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TAUNSA BARRAGE/KOT ADDU: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Safaraz Ahmed Bugti and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz having a glimpse of flow of water from Indus River to Kachhi Canal.

Next phase of Kachhi canal be completed with "Shahbaz Speed": Attempts being made to weaken Pakistan on linguistic basis, says Chief Minister

including Balochs. He said

in Punjab. He said that he

and government of Punjab.

He said that Pakistan is like

a bouquet, the people, who

against it and are killing

Punjabi brothers, are anti

He said that any

at the ceremony.

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has stated that the attempts are being made to weaken the country on the linguistic basis.

He asserted that the terrorists have no nation or which has given space to all tribe, they are just terrorpeople living in Pakistan ists. He said that Balochistan has left behind that the people from all over than other provinces. Howthe country do business, farming and get education ever, the incumbent government is endeavouring to bring before.

He stressed that the is thankful to the people next phase of Kachhi canal should be completed with "Shahbaz speed" so as irri-gate 700,000 to 800,000 are hatching conspiracy acres of land of the prov-

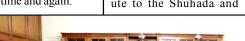
The Chief Minister state and enemies. stated so while addressing the inauguration ceremony Baloch has not killed any

of the Kachhi canal project Puniabi rather the terrorists in Taunsa, on Friday. martyred the innocent Pa It may be mentioned kistanis here that the Prime Minis-He also said that there ter Muhammad Shahbaz

is no nationality or tribe of terrorists. He said that we Sharif was the chief guest are moving towards a stron-The Chief Minister ger Pakistan. said that Punjab is the land

The Chief Minister said that although, Balochistan has left behind than other provinces, but it would move ahead because of the efforts of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif. He pointed out that Kachhi canal project has been continued for 2002, however, it couldn't be completed vet. He said that the province has no need of the line canal. But the provincial

present at the occasion. government can't afford its repair time and again.



Premier warns propaganda against Saudi Arabia harms national interest, urging strong opposition to such actions; Says personal and political agendas behind PTI's statements; Kachhi Canal to open doors of prosperity to Balochistan people TAUNSA (APP): Prime Kachhi Canal damaged by nation will break any hand 2022 floods, said whether Minister Shehbaz Sharif it was the Kashmir issue, the United Nations or the

on Friday, recounting Saudi Arabia's unconditional financial and diplomatic support to Pakistan, warned that any venomspitting against such a brotherly country was an unforgivable crime and called for the national unity to counter such anti-state elements.

as Pakistan's advocate and benefactor, as the Kingdom also bailed out Pakistan recently to seek IMF program. "Despite this, such

venom-spitting is an unfor-The prime minister, givable crime. I as the addressing the inauguration of the Restoration of prime minister of Pakistan want to announce that the

Visits Peshawar: **COAS resolves to hunt down** enemies of peace to ensure lasting stability and security

RAWALPINDI (APP): Ghazis, the COAS emphasized the unparalleled sac-General Syed Asim Munir, NI(M), Chief of Army Staff rifices being rendered for the (COAS) on Friday visited defense of the motherland. He remarked that these Peshawar, as a follow up of the National Apex Comsacrifices served as a cornerstone of national resilience, inspiring and unwavering dedication of the

armed forces and of law The COAS was provided a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation and the progress of ongoing counter-terrorism opera-

tions in the region, said an Inter Services Public Relathreats. tions (ISPR) news. Chief Minister KPK and field commanders were also

Paying profound trib-ute to the Shuhada and national security.



trying to undermine the Pakistan-Saudi friendship. This is not a joke. The allegation is beyond understanding. The largest national interest is being "slaughtered" to serve the short-term political interest," he remarked after inaugurating the project that will irrigate over 715,000 acres of land in Balochistan and revive life in the area turned barren after the

Saudi Arabia is our closest ally:

Venom against Saudi Arabia unforgivable

crime; nation to break such hand: PM

told the ceremony also attended by federal min-Ahsan Iqbal, Awais Leghari and Dr Musaddik Malik, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, and Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti, that during the last 77 years, Saudi Arabia attached no strings or preconditions to its

The prime minister also asked its administration to invest in Pakistan as MoUs worth billions of isters Attaullah Tarar, dollars had already been signed.

Commenting on a statement by the spouse of PTI founder regarding Saudi Arabia, he said: 'There can be no animosity to Pakistan bigger than this" and explained that such people were naive to the magnitude of the damsupport to Pakistan and age through their "venom-the current leadership had ous" words.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti addressing inaugural ceremony of restoration project of Kachhi Canal.

CJP extends jail reforms **Bajwa denies** Saudi role in Imran's ouster

Monitoring Desk LAHORE: Refuting Bushra Bibi's statement about Saudi government's need for a just and equitable role in the ouster of former criminal justice framework,

ISLAMABAD (APP): welfare as key components The Chief Justice of Pakiof a broader strategy to stan, Mr Justice Yahya modernize Pakistan's Afridi has underscored the criminal justice system.

initiative to KP

The Chief Justice PHC Justice Ishtiaq Ibrahim emphasizing that a humane highlighted the lack of rehabilitation facilities for the

mittee meeting held on November 19 and prelude to Provincial Apex Committee meeting to be held soon.

enforcement agencies. The COAS commended the high morale, operational readiness, and

unvielding commitment of the troops in effectively countering all forms of He reiterated the

Army's firm resolve to dismantle hostile terrorist networks and eradicate the illegal spectrum undermining

Seven terrorists killed in **Balochistan**, KP operations

Security forces kill 4 terrorists in 3 separate engagements in Balochistan; 3 khwarij in IBO in Bannu

ıst.

it said

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Dera Bugti District, own Security Forces on Friday killed four terrorists in three separate engagements in Balochistan.

"An intelligence based operation was conducted in Awaran District on reported presence of terrorists. During the conduct of operation, after intense fire exchange, two terrorists were successfully neutralized; both high value targets identified as Niaz @ Ghuman and Zareef @ Shah Jahan," said an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release.

In another operation in

troops effectively neutralised one terrorist, it further said In yet another engagement in Kech District, own troops, while conducting an intelligence based opera-

tion, killed another terror-CM satisfied "The killed terrorists

with successful were involved in numerous operations terrorist activities against security forces as well as the innocent civilians and **Independent Report** were highly wanted by the

law enforcement agencies.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu exchanging views with General Tan Sri Dato Sri Mohd Asghar Khan Bin Goriman Khan, Chief of the Royal Malaysian Air Force during meeting held at Air Headquarters in Islamabad.

Malaysian Air Force Chief calls on CAS Zaheer Ahmed

ISLAMABAD (APP): During his first-ever visit to Pakistan, General Tan Sri Dato' Sri Mohd Asghar Khan bin Goriman Khan, Chief of the Royal Malaysian Air Force called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force on Friday at Air Headquarters.

The meeting focused on matters of mutual interest, military cooperation, joint training and collaboration in the industrial domain, said a news release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

On his arrival, a smartly turned-out contingent of Pakistan Air Force presented Guard of Honour to General Tan Sri Dato' Sri Mohd Asghar Khan bin Goriman Khan.

During the meeting Chief of the Air Staff high lighted the robust bilateral defence ties that exist between Pakistan and Malay-

He conveyed his warm wishes to Chief of the Royal Malaysian Air Force on his maiden visit to Pakistan and highlighted the importance of collaboration in training, joint exercises

and technology sharing. The Air Chief also reaffirmed his commitment to enhancing military partnership between the two Air Forces through joint training initiatives, particularly within the realm of air power. These initiatives will encompass provision-

Air Force

medical aid. ing of both basic and tactical level training for personnel of the Malaysian



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail presiding over meeting of Board of Governor of Cadet Colleges.

Governor announces increase in quota of admissions in cadet colleges of Balochistan

situated.

colleges.

Cadet

day

Imran defends Bushra Bibi's

Independent Report

ister Balochistan, Mir OUETTA: The Governor Sarfraz Bugti has expressed Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has announced to increase the quota of new yearly admissions in all cadet colleges of the province.

The Governor announced that the quota of admissions in every cadet college of the province carried out against terrorists would be increased from in Dera Bugti, Awaran and 70 to 100. Kech districts Besides, 10 seats

He said that the sucwould also be allocated for cessful operations of secustudents of the district rity forces against terrorists

are the proof of the stable writ of state. He pledged that the security forces and masses would defeat the terrorism together. In addition to this, pro-

of forces

QUETTA: The Chief Min-

tection of common men and rule of law would also be ensured by completely restoring Balochistan peace

One policeman injured in police ouster sparked backlash. van attack

Bushra's words were QUETTA (INP): In a tragic "taken out of context" to turn of events, one police create unnecessary controofficer was injured in an versy around Pakistan's explosion near a police mo-"brotherly" relationship bile in Ouetta. with Saudi Arabia

A police van was at-

tacked with a grenade in west by-pass brewery chowk in Quetta, according to Police. Rescue and Police teams reached the explosion site after getting information of the incident. As per Rescue sources the injured police officer was shifted to hospital for

Security forces and bomb disposal squad are present at the incident spot and collecting evidences from the explosion site.

remarks, dismisses claims of Saudi involvement in his ouster RAWALPINDI (INP): Khan further high Former prime minister lighted Saudi Arabia's sup-Imran Khan has come to the port during a 2022 OIC fordefence of his wife, Bushra eign ministers' summit in Bibi, after her comments Islamabad, which he said allegedly implicating Saudi demonstrated Arabia in his government's Kingdom's loyalty to Pa-

kistan. Khan claimed that He reiterated that his wife is not involved in politics, and her message to the nation merely echoed his words in anticipation of the November 24 protest



Gailo meeting with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai.

army chief Qamar Javed Bajwa said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia held friendly ties during the PTI regime.

premier Imran Khan, ex-

Talking to a private tv channel, the former army chief termed Bushra Bibi's statement a pack of lies. He asked how a friendly country could interfere in Pakistan's internal affairs.

He pointed out that the OIC summit was held in ducted by judicial officers Islamabad on March 21 over the past three months 2022, questioning whether and urged other provinces there had been any tension to replicate these efforts to in the ties between both alleviate overcrowding. countries, would Saudi Arabia have allowed the continuation to the series of summit to take place in Panationwide discussions inikistan. tiated earlier this month by

Detailing Imran's visit the Chief Justice of Pakito KSA, Bajwa said Saudi Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salman himself came to stan in Lahore and Islamabad, aimed at formuwhere the cadet college is lating a comprehensive National Jail Reform Policy. receive the former in He stressed that we Jeddah. "Shah Mehmood The agenda focused on have to mobilize all the Qureshi and I were present prison reforms and inmate available resources to meet at the dinner during the the target for the cadet colvisit," said Bajwa

leges have been established. The ex-army chief said He said that we would he had no inkling as to what keep on the progress so as is wrong with Bushra Bibi. to continue the sustainable He expressed concern over development of all cadet her statement, saying Imran can endorse it to make it a The Governor was narrative. chairing the 18th meeting

of Board of Directors of **PM constitutes** Colleges Balochistan here on Fricommittee to resolve PPP's

the

concerns

ISLAMABAD (APP) Prime Ministe Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday constituted a committee to ensure cooperation in political and other matters, and to resolve the issues between Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). The members of the Senator for Economic Affairs Ahmad Khan Cheema.

Other members include Minister of State for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Engineer Amir Muqam Prime Minister's Advisor Rana Sanaullah, Speaker of the Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmad Khan, Senior Minister of Punjab Marriyum Aurangzeb, Khawaja Šaad

Rafique, Jaffer Khan Mandokhel, and Bashir Ahmed Memon

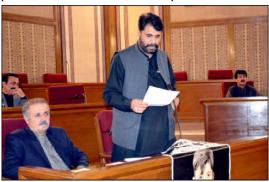
and efficient prison system forms its backbone. The Chief Justice

The meeting was in

convicts in the province, stressing the need to destated this while chairing a velop a strong rehabilitation consultative meeting consystem for absorption of vened today at Peshawar. the convicts in the society. The CJP appreciated the He proposed sentence reprison management in KP, missions to inmates who noting that 1,289 prisoners achieve educational excelcharged with minor oflence during their confinement, aligning with broader fenses had been released rehabilitation goals. through camp courts con-

The meeting also fo-cused on the LJCP's proposed National Jail Reform Policy, which aligns with international standards, including the Nelson Mandela Rules, Bangkok Rules, and Beijing Rules.

This policy aims to ensure the humane and rehabilitative management of correctional facilities across Pakistan. Participants expressed strong support for the proposal, emphasizing the importance of alterna



QUETTA: MPA Mir Zabid Ali Reki presenting condolence resolution in Balochistan Ássembly.

Grand dharna staged by family, traders, all parties, civil society for recovery of kidnapped child

Patel Bagh area. QUETTA: The grand dharna was staged by the They said that the government has miserably family members of kidfailed to protect life and napped child, Muhammad property of the general public in the province. Musawar Kakar, traders They said that the incidents

community, all political parties and civil society at of kidnapping are occurring the Unity chowk on Friday in the broad day light, but afternoon. The dharna was the government seems helpstaged for recovery of the less over the situation. kidnapped child for the call government to act immediwas given a couple of days back at a joint press conately and ensure safe recov-

ery of the kidnapped child, ference The leaders and repreotherwise, their protest sentatives of different powould remain continued. litical, religious and nationalist parties as well as the

committee and provincial traders and civil society in-President of Pashtoonkhaw National Awami Party. Nasrullah Zairay on the occasion announced that wheel iam strike would be observed on highways of the province on November

They demanded of the

The leader of dharna

cluding lawyers participated in the dharna. They condemned the government for its failure in ecovering the 10-year Musawar kidnapped on November 15 from the

Independent Report

for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar, and Minister

committee include Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister



fields.

knowns

disputes

out of control.

OPINION

Daily **Independent**

Daily A oice of Masse, Independent

Kurram atrocity

With the situation in KP's Kurram tribal district already volatile for the past several months, the murderous violence witnessed on Thursday has not come as a surprise

At least 38 people were killed when a convov of vehicles was attacked in an act of terrorism in Lower Kurram, in what is one of the biggest single mass-casualty attacks this year. The convoys consisted mostly of members of the Shia community. In this part of KP, militancy, tribal disputes and sectarianism, which has claimed both Shia and Sunni lives, have created a powder keg.

Sadly, the state has ignored the situation for years, or made only half-hearted efforts to address it. This year, a land dispute between two tribes metastasised into something uglier, with over 80 people killed since July, many of them while travelling by road. The people of Kurram took to the streets two weeks ago, demanding peace and safety on the roads. As yesterday's atrocity showed, the state was unable to provide these.

Unfortunately, the centre and KP government are both so embroiled in politicking that the security situation of Kurram and other parts of the province fails to attract their attention. Statements are issued, promises are made, but the people of KP are left to fend for themselves as bloodthirsty terrorists ravage the province. Security institutions have also failed to flush out militants threatening peace in KP.

Kurram is particularly sensitive, due mainly to its sectarian dynamics and proximity to Afghanistan, in addition to the presence of militant groups and heavy arms. Yet the state has been unable to deweaponise the area, or judiciously resolve the tribal disputes that can spiral into communal bloodletting.

It would be a monumental mistake for the state to continue ignoring the violence in Kurram. Instability can easily spread to the adjoining districts if not contained, and vested interests can exploit sectarian differences in the region to create communal discord across Pakistan. The first duty of the state is to track down and punish the elements responsible for the latest attack. It cannot be business as usual after this brutal episode, and all state institutions must come up with solid plans to protect Kurram's people, and other vulnerable populations in KP.

A multiparty conference to discuss law and order in KP has been scheduled for next month. Considering the latest outrage, this conclave should be held earlier. Moreover, along with state functionaries, the ulema and tribal elders must also work to defuse the situation and ensure a retaliatory spiral of violence does not ensue.

The state has dithered over Kurram's security long enough. It is time to provide justice to the victims of violence, while terrorists and their facilitators must be tracked down and made to answer before the law.

Killing fields

While the PTI-run govcurrent and previous complex ernment in KP continues to depict itself as the last Pakhtun regions. remaining bastion of de-

There are also immocracy in the country, portant organic factors pitched against the govin the re-emergence of ernments at the centre the Pakistani Taliban and and other federating other militant groups. units, many parts of the They are entrenched province have once economic players in boragain become killing der trade, or what is routinely called smuggling.

Target killers roam They extort money from free in Bannu, Waziristan transporters and shop and other Pakhtun reowners in many of the gions. Attacks against Pakhtun tribal districts. I political workers, secunoted above that they rity personnel and orditake advantage of propnary civilians have beerty disputes, particucome an almost daily aflarly over agricultural fair. Religiously inspired land. Finally, these playmilitants sometimes acers have also developed knowledge responsibilbig stakes in the extracity, but there is an eyetion of a host of natural catching number of perresources, including pine petrators in the now fanuts, timber, mineral demiliar category of 'unposits, etc.

Geopolitical wranglings amongst all Bloodletting in Kurram district reached the big players in this unprecedented proporsordid story also revolve tions a couple of weeks around the desire to eiago as local property ther exclusively control were economic flows, or to at instrumentalised by milithe very least ensure tant elements to stoke that competitors do not sectarian tensions at establish monopolies in will. And yesterday, a trade, mining, construcbus of civilians was fired tion and other sectors. upon near Parachinar re-In Pakistan we are

sulting in over 30 deaths. used to hearing that the In such cases, neionly thing that matters is ther the chief minister of national security, but KP nor the prime and inanyone with even curterior minister at the censory knowledge of the tre provide the general current violence in KP public with any meanunderstands that this is ingful information let just a handy catchphrase alone chart out a stratfor a power game that is egy to deal with what, by largely about social conany account, is a situatrol and economic retion spiralling completely sources. The contraband

All we get are tired trade across the Pak-Afcondemnations of 'terghan and Pak-Iran borrorism', with none of our ders implicates states, civilian political leaders militants, and a host of ever saying openly that other economic playthe resurgence of miliers. Simply decrying tancy might have had to 'smuggling' and putdo with the state's preting up a fence here and vious backing of the Taliban in Kabul. there protects the big profiteers while deprofiteers while de-

Neither is anyone stroying the livelihoods willing to antagonise any of the large number of of Pakistan's big external small operators reliant patrons, namely the US, on this trade. Political Gulf kingdoms and China, all of whom are cause and conse- tesy Dawn

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar part of the geopolitical quence of the delibergames that underlie both ate reduction of this current and previous complex political waves of violence in economy to 'national security

The PML-N and PPP have shown that they will do everything to appease those higher above them in the political food chain, both at home and abroad, so they are not about to bell the cat. But if the antiestablishment posture of the PTI — and the otherwise firebrand KP chief minister — is more than just a façade, we should expect more critical ref-lection on the epidemic of violence in Pakhtun tribal and other distr-i-cts. Indeed, the chief minister him-self hails from D.I. Khan, which is at the crossroads of so many recent

attacks. The underlying country. The power of and militant groups esshoot of this structure. The somewhat absurd spectacle of one federating unit's official state mass protests against the centre should not distract us from the fact that the prevailing structure of power is floun-

dering badly. An anti-establishment politics is not about displacing those currently at the helm so that the next player can lurch towards yet another crisis of what is fundamentally an antipeople and anti-nature

cooperation with our violence is then both neighbours. -- Cour-

Commerce News

Iqbal's philosophy

by

Iqbal fosters the cre-

Remember, man can be

spect for mankind.'

According to Iqbal,

'honouring mankind' is

killing

progress.

Saad Malook

Iqbal's philosophy could be an elixir for creating and sustaining global peace. The ongoing genocide of Palestinians by Israel and its allies is a heinous crime against humanity that has been stoking the boiling cauldron of conflicts in the Middle East, which would embroil the entire world and cause World War III. If WWIII occurs, it would be a nuclear war.

tion: is this goi-ng to be In Why Social Justhe end of all progress and tice Matters (2005), evolution of human civilisation? Indubitably, poli--tical philosopher Brian Barry predic-ted that WWII de--v--astated hulife on earth would be almanity most wip-ed out by 2100 mil---lions thro-ugh coneither by nuclear holoventional and nuclear arcaust or ecological decay. senals. Is this just a prediction or a stark reality humanity ation and sustainability of faces? Cert--ainly, under positive peace. Negative the dark clouds of viopeace refers to the ablence, war, or terrorism sence of war, while posiacross the world, a clear tive peace refers to the threat of nuclear holopresence of life-promotcaust hangs over us.

Some argue that Iqbal Only positive peace is is a radical philosopher who supports warfare. This argument is wrong maintained on this earth because Iqbal's philosoonly by honouring manphy liberates humanity kind, and this world will from exploitation, humiliremain a battleground of ation, colonialism, and imferocious beasts of prey perialism through positive unless and until the eduhuman action. Iqbal's cational forces of the ideal individual is crewhole world are directed ative, dynamic, empirically to inculcating in man reinformed, and a creator of a just and peaceful world.

In a new year message, 'Brotherhood of necessary for creating Man', broadcast from All peace. He also believes India Radio, Lahore, on that global peace is impos-Jan 1, 1938, Iqbal not only sible un--less educational described the institutions impart the sociopolitical conditions ethics of 'honouring/ reof the world at the time but spect for humankind', also presented a maniwhich I prefer to term 'revfesto for global peace. erence for hum-anity'. With this manifesto, Iqbal Thus, all states must can be placed among the educate their people first-rank peace theorists about the ethics of reverof the 20th century, including Albert Schweitzer, peaceful global coexist-Albert Einstein, Bertrand ence Mahatma Russell. Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Eqbal Ahmad, and

Nelson Mandela. In 'Brotherhood of tuates the significance of Man', Iqbal's argum-e---nt brotherhood. He articustates that on the one lates: "Only one unity is to cherish [hu]mankind. hand, human be--ings dependable, and that -- Courtesy Dawn

have made remarkable unity is the brotherhood progress in science and of man, which is above technology, which created race, nationality, colour or

a new world. On the other language.' Indeed, the idea of hand, the world is so miserable that "It is as if the the brotherhood of human beings provides a day of doom had come foundation for human upon the earth. in which unity, which eventually each looks after the safety of his own skin." After causes peaceful coexistence in the world. Iqbal over eight decades, there envisages that false idehas been no moral ologies are enemies of Historically, just be-fore the start of WWII, global peace. He argues that until and unless the Iqbal asked a crucial quessha

ckles of so-cal-led democracy, accu-r-sed nationalism, and degraded im--perialism are des-troyed, there is no possibility of the good life in which the ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity are realised.

Íqbal correctly argues that an ideology cannot promote peace if it causes humiliation, exploitation, or exclusion. Only that ideology can succeed that expresses ing values and activities. reverence for humanity, transcending religion, culture, colour, or lansustainable. Iqbal writes: guage because the whole world is the 'family' of God: all human beings are God's creatures.

To create eternal beace on earth, global leaders must stop the crimes against humanity, particularly in Palestine and held Kashmir, before WWIII breaks out and makes Brian Barry's prediction about the extinction of life come true.

Political leaders must have the moral and intellectual vision to promote the values of unity rather than division, cooperation rather than conflict, dialogue rather than war, and above all, humanistic education rather than the indoctrience for humanity for nation of racism, colour, caste, or creed.

At the end of 'Broth-Highlighting the erhood of Man', Iqbal ofcentral ideals of Islam --fers a prayer: "God Alequality, freedom, and mighty may grant humansolidarity — Iqbal accenity to those who are in places of power and government and teach them

problem is the militarised and imperialised structure of power in this the religious right pecially — is a direct offapparatus engaging in

system

Such a politics must be based on a programme for lasting peace, centred on economic redistribution, dismantling the establishment-centric political order, and a nonaligned foreign policy that privileges mutual

Ahsan vows to increase ports' efficiency, boost trade

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday reaffirmed the government's strong commitment to strengthening seaports'

efficiency, boosting trade Maritime Affairs regarding and ensuring sustainable a committee constituted by economic development in the country.

He expressed this issues at Karachi Port. resolve while chairing a enhancing the efficiency of ports Karachi by improving hinterland connectivity.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Private Partnership Authority, besides senior thirds managed at Karachi's Ministries of Maritime remainder at Port Qasim." Affairs, Communications, Railwavs.

Punjab Sardar Saleem

Haider Khan attended the

ceremony organized by the

Federation of Pakistan

Chambers of Commerce

and Industry at the

the chief guest . The

ceremony was attended by

the newly elected presidents and group

leaders of all the chambers

of commerce and industry,

small chambers, women's

chambers and joint

ceremony, Governor

Haider Khan said that the

business community is the

backbone of the country's

economy. He said

industrial growth fosters

social and economic

development in the

country. Governor Punjab

said that the economic

Addressing

chambers

During the meeting, Member Infrastructure environmental challenges. Waqas Anwar presented a detailed briefing on improving port efficiency, providing a progress update from the Ministry of loading and unloading the Prime Minister's Office

to address cross-cutting due to ban on trucks He highlighted that 11 p.m., affecting traffic global average of 44 with approximately two-

He pointed out that operations Aviation rail access to Karachi Port scheduling freight truck Division and Commerce was underutilized, with movements to reduce Division, a news release nearly all cargo transported

are improving. He said

that country's interest rate

has come down to 15

percent and inflation has

also come down to single

digits. He said that

suffering due to IPPs.

Punjab Governor says:

Business community

is the backbone of the

country's economy

Lahore (Online): Governor indicators of the country

Governor House Lahore as continuity of policies is

country's

via road, leading to congestion and "Existing rail facilities are insufficient for efficient goods transfer due to their limited capacity for operations.

Karachi Port faces significant road congestion movement from 6 a.m. to

consultative meeting on Pakistan's merchandise flow into and out of port trade as a percentage of areas. Port Qasim, on the GDP stood at 26 percent, other hand, benefits from significantly lower than the better road connectivity (N-5 and M-9 via Eastern percent. "From 2015 to 2020, Pakistan's ports access congestion by 2030 Secretary Planning Awais handled over 3 million if rail connectivity is not Manzur Sumra, Member TEUs (twenty-foot improved. To address (twenty-foot improved. To address Infrastructure Waqas equivalent units) of these challenges, the Anwar, CEO of the Public container traffic annually, Member Infrastructure proposed short and longterm measures. The shortrepresentatives from the three terminals and the term measures include implementing 24/7 port while congestion.

Shipping Strategy.

activity at **Port Qasim** KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where five ships, Jaru Bhum, X-Press Salween, Navios Tempo, Kualalumpur

carrying Container and LNG, berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal and Engro Elengy Terminal respectively on Thursday.

very important for the development of the ships, Aqua-1, Corona, economy. OM Singapore, Angelina, Governor Punjab said that Hafnia Phoenix and Iolaos it is a sorry state of affairs scheduled to load/offload that despite being an Fuel oil, Palm oil, Yellow agricultural country, we Beans, Gasoline and Coal are importing food items. are also arrived at outer Governor Punjab said that anchorage during last 24 the at present about 25 hours million (2.5 crore) sacks

Punjab Sardar Saleem are lying outside in ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 warehouses which are likely to spoil. Governor hours, out of them five Punjab said that our industries are currently ships, X-Press Salween, Jaru Bhum, Navios Tempo, Kualalumpur and Izumo

He said that due to the efforts of FPCCI and Gohar Ijaz, situation of five IPPs has improved

bolster exports, said a Express and Al-Deebal Meanwhile six more (SBP) injected Rs2,369.5

A total of thirteen

Rs2,220.5 billion. Hermes are left the port on today morning, while five more ships, Milaha Ras.

ISLAMABAD (APP): press release issued here. Federal Minister for During the meeting, Commerce, Jam Kamal Commerce officials Khan on Friday reviewed provided a comprehensive quarterly trade figures and overview of trade performance with key stressed to execution of the Export-Led Growth trading partners, highlighting emerging export Federal Minister for destinations and newly

Mr. John Tucknott CMG MBE meets with Minister for Industries and

Jam reviews quarterly trade

figures, future trade strategy

Production Rana Tanveer Hussain on 22 November 2024 in Islamabad.

Commerce Jam Kamal introduced export items. Khan (JK) chaired a high-The briefing also covered level meeting to review practical suggestions to Pakistan's quarterly trade enhance market access and figures, where he was address technical trade briefed on the latest trends barriers, ensuring Pakistani products reach a broader in international trade and strategies being devised to global audience.

The impact

SBP injects Rs2.37 trillion in the market

KARACHI (APP): The tenor offering an amount of Rs2,239.7 billion at the rate State Bank of Pakistan of return ranging between 15.04 to 15.08 percent billion in the market through reverse repo purchase and Shariah while 3 bids were received Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market Operation (OMO) on for the 28-day tenor offering total amount of Rs120.5 billion at the rate Friday. According to OMO results issued here, of return ranging between 15.06 to 15.07 %. The the SBP conducted Open central bank accepted the Market Operation, Reverse entire amount offered Repo Purchase (Injection) on November 22, 2024 for through all the 3 bids for 28-day tenor -Rs.120.5 7-day and 28-day tenors and accepted total 25 bids billion- at the 15.06% rate of return while an amount of 2.100 billion offered cumulatively amounting to through 18 bids for 7-day

The central bank tenor was accepted by the received 18 bids for 7-day central bank at 15.04% rate.

external factors, such as global economic fluctuations

geopolitical uncertainties, was also discussed. Strategies to mitigate these challenges and sustain export growth presented were for consideration.

and

Lauding the efforts of Commerce officers, Jam Kamal emphasized the central role of the Ministry of Commerce in advancing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's vision of an of export-led growth strategy.

Increase in fish production imperative to meet food needs: FCCI FAISALABAD (APP) Faisalabad Chamber of

Commerce & Industry (FCCI) President Rehan Naseem Bharara said on Friday fish production must be enhanced to meet domestic food needs by encouraging establishment of new fish farms in Punjab. compared to 321.94 points

In a message issued during the past week. here on Friday, he said that fish is a rich source of corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the protein but it has to be imported from other riverine areas to meet group in the week under domestic requirements.

PBBC chairman, Rana discuss to increase coop. in industrial, agri sectors ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor for Trade and

Chairman of Pakistan-Saima Amjad, Director of Britain Business Council (PBBC) John Tucknott CMG MBE on Friday met with Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain and discussed ways and means emphasized that both to increase cooperation in countries should increase diverse fields including industry and agriculture.

During the meeting, the two sides also agreed to work together to further enhance the trade relations between Pakistan and the United Kingdom (UK), said a news release. The PBBC delegation

Trade and Investment Waqar Ullah and Chief Coordinator for UK and Pakistan Umaimah Riaz. Rana Tanveer

Government Relations

trade volume and highlighted the potential for British companies to invest in the electric vehicle manufacturing sector.

John Tucknott agreed enhance bilateral to relations in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

The meeting was also includes the Council's CEO attended by Secretary of Rashid Iqbal, Head of the Ministry of Industries Trade and Investment UK Saif Anjum and Director Adeel Khan, Senior General Mukhtar Ahmed



RAWALPINDI: President Chamber of Commerce, Usman Shaukat addressing a press conference at the Chamber Building.

Weekly inflation up by 0.67 percent

ISLAMABAD (APP): The increase of 4.92 per cent. The weekly SPI with weekly inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price the base year 2015-16 =100 covers 17 urban Indicator (SPI), went up by 0.67 percent for the centres and 51 essential combined consumption items for all expenditure groups. SPI for the lowest groups during the week ended on November 21, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics consumption group of up (PBS) reported on Friday. to Rs 17,732 witnessed According to the PBS data,

increase of 0.91 per cent the SPI for the week under and went up to 318.40 review in the abovepoints from last week's mentioned group was recorded at 324.11 points as 315.52 points. The SPI for

consumption groups of Rs 17,732 to 22,888; Rs 22,889-29,517; Rs 29,518-As compared to the 44,175 and above Rs 44,175, increased by 0.85 combined consumption percent, 0.72 percent, 0.70 percent and 0.61 percent review witnessed an respectively.

cumulatively

ndependent

Saturday November 23, 2024

National News

Page 03

PPP alliance with **PML-N** is of compulsion, not of love: Governor

LAHORE (Online): Gover- fence University Islamabad ister himself. He said that nor Punjab Sardar Salim Friday. Haider Khan has said PPP alliance with PML-N is of compulsion rather than of love.

"If PPP becomes minus then the premiership can sustain no more. Governor is a constitutional post and in principle chief minister has to come to governor but despite it I myself went to meet Chief Minister (CM). We want things are done on merit and PPP be consulted being ally. 6 months have passed but CM neither telephoned nor she made any consultation, he said this while ad-National Security Work- that he broke that barrier shop under National De- and went to the Chief Min- taken place so far.

he assured Chief Minister I tried to make contact that being coalition partners with CM by telephone sev- they should work together eral time but zero response as a team. He said that Peoples' Party only wants came every time. Deadlock took place. I don't deem it the supremacy of merit. proper to go to her now, he Punjab Governor said

that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari He said that PPP played a key role in getting didn't forge alliance with the 26th Constitutional PML-N out of love, but out Amendment passed. of compulsion. Punjab Punjab Governor said that Governor said that he has the experience of alliance informed his leadership with the PML-N in the past President of Pakistan, Asif was a bitter experience. He Ali Zardari and Bilawal further stated that we ex-Bhutto Zardari about the pected that the PML-N Ali Zardari and Bilawal situation in Punjab. He said would have learnt lessons that as per tradition Chief from the past. He said that Minister should have visdespite written agreements dressing participants of ited the Governor, adding and consultative meetings, no implementation has

Two killed,

four others

Global moot urges for collective action to mitigate climate change

added

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): A cent Societies (IFRC), naglobal conference of experts titled 'Empowering Communities: The Case for Locally Led Adaptation in

Climate Resilience', hosted in Azerbaijan's Baku city, emphasized the urgent need for collective action against climate change to mitigate

the impacts of disasters. Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari, addressed a distinguished forum at a special event hosted in the Pakistan Pavilion during the 29th Conference of the Par-ties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, says a message reaching and released to the media here on Friday.

The event saw the participation of prominent figures, including Romina Khurshid Alam, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri, representatives from the German Red Cross, the International Federation of ongoing recovery programs Red Cross and Red Cres- and proactive measures.

tional societies, and other key humanitarian stakeholders A thought-provoking panel discussion featured

Deputy Director Climate

Change Sajjad Ali, who fo-

cused on the significance of

locally driven adaptation

2022 monsoon floods.

strategies.

distinguished speakers, inrescue sources, the roof cluding Member Managing suddenly caved in, due to Board Jamaican Red Cross which a woman, namely Audrey Mullings, Ms. Abida Bibi, and his daugh-Ninni Ikkala Nyman, and ter Iffat were killed on the Manzoor Ali from IFRC, spot. While three brothers, including 6-year-old Anas, Ibrahim, 5-year-old Ali. Head of Delegation German Red Cross in Pakistan Asif Aman, and PRCS

Two friends shot dead in Swabi

Chairman of PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed PESHAWAR (APP): Two close friends were killed and Laghari was the keynote another injured when their speaker of this exclusive alleged rivals fired at them session. In his remarks. inside a general store in Chairman Sardar Shahid Swabi district on Friday Ahmed Laghari undermorning. Police said two scored PRCS's extensive friends named Jawad and humanitarian work in Paki-Fawad and owner of the stan, especially during the shop, Umair were fired at by the assailants inside the He gave the details reshop, which police said garding the organization's

was a likely result of an old rivalry between the deceased and attackers.

LAHORE: British High Commissioner Jane Marriott meeting with Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora.

CM reviews 'Apni Chhat, Apna Ghar' programme

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Ghar is a dream for every chief Minister Maryam citizen, and we are deter-Nawaz Sharif has ex-

on the progress of the scheme, with 927 appliderprivileged and urged the cants having received their first installment of loans She informed that more than 800 houses under the initiative are nearing completion. "Ensure that

the second installment payments are made promptly to help these families move forward." she directed. CM

Nawaz was further briefed that over 50,000 applicants' data had been transferred to Akhuwat Foundation for verification. Of these, 38,000 applicants have been verified, with more than 20,900 submitting the necessary documentation.

As of now, 8,424 applications have been fully processed. She highlighted the success of the digital portal, which has seen over 600,000 registered users and more than 325,000 applications for house con Maryam struction.

Minister promises transparency in hospitals revamping project

LAHORE (APP): Punjab instructed to expedite work Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique reaffirmed the government's commit- ment hospitals. "Revampment to transparency in the ing projects are being ongoing hospitals revamping project, stressing that there would be no compromise on quality and timelines. He made these remarks while presiding over a meeting at the Spe-cialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department, here on Friday. The minister stressed

teaching hospitals of

conducted to maintain high standards," he said. During the meeting, Khawaja Salman Rafique reviewed the latest progress on the projects underway in nine teaching hospitals, including Services Hospital, Nawaz Sharif Hospital Yaki Gate, Mian Munshi Hospital, the importance of complet-Lady Aitchison Hospital, ing the revamping projects Mayo Hospital, Sir Ganga in various government Ram Hospital, Kot Khawaja Lahore on time. He stated Saeed Hospital, Jinnah Hosthat contractors had been pital, and General Hospital.

to ensure the convenience

of patients visiting govern-

prioritised, and their con-

tinuous monitoring is being



BAHAWALPUR: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif visits the residence of Federal Minister for Housing & Works, Riaz Hussain Pirzada to offer condolences on the sad demise of his brother Sajjad Hussain Pirzada.

Sheikh

NIC Hyderabad's Global Entrepreneurship Week 2024 concluded

HYDERABAD (APP): The National Incubation Hyderabad wrapped up its most dynamic Global Entrepreneur-

ship Week yet, turning four days into a celebration of innovation, community, and entrepreneurial spirit. The event kicked off with inspiring opening remarks from NIC Hyderabad's new Project Director, Sana Shah From November 18 -21, the center buzzed with

activity as startup founders, industry experts, and students came together to learn, connect, and grow. NICH startups like

International News

Pak Bio Energy, Ĉhaloo, Aashi Herbs, OrderMs and Sab Bachao sharing their preneurs.

journey from idea to impact, inspiring the next generation of entrepreneurs in the audience.

The "Queens of Commerce" panel, moderated by Shahzana Memon, brought together powerhouse female founders Laraib Fatima from Brand Craft Studio, Kanwal Aftab from Cloves and Cardamom, Nadia Patel from Femprow and Amneh Shaikh from Polly & Other Stories who captivated the audience with their stories cess stories.

of breaking barriers and building successful busiwith a lineup of impactful nesses. Their candid conversations about challenges and triumphs resonated deeply with aspiring entre-

In collaboration with the State Bank of Pakistan, ance. Adnan Ashraf's "AI NIC Hyderabad celebrated Tools for Entrepreneurs" Women Entrepreneurship session offered a hands-on Day. Chief Manager Adeel introduction to AI-powered Iqbal shared SBP's future solutions for streamlining roadmap for supporting operations and boosting women entrepreneurs. productivity. Beenish and Shahida from Hammad Amjad provided a the Women Chambers procomprehensive guide on building a startup from scratch in the "Startup Foundry" workshop, tarvided valuable community insights, while the powerful journeys of Aashi Herbs and Agri Revolugeted at our pre-incubation tion, two trailblazing NIC members. Ghayas Uddin startups, showcased sucfrom Valeem equipped founders with advanced strategies for creating a The week continued standout online presence in

workshops. Muneeb ur the "Digital Brand Building Rehman led the "Entrepre-Masterclass" neurs' Mental Health Sum-In a virtual session, NIC Hyderabad partnered mit", emphasizing techniques for managing stress with the US Consulate potential collaborations.

and fostering work-life bal- Karachi to bring entrepreneurs an exclusive masterclass with Cheryl Edison, a renowned strategic business advisor. The online event provided startups with invaluable insights into international market strategies, business model innovations, and the nuanced art of building a global presence.

Community spirit shone through at the VR Startup Cricket League, where competitive pitches were replaced with cricket bats, creating lasting bonds among participants. The "Karobar Katchup" proved to be more than just a networking event, sparking genuine connections and

injured as relevant authorities to expedite completion of the roof collapsed Apni Chhat Apna Ghar RENALA KHURD (APP): Programme' A mother and daughter on Speaking at a special Friday died, and three review meeting here on Fribrothers and father received day, she said the programme injuries as the roof of their was not just a slogan but a old house collapsed in Viltangible effort to improve lage 19/1 RA. According to the lives of the common man. "Apni Chhat Apna

Center

here Friday.

mined to make it a reality," pressed her unwavering commitment to fulfilling the she affirmed. The CM was updated promise of providing affordable housing to the un-

Over 60 feared dead as **Israel bombs homes in Gaza**

Monitoring Desk CAIRO: The Israeli military bombed at least five crowded homes in northern Gaza early with many casualties buried beneath the rubble, Palestinian health officials said, as troops deepened an incursion along the territory's northern edge. Rescue operations were under way in the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahiya, medics said. Hamas media put the number of fatalities at 66, most of whom it said had not been recovered.

Hussam Abu Safiya, director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahiya, one of three medical facilities barely operational in the besieged northern area, said at least 200 people lived in the residential district that was bombed in Beit Lahiya and that many people remained missing. Abu Safiya said medics were recovering injured people and treating them on-site because they had no ambulance vehicles to move them to hospitals.

Even if the injured trapped with no safe place

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: China's defence

ministry blamed the United

States' stance on Taiwan for

its minister not meeting his

US counterpart during a

gathering this week in Laos.

Dong Jun turned down US

Defense Secretary Lloyd

Austin's request to meet

during a gathering of South-

east Asian Nations (ASEAN) defense minis-

ters, US officials said on

not undermine China's

core interests on the Tai-

wan issue while engaging

with the Chinese military

as if nothing is wrong," a

ministry spokesperson

said in a statement on

questions over whether only a change in US policy

The remarks raised

"The U.S. side can-

Wednesday.

Thursday.

Defence Minister

on Taiwan for defence

leaders not meeting

countries.

sides.

jects.

ognition

towards the island can re-

"entirely the responsibil-

spokesperson said.

make it to hospital, many to go. In northern Gaza, people remain under a tight then die because of a lack of medical supplie and siege. They run for their specialised surgeons after lives in vicious circles and Israel detained or expelled have been deprived of humanitarian aid for more than most of the medical staff, 40 days now," he said in a post on X. "Across Gaza, Abu Safiya said. Israeli operations in Gaza have focused for weeks on the the delivery of the little aid northern edge of the terri- allowed in has become tory, where the military has overly complex including laid siege to three major because of insecure routes. towns and ordered residents he added. The administrato flee. Residents in the three tion of US President Joe towns - Jabalia, Beit Biden last month told Is-Lahiya and Beit Hanoun ---rael it had 30 days to improve the flow of aid to said Israeli forces had destroved hundreds of houses Gaza or risk consequences to US military assistance. in since they began the latest offensive on Oct 5.

On Nov 12, Washing-Palestinians say Israel ton said it had concluded that Israel had made appears determined to depopulate the area permaprogress and was not impeding aid to Gaza. Many nently to create a buffer zone along the northern aid groups disagreed. Addedge of Gaza, which Israel ing to the challenges, armed denies. Philippe Lazzarini, gangs have stepped up lootthe head of the UN Agency ing of aid trucks, contributfor Palestinian Refugees ing to spiralling prices of essential food items such as (UNRWA), said on Thursday that 80 per cent of the flour. The price of a 25kg sack of flour, if available, Gaza Strip is now high-risk, with many people increas-ingly desperate. "They are has risen to 700 shekels (\$186) from 50 shekels (\$13) over the past week. **China blames US policy**

Adani shares rally in India after founder's **US charges** Monitoring Desk

EW DELHI: Shares in store military-to-military talks at the defense minis-Indian billionaire Gautam ter level between the two Adani's conglomerate rallied on Friday to pare the The failure to meet is previous day's frenzied sell-off sparked by US

ity" of the US, the Chinese charges alleging the tycoon paid more than \$250 million in bribes to secure lu-The spokesperson also urged the US to "imcrative government conmediately correct its mistracts.

Wednesday's bombtakes" and strive to create favourable conditions for shell indictment in New high-level military ex-York accused Adani and changes between the two multiple subordinates of deliberately misleading China views demointernational investors as cratically governed Taiwan part of the bribery scheme as its territory, a claim that

Taiwan's government re-Adani, once the world's second-richest man, is a close ally of Hindu The U.S. is Taiwan's most important internanationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi and critics tional backer and arms have long accused him of supplier, despite the lack of formal diplomatic recimproperly benefitting from their relationship.

Lebanon, official says Reuters that Beirut had Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Israeli strikes sought changes to the U.S. killed at least 47 people in ceasefire proposal, to ineastern Lebanon, a Leba-

clude ensuring a speedier withdrawal of Israeli forces from south Lebanon. The diplomacy marks the most serious attempt

tween Israel and the heavily Iran-backed

Bachir Khodr, goverwounded in Israeli strikes

Sufism. support Moscow's invasion, which entered its 1,000th day this week.

10 killed in attack on Sufi shrine in Afghanistan: interior ministry

Monitoring Desk

KABUL: Ten people were killed when a gunman opened fire on a Sufi shrine in Afghanistan's northern Baghlan province, an interior ministry spokesman told AFP on Friday.

"A man fired on Sufis taking part in a weekly ritual at a shrine in a remote area of Nahrin district, killing 10 people," the ministry's Abdul Matin Qani said.

A Nahrin resident, who knew victims of the attack, told AFP that worshippers had gathered at the Sayed Pacha Agha shrine on Thursday evening.

They had begun a Sufi a harbinger of worse to come," UN rights chief chant when "a man shot at Volker Turk warned in a statement. "The gang viothe dozen worshippers" he said on condition of ano-"When people arrived

halted. Haiti must not be for morning prayers, they discovered the bodies," he allowed to descend further into chaos. added. Attacks regularly target Sufis during rituals or fied dramatically in Port-augatherings in Afghanistan, a Prince since November 11, country with a very large as a coalition of gangs Muslim majority but where pushes for full control of the Taliban authorities imthe Haitian capital. pose a strict interpretation of Islamic law, or Sharia, trol some 80 percent of the which is different from city, routinely targeting civilians despite a Kenyan-led

In April 2022, 33 international force that has people, including children, been deployed to help the were killed in an explosion outgunned police restore that targeted a Sufi mosque some government order. during Friday prayers in "At least 150 people have been killed, 92 injured Kunduz province

Putin says Ukraine war is going global

Vladimir Putin said on

Thursday that the Ukraine

war was escalating towards

a global conflict after the

allowed Ukraine to hit Rus-

sia with their weapons, and

warned the West that Mos-

Russia, Putin said, had

He said civilians

GENEVA: Soaring violence

in Port-au-Prince since last

week has left at least 150

people dead, bringing the

number of deaths in Haiti this year to over 4,500, the

United Nations said

violence in Haiti's capital is

lence must be promptly

Violence has intensi-

Well-armed gangs con-

"The latest upsurge in

Wednesday

US-made HIMARS on Nov **Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: President 21, Putin added.

"From that moment, as we have repeatedly underscored, a regional conflict in Ukraine previously United States and Britain provoked by the West has acquired elements of a global character," Putin said in an address to the nation carried by state television.

The United States, Putin said, was pushing the world towards a global conflict. "And in case of escalation of aggressive actions, we will also respond decisively and in a mirror manner," he said.

Putin said the Ukrainian missile attack with ATACMS had failed to inflict any serious damage. But the Storm Shadow atfrom the administration of tack on Kursk region on President Joe Biden, Nov 21 had been directed Ukraine struck Russia with six US-made ATACMS on at a command point and led to deaths and injuries, Nov 19 and with British Putin said. Storm Shadow missiles and

At least 150 people killed in violence in Haitian capital in past week: UN **Monitoring Desk**

and about 20,000 forced to flee their homes over the past week," Turk's statement said.

In addition, "Port-au-Prince's estimated four million people are practically being held hostage as gangs now control all the main roads in and out of the capital".

The Haitian capital has seen renewed fighting in the last week from Viv Ansanm, an alliance of gangs that in February helped oust former prime minister Ariel Henry.

Turk said that at least 55 percent of the deaths from simultaneous and apparently coordinated attacks in the capital resulted from exchanges of fire between gang members and police.

He also highlighted reports of a rise in mob lynchings. Authorities said Tuesday that police and civilian self-defence groups had killed 28 gang members in Port-au-Prince after an overnight operation as the government seeks to regain some control.

Ukraine launches UK Storm Shadow cruise missiles into Russia, a day after using US ATACMS

Monitoring Desk son for Ukraine's General KYIV: Ukraine fired a vol-Staff said he had no inforley of British Storm mation

Shadow cruise missiles into Moscow has said the Russia the latest new Westuse of Western weapons to ern weapon it has been perstrike Russian territory far mitted to use on Russian from the border would be

targets a day after it fired a major escalation in the US ATACMS missiles. conflict. Kyiv says it needs the capability to de-The strikes were widely reported by Russian fend itself by hitting Ruswar correspondents on sian rear bases used to Telegram and confirmed by

nese official said, pressing the campaign against the Iran-backed Hezbollah group as a US mediator sought to advance ceasefire talks in Israel. US mediator Amos Hochstein, who said a ceasefire was "within our grasp" during a visit to Lebanon on Tuesday,

Lebanese official told

an official on condition of

anonymity. A spokesper-

yet to end the conflict be-

armed, Hezbollah, part of the regional spillover of the Gaza war that erupted more than met Israeli Prime Minister Bena year ago jamin Netanyahu and Defense

Minister Israel Katz. There nor of Lebanon's Baalbek-Hermel province, said at were no immediate statements. least 47 were killed and 22 Indicating there were still gaps to close, a senior

in the Baalbek region.



Daily **Independent**, Gwadar

Senate chairman explores NEOC, lauds tech-driven disaster response system

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, on Friday, commended Pakistan's advanced disaster management systems and the use of technology to enhance response efforts.

Accompanied by Senator Manzoor Ahmed Kakar from Balochistan, the Chairman visited the National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) at NDMA Headquarters.

Chairman Senate exclaimed his immense appreciation of the national miracle project-NEOC. He commended NEOC's potential to guide regional countries and all stakeholder partners to enable strategic climate diplomacy space globally.

He lauded the integration of advanced technology in disaster management and stated that proactive interface of artificial intelligence, disaster's modelling platforms and synergy of national responders is crucial response framework.



QUETTA: Chief Executive Officer QESCO Engr. Shafqat Ali meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Services of late parliamentarian applauded: **BA** adopts resolution on death of Maulana Khairkhaw; session adjourned till November 25 lution commending services

2024

Independent Report QUETTA: The Balochistan Assembly adopted a resolution in recognition of the services of late former Member of Provincial Assembly and Minister, Maulana Allahdad Khairkhaw in a sitting here on Friday afternoon.

The Speaker, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai was in the chair.

Fateha was offered for the departed soul of late Allahdad Maulana Khairkhaw in the House as the Speaker pointed out sembly. He said that we, the (Maulana he

for timely and effective response

He was specifically impressed by the dedication and expertise of young NDMA domain experts and leading the example.

Chairman Senate expressed their satisfaction over the disaster response mechanism and were appreciative of its compatibility with the evolving challenges.

A comprehensive capability exposition was conducted for the chairman and Kakar showcasing Pakistan's indigenous stateof-art, hub of disaster's early warning and response spectrum. The session high-

lighted the critical necessity for utilization of tech driven disaster projections and predictive analysis to transform Pakistan's Di saster Risk Reduction (DRR) cycle proactively in Sector alignment with global standards and tech driven smart

the current fiscal year. Senior officials of the Ministry of Planning pro-vided a detailed briefing on the allocation, releases and expenditure of funds for PSDP projects across the country, a news release

said. Addressing the meeting, the minister directed the ministry to develop a comprehensive strategy to en-

Pilgrims, under Govt scheme, to get airfare relief of **Rs 1.24 bln**

SLAMABAD (APP): Intending Hajj pilgrims, un-der the Government Scheme, will receive a significant benefit of Rs 1.24 billion in reduced airfare costs

Intending Hajj pil-grims under the Government Hajj Scheme are set to benefit from a significant Rs. 1.24 billion reduction in airfare costs next year.

and thus session of assembly was postponed till 03:00 PM, November 25, An official said on Friday that pilgrims paid Rs. 234,000 each for air travel last year, but this year, the cost has been reduced to Rs. Earlier, on a point of order, the MPA and former 220,000 per person. Chief Minister, Dr. Abdul

This reduction will Malik Baloch pointed out provide a relief of Rs. that the government mem-14,000 for each of the bers don't come in the as-89,605 pilgrims traveling under the government's members of Opposition scheme, he added.



over meeting of Ziarat Development Authority.

Ahsan for timely completion of all ongoing PSDP projects

SLAMABAD (APP): sure the timely completion Minister for Planning, Déof all ongoing PSDP velopment and Special Iniprojects.

tiatives Professor Ahsan Reviewing road infra-Iqbal on Friday chaired a structure projects of meeting to assess the Balochistan amounting to progress of projects being Rs400 billion, Ahsan Iqbal directed that these projects executed under the Public must be completed within Development Programme (PSDP) during three years

He said the government was committed to prioritizing development initiatives in Balochistan, including Balochistan three projects dualization of the Khuzdar-Kuchlak section of National Highway, the dualization and rehabilitation of the

Karachi-Quetta-Chaman

federal, provincial govts

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) constitutional bench while summoning progress reports from the governments in October 2005 earth quake affected persons case has remarked tell us who is responsible for delay in the

rehabilitation of affected population and projects. Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan while giving obser-vation said the rehabilita-

tion of the quake affected persons was to be carried out with the cooperation of federation and province. We cannot stop calamities but we can fight. The affected persons are suffering hardships due to bad governance of departments and their non cooperation. The

dualization of Kararo-Wadh Sectionand Kuchlak-Chaman Section at a total cost of Rs224 billion.

Other projects of M-8 include the construction of the Hoshab-Awaran-Khuzdar Section-II and Hoshab-Awaran-Kiwzer Package-I, Construction of the Gwadar-Ratodero road made during a meeting of the project and construction of

Wangu Hills Tunnel at a total cost of Rs96 billion, and two projects for the dualization & Improvement of existing N-50 from Yarik-Sagu-Zhob Bypass at Rs. 76 billion cost; and Rehabilitation å Upgradation of long Awaran-JhaliJao Road

road from Karachi-Karoro & Wadh- Khuzdar and the worth Rs7 billion. Oct 2005 quake affected persons case SC constitutional bench seeks progress report from

N-25

of

to bad governance. If departments do their respective jobs then the cases may have not come to courts.

SC constitutional bench presided over by Justice Amin ud Din Khan took up the case for hearing Friday. Justice Amin ud Din remarked how much funds came for quake af-fected persons. Comprehensive report in regard to

Justice Hilali remarked she herself has seen the devastation of quake with her own eyes. But nothing has been done in affected areas.

Justice Jamal Mandokhail remarked why forest land was allotted for construction of houses af-

Saturday November 23, 2024

<u>Ziarat Development Authority directed to ensure merit at every level:</u> GoB to develop Ziarat environment friendly tourism place of Pakistan; seek national & international bids

CM announces to utilize buildings reserved for higher authorities under Public-Private Partnership mode for increasing resources of government; vows to make Ziarat Development Authority efficient institution, free from political influence

Independent Report QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan has decided to develop Ziarat environment-friendly tourism site of Pakistan and to seek the bids from the national and international companies for implementation on the project.

The provincial government also decided to bring the Chief Minister's Anexy as well as Chief Secretary and Inspector General of Police Houses located in Ziarat under use for the tourism purposes.

Besides, the government rest houses and buildings would be used for the tourism purposes under Public-Private Partnership. These decisions were

Ziarat Development Au- cal influence, and adding he thority (ZDA) chaired by Chief Minister the Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti here at the CM's secretariat on Friday morning. The Chief Secretary,

Shakeel Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Development, Hafiz Abdul personalities have voluntar-Basit and other concerned high ups were in attenence would be made in the

Addressing the meet-ing, Chief Minister said that ZDA would operate as an the buildings reserved for independent body, and the higher authorities would vowed that Ziarat would be be utilized under the Pubintroduced as unique tourlic-Private Partnership ism place in coming two mode for increasing the reyears. sources of government.

He reiterated the ZDA to ensure merit and government's resolve to transparency at every level, make the ZDA an efficient we would provide all reinstitution, free from politiauired resources for it.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Yousaf Raza Gillani along with Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Kakar, Senator from Baluchistan visited National Emergencies Operations Center (NEOC) at NDMA Headquarters.

Muqam strongly condemns allegations against Saudia

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs Engineer Amir Mugam has strongly condemned the allegations against Saudi Arabia.

The minister said that Bushra BiBi made false allegations against Pakistan's friends which was an old tactic of PTI, said a press release issued here on Frichase of the drugs. day. He said Bushra Bibi has conspired to make Paki-stanis unemployed abroad. "Earlier, Pakistanis in Saudi Arabia had become unemployed and imprisoned due to failed policies of PTI. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif appealed to the Saudi leadership and obtained forgiveness in the past", the minister expressed.

prevention of narcotics in Quetta Division, Hamza **Independent Report** Deputy Commissioners of

Crackdown continues for

QUETTA: The Commissioner Quetta Division, Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat has stated that every possible measures are being taken for prevention of narcotics in the di-

vision The Commissioner said that joint crackdown is continued against cultivation of the narcotics as well as smuggling, sale and pur-

all districts of Quetta Division and other concerned high ups.

asserted that neither any

political personality would

interfere in the affairs of

ZDA nor we would let any

government official take

said that all the political

ily vowed that no interfer-

ZDA against merit.

The Chief Minister

He made it clear that

He also directed to the

commission

Certain important decisions were made for prevention of narcotics and specially stoppage of cultivation of poppy and other narcotics in land.

It was decided to arrest the grower found involved in cultivation of poppy. The land where the narcotics was cultivated

In addition to this, the

would also be confiscated

national identity card, bank

by the government.

court's questions be filed. Musarrat

Khairkhaw) died on No- meets the requirement of vember 19.

ber of Provincial Assembly, ence of government mem-Mir Zabid Reki tabled reso- bers in the House.

quorum. He urged the chair Meanwhile, the mem- to give ruling for the pres-

of the late parliamentarian.

was also urged the House

to defer the session of as-

sembly as per the rules. So,

the resolution was adopted

In the resolution, it

Pakistan-origin Royal Malaysian Air Chief visits hometown Haripur

HARIPUR (APP): General Tan Sri Dato' Śri Mohd Asghar Khan, Chief of the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF), paid a heartfelt visit to his ancestral village, Beer, in District Haripur, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Friday.

District Police Officer (DPO) Haripur, Farhan Khan, confirmed the visit, stating that General Asghar Khan spent two hours in his ancestral village. During his visit, he offered Fatiha at the graves of his ancestors, including his grandfather Malik Qalandar, grandmother and uncle Malik Yaqub. He also visited family homes and met with relatives who still reside in the area. General Asghar Khan, born on December 26, 1965, in Selangor, Malaysia, has ancestral roots in the Tanawal region, specifically the village of Beer. He is the grandson of the late Malik Qalandar and the

son of Goher Aman, both of whom belonged to this village. The visit held deep sentimental value for the General as he sought to reconnect with his roots and honor his family's legacy.

General Asghar Khan's trip to Pakistan coincided with his participation in the IDEAS 2024.



QUETTA: Chairman PkMAP Mehmood Khan Achakzai meeting with Maulana Muhammad Khan Sherani at his residence.

SC rejects petition seeking direct vote for minorities

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court has rejected a petition seeking direct vote for minorities in general elections saying that all citizens were equal according to the Constitution and there was no precedent in world democracies of separate voting on the basis of religion.

Minorities and Convener of World Minorities Alliance J Salik, in his petition, had pleaded the apex Court that minorities in Pakistan should be given an opportunity to elect their representatives to the parliament through a direct vote in general elections.

petitioner argued before the such change is required.

Court that there were 60 seats in the National Assembly for women while 10 for minorities but all the 70 seats are filled by the parliamentary parties through proportionate representation depriving minorities to elect their representatives through a direct vote.

The Constitutional Former Minister for Bench of the Supreme Court, however rejected the petition. Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, during the proceedings, remarked that fundamental rights are for all the citizens equally and separate voting for minorities may pave way to discrimination. Only the parliament has the The counsel for the authority to legislate if any



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal chairing a review meeting to assess the progress of Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) projects for 2024-25.

KP plagued by terrorism, lawlessness, says: ANP

Independent Report PESHAWAR: The Awami National Party (ANP) has strongly condemned the recent surge in terrorist atreach Program for Higher Education Faculty (HEF) tacks and lawlessness in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, parincluding Lecturers/Assisticularly in the Khyber distant Professors at Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's trict. In a statement, ANP University (SBKWU) provincial president Mian Ouetta on Friday. Iftikhar Hussain criticized the provincial and federal

The event was inau-gurated by Vice chancellor governments for their al-Dr. Rubina Mushtaq, Di-rector NAHE Sulaiman leged lack of seriousness in establishing peace and eliminating terrorism. He Ahmed Focal person questioned the failure of the NAHE Sohail Raza Mangi, FC, police, and army to Registrar SBKWU registrar Dr Rahila Manzoor and protect the convoy of innocent passengers in Coordinator Dr. Tahira Khyber. Hussain demanded Mengal, said press release a thorough investigation issued here.

into the incident, which he The program is inclaimed was an attempt to tended for early career facspark sectarian violence. He ulty of Public Sector uniurged the authorities to adversities It is a four-week learndress the concerns and

ing program to accelerate the transfer of essential doubts of the public. The ANP leader lamented that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had knowledge, skills, and attibeen left at the mercy of terrorists, with no one providing protection to the people.

ing & Learning (2) Applied Research and (3) Profes-QUETTA (APP):National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE) launched a sional Practice As per the press refour-week National Out-

NAHE launches National

Outreach Program for

HEF at SBKWU

lease, it is an initiative under the National Outreach Program for Higher Education Faculty in collabora-tion with HEC. Dynamic modules presented by NAHE on technology inte-

gration in higher education and we as educators will learn how to navigate the emerging digital landscape and post-learning environ-The press release ment. said that students would acquire the skills to design innovative teaching methods, explore using various tools to enhance teaching and learning in a mobile world,

while the Communication Skills module enables faculty to develop effective narratives for their presentations and teaching sessions. The program is designed to enable the integra-

QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Haji Noor Muhammad Dummar, Mir Asim Kurd Gailo, Parliamentary Secretaries, Mir Liaquat Lehri, Hadia Nawaz Baloch and MPAs Farah Azeem Shah, Salma Kakar and Shahida Rauf meeting with Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola.

Six motorway sections to be closed for maintenance

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Highways and Motorway Police on Friday announced that six sections of the motorways would be closed from Friday night at 8 pm due to maintenance and repair works. According to Motorway police North Zone spokesman, Muhammad Saqib, M-1 Islamabad to Peshawar, M-2: Islamabad to Lahore, M-3: Lahore to Abdu Hakeem, M-4: Pind Bhattian to Multan, M-14 Dera Ismail Khan to Hakla and M-11: Lahore to Sialkot would be closed.

Open Court to be held in Nasirabad on **Nov 26**

QUETTA (APP): Khuli Kehchari (Open Court) will be organized under supervision of Nasirabad Deputy Commission Munir Ahmed Kakar at Assembly Hall Dera Murad Jamali on November 26.

On special directive of Chief Minister, Chief Secretary Balochistan and Commissioner Division Nasirabad, the open court will be arranged in the area to address public issues.

All relevant department officials would attend the open court. The local administration has urged the people to participate and submit their complaints.

He said that several operations have been carried out against narcotics in all districts of the division especially in Pishin and Killa Abdullah.

He was chairing a meeting about prevention of further. narcotics in Quetta Division here on Friday.

The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioner Quetta, Agha Samiullah, Secretary Excise, Sector Commander ANF, them.

account and local certificate of the landlord would also be blocked, it was decided In this regard, the zamindars were asked to

refrain from cultivating the narcotics on their lands. Otherwise, stern action would be taken against



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi talking with MPA Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch after conclusion of Balochistan Assembly session.

Speaker NA commends security forces for successful operation against terrorists in Balochistan

SLAMABAD (APP): Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Friday commended security forces for successful operations against terrorists in Balochistan.

Ayaz Sadiq praised the bravery and courage of security forces for their successful operations against terrorists in Awaran, Dera Bugti and Kech, said a news release.

He appreciated the security personnel for eliminating highly wanted terrorist elements and bringing them to justice. The Speaker empha-

sized that the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the security forces in the war against terrorism.

'The nation is proud of the bravery and sacrifices of our security forces," he said.

U.S. Mission spokesman deplores Kurram attack that leaves several dead

United States joins the Government of Pakistan in condemning the horrific attack in Kurram that killed dozens of innocent people and critically injured many more.

A statement issued by the U.S. Mission Spokesman, Janathan Lalley here on Friday said "Our sympathies and condolences go out to the families and

PESHAWAR (APP): The loved ones of those who lost their lives, and we wish the injured a full and speedy recovery"

The Pakistani people deserve to live free from harm, danger, and threat, and to feel protected and secure in their daily lives.

The United States will remain a steadfast partner as Pakistan works to ensure the safety and security of all its citizens

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