allo-

cation and the evolving role

of the Public Works De-

partment (PWD) as it tran-

sitions under a new struc-

ways under the China-Pa- lighted the need for clarity also questioned the

kistan Economic Corridor on the ministry's opera- project's operational

tional scope, especially re-

Ministry of Railways presented an updated plan for

the ML-1 project, originally

designed to enhance freight

and passenger connectivity

from Karachi to Peshawar.

phased approach to the

project, with Phase I pri-

oritizing the Karachi-

eral capital. He also as-

sessed the overall perfor-

mance related to the provi-

sion of new software and

advanced technology in

IGP issued directives

to the technical officers re-

garding the implementation

of new targets and an action

plan to further improve Safe

City's performance. He in-

structed them to enhance the

services of Safe City Islamabad

They emphasized a

Acting Chairperson eral development schemes officials explained that

The meeting, chaired garding the oversight of fed-

projects.

**IGP Islamabad reviews** 

functioning of safe city

cameras in federal capital

ing with Safe City techni- Safe City Islamabad.

The committee high-

provincial authorities.

recently been transferred to would help reduce travel

and securing budget alloca- achieving higher speeds

tions for high-priority would require significant

time between these two cit-

clarification on funding de-

tails, as 85% of the project

cost would be financed by

China, with the remainder

covered by Pakistani eq-

speed, currently capped at

160 km/h, and Ministry

realignment and increased

several key recommenda-

tions to ensure these

projects are executed trans-

parently and efficiently. It

emphasized the need for an

immediate convening of the

steering committee to final-

timelines for ongoing fed-

CDA begins

eral projects

ize direction and execution

The committee issued

Committee members

She highlighted the aimed at addressing climate challenges of climate change change, advancing environmental research and monitoring, and promoting sustainable practices in ecotourism and protected area management.

"One of the great achievements is the recent glacier inventory conducted in Pakistan, which has revealed that we have a total of 13,032 glaciers across ne country.

This is a significant finding, made possible through the collaboration experts She said that among EvK2CNR, along with universities and government institutions in Gilgit-Baltistan, supported by Italian universities. This project exemplifies the importance of international cooperation in tackling the climate crisis, and I would like to commend the role of UNDP as the executing agency, working in partner-



Adhikari pays a farewell call to Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

## Muqam lambasts KP govt for job terminations, suspensions

He criticized the Pa-

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf teachers' rights. Muqam also criticized

the PTI government for planning to file an FIR against the Inspector General of Islamabad and others involved in the raid on the KP House last month. following the reported presence of terrorists there. He criticized the KP

Chief Minister for his irresponsible behavior, claiming that his rhetoric about occupying Islamabad and Lahore undermines his credibility. He accused the CM of misusing provincial resources to reward employees with promotions and privileges, and forcing them to attend protests at D

Chowk, Islamabad. He urged PTI supporters to investigate why CM Gandapur mysteri-ously left D-Chowk during the protest last month. abandoning party supporters. He also warned the CM against turning the KP House in Islamabad into a

84th position

in QS Asia

Ranking 2205

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Pakistan's top-ranked, Quaid-e-Azam University

(QAU), Islamabad, has

once again shined by secur-

ing the 84th position in the

QŠ Asia Rankings 2025,

and Ranked 9th in South

Asia. This marks further

improvement of university

from last year, reflecting

QAU's dedication to excel-

lence in academia and re-

search. Vice-Chancellor

Professor Dr Niaz Ahmed

Akhtar congratulated all

stakeholders on this re-

markable achievement. He

university's commitment

to maintaining its reputa-

the

emphasized

## Nepal's outgoing ambassador calls on PM Shehbaz Sharif

The outgoing Ambassador of Nepal to Pakistan Tapas Adhikari Thursday paid a farewell call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at the PM House.

During the meeting, the prime minister stressed that Pakistan valued its friendly relations with Nepal. While fondly recalling his meeting with Nepalese Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli on the margins of the UNGA in New York in September this year, the prime minister underscored the need to expand bilateral cooperation, particularly in trade and investment. of th PM Shehbaz Sharif Asia.

appreciated Ambassador Adhikari's efforts to strengthen bilateral ties between Pakistan and Nepal, while acknowledging his role in promoting peopleto-people contacts and cultural exchange between the two countries.

Ambassador Adhikari praised Pakistan's progress nder Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's leadership and expressed gratitude for the support extended to him during his tenure in

The prime minister emphasized the need to enhance regional cooperation for peace and prosperity of the peoples of South



ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Human Rights Mrs. Saba Sadiq visiting Transgender Protection Centre.

#### **Ambassador Farhadov says:** Azerbaijan stands united with full resilience to celebrate Victory Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Khazar Farhadov has said that Azerbaijan is united with full resilience to celebrate

November 8, the Victory Day of Azerbaijan. 'We stood by our commitment to peace, but we made it clear: Azerbaijan would never accept the occupation of its lands, The the Ambassador said. Ambassador of the

Republic Azerbaijan, Khazar Farhadov said this while addressing the ceremony on the Victory Day of Azerbaijan here.

He said that this day holds profound significance not only for the honor of future we are building and it is a symbol of resilience. ing spirit of Azerbaijan.

"We are deeply grateful to the countries that stood with us, and today I must highlight the steadfast support of our brothers and sisters in Pakistan.'

The Ambassador of Azerbaijan said that throughout the second Karabakh War, Pakistan's leaders voiced unequivocal support for Azerbaijan's just cause, strengthening our determination.

He said that Pakistan has consistently honoured our friendship, even refus-ing to establish diplomatic relations with Armenia due to the occupation of our lands. In recent years, several agreements were signed during the high level visits of the Prime Minister of the our nation but also for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to Azerbaijan and the strength, and the unyield- President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev to Pakistan.

### Interior ministry, others put on notice on Asad petition for details of cases

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued notice and sought reply from interior ministry and other respondents on PTI leader Asad Qaisar petition requesting court to issue orders for providing details of cases registered against him.

The court adjourned the hearing of the case. The petition filed by

former speaker National Assembly (NA) Asad Qaisar seeking provision of detail of cases to him came up for hearing before justice Saman Rafat Imtiaz Thursday.

The counsel for petitioner said there was risk of his arrest in any unknown case

ing detail of inquiries, investigations and cases registered against him in all over the country. Information about cases registered against him in FIA, Police and NAB be also provided The court while issu-

ders be issued for provid-

ing notice to interior ministry and other respondents sought reply from them.

It is pertinent to mention here interior ministry, IGs of all the four provinces and Islamabad, chief commissioner, NAB and FIA were made respondents in the petition too.

The court while issuing notice to interior ministry and other respondents adjourned the hearing of the Asad Oaisar said or- petition

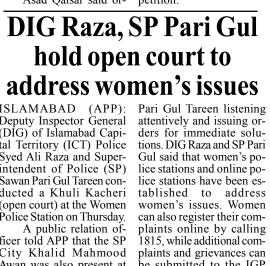
## DIG Raza, SP Pari Gul hold open court to address women's issues

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police Syed Ali Raza and Superintendent of Police (SP) Sawan Pari Gul Tareen conducted a Khuli Kacheri (open court) at the Women Police Station on Thursday.

A public relation officer told APP that the SP City Khalid Mahmood Awan was also present at the Khuli Kacheri, where a large number of women participated in raising their cerns directly

He said during the session, women expressed their issues openly, with DIG Raza and SP Sawan

be submitted to the IGP Grievance Cell at 1715, they said. Inspector General (IG) Police Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi said that the ICT Police are committed to reaching citizens through



multiple platforms and resolving their concerns

#### of teachers on protest ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Kashmir Afpressuring teachers and denying their rightful entitle-

fairs, Gilgit-Baltistan, and SAFRON, Engineer Amir Muqam, on Thursday condemned the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government for pressuring protesting teachers and threatening them with dismissal or suspension for partici-pating in any form of protest. Addressing a news conference, alongside MNA Mubarak Zeb Khan from Bajaur, the minister expressed disappointment with the KP government's double standards. He criticized the PTI-led administration for claiming to cham-

pion people's rights while

(PTI) government's treatment with teachers and pledged the federal government's support to educators. He promised to continue advocating for

> hub for terrorists. **QAU** achieves

#### NA secretariat urges Parliamentary reporters to refrain from recording videos within Parliament House

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly secretariat has requested all parliamentary reporters to refrain from recording videos within Parliament House.

During the tenth session of the National Assembly, it was observed that some journalists were recording interviews and remarks from member of the parliament in the corridors without prior consent, later sharing these videos on social media.

The members have expressed serious reservations and brought the mat-

Speaker of the National Assembly. In a statement, the sec-

retariat said, "A decision has been made to impose a ban on any kind of video recording within Parliament Penalties for violating

this directive may include confiscation of mobile phones, revocation of press gallery access cards, and restricted entry to Parliament House. The NA Secretariat

has urged media personnel to cooperate with this new policy for the smooth functioning of parliamentary



ISLAMABAD: Baloch stall holders carrying Balochi traditional items for displaying on their stall in connection with Lok Mela title "Focusing on the Youth of Pakistan" start on 8 November at Lok Virsa, in the Federal Capital.

## swift progress on Serena chowk

ISLAMABAD (APP) Capital Development Authority (CDA) has swiftly commenced work on the Serena Chowk Interchange, just a day after the groundbreaking ceremony led by the Prime Minister.

Interchange

The ambitious infrastructure project is set to transform one of Islamabad's busiest intersections, improving traffic flow and marking a new era in the city's road network development.

According to a CDA spokesperson, the project was prioritized due to the increasing traffic congestion in the area and the need for efficient urban connectiv-"The Serena Chowk

Interchange is a pivotal part of our city's growth strategy. We are committed to completing this project with efficiency and minimal disruption to daily commuters," the spokesperson stated. On the first day of

construction, contractors mobilized quickly, clearing initial pathways and setting up equipment to ensure work began without delay. The project is designed to ease bottlenecks

on the busy Serena Chowk,

which connects various

major roads in the capital.

The industry is aggressively promoting emerging nicotine products, which are designed to attract young users through appealing marketing strategies that mislead them into believing that these prod-

conventional cigarettes. This deceptive narrative undermines public health efforts and exposes children to addictive substances," he stated. Research indicates that many young people mistakenly believe that using emerging nicotine products is safe, often leading to increased experimentation and addiction. This trend is particularly alarming, as it fosters a new generation of nicotine users and complicates efforts to reduce overall tobacco con-

lighted the urgent need for regulatory measures.

#### Face masks must for respiratory patients, citizens amid smog

ISLAMABAD (APP): Re nowned Critical Care Phy sician and Pulmonologist Dr. Aftab Akhtar Thursday warned the public about fluctuating weather conditions as smog was causing health hazard to asthma patients, heightening the risk of severe respiratory issues triggered by rising pollen levels. In an interview with a

private news channel he stressed that wearing a face mask outdoors is a simple yet effective way to filter out pollen and reducing the risk of asthma attacks.

that the importance of vigilance and preparedness in managing asthma during changing weather conditions. 'Smog contains toxic particles that can exacerbate respiratory issues, such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), he said, adding, face masks act as a barrier, filtering out these pollutants.

## contempt of court plea Faisal Chaudhry took The court questioned

ISLAMABAD (Online): Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan of Islamabad High Court (IHC) has summoned superintendent Adiala jail today (Friday) on contempt of court plea for not allowing meeting of political leaders with PTI founder despite court orders. The court inquired from state counsel what is reason it happens repeatedly. If petition comes despite our order then we had written fine will be slapped on state. Advocate Faisal Chaudhry counsel for former Prime Minister (PM) Imran Khan appeared in the court

the plea orders have been issued by the court already. The court had issued orders as per jail rules.

what is situation now.

Counsel Chaudhry replied meetings with party leaders have been again cancelled. We bother court repeatedly but we have to come here under compulsion. Shibli Faraz, Umar Ayoub and Asad Qaisar were not allowed to meet Imran Khan. This court had constituted commission comprising 3 lawyers but implementation is not being made.

#### **SPARC** says: Immediate regulation on emerging tobacco, nicotine products ISLAMABAD (APP): ucts are less harmful than

The Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC) is urgently calling for immediate regulation on emerging tobacco and nicotine products, which have seen a troubling rise in popularity among children and youth in Pakistan. Health activists warn that these products, often marketed as safer alternatives to traditional cigarettes, pose significant health risks and contribute to the growing tobacco epidemic, particularly among vulnerable populations.

Dr. Khalil Ahmad, Program Manager at SPARC, expressed grave concern over the tobacco industry's tactics.

sumption in the country. Dr. Khalil further high-

"Pakistan currently lacks a legal framework governing the promotion, sale, and advertisement of these products. The government must act swiftly to restrict emerging tobacco and nicotine products to protect the health of our future generations.

# Dr. Akhtar warned



## Daily Aoice of Masse. Independent

Friday November 08, 2024

#### Trump 2.0

Come January and Donald lution. Nobel Prize founder Trump will move back into the White House to begin his second presidential term, having crossed the barrier of 270 electoral college votes needed to clinch the presidency.

A flood of congratulations pouring in from world leaders indicate that global capitals are now preparing to deal with a Trump presidency. Though much of his politics is divisive, Donald Trump has engineered a remarkable return to the top of the American power structure. Felony convictions, assassination attempts, and a lack of coherent policy prescriptions — nothing could stop his march back to the White House.

Domestically, high inflation was likely the biggest trigger that prompted Americans to vote for Mr Trump. The Democrats' hubris — for example, President Joe Biden calling Trump supporters 'garbage' also played a part in their defeat. In fact, the Democratic party and much of the mainstream media have perhaps failed to properly explore the reasons fuelling 'Trumpism' and the disenchantment of many Americans with mainstream politicians, which helped propel the rise of Mr Trump as a political entity.

On the foreign front, the Biden administration's unyielding support for Israel's genocidal campaigns in occupied Palestine and Lebanon alien-Americans — many of whom form significant voting blocs in swing states Many amongst swing states. Many amongst than America these days. The rate of accumulation of their public debt, and voted for Trump not out of any ideological affiliation with the bears testimony to this. Republicans — who are as pro-Israel, if not more, than the Democrats — but to punish Mr Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

By January, the surprise in kistan, even the massacre many quarters at Mr Trump's return would have fizzled out, and he will have to deliver on They have become a stahis promise of 'making America great again'. Domestically, he will need solid plans to reduce Islamabad on Oct 29 to inflation and bring manufacturing jobs back to the US. But to the rest of the world, his real test will lie in ending the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East. Mr Trump has claimed he could end the Ukraine conflict in "24 hours", and has unguarded remarks sugcalled the Ukrainian president a "salesman", indicating that US dollars to Kyiv could very soon dry up.

As for Israel, Donald Trump is an unabashed supporter of Tel Aviv, and the far right in Israel is jubilant at his return. It remains to be seen how his sue is there, they do not promises to Arab-American voters to bring 'peace' to the Middle East reconcile with his blatantly pro-Israel bias. Moreover, while the neocon wing of Trump supporters will call on him to expand America's 'forever wars', the America First faction will counsel him to abandon foreign conflicts and focus on the homeland. Time will tell which camp prevails.

As for Pakistan, the last few American administrations have maintained lukewarm ties with this country, and there is little sponse to a question during the FO brights later to suggest an improvement in relations under the new Trump set-up.

## Negotiating climate finance

Ali Tauqeer Sheikh The history of fossil fuel industry has come full circle. The climate summit

begins on Nov 11 in Baku, Azerbaijan, which was one of the first major centres of commercial oil extraction during the Industrial Revo-Alfred Nobel and his brothers made their money by establishing Branobel, which became one of the largest oil producers in Baku. It introduced several technological innovations including the first oil pipeline in Russia, and railway and commercial shipping lines to facilitate oil transportation. Climate leaders from across the world will congregate in Baku at COP29 to agree on global financial targets and to tackle the ever-increasing ecological footprint of the Nobel brothers' technologi-

A complex agenda awaits Pakistan's delegation at the upcoming climate summit. It is structured around two main pillars, both central to Pakistan's climate resilience and economic development: first, enhancing ambition with an emphasis on deep, rapid,

ductions to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius; second, enabling action by mobilising the finances necessary for reducing climate emissions, adaptation, and addressing loss and damage.

Both pillars are mutually reinforcing, and progress in one supports advancements in the other. COP29 is an opportunity to showcase how Pakistan is setting high-ambition climate targets and where and how we can become a destination for international climate finance. Our climate challenges are spread over a diverse ecosystem that can potentially offer a wide range of opportunities to pilot innovative climate so-

The main components of how COP29 plans to tackle climate finance include: i) the establishment of a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for climate finance, ii) enhanced commitments from countries through updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and iii) the operationalisation of effective mechanisms for the Loss & Damage Fund (LDF). All three have par-

The NCQG will help create a new financial goal

for evolving global financial needs. India and some other countries want an annual mobilisation target of \$1 trillion, compared to a commitment of \$100 billion per year, initially set for 2020. Some studies have projected even higher estimates at \$5.8tr to \$13.6tr by 2030. Developed countries are not inclined to commit to financial contributions that are obligatory, predictable, and accessible, let alone such large sums. Nor have they agreed to link NCQG with the LDF, as argued by Pakistan's stalwart ambassador, Nabeel Munir as head of the all-important Subsidiary Body for Implementation

The ask from the developing countries is desperate: at least 50 per cent of climate finance should shift from loans to grants to alleviate debt burdens. And for this, they seek balanced funding across the board for adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage. In a nutshell, the biggest challenge for the Baku

period. Without this building block, the targets of efforts. Pakistan's pivotal NDCs can hardly be enhanced, nor can LDF be scaled up. The submission of the revised NDCs is due in February 2025

The NCQG framework has expanded to include nontraditional donor countries, including some of Pakistan's Arab friends. Several additional challenging financial instruments are also being discussed, including debt swaps, blended finance, green bonds, payment for environmental services, special drawing rights, policybased guarantees, and carbon-pricing mechanisms. Each new source of financing will entail new complexities and conditionalities. Most importantly, this menu underlines the need for institutional readiness, legal reforms, and engagement with the private sector. Pakistan actively engaged on the NCQG during COP28 and several UNFCCC meetings since then, advocating for a comprehensive approach that integrates social concerns, particularly emphasising the need for developed nasummit is to finalise the NCQG for the post-2025 sibility in providing finangroupings such as the G77 and China. This collabora-

role in operationalising the LDF helped secure pledges amounting to \$792 million. Following this success, it advocated for the integration of loss and damage considerations into broader climate finance frameworks, including the NCQG. Pakistan's significant role in shaping the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement's implementation and in the Mitigation Work Programme has significantly influenced its approach to the NCQG. Through its integrative approach, Pakistan seeks funding mechanisms that are responsive to immediate resilience needs, emphasises grant-based resources, and integrates long-term considerations for loss and damage. The LDF's operationalisation is seen by Pakistan as a crucial step towards achieving

tives of the NCQG. Pakistan's role in operationalising the LDF has positioned it as an important actor, allowing it to

equitable climate finance

that aligns with the objec-

tion strengthens the collective bargaining power in negotiations related to both LDF funding and the NCQG, and collaboration with other developing countries from Bermuda to the Philippines. Looking ahead, Pakistan will engage in ongoing discussions at COP29 and beyond, ensuring that any financial goals set are realistic and reflective of desperate needs. Finally, the COP29

residency will launch the limate Finance Action Fund. Ironically, it will be capitalised by voluntary contributions from fossil fuel-producing countries and companies. The fund's aim is enticing: catalyse investments across mitigation, adaptation, and research and development initiatives. The CFAF has announced allocating 50pc of its capital towards climate projects in developing nations, with an emphasis on supporting their next generation of NDCs. It's still unclear who from Pakistan will engage on CFAF, particularly since it is expected to provide rapid response funding for climate-triggered disasters affecting vulnerable communities.

## A melting world

#### Khurram Husain

Nothing is more important for Pakistan now than to learn to stand on its own feet. The triumph of Donald Trump as the next president of the United States underscores this urgency. Those who think that Trump will be a friend to their cause should prepare to be

sorely disappointed. Trump will not care for Pakistan, or for Imran Khan for that matter, any more than any other president has. And the reason is simple: there are no American interests at play here, and he, more than perhaps most other presidents, is a pragmatic man driven by self-interest above all else.

The election portends something more though. Increasingly, the US is coming to be consumed by its internal dissensions, power America is getting trounced by the economies of East Asia, principally, but not exclusively. China. Politically, its old guard now stands de-feated, bereft of any vision or package of policies to lead them into the new world rising before

In truth, the vision by which that country has ruled itself and upon which it has built its forpolicy neoliberalism and the

myth of free market fundamentalism — was destroyed in the Great Financial Crisis of 2008. That was the time to seek out a new path forward. But instead, they preferred to simply bail their banks out, and revert to business as usual. The result is what has happened

In the years to come, quite possibly under ferring to embrace a more muscular unilateralism in its security policy and old-style protectionism in its economic policy to-

Economically, wards the world. It's all going, the architecture of the old world along with certitudes.

This is a matter of deep concern for Pakistan, a country that is firmly tethered to the financial architecture of the old world. Since 1988, Pakistan has been in nearcontinuous programmes, and deeply dependent on the World Bank for its policy advice and substantial foreign

exchange requirements.

More recently, from the middle of the 2010s onwards, we have added China, Saudi Arabia and the UAE to our creditors. But none of these players is equipped to provide endless financing to a country with chronic balance-of-payments problems. Today, even their support is conditional on a functional IMF programme, mainly for the surveillance that Fund programmes provide.

Pakistan built its economy in the shadow of a US war. It began in the 1960s with a Cold War alliance when the infrastructure through which the country secured its power generation and

food security was built. It continued through the 1980s when the first attempts at liberalisation began, the first elements of our present industrial structure were laid down, and the first experiments with market-based pricing of agriculture goods began. It came to a crescendo in the 2000s when under the cover of the American war in Afgh-anistan, the Musharraf regime pivoted strongly towards a consumption-led growth model and using unprecedented access to foreign financing, engineered a growth boom the likes of

We have been running the same model on re--peat ever since. In the another mid-2010s growth boom was engineered, this time using Chinese money. And in the early 2020s, yet another, this time using funds made available in

which we had never seen

scaf--folding built in the and liberalisation orthodoxy embraced in the 1980s all

comes along in which Pakistan is called upon to play a role, the world in which this country grew up and came of age, dysfunctions and all, is now passing away.

Pakistan can no longer count on the idea that some big power or the other will always be available to bail us out. The world in which we were 'too big to fail' is disappearing. Now more than ever, it is imperative that the country finds a way to grow out of its dysfunctions, to retool its growth model so as to not deplete its foreign currency reserves after only a few years of economic growth. Now more than ever the rulers' thirst to gain the attention and affections of a big power, so as to somehow sweettalk them into underwriting one more growth boom for us, has to end.

Business as usual in how the country is run

hostage to the cut-throat to that, the global archithe politics of demonising tecture that Pakistan has and seeking to destroy one's opponents. The

be forever rocked by the political storms that refuse to subside on its decks. The world is changing. Our country must change. Our politics must change. We must

Many of us are watching keenly to see how Trump will deal with the genocide Israel is waging in Gaza these days. But there may well be a region more consequential even than the Middle East these days. That region is East Asia where the brewing undercurrents of historic animosities and boundary disputes may well equal if not surpass those in the Middle East. Will Trump pull forces out of East Asia and station them in the Mediterranean or the Red Sea or the Persian Gulf to keep the fallout from Israel's relentless aggressions in check? I seriously doubt it.

Pakistan may well the post-Covid world.
Today, that growth
model, the institutional

Today, that growth
model, the institutional

Today, that growth
model, the institutional grown accustomed to relying on is now melting are outmoded. Unless an-other Great Power war ship of state — the only other Great Power war ship we have — cannot stand on our own feet.

## A single life

#### F.S. Aijazuddin

How many deaths give a single life meaning? In Paof 150 APS students and teachers in Peshawar in 2014 was not enough. tistic. To the Chinese, every national is priceless. This was brought to the fore at a conference in celebrate China's 75 years of 'Progress, Transformation and Global Leader-

ship' During the conference, Deputy Prime Minister & Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar dilated for over an hour on Pak-China ties. Deviating from his prepared text, he made some gesting that President Xi Jinping, during his meeting with our PM, had told him that China regarded Pakistan as an exception in matters of the security of Chinese nationals.

Dar told his audience: "The Chinese are very clear; no matter how lucrative an investment is anywhere, if the security issend Chinese personnel. Your country is the only xception."

Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong publicly contradicted Mr Dar's recollection of the PM/Xi meeting, insisting that for Beijing, "Security is the biggest concern". Jiang continued: "It is unacceptable for us to be attacked twice in only six months,' and urged Pakistan to take action against "all antihina terrorist groups" Alluding to the vulnerability of CPEC, he said: Without a safe and sound environment, nothing can

be achieved.3 Our Foreign Office entered the fray. In reing the FO briefing later, a correspondent asked the FO spokesperson whether 'any action [would] be taken against the Chinese

ambassador for violating the diplomatic norms and rebuking our foreign min-(shades of the démarche sent by the pre-vious government in 2022 over US diplomat Donald Lu's "bad manners and sheer arrogance").

The spokesperson responded with the official line that "Pakistan is committed to providing full security to Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan", adding gratuitously that "the statement of the Chinese ambassador is therefore perplexing in view of the positive diplomatic traditions between Pakistan and China"

The Chinese have a hetter institutional memory than our officials. They have not forgotten that 200 Chinese workers died while building the Karakoram Highway. They are buried in Gilgit. In 2021, nine Chinese workers were killed in a terrorist attack in KP. In 2022, a suicide bomber killed three Chinese instructors at the Confucius Institute in Karachi.

In March 2024, five Chinese nationals were killed in a suicide bomb blast in Shan-gla district. Last month, two Chinese nationals died in an explo-

sion near Karachi airport. After each of these attacks, our governments have resolved to "resolutely act against all such forces and defeat them" Equally often, the Chinese Pakistan taking "tangible actions rather than [offering] assurances"

Why is security of every Chinese so important to Beijing? Because the one-child policy has meant that if anything happened to any individual bread- or noodle-winner, six people would be affected: two parents and four grandpar-

The Chinese have a 5,000-year history of resilience, tempered by ad-

versity. Pakistan has a 77vear-old history of insecurity, compounded by debilitating insolvency. China would lose nothing by discarding Pakistan. It has other customers in line on its One Belt. One Road initiative. Pakistan may have strategic value for China, but that interest is not open-ended. Pakistan puts its indebtedness at risk. It owes its iron brother \$26 billion of debt and has \$65bn committed to CPEC projects.

If a single life matters to the Chinese, a single American life, an individual chosen by over 70m US voters, will have significance for billions beyond the Atlantic and Pacific. Donald Trump has claimed the presidency. He has been mandated to decide the world's security.

Trump is a bruised giant, with a narcissistic, insular 'America First' mentality. Kamala Harris promise to "strengthen, not abdicate" America's global leadership cut no ice with American voters. Trump has won. Democracy has only itself to blame. Harris has lost. President Joe Biden is to blame. He (like Queen Elizabeth II) delayed in handing over the sceptre to

another generation. Nato, Israel's Benamin Netanyahu, Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky, and immigrants should worry. Trump has plans for them. Trump and Russia's Putin feel comfortable with each other. They enjoy a "very good relationship". President Xi expects no quarter from Trump. He is ready and equipped to fight a trade and tariff war with the US

and its partners. Pakistan, however, may be forced to choose between a tired benefactor (US) and an increasingly impatient creditor (China) to whom even one life matters more than CPEC and diplomatic platitudes. Courtesy Dawn

## **Trump & Pakistan**

#### **Tougir Hussain**

How will the election of Donald Trump affect US-Pakistan relations? Let's first clear up a myth. It is not true that Pakistan had good relations with the US when Trump was president. He wanted to get out of Afghanistan for which he sought former prime minister Imran Khan's help in talking to the Taliban

Khan was rewarded with a visit to Washington and exceptional public praise from Trump. But once the deal with the Taliban was done. Trump turned his back on Pakistan, leaving no imprint on the relationship.

Trump notices only issues of high public interest, which have political traction. The present state of US-Pakistan relations is not one of them. neither are its domestic dynamics. Trump will most likely continue with the Joe Biden policy of low-intensity engagement with Islamabad, marked neither by significant aid levels nor by sanctions, the two extremes between which the relationship oscillated for much of its his-

There was a search under Biden for a new balance in relations that best responds to the completely changed regional and geopolitical landscape, and the shifting US foreign policy that faces challenges at home and overseas. Rising powers abroad are curtailing America's global primacy by staking a role in reformatting the global economic and strategic order.

At home, the politics and policy of issues like globalisation, China, big power relationships, alliances, and America's 'forever wars' are being reshaped by Trump's worldview, changing the way the US perceives and is perceived by the world.

handled by the State Department and Pentagon whose Pakistan policy has had four elements.

The first has been a derivative of US policies towards China, India and Afghanistan. The US would like to limit China's political and economic influence in Pakistan, and it also wants Islamabad to not undermine the centrality of India to its Indo-Pacific strategy. As for Afghanistan, its stability is key to the broader regional security including that of Pakistan.

The second element has been a direct US interest in Pakistan, focused on its economic weakness, potential for political instability, and the threat of extremism and regional insurgency to internal security, from which emerges America's ultimate concern about Pakistan's possible radicalisation or breakdown threatening the safety of its nuclear as-

The third factor has been counterterrorism. Here, Pakistan is seen in many different roles: partner, target or victim. Washington needs Islamabad's cooperation to act against the transnational terrorists who endanger the US and global security. It would also like Islamabad to deal with any militant threat against India and Pakistan's own stability. Washington is willing to help where possible.

The fourth element is the developing US-Pakistan cooperation in the economic area, principally in energy, IT and agriculture. Investment sentiment remains cautiously hopeful. And the US continues to be the top destination of Pakistan's ex-

The sum total of the above points to the need for engagement. What might impact it, however, is Trump's thinking on

Under Trump, the relationship will likely be eas: less military involvement abroad, decreased military aid, increased pressure on allies to contribute more to their defence, a rise in trade tariffs, and possibly a harder line on China. We do not know how it would play out. Biden's policies had already de-emphasised military aid to Pakistan. The Trump presidency should have no practical effect here. But it is too early to tell whether tariffs would hit Pakistan. Under the last Trump presidency, f---fected India, des-p-ite its crucial role in the Indo-Pacific strategy which Trump will likely con-

> We should not take Trump's offer of help to solve the Kashmir dispute, which he made the last time, seriously. The offer had nothing to do with Kashmir. It was about himself. He wanted to please Pakistan and appear to his base as a popular world leader being looked up to by other countries to solve complex disputes.

Trump's tional approach will always focus on what a country has to offer America before he does anything for it. Pakistan has to ensure that its ties with the US are handled through quiet diplomacy, especially if they involve issues that incite public interest in the US negatively. That would invite

Trump's retribution. Trump's policies are not knowledge- or institution-based but personality-focused and politics-

They are a one-man show. He is at the centre of his own agenda that goes with the politics of he day. To quote The Guardian, Trump will basically "free-lance" his foreign policy. So be prepared for surprises. Courtesy Dawn

## **KP Apex Committee** meeting held; important decisions taken

PESHAWAR (APP): An conditions in certain enhancing the capacity of important meeting of the districts of the province the police and civil Provincial Apex Committee, was held on Thursday with the Chief Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Khan Gandapur in the

Chief Minister on Finance, Muzammil Aslam; Corps Commander Peshawar, Lieutenant General Omar Ahmed Bukhari; Chief continued joint efforts by Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry; Inspector including the civil General of Police (IGP) government, security Akhtar Hayat Khan Gandapur and other senior civil and military officials.

The meeting reviewed the overall law and order situation in detail, with extensive deliberations on improving the security participants agreed on Additionally.

challenges

security forces and law The meeting was attended by Advisor to the paying rich tribute to those paying rich tribute to those who sacrificed their lives for peace and security.

meeting all the stakeholders government, security martyred forces, and the general months. public terrorism.

It was decided to give the police a leading role in

and made important administration and decided decisions to address the that police force would be provided with bulletproof The participants on this occasion, offered and immediate recruitment Fateha for the martyrs of would be carried out to fill acant positions.

As acknowledgement of the sacrifices of the security forces, the Chief Minister decided to give special package to the heirs emphasized the need for of 178 martyrs of Pakistan Army and Frontier Corps (FC) belonging to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa who were martyred over the past six

As per the decision, families of martyred soldiers will receive Rs. 1.00 million, while families maintaining law and order of martyred officers will in certain districts. The receive Rs. 2.00 million.



PESHAWAR: Adviser to KP Chief Minister on Information, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Peshawar press club.

#### Closure of primary schools in KP exposes Education **Emergency claims**

PESHAWAR Educational activities in primary schools of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa remained suspended for the third Provincial Assembly consecutive day on building on Khyber Road. Thursday as teachers continued their protest for acceptance of their to the protesting teachers

strike till acceptance of option but to accept our demands for upgradation, President All Primary Teachers Association, Aziz school teachers was Ullah Khan told media that suspension orders of KP Chief Minister, primary school teachers Mahmood Khan but still will not stop them from no further step was taken

justful protest. He said news schools was baseless adding that Chief Minister may lead to some solution

teachers also announced to stage a sit-in in front of the Aziz Ullah Khan said

was totally unjustified, Reiterating their adding that the KP ong stance to continue government has no other demands. He said upgradation for primary announced by the former

towards this end. The protest for the regarding reopening of demand of fair wages to primary school teachers, resulted Ali Amin Gandapur has unprecedented closure of invited them to CM House 26,000 schools in the and hoped that the meeting province. This action affected millions of of the issue. However, he students, underlining the said till the positive dire situation within KP's outcome of the meeting, the education system.

#### **Breast cancer awareness** seminar held at KMU

Independent Report PESHAWAR:

remarkable gathering to to address these issues to promote awareness and improve health outcomes. solidarity, KMU Institute of Public Mental Health & Behavioral Sciences as lifestyle habits, obesity, successfully hosted the and family history, and Breast Cancer Awareness encouraged attendees to Seminar. The event focused on the theme: "We are stronger when we stand together whether as survivors, supporters, or advocates for change."

Guest Speakers Dr. Zainab Jan and Dr. Asad Zamir from IRNUM Peshawar, provided an impactful session on the urgency of breast cancer

They presented global statistics on breast cancer, emphasizing that early detection is life-saving.

Covering symptoms, detection challenges, and barriers faced in low- and middle-income countries

like Pakistan, they In a highlighted the urgent need

The speakers discussed risk factors such adopt protective practices including regular exercise, maintaining a healthy weight, and breastfeeding.

They also discussed the significance of annual screenings—such as mammograms and clinical breast exams—as essential tools for early detection.

A particular focus was placed on debunking myths and misconceptions around breast cancer equipping attendees with reliable information for informed health choices.

Furthermore treatment options like chemotherapy and surgery were explored.

#### **Kundi** greets Trump on election victory PESHAWAR (APP)

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, on Thursday extended congratulations to Donald Trump on his success in the U.S. presidential

elections. In a statement. Governor Kundi offered his best wishes to the American people and the newly elected President, Oonald Trump, saying tna the election results reflect the priorities and trust of the American public. Kundi expressed

hope that under Trump's leadership, the relationship between the United States and Pakistan would grow stronger. He emphasized that there are numerous opportunities for closer cooperation between the two countries across various sectors and that Pakistan anticipates a positive relationship with administration.

#### **ANF** seizes 418 kg drugs in eight operations

RAWALPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting eight operations across the country managed to recover 418 kg drugs worth over Rs 75 million and arrested five accused including a woman, said an Headquarters spokesman.

He informed that during an operation in Mansehra, 900 grams hashish was recovered from an accused.

The arrested accused confessed to selling drugs to the students of educational institutions.

In another operation 630 grams weed was recovered from a parcel at a courier office in Islamabad.

296 grams heroin was recovered from the shoes of a Bahrain-bound woman passenger arrested at Islamabad International Airport.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Communication and Works Malik Sohaib Ahmed Berth inspecting the revamping work of Services and Mayo Hospitals.



conference regarding the problems of farmers at the Governor House Lahore along with General Secretary of Pakistan Peoples' Party Central Punjab,

## Govt encourages investment opportunities with New SEZ, incentives: CM Sindh

Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah during his meeting with Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins said that his government has launched various initiatives to attract both local and foreign

The meeting was held at CM House and was attended by Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh.

The CM and the Commissioner discussed matters of mutual interest, including investment, climate change, the Indus Delta, Archaeology and

Hawkins said that the Indus Delta was historic this, the CM said that million can attain SEZ Food Processing, Fisheries

Pakistan was a water-starved country. "Sindh being the lower riparian province is faced with water shortage, therefore the water required to be released to [downstream Kotri] sea has been an invincible job," he said and added as a result, sea intrusion has become a big

Shah said that apart from Dhabeji SEZ, other key zones are ready for investment including the Bin Qasim Industrial Park (BQIP) and Korangi Creek Industrial Park (KCIP),

where utilities and land are readily available. Additionally, following the Sole Enterprise Special Economic Regulations, 2020, single enterprises needed to be protected. At investing at least USD 50

zones already operational

The Sindh Enterprise Development Fund (SED) has mobilized private investments amounting to Rs 7 billion in sectors such as agriculture, mining, and mineral processing, offering a subsidy scheme to boost productivity, the CM said and added this initiative has generated an economic impact worth 10 times the invested amount.

During the discussion, Murad Shah told the visiting Australian top diplomat that the provincial Investment Department has also conducted pre-feasibility studies in key areas such as Stones & Granite, Livestock, Agriculture,

One killed,

four injured in

Pabbi firing

PESHAWAR (APP): A

man was killed while four

others sustained bullet

injuries when cross-firing

took place between two

groups of Oil Depot Union

in Pabbi tehsil of Nowshera

According to a police spokesman, a clash

between two groups of the

Oil Depot Union left a man

dead and injured four

injured were shifted to

Lady Reading Hospital

large police force reached

the area and collected

evidence for investigation;

however, locals said that

the intime entry of police

could have averted the

Two crushed

to death by

train in Multan

MULTAN (APP): At least

two persons were crushed

to death by the speeding train early Thursday morning in Multan Ghalla

According to a Railway official, one of

whom was trying to rescue

the other but both were

struck and hit by the train,

a private news channel

E m e r g e n c y responders retrieved the

bodies and shifted them to

The dead body and

Following the firing, a

others.

Peshawar.

losses.

Mandi.

reported.

district on Thursday.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for health presides over the high level meeting

showcase Pakistan's

positive image to the

the directions of Punjab

Chief Minister excellent

arrangements had been

terming it a welcome

automobile tourism events

provide opportunities to

youngsters to showcase

He said that such

made for the event.

The

development.

He said that following

Secretary

## Continuous efforts being made to promote tourism

world.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab automobile tourism but to Tourism Secretary Farid Ahmad Tarar has said that continuous efforts are being made to promote cultural and tourism development of South Punjab in line with the vision of Punjab Chief Minister.

He said this at the launch of the 9th TDCP
Thal Desert Rally being drivers in the event, held in three districts of Punjab: Muzaffargarh, Kot Addu, and Layyah, said a handout issued

The government was focused on providing equal opportunities entertainment to the citizens of Punjab, he

added. emphasized that the Thal

Farid Ahmad Tarar

their skills. The rally would

feature a variety of events in Kot Addu and Chobara, including dirt bike and quad bike races as well as traditional sports such as spear throwing and Kabaddi, he added. Desert Rally not only aimed at promoting



RAWALPINDI: PIA Employees Union protesting outside the press club against the privatization of national airline.

## **Punjab Governor says:** Attention should be paid on agriculture sector as it would boost economy of country

Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, while addressing a press conference regarding the problems of farmers, today at the Governor House Lahore along with General Secretary of Pakistan Peoples' Party Central Punjab, Syed Hassan Murtaza said that Pakistan

is an agricultural country. He said that attention should be paid on agriculture sector as it would boost the economy of the country. He said that the government should fix a good support price for sugarcane for the farmers

he will send the demands of the farmers to the Punjab government in writing.

Governor Punjab said that the PML-N and the PPP are coalition partners, adding that this is an alliance of compulsion for the sake of the country's He said that the

PPP will stand with the PML-N where the country's institutions are damaged and the system is unstable.

He said that the government should

(APP): and ensure payment. will bring economic and Sardar Governor Punjab said that political stability in the

In response to a question, the Governor of Punjab said that as the Governor of Punjab, it is his responsibility to identify the areas where there is a deficiency and room for improvement. Governor Punjab further said that the government should solve the problem of smog on war footing.

He said that the work done by the Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab Mohsin Naqvi to handle the issue of smog during his

## Minister warns of health emergency if people show negligence

Thursday, stating that the monitoring government might declare consisting a health emergency if citizens fail to take the necessary precautions against smog

Talking to the media during an anti-smog campaign at Liberty Market, he highlighted that Lahore had been particularly affected due to eastern winds, which have worsened the air quality. He assured that actions are underway to address sources of pollution.

To support anti-smog efforts, the minister stated that the government has coordinated pharmaceutical manufacturers to maintain

LAHORE (APP): Punjab adequate stocks Secondary Healthcare smog-related illnesses. He Khawaja Imran Nazir also announced the issued a strong warning on formation of a daily representatives from both

pharmaceutical

industry and the health department, to ensure a steady supply of these medicines."All government hospitals are well-stocked with medicines to treat smog-induced ailments, Nazir affirmed. He further urged the public to buy medicines only as needed, to allow equal access for all.

During the campaign, the minister and Deputy Commissioner Lahore Moosa Raza distributed masks to citizens and informed them of the necessary safety measures



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanges views with Peoples Party (PPP) MPA Farooq Awan during meeting held at CM House in Karachi.

#### Sindh govt excels in public service: **Memon claims**

Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon, Thursday, said that the Sindh government attaches priority to health and education and billions of rupees were invested to make revolutionary strides in both the sectors.

Sindh government excels in various areas but a negative propaganda campaign was maliciously launched against the People's Party, attributing inaction and negativity to its governance, the senior minister, who holds portfolios of Information, Transport, Mass Transit, Excise. Taxation, and Ali Zardari are eager to Narcotics Control, stated while talking to a delegation of Islamabad based journalists here, said a statement issued here.

Terming lives and health of the people as top priorities of the PPP and the Sindh government, he similar projects.

KARACHI (APP): Sindh said that the government was investing billions of rupees in various sectors.

including health.
The facilities introduced by the Sindh government serve not only the people of Sindh but also citizens from across the country and even people from neighboring countries were benefiting from these services, he claimed adding that people previously had to travel abroad for transplants but now these facilities were available in Pakistan free of charge

"Chairman Bilawal Bhutto and President Asif establish an NICVD (National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases) in Balochistan," he said and added that the Sindh government is ready to



MULTAN: Pakistan Airports Authority Rescue and medical teams provide aid to injured passengers during the Pakistan Airports Authority's emergency exercise at Multan International Airport.

#### LHC imposes ban on smoke emitting generators in green lock down areas

running smoke emitting generators in Green lock due to traffic flow. down area. The court also The government ordered to install pollution appreciated the steps taken control device in by the incumbent commercial generations in government and DG

LAHORE (Online): in the written order Lahore High Court (LHC) encroachments be removed has imposed ban on from hot spot areas so that pollution is not generated

next seven days.

Justice Shahid Karim
of LHC issued written

of LHC issued written

of LHC issued written order on the petitions filed have been distributed by citizen Haroon Farooq among the farming and others Thursday. community under the The court maintained orders of court.

## PITB partners with **GGCW**, University

Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) has signed two separate contracts with the Government Graduate College for Women (GGCW), Lahore, and the University of South Asia PITB's digital payment solution, PayZen, at both institutions. This initiative aims at streamlining the payment processes at these institutes, ensuring greater efficiency, transparency, and security, says a press complete five years as it tenure was commendable. release, issued here on

LAHORE (APP): The Thursday. The contract with Government Graduate College for Women, Lahore, was signed by PITB Joint Director PayZen Ijlal Hussain and GGCW Principal Prof. Dr. Nighat Naheed Zafar.

The contract with the (USA) to implement the University of South Asia was signed by PITB Joint Director PayZen Ijlal Hussain and USA Vice Chancellor Mian Imran Masood. As part of the contract, PayZen will act as the primary interface for handling all kinds of

## FM Aurangzeb calls for strengthening Pak-Japan ties thru trade, culture

Federal Minister for Japan, were exchanged. Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Aurangzeb said here on appreciated Thursday that Pakistan longstanding bilateral and Japan have significant potential to strengthen their ties through increased exchanges in trade, culture, education, and

people-to-people

The minister was talking to the outgoing Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan, Mitsuhira Wada who called on him here, according to a press release issued by the finance

During the meeting, views on issues of mutual interest, particularly longstanding bilateral cooperation and shared regional and global matters ensuring permanence to the

ISLAMABAD (APP): between Pakistan and macroeconomic stability acknowledged

cooperation highlighted the significance of Japan's developmental and economic assistance Pakistan overcome economic challenges and strengthen its economy.

shared Ambassador an update on characterised by a steady the state of the economy promotion of trade and and the significant commerce, growing improvement in various cultural, sports, youth, and macroeconomic indicators. educational exchanges, and

government

THE



Pakistan's total

liquid foreign

reserves

\$ 15.93bln

KARACHI (APP): The

total liquid foreign reserves

the forex reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan

increased to \$ 11,174.6

Pakistan, in a statement

central bank increased

\$ 18 million to \$ 11,174.6

million during the week

ended on November 01.

foreign reserves held by

commercial banks were

recorded as \$ 4,757.2

million during the week

reserves held by the

country, in the previous

week ended on October 25

2024, were \$ 16,049

Among them foreign reserves held by the central

bank were recorded as \$

11.156.4 million while \$

4,892.6 million were held

Shipping

activity at

**Port Qasim** 

ships, Marathopolis, APL

Southampton, AU Taurus and Venus carrying

Container, Palm oil and

LPG, berthed at Qasim

International Container

Terminal, Liquid Cargo

Terminal and Engro Vopak

Terminal respectively on

ships, Atlantic Ibis,

Southern Unicorn, Bow

Endeavor and Aristarchos

are carrying Container,

Palm oil, Chemicals and

Gas oil are also arrived at

outer anchorage on today

Eleven ships were engaged at PQA berths

during the last 24 hours,

out of them two ships, Da

Qing Xia and African

Finfoot are left the port on

today morning, while eight

Southampton

Marathopolis, Atlantic

Ibis, Jaru Bhum, Morning,

PH Giang Minh.

ships,

more

Meanwhile four more

Wednesday.

KARACHI (APP): Four

by commercial banks.

million.

Total liquid foreign

under review, it added.

Meanwhile

The State Bank of

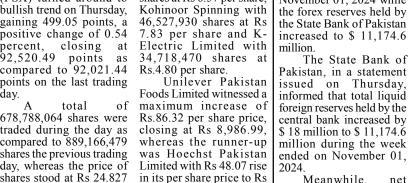
KARACHI: Renowned economist and former SBP governor, Dr. Ishrat Hussain giving away souvenirs to panelists at the Eighth Edition of Future

## **PSX turns around** to bullish trend, gains 499 points

The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) turned around to bullish trend on Thursday, gaining 499.05 points, a positive change of 0.54 percent, closing at Electric Limited 92,520.49 points as 34,718,470 sha compared to 92,021.44 Rs.4.80 per share. points on the last trading

traded during the day as compared to 889,166,479 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 24.827 billion against Rs. 30.474 billion on the last trading

As many as 449 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 257 of them recorded gains and 145 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 47 companies remained unchanged.



companies were Bank of

Punjab with 62,920,538

shares at Rs 6.57 per share

Rafhan Company Products Limited witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs 101.45 per share closing at Rs 7,305.21 followed by Bhanero Textile Mills Limited with Rs 50.09 decline to close at Rs



GUJRANWALA: Honorary Consulate of Malta along with other taking keen interest in made in Gujranwala Products during his visit in Gujranwala Business Center.

#### **CDNS** decreases Savings Certificate, rates from Nov. 04

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has decreased the rates of return for its National instruments November 04, 2024.

Return rates for Special Savings Certificates (SSC) have been adjusted down by 12.26 %, and Defense Savings certificates by 12.12 %, the senior official of CDNS told APP here on

He said that the new decreases were also applied to Bahbood Savings Certificates (BSC) 13.92, Special Savings Account 11.77, and Shuhadas Family Welfare Account (SFWA) 13.92 %. The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has accomplished a target of Rs 210 billion in fresh bonds and achieved 11 percent of the annual target in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, from the target of Rs 1.6 trillion July 1 to October 06, he in fresh bonds.

The senior official said the CDNS has set an annual target of Rs 1650 billion for the current Savings Certificates, Fiscal Year, 2024-25, marking amendments which will promote the different saving culture in the from country. Similarly, he said that the CDNS has set a target of Rs 170 billion in investment in Islamic finance for the Current Fiscal Year, which will lead to the growth of the Islamic economy in the country. Replying to a question, he said that the ĈDNS has realized a target of Rs1.742 trillion in fresh bonds and exceeded 100 percent of the annual target in the last fiscal year 2023-

24, from July 1 to June 30. National Savings has set an annual target of Rs 1.7 trillion for the year 2023-24, he said adding, "it is encouraging that this year, We surpassed the 100 percent of the annual target." He said that the CDNS surpassed the annual target and achieved

achieved during the last 14

On the occasion, the Mitsuhira Wada, who has completed his three-year tour of duty in Pakistan, reflected on the steady growth of bilateral economic and diplomatic and its vital role in helping relations since the two countries established their diplomatic relations in 1952. He also highlighted The Minister also the positive trajectory of with the ongoing bilateral ties the re-affirmed



crushing season. The board expressed current sugar prices in the local market

Advisory Board (SAB).

Advisory Board was held

SAB meets to review

overall sugar stock

across the country

ISLAMABAD (APP): A highlighted highlighted the meeting of the Sugar declining trend of sugar prices in the local market. It was decided that all sugar mills will begin

crushing from November 21, and action will be taken against mills that fail to start crushing by the 21st. The minister said that

payments to farmers will be made before the start of the crushing season. He added that if mills do not pay the dues to farmers, their export licenses will be revoked.

The Pakistan Sugar Mills Association (PSMA) has requested permission to export additional sugar. The minister said that

satisfaction with the the government cannot grant further permission until the first export quota Tanveer is completed.

## Pakistan now on track of economic growth: Minister

Minister for Petroleum and Water Resources Musadik Masood Malik on Thursday said Pakistan was heading in the right direction as it had successfully controlled of Pakistan stood at US\$ 15,931.8 million as of November 01, 2024 while inflation, achieved substantial growth in agriculture sector and witnessed a raise increase in forex reserves.

He was speaking at the concluding plenary of the four-day Sustainable organised

Khan at the Governor House.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The imports of the overall

experienced a substantial

increase of 21.68 percent

during the first quarter of

the current fiscal year

The growth

machinery imports would

help elevate productivity

and spur technological

advancements in essential

economic expansion and

progress in infrastructure

the machinery group

during the three months of

the FY 2024-25 stood at

\$2,014.339 million against

the imports of \$1,655.55

corresponding period the

last year, according to

official data of the Pakistan

Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

machinery and equipment

surged by 115.88 percent

of

The import of

sector

The total imports of

compared to 2023-24.

-September)

leading to

machinery

(July

sectors,

million

agriculture

development.

**Machinery imports** 

up by 21.68% in Q1 of FY 2024-25

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), said press release.

He said the current government had three key priorities, and these were decreasing inflation, ensuring better public life and reducing poverty.

"The government aspires to take the GDP growth rate from 2.4 per cent to 3 per cent as its agriculture sector was growing at a rate of 6.3 per cent, ensuring better Development Conference economic activity in the rural areas," he said.

LAHORE: A delegation of the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan led by

Chairman Faisal Jahangir Malik and Chief Patron Punjab Pir Sved Nazim

Hussain Shah in a group photo with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider

from \$13.757 million to \$29.699 million; textile

machinery 39.82 percent

from \$ 35.867 million to \$

50.151 million; power-

generating machinery 27 13

percent from \$ 106.624 million to \$ 135.551

million; construction and

mining machinery 51.78

percent from \$19.532 million to \$29.645 million;

electrical machinery and apparatus 77.85 percent

from \$488.696 million to

\$869.136 million; other

apparatus 34.64 percent from \$22.475 million to \$

period under review, the

import of office machinery

including data processing

equipment declined by

However, during the

38.083 million

## **Punjab Governor says:** Pakistan is best country in the world in terms of agricultural products LAHORE (Online): A Haider Khan said that said that by focusing on

Exporters Association of Pakistan led by Chairman Faisal Jahangir Malik and Chief Patron Punjab Pir Syed Nazim Hussain Shah met with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at the Governor House Lahore. During the meeting, the delegation presented proposals to the Governor Punjab regarding improving rice exports.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production, Rana Tanveer Hussain presided over a meeting of the Sugar

occasion, Punjab, Sardar Saleem

Rupee sheds

05 paisa

against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Pakistani rupee on Thursday depreciated by 05 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank

trading and closed at Rs 277.94 against the previous

day's closing of Rs 277.89.

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

The price of Euro decreased by 18 paisa to close at Rs 298.91 against

the last day's closing of Rs

299.09, according to the State Bank of Pakistan

(SBP). The Japanese ven

remained unchanged and

closed at Rs1.80, whereas

an increase of 82 paisa.

279 respectively.

However, according

delegation of the Rice Pakistan is the best country in the world in terms of agricultural products and its products have a special recognition all over the world. He said that it is a matter of great joy that our rice exports are increasing every year, which is not only increasing the country's foreign exchange but also making the country's name famous at the global level. Speaking on the Governor Punjab said that of the Governor House are asion, Governor our basmati rice is an always open for you

other crops along with rice, further improvement can be brought to the country's economy. Governor Punjab said that everyone should work together to make the country better and stronger. He said that stability in the country's economy and increasing business opportunities are the promise of a bright Pakistan. Governor Punjab further said that the doors



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, Mitsuhiro Wada pays a farewell call to the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, at the Finance Division.

#### Ejaz advises students to develop future ready skills ISLAMABAD (APP): AI-driven products, like

President of Digital the SIMOSA chatbot, he Platforms of Jazz Aamer emphasized how such Ejaz has urged students to technologies are enhancing stay adaptable, user experiences. technologically fluent, and He warne resilient to succeed in an

evolving job market. Speaking at the Institute of Space Technology (IST) on the

theme Campus Corporate – Steps to be Ready, he outlined how AI and emerging technologies are reshaping industries, advising students to leverage these advancements to maintain a competitive edge.

audience included final-year computer science students,

management. collaborative tool he said, intelligence; it's augmented intelligence. complements your abilities

while keeping you in the driver's seat." Citing Jazz's

faculty, Describing AI as a isn't artificial

security, pensions, or seniority in the corporate world; success requires continuous learning and a proactive approach to career development," he stated. He further highlighted the challenge of retaining tech talent in Pakistan, noting that while skilled professionals often

find better opportunities

He warned that staying static in a rapidly

advancing world is akin to

He also shared practical advice for

bridging the gap between

academia and industry,

emphasizing skills like

adaptability, resilience, and

mindset as essential for

"There are no guaranteed jobs, job

professional growth.

business-oriented

falling behind.



abroad.

Malik Mumtaz OGDCL Employees Union is addressing while OGDCL Sada Zahid Hussain Bhutto, senior PPP leader Chaudhry Manzoor and other office bearers are present on the stage.

#### Minister Ch Shafay meets Chinese investors

Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain here Thursday met Chinese investors' delegation, led by Madam Scarlett Xiang, Head of China Government Investment.

It was agreed upon in cooperation in health, technical education, agriculture, manufacturing of electric vehicles and other sectors. Chinese investors have shown interest in setting up an electric car assembling plant in Punjab.

The head of Chinese investors' delegation said that China's Huawei Group would start a programme to provide online training to 300,000 people in

(APP): Pakistan, asserting that an agreement would be made with federal government and TEVTA in this regard. The training program would be launched from Punjab. Under the Huawei ICT Talent Programme 2024, 260,000 students will be given ICT skill the meeting to increase training. Under this investment and program, 30,000 people be provided professional and 10,000 government officials with online training in digital economy. A Chinese investor group has expressed interest in setting up an electric vehicle assembling and chemical plant in Punjab. The China Group will also launch Pakistan Digital Primary Healthcare Improvement Programme worth US \$ 300 million.





SINGAPORE: High Commissioner Rabia Shafiq inaugurating the Pakistan Pavilion at Singapore Fintech Festival 2024 in Singapore.

#### Gold prices decrease by **Rs.5,400** per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP) The price of 24 karat per tola gold decreased by Rs.5,400 and was sold at Rs.276,800 on Thursday compared to its sale at Rs.282,200 on last trading

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.4,630 to Rs.237,311 from Rs. 241,941 whereas the price of 10 gram 22 karat gold went down to Rs. 217,535 from Rs. 221,780, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of per tola decreased by Rs.130 to Rs.3,300 whereas that of ten gram silver went down Rs.111.46 Rs.2,829.21.

#### promotion of non-conventional business sectors

Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry sectors to improve the country's exports.

Usman Shaukat, President of RCCI in a meeting with the Secretary. of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), Jamil Ahmad Qureshi highlighted that valuable foreign exchange could be generated by boosting industries like the pharmaceutical industry.

During the meeting both dignitaries discussed kev initiatives

## Israel strikes on Lebanon kill 40 people around Baalbek, health ministry says

southern suburbs were seen piled with rubble around severely damaged buildings on Thursday, following Israeli strikes overnight.

The Israeli military ordered residents in the southern suburbs to evacuate several locations on Wednesday. Two waves of bombing followed, one late Wednesday and another early Thursday.

Lebanon's Al Jadeed TV reported there were at least four strikes on Thursday. There was no immediate report of casualties or details on what was hit.

Israel has repeatedly battered strongholds of Lebanese armed group Hezbollah in the southern suburbs of the capital Beirut, with both sides having exchanged fire for over a year in parallel with the Gaza war. But fighting has escalated since late September, with Israeli troops intensifying bombing of Lebanon's south and east and making ground incursions into border villages.

Israeli strikes on

the Bekaa Valley killed 40 people and wounded 53, the country's health ministry said. The Israeli military did not comment.

Israel and Iran-backed Hezbollah have exchanged fire for over a year in parallel with the Gaza war but fighting has escalated since late September, with Israeli troops intensifying bombing of Lebanon's south and east and making ground incursions into border villages.

Hezbollah secretary general Naim Qassem on Wednesday said he did not believe that political action would bring an end to hostilities. He said there could be a road to indirect negotiations if Israel stopped its

"When the enemy decides to stop the aggression, there is a path for negotiations that we have clearly defined - indirect negotiations through the Lebanese state and speaker (of parliament Nabih) Berri," Qassem said.

Wednesday around the included a 60-day ceasefire strike

eastern city of Baalbek in proposal, faltered last tion on Tuesday in which former President Donald Trump recaptured the

More than 3,000 people have been killed in Îsraeli strikes on Lebanon over the last year, the vast majority in the past six

Lebanese rescuers scoured a destroyed apartment building in the fown of Barja, south of Beirut, for bodies or survivors after an Israeli strike on Tuesday evening killed 20 people there, Lebanon's nealth ministry said.

Moussa Žahran, who lived on one of the upper turned to sift through the ruins of his home. His burned feet were wrapped in gauze and his son and wife were in hospital after being wounded in the

"These rocks that you see here weigh 100 kilos; they fell on a 13-kilo kid," US diplomatic efforts he said, referring to his son to halt fighting between Is- and the apartment wall that rael and Hezbollah, which collapsed on him during the



house, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Nuseirat in the central Gaza Strip.

## UN says Gaza polio vaccination campaign complete

Monitoring Desk
JERUSALEM: The UN

said Wednesday its Gaza child polio vaccination drive was complete, with more than half a million children vaccinated despite the Israel-Hamas war raging in the Palestinian territory.
The World Health Or-

ganization and the United Nations children's agency UNICEF launched a second round of vaccinations in northern Gaza on Saturday after Israeli bombing halted an earlier attempt to do so.

The second round of the polio vaccination cam-

completed vesterday (Tuesday), with an overall 556,774 children under the age of 10 being vaccinated with a second dose," said a joint statement. It "is a remarkable achievement given the extremely difficult circumstances the campaign was executed under". Israel's military has pounded northern Gaza for weeks in a major offensive it says is aimed at stopping Hamas militants from regrouping. An estimated 7,000 to 10,000 children are stuck in "inaccessible areas" in the north and

#### "remain unvaccinated and paign in the Gaza Strip was vulnerable to the poliovirus". Thai PM meets Myanmar junta chief on sidelines of

**Monitoring Desk** CHINA: Thai Prime Min-Paetongtarn

summit in China

Shinawatra met Myanmar's junta chief on the sidelines of a regional summit in China on Thursday, in a rare overseas trip by a general grappling with a civil war at home. Myanmar's ruling military has been bat-tling against a rebellion that erupted after it seized power in a 2021 coup and has largely ignored calls by its Southeast Asian neighbours to cease hostili-

ties and enter into dialogue with its opponents.
"We had a private conversation and there was nothing unexpected," Paetongtarn said of her meeting with Min Aung Hlaing during an interview with Thai reporters. "I offered our goodwill

to cultivate peace. The two countries

share a 2,000 km (1,242 mile) border and fighting in Myanmar has sometimes spilled into Thailand and disrupted border trade.

Paetongtarn during a summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Laos last month called for heightened engagement with Myanmar.

#### China pledges support for Myanmar's political transition **Monitoring Desk**

BEIJING: China's Premier Qiang expressed Myanmar's political reconciliation and transition efforts in a meeting with Myanmar's junta leader on Wednesday, state media re-

Li met with Min Aung Hlaing in Kunming, capital of southwestern China's Yunnan province, which shares a border with Myanmar, according to the official Xinhua news

#### Palestinian, Somali Muslim women re-elected to US Congress Monitoring Desk

DUBAI; Muslim members of the US House of Representatives belonging to Palestine and Somalia were reelected on Wednesday.

Rashida Tlaib, a Democrat and the first Palestinian-American woman in the lower house, returned from Michigan's 13th District for a fourth time.

Tlaib, who has strong support from the Arab-American community in Dearborn, got 70 percent of the vote. Her Republican challenger, James Hooper received 26 percent votes.

She is the only Palestinian-American currently serving in Congress and a vocal critic of US policy toward Israel.

DENGUE

## Hezbollah says tens of thousands of fighters ready to battle Israel

**Monitoring Desk** that tens of thousands of its fighters were ready to fight Israel, adding that the US election result would have no bearing on the war

Iran-backed group's leader also warned that nowhere in Israel would be "off-limits" to attacks, as the Israeli military said about 120 projectiles had been fired across the border on Wednesday.

The Israeli military struck Hezbollah's main bastion of south Beirut after issuing an evacuation warning. Israel and Hezbollah have been at war since late September, when the Israeli military widened the focus of its war in Gaza to securing its northern border with Lebanon. Hezbollah began launching recorded earlier.

low-intensity cross-border attacks on Israel last year, in support of its Palestinian ally Hamas following its October 7, 2023 attack.

Efforts to end the war in Gaza that was sparked by the Hamas attack have yet to bear fruit, and the war in Lebanon has killed nearly 2,000 people, according to an AFP tally of Lebanese health ministry

figures.
"We have tens of thousands of trained resistance combatants" ready to fight, Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem said in a televised speech marking 40 days since his predecessor Hassan Nasrallah was killed in a strike.

The address was aired after Donald Trump's victory in the US election was announced, but had been

### Mozambique police fire tear gas at biggest protest yet against ruling party

**Monitoring Desk** 

MAPUTO: Mozambican police fired tear gas at thousands of protesters in the capital Maputo on Thursday during the biggest demonstration yet against the long-ruling Frelimo party, which was declared the winner of a disputed election last month.

Anger has mounted since election authorities said Frelimo had won the Oct 9 vote, extending its 49-year rule. Human rights groups say at least 18 people have been killed in the police crackdown on protests since then.

The election was hotly contested, with many young people supporting independent candidate Venancio Mondlane, who says the vote was rigged and encouraged demonstrations.

Protesters chanted "Power to the people" and "Frelimo must fall" and some blockaded streets with burning tyres and held homemade signs supporting Mondlane

"This is it. If we don't stand up now, nothing will change," said Julia Macamo, 55, a street vendor and mother of six who was still shaken by the tear gas she inhaled while protesting in the Maxaquene neighbourhood. "It's time to see the back of Frelimo.

Adriano Nuvunga, director of Mozambique's Centre for Democracy and Human Rights, said the country had never seen such large demonstrations. Civil society groups

and Western observers also said the election was unfair and that results were altered. A Frelimo spokesperson did not respond to requests for comment.

The party has been accused of vote-rigging in previous polls and has de-nied it. This sparked smaller protests last year.
President

Nyusi has not spoken since the protests escalated. His defence minister has threatened to deploy the army and warned against attempts to grab power.

#### Philippines confident in US alliance under Trump amid China tensions, envoy says

Monitoring Desk MANILA: The Philippines

expects US policy in the Indo-Pacific and support for its treaty ally amid South China Sea tensions to remain steady under Donald Trump, driven by bipartisan resolve in Washington, its ambassador to the US said on Thursday.

Both Democrats and Republicans prioritise countering China's influ-ence, including in the South China Sea, Jose Manuel Romualdez said, suggesting that military cooperation, economic ties and security commitments with the Philippines will continue.

"It is in their interest that the Indo-Pacific region remains free, peaceful and stable, especially given the economic part of it, with trillions of dollars passing through the South China Sea," Romualdez told

US-Philippine security engagements have deepened under President Joe Biden and Philippine counterpart Ferdinand Marcos Jr, with both leaders keen to counter what they see as China's aggressive actions in the South China Sea and near Taiwan. Marcos said in a congratulatory message after Trump's victory: "I am hopeful that this unshakeable alliance, tested in war and peace, will be a force of good that will blaze a path of prosperity and

Reuters in an interview.

both sides of the Pacific." Under Marcos, the Philippines has increased the number of its bases accessible to US forces to nine from five, some facing the South China Sea, where China has built artificial islands equipped with runways and missile systems.

amity, in the region, and in

#### 50 European leaders assess how Trump will affect their fortunes and seek a common stance on Russia

**Monitoring Desk** BUDAPEST: Around 50 European leaders on Thurs-

day called for a stronger defense posture across the continent that no longer necessitates a fundamental dependence on Washington as they gave a guarded welcome to incoming U.S. president Donald Trump. The European Political Community summit on Thursday in Hungary's capital Budapest reassessed trans-Atlantic relations in the hope that Donald Trump's second U.S. presidency will avoid the strife of his first administration.

"He was elected by the American people. He will defend the American interests," French President Emmanuel Macron told the other leaders, adding that it was not the role of European Union leaders to "comment on the election ... to wonder if it is good or not."

"The question is whether we are willing to defend the European interest. It is the only question. It is our priority," Macron said.

Time and again, leaders stepped up to say European defense efforts should be increased. During his first Russia.

2017-2021 presidency, Trump strongly pushed the European NATO allies to spend more on defense, up to and beyond 2% of gross domestic product, and to be less reliant on U.S. military cover. That point has totally sunk in.

Charles Michel, the council president of the 27-nation EU, agreed that the continent needed to become less reliant on the United States. "We have to be more masters of our destiny," he said. "Not because of Donald Trump or Kamala Harris, but because of our children." Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said it was "time to wake up from our geopolitical naivete and to realize that we need to commit additional resources in order to be able to address major challenges. It is a (question of) competitiveness and a European defense.'

During his election campaign, Trump threatened anything from a trade war with Europe to a withdrawal from NATO commitments and a fundamental shift of support for Ukraine in its war with

## Ausralia moves to ban children under 16 from social media

**Monitoring Desk** MELBOURNE: Australia's prime minister on Thursday vowed to ban children un- children. der 16 from social media, saving the pervasive influ-Facebook and TikTok was 'doing real harm to our

The tech giants would be held responsible for enforcing the age limit and face hefty fines if regulators notice young users slipping through the cracks, Prime Anthony Minister Albanese said.

Australia is among the vanguard of nations trying

and the proposed age limit strictest measures aimed at

A protester gestures during a prates in the Maxaquene neighbourhood

"This one is for the mums and dads. Social meence of platforms like dia is doing real harm to kids and I'm calling time on it," Albanese told reporters

The new laws would be presented to state and territory leaders this week, before being introduced to parliament in late Novem-

platforms would be given a one-year grace period to figure out how to implement

outside parliament.

Once passed, the tech and enforce the ban

#### Trump's return to White House sets stage for far-reaching immigration crackdown

**Monitoring Desk** SAN DIEGO: "Build the Wall" was Donald Trump's rally cry in 2016, and he acted on his promise by tapping military budgets for hundreds of miles of border wall with Mexico. "Mass Deportation" was the buzzword that energized supporters for his

White House bid in 2024. Trump's victory sets the stage for a swift crackdown after an AP VoteCast survey showed the president-elect's supporters were largely focused on immigration and inflation issues the Republican has been hammering throughout his campaign.

Trump's actions on immigration will take shape is uncertain.

How and when

While Trump and his participate. advisers have offered outlines, many questions remain about how they would deport anywhere close to the 11 million people estimated

to be in the country illegally How would immigrants be identified? Where would they be detained? What if their countries refuse to take them back? Where would Trump find money and trained officers to carry out their deportation?

Trump has said he would invoke the Alien Enemies Act, a rarely used 1798 law that allows the president to deport any noncitizen from a country the U.S. is at war with. He has spoken about deploying the National Guard, which can be activated on orders from a governor. Stephen Miller, a top Trump adviser, has said troops under sympathetic Republican governors would send troops to nearby states that refuse to

Julie Moreno, a U.S. citizen who has been married for seven years to a Mexican man who is in the country illegally.

#### Joe Biden gets blamed by Harris allies for the vice president's resounding loss

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Joe Biden's name wasn't on the ballot, but history will likely remember Kamala Harris' resounding defeat as

his loss too. As Democrats pick up the pieces following President-elect Donald Trump's decisive victory, some of the vice president's backers are expressing frustration that Biden's decision to seek reelection until this summer - despite longstanding voter concerns about his age and unease about post-pandemic inflation as well as the U.S.-Mexico border — all but sealed his party's loss of the White House. "The biggest onus of this loss is on President Biden," said Andrew Yang, who ran against Biden in 2020.

#### **Prince William** visits fishing community on last day of

Monitoring Desk

CAPE TOWN: Britain's Prince William visited a fishing community in Cape Town on Thursday, the final day of a climate-focused trip to South Africa planned around his multi-million

their sustainable fishing.

# South Africa trip

dollar environmental prize. Launched in 2020, the Earthshot Prize aims to find innovations to combat the world's biggest environmental problems. On Wednesday five winners were awarded 1 million pounds (\$1.3 million) each to drive their projects. Prince William shook hands with crowds during a visit to Kalk Bay Harbour, where he met local fishermen who told him about



Hindu devotees offer prayers in an artificial pond near the banks of river Yamuna on the occasion of the Hindu festival of 'Chhath Puja'in New Delhi.

### A view of dengue ward inside the Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Spread of dengue fever in Bangladesh worries medics

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Bangladesh is struggling to tamp down a surge in dengue cases as climate change turns the disease into a year-round crisis, leaving some paediatric wards packed with children

squeezed two to a bed. The Aedes mosquito that spreads dengue—identifiable by its black and white striped legs — breeds in stagnant pools, and cases once slowed after the mon-

soon rains faded. time, we would expect the to accommodate them.'

flow of patients to ebb," said Fazlul Haque, walking through a ward crowded with dengue patients at Dhaka's Shaheed Sohrawardi Medical College. "For the last three weeks, the number of dengue cases has been increasing.""We get dengue patients almost every month," said Sabina Tabassum Anika, the doctor running the

With cases higher than previous months, we're assigning two chil-'Normally, around this dren to each hospital bed

children's dengue ward.

## India's Hindus bathe in holy river defiled by pollution

**Monitoring Desk** NEW DELHI: Sweeping aside thick toxic scum, thousands of Hindu devotees ignored court warnings Thursday against bathing in the sacred but sewage-filled Yamuna river, a grim display of environmental deg-

the festival of Chhath Puja for the Hindu sun god Surya, entering the stinking waters to pray as the evening rays set in the sky. A parliamentary re-

port in February called the

Yamuna "more of a toxic

waterway than a river",

saying the foam clouds were

formed from a potent

radation in India's capital. Thousands celebrated

laundry detergent and phosphates from fertilisers.

"Please understand you will fall sick", a high court order said on Wednesday, Indian media reported. restricting ritual bathing on health grounds. "We can't allow you to go into the water." But housewife Krishnawati Devi, 45, said she was not worried. "I believe the waters of the river are pure and blessed by the sun god himself," she said.
"Nothing will happen to
me — god will take care of

everything.' Hindu faithful ignored the order, with women wrapped in fine saris and heavy jewellery wading chemical soup including into the grey waters.

#### **UN** chief congratulates Trump on election victory

**Monitoring Desk** UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has congratulated Donald Trump on his election victory as president of the United States, saying he looked forward to working

with him. During his first term 2017-21, Trump had a tense relationship with the U.N. after he cut funding to UNRWA, the agency for Palestinian refugees, targeted the World Health Organization (WHO), as also

UNESCO.

of America for their active participation in the democratic process," the UN chief said in a statement. Tusk says Poland

"I commend the people of the United States

#### will work on strengthening relations with US **Monitoring Desk**

WARSAW: Prime Minister Donald Tusk said on Thursday Poland would work on strengthening its relations with the United States following Donald Trump's victory in the presidential election.

Tusk was speaking to reporters before leaving for an EU summit in Budapest over Thursday and Friday at which Trump's return to power and the collapse of Germany's ruling coalition will be major talking standards

ery field.

Chinese ambassador to Pa-

kistan Jiang Zaidong Thurs-

day called on Minister for

Planning, Development and

Special Initiatives Prof.

Ahsan Iqbal and discussed

matters related to bilateral

interests and progress of

tended by senior officials,

including the Special Assis-

tant to the Prime Minister

on Foreign Affairs, Tariq

Fatemi; the Secretaries of

Communications, Rail-

ways, and Interior; as well

as senior officials from the

Ministries of Foreign Af-

fairs and Planning, a news

release said. Ahsan Iqbal, in

his opening remarks, con-

demned the recent attack on

Chinese nationals in

Karachi, emphasizing that

Pakistan would take all nec-

essary measures to bring the

perpetrators to justice.

He stated "This hei-

nous act, clearly aimed at

damaging Pakistan-China

relations, will not be toler-

ated." The government and

people of Pakistan, the

minister, stood shoulder-

to-shoulder with Chinese

friends during this challeng-

ing time and extended sin-

cere condolences to the

The meeting was at-

CPEC projects.

## Lays foundation stone of Ramday University PM terms development of Gilgit-Baltistan as top priority

"The role of the pri-

opment of Gilgit-Baltistan

handed over homes.

that a 100-megawatt solar

energy project had been

help meet the region's elec-

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr. Jiang Zaidong, called

on the Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives,

sured the students that the

interior country full funded

Ph. D programme would be

The Chief Minister

Ph.D programme.

ISLAMABAD (APP): higher learning in a remote Minister Muhammad Sharif on Thursday laid the foundation stone of Ramday University to be constructed in Thagos, district Ghanche of Gilgit Baltistan. The ground breaking ceremony was held in Islamabad.

Ramday University is being built under a Trust, with construction set to be completed through the donations of the overseas Pa-

Addressing the ceremony, the prime minster extended his heartfelt felicitations to Justice (retd) Khalil ur Rehman Ramday and his all friends on the establishment of Ramday

"The efforts of all individuals and the institutions who contributed to the establishment of Ramday University are appreciable," he added.

The prime minister said today the foundation had been laid down collectively for a bright future for the children here. He said, "The estab-

lishment of an institution of tricity needs.

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal.

Independent Report

Sarfraz Bugti has an-

nounced to provide buses

for the Girls College and

The very announce-

tribal Jirgah held in Turbat Turbat.

to Gilgit Baltistan, the area like Ghanche in Gilgit-Baltistan is highly encourprime minister said he also announced the Gilgit-He expressed his con-Baltistan Education and fident that this university, Endowment Fund, which located at an altitude of would benefit deserving 11,000 feet in Thagos, will and talented students from reach the peak of modern the region, enabling them to knowledge and research play a role in the develop-

vate sector in the promo-On the occasion Justion of education in Pakitice (retd) Khalil-urstan is extremely important", he said adding that Rehman Ramday said graduates from private eduthat Ramday University was being established in cational institutions had made Pakistan proud in evthe Thagos area of Ghanche district, Gilgit-PM Shehbaz Sharif Baltistan, on a 200-kanal

ment of Pakistan as con-

structive members of soci-

emphasized that the develarea of land. 'Ramday University will be one of the highest and the welfare of its people were among the universities to be built at government's top priorities one of the world's highest altitudes," he said adding adding that yesterday, during his visit to Gilgitthat the university would offer education in subjects Baltistan, 62 affected families from the floods were such as environmental studies, climate change, hydrol-Furthermore, he said ogy, minerals, and others.

Meanwhile the students of Asfandyar Wali launched in Gilgit- School in Ghanche per-Baltistan, which would formed the national anthem who participated in the event via video link

Four school

teachers killed.

six injured in

accident

DG KHAN (APP): Four

private school teachers, in-

cluding a principal, were

accident near here on

Thursday. According to the

Rescue 1122, a van of the

private school carrying

teachers was going to Sakhi

Sarwar from DG Khan

truck coming from the op-

posite side near Quetta

Road Tommi Morr Toll

plaza. As a result, four

people, including the prin-

cipal of the school and three

teachers, died on the spot

PHC grants

protective bail

to Umar for

one month

PESHAWAR (Online): Peshawar High Court (PHC) while granting pro-tective bail to PTI leader

and opposition leader in

National Assembly (NA)

Umar Ayoub for one month

has ordered not to arrest

The petition filed by Umar Ayub seeking details

of cases registered against

him came up for hearing

before a division bench of

PHC comprising Chief Jus-

tice Ishtiaq Ibrahim and Jus-

tice Waqar Ahmad Thurs-

day. The court directed the

petitioner to resort to re-

him in any case.

while six others received

sustained injuries in an

killed while six others



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses a ceremony of laving a foundation stone of Ramday University, Thagos, Ghanche.

## Graduation ceremony of 150th GD (P). 96th Engineer, 106th Air Defence held

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Chief of the Air Staff, Paki-Graduation Ceremony of 150th GD(P), 96th Engineering, 106th Air Defence, 26th A&SD, 9th Logistics and 132nd Combat Sup-

stan Air Force was also in A total of 139 aviation

cadets, 08 gentleman cadets and 02 naval cadets graduport Courses was held at ated during the ceremony.

Trophy for the best performance in the Air Defence Course was received by Haseeb Abdul Malik. Pakistan Naval Cadet



PAF Academy Asghar Khan, Risalpur.

General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, was the chief guest at the occasion, said an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release here Thursday.

Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu,

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Trophy for the overall best performance in General Service Training was awarded to Aviation Cadet Sports Sergeant Imran Raza, whereas, Trophy for the overall best performance in Combat Support Course was won by Aviation Cadet Usman Rasheed.

cussed the provincial

government's development

strategy, ongoing develop-

ment schemes in various

sectors, and future develop-

ment goals. Sardar Khetran

stressed that completing the

ongoing development

projects is a priority of the

government. He instructed

the relevant authorities to

take steps to complete all

Sergeant Hafiz Ali Asad was awarded the coveted Sword of Honour for the overall best performance at the College of Aeronautical Engineering. Sword of Honour for overall best performance in College of Flying Training was received by Aviation Cadet, Academy Under Abdullah Saad Ali.

### Khetran emphasizes need for realistic dev. strategy in light of current financial situation

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Member Provincial Assembly, Mir Zabid Reki called on the Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering,

Sardar Abdul Rahman

Khetran here on Thursday.

During the meeting, they discussed various matters of mutual interests.

The Provincial Minister emphasized the need for a realistic development strategy in light of the province's current financial

He directed the relevant authorities to focus on completing the ongoing priority projects, which are crucial for the public's welfare and development.

development projects where 80% physical progress has been made. Additionally, he directed them to focus on completing projects in sectors like tourism, energy, livestock, and other productive sectors, which can help create jobs and support the government in resolving fi-



QUETTA: MPA Mir Zabid Ali Reki meeting with Provincial Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani.

## Japan, KP Police, UNDP jointly inaugurate newly model police stations

lice, the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pakistan jointly inaugurated newly constructed model police stations in the merged districts of Bajaur, Kurram, Mohmand, NorthWaziristan,

This marked the successful completion of a project funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by UNDP in partnership with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police, for improved policing services in the merged districts, said a press release issued on Tĥursday.

Established by UNDP Pakistan's flagship Rule of Law Programme, these Model Police Stations provide a range of new facilities to better serve the people of merged districts, including well-equipped and furnished working spaces and reception areas to accommodate women and men police officers and visitors, a gender-responsive desk to address cases of gender-based violence, a

hall to convene joint com-

ISLAMABAD (APP): munity and police meetings, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Po- residential facilities for 50 police officers with separate living quarters for 10 women police officers, security posts, and separate holding rooms for men and

> Additional Inspector General of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police, Awal Khan thanked UNDP Pakistan and the Government of Japan for their support in improving police infrastructure facilities to serve the people of the merged districts. "The Government of Japan and UNDP provided invaluable support in advancing the Rule of Law Roadmap, which strengthens justice and democracy in our region. The initiatives, including Gender Desks and Model Police Stations, play a crucial role in enhancing public safety

> empowering marginalized communities", he said. The project also developed a pool of 22 master trainers on basic and specialised police functions, including gender-responsive and community-based policing, and supportedKP Police to train 305 police officers.

Post of Tehsildar Mand filled immediately on orders of CM **Independent Report** QUETTA: The post of

Tehsildar was filled in Mand Tehsil of Kech im mediately after the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugt took notice of the same and ordered to fill the vacant post, which otherwise was lying vacant for years.

The Chief Minister issued orders to fill the vacant post of Tehsildar on the public complaints during Grand Jirgah held in Turbat on Thursday.

Some raised the issue of absence of Tehsildar in Mand during Jirgah. On this, the posting of Tehsildar was made within half an hour, as mentioned in an official hand out.

Showing the orders of osting of Tehsildar to par ticipants of Jirgah, the Chief Minister expressed the resolve to resolve the issues being faced by people without any delay.

On this, participants of Jirgah thanked Chief Minister by clapping for

#### 190m pounds case **IHC directs** AC to decide acquittal pleas of Imran, Bushra Bibi

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has directed Accountability Court (AC) to give decision again on the acquittal pleas of PTI founder and Bushra Bibi in 190 million pounds case.

Court remarked the reasons for AC decision are not before us. Finding of AC has not come.

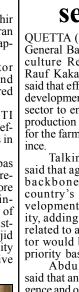
The acquittal pleas o Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi came up for hearing before a division bench of IHC comprising Chief Justice (CJ) Umar Farooq and justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb Thursday. Usman Gul and Zahir

Abbas counsels for Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi appeared in the court.

Special prosecutor NAB Amjid Pervez and Rafay Maqsood appeared in the court.

Counsel for PT founder said NAB filed reference against 8 persons in December 2023

Counsel Zahir Abbas read out charge of case regarding Imran Khan before the court. The court in quired as per operation of law this trust is not existing now. Prosecutor Amjid Pervez said Accountability Court (AC) did not give



Talking to APP, he said that agriculture is the of the

priority basis. Abdul Rauf Kakar

He said that the liveli-

hood of most people in Balochistan is related to the agriculture sector, so that the development of agriculture is important and the officials of agriculture sector should perform their duties honestly and help the people related to the agriculture

He urged the officers to play a positive role in try.

Planning Minister, Chinese envoy discuss bilateral ties, CPEC progress

ISLAMABAD (APP): families of the victims. He assured the ambassador that the safety of Chinese nationals in Pakistan remained a top priority, and Pakistan would continue working closely with China to ensure the security of Chinese citizens, projects and institutions.

Highlighting the ro-bust bilateral ties, Ahsan Iqbal appreciated the recent visit of the Chinese Premier to Pakistan, emphasizing the need for concrete mechanisms to ensure smooth and effective implementation of bilateral projects. "Concerned ministries are developing their roadmap/action plan for effective implementation of consensus reached by the leadership of both countries during the recent visit to make CPEC Phase-II successful and to implement recommendations by the Chinese experts," the minister remarked. Both sides deliberated on advancing key projects, including the Karachi-Hyderabad section of Main Line-1 (ML-1) and Karakoram Highway (Thakot-Raikot Section) project, and agreed to accelerate the projects' timely execution.



QUETTA: German Honorary Consul General Murad Baloch presents Cheque to Quetta Press Club Abdul Khaliq Rind and Banaras Khan during ceremony held at Quetta press club.

#### **CJP** initiates diagnostic study to deal backlog, transparency

ISLAMABAD (APP): improved accessibility and The Chief Justice of Pakitransparency through simstan has initiated diagnostic study for design and execution of short and meand public centric approach, by exploiting the dium-term strategic interventions following his commitment to improve deliver and access to justice.

A dedicated team of volving marginalized segprofessionals from various ments of the society and work pro bono, has undertaken functional assessment of the available resources, effectiveness of existing court processes and systems and the challenges and opportunities.

This exercise will be followed by finalization of a workable reform plan with time-lines and impact assessment mechanism, said a press release.

The proposed reform interventions focus on re-

from diverse backgrounds, court staff and other key

players of justice sector, including Bar, are being involved for meaningful input. The draft strategic plan would be put to public debate and feedback before its finalization

plification of processes,

technological integration

available resources and the

existing legal framework.

Prioritization of cases in-

the key feature of the re-

ment, throughout the de-

sign and implementation

process is being taken care of. Initially, professionals

Stakeholders' engage-

form interventions



QUETTA: Commander Chiltan Rifles, Brig. Muhammad Kokab visiting Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University.

### Efforts afoot for development of agric sector: DG Rauf

General Balochistan Agriculture Research Abdul Rauf Kakar on Thursday said that effort afoot for the development of agriculture sector to enhance the agro production and the revenue for the farmers of the prov-

backbone country's economy, development and prosperity, adding that the issues related to agriculture sector would be resolved on

said that any kind of negligence and omission will not be tolerated to facilitate the

QUETTA (APP): Director providing technical skills to the farmers to boost the production of the province. DG Research Abdul

> Rauf Kakar said that emphasized the officers and staff to always be ready to serve the farmers. He said that the avail-

ability of chemical fertilizers in marketing will be ensured, he said that the agricultural information system will be strengthened to provide timely and effective information to the Abdul Rauf Kakar

said that comprehensive measures will be taken to resolve the problems of the employees of the director-The DG said that the

development of the country is possible only with the development of agricul-

He added that in order to increase the production of crops, modern technology would be introduced among the farmers so that by using this new technology they would prosper but also contribute to the development of the coun-

## Political & social activist demands action against clerk of P&D Department

CM announces to provide

buses, scientific equipment

for Girls College Turbat

QUETTA: The Chief Min-ister Balochistan, Mir Speaking on the occa-sion, Chief Minister as-

scientific equipment for the reviewed along with the

science laboratories in universities abroad in the

ment was made by Chief Balochistan assured imme-

Minister on demand of the diate release of the grant

girl students during Grand announced for Press Club

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The political and social leader, Ghulam Hussain has appealed to the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz

Bugti and Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan to take stern action against the clerk of Planning and Development Department, who is allegedly involved in issuance of fake orders of jobs to people taking bribe of hundreds of thousands ru-

In a statement issued here on Thursday, Ghulam Hussain pointed out a large number of educated youngsters are unemployed. He alleged that a clerk of P&D Department demanded the bribe of Rs. 2 to 3 millions from jobless youngsters for giving jobs to them.

Hussain mentioned.

On that, youngsters arranged the amount after selling the ornaments of their mothers and sisters and their other valuables. The amount was paid to the clerk belonging to Bhag Nari area, who gave away fake orders of appointments to the concerned for jobs in Directoate of Manpower Training, Irrigation

Department and other de-

cerned offices, Ghulam

the P&D Department

However, they found out that the appointment orders were fake when they went for joining in the con-

He appealed to the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary to take notice of the fraudulent act of



A delegation of elites of Ziarat meeting with Provincial Minister Noor Muhammad Dummar regarding development works and solution of issues.

## World Bank Mission visits NADRA Hqs to discuss digital Pak Dev. Initiatives

high-level delegation from the World Bank, led by Ms. Vyjayanti T. Desai, Practice Manager for Digital Development in the South Asia Region, visited the National Database and Reg-Authority (NADRA) Headquarters on Thursday. The visit was aimed to hold discussion about Pakistan's progress on critical digital initiatives, particularly in the areas of digital identity and economic development, as part of the nation's push toward a more digitally inclusive

Chairman NADRA

ISLAMABAD (APP): A provided a detailed update on the Digital Economy Enhancement Project (DEEP), a significant initiative funded by the World

The DEEP focuses on strengthening Pakistan's economy through digitization and includes efforts to establish comprehensive digital identity systems and promote their adoption nationwide. The project supports Pakistan's broader Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) strategy, which aims to enhance sustainable development and provide citizens with better access to essential services

#### Eighth batch of Palestinian students departs for Pakistan

batch of eight Palestinian

# CAIRO (APP): The 8th

students from Gaza departed on Thursday for Pakistan to complete their medical studies. Pakistan embassy in Egypt facilitated their departure under directions of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and significant efforts of Global Relief Trust, Doctors of Rahman and Alkhidmat Foundation Pakistan, Pakistan embassy in Cairo wrote on its official X account. In July, the Government of Pakistan had announced to allow medical students from Gaza to complete their medical education in Pakistan on humanitarian grounds.



KARACHI: Participants of Balochistan Civil Services Academy in a group during their visit to State Bank of Pakistan.