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The COAS said in-

equality, intolerance, and

division on religious, sectar-

ian, and ethnic grounds also

climate change, fighting ter-rorism, and ensuring global

Reiterating Pakistan's unwavering resolve in the

fight against terrorism, the

COAS said terrorism re-

mained a shared challenge

for all humanity at the glo-

bal level. Pakistan has es-

tablished a comprehensive

border management regime

to secure our western bor-

ace of 'Fitna e Khawarij'

has become a haven for all

terrorist organizations and

proxies worldwide. "We

expect the Afghan interim

government to ensure that

Afghan soil is not used for

terrorism against Pakistan

and to take strict measures

e-Istihkam' initiative is an

essential part of the Na-

tional Action Plan, aimed

at eradicating menace of

terrorism and extremism.

"Due to India's extremist

ideology, minorities, espe-

He said vision 'Azm-

in this regard," he said.

He said that the men-

ders, he added.

global level

Committed to regional, global peace

Pakistan will not become part of any global conflict: COAS

Fitna al-Khawarij has become a hub for global terror organisations and proxies; Indian brutalities in IIOJK continuation of Hindutva ideology, policy; Minorities unsafe in foreign countries due to India's extremist ideology



Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M) on Friday reiterated that Pakistan would not become part of any global conflict rather it would continue to play its role to global peace and stability

Addressing at a special ceremony of Margalla Dialogue 2024 organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), the COAS spoke on the topic 'Pakistan's Role in Peace and Stability' and highlighted significant contributions in promoting regional harmony and international

playing a pivotal role in promoting peace and stability both regionally and glo-

kistani peacekeepers have economy, military, and participated in UN peace- technology. "Terrorism by keeping missions for maintenance of global peace and 181 Pakistanis have also sacrificed their lives in this regard, he added.

Regarding challenges faced by the world, Gen Asim Munir highlighted that in recent years, the world was confronted to several challenges including the rapid spread of misinformation and

the major challenges. The influence of nonstate actors has increased significantly due to global changes which was also a He said Pakistan is key challenge, he added.

The COAS said that the world was also witnessing immense transfor-

violent non-state actors and state-sponsored entities remains a significant global

challenge," he said. He went on to say that although technology has played a crucial role in disseminating information, but it has also crucial role in rapid spread of misinformation and disinformation.

Stressing the need for comprehensive laws and disinformation being one of regulations, Asim Munir said that without comprehensive laws and regulations, misinformation and hate speech would continue to destabilize political and social structures. "Absence of proper regulations for freedom of expression is leading to the deterioration

of moral values in societies Canada, are not safe," he worldwide," he observed.

He said India's op pression in Indian Illegally occupied Jammu & Kashmir was a continuation of witnessed upward trend at its 'Hindutva Ideology' and policies. Resolving the He said our shared goals and key challenges were included combating Kashmir issue in accordance with UN resolutions and as per the aspirations of the Kashmiri people was imperative, he said.

The COAS said that Pakistan has always demanded ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon and sent humanitarian aid to both the countries several times. Pakistan has always emphasized the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, he remarked.

General Asim Munir said Pakistan is a nation of 240 million people, with approximately 63 per cent of its population under the age of 30. "Pakistan is endowed with immense natural resources and has emerged as a major agricultural producer globally," he

He said Pakistan has also large reserves of rare minerals besides is an important player in global freelancing. "Owing to its unique geographical location and sea ports, Pakistan holds significant importance for trade with ideology, minorities, especially in the US, UK, and the Middle East," he said.

> his resolve to further enhance the existing bilateral

> cooperation between the



casting, National Heritage and Culture delivering a speech at high-level Ministerial Dialogue.

High-level ministerial dialogue in Baku

Culture-based solutions can aid climate change adaptation: Tarar

BAKU (APP): Federal can achieve. It preserves Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Friday made a passionate call for taking culture driven climate action to address the global climate crises.

While delivering a speech at a high-level ministerial dialogue on the Cultural Heritage and Climate Change in Baku, the minister began his speech with a heartfelt commendation to Azerbaijan, the UAE and Brazil for bringing all the nations together for the second high-level dialogue on culture based climate ac-

"Here in Baku, a city that breathes history and radiates cultural vibrancy, we find ourselves surrounded by the reminders of the strengths and resilience that heritage brings to our lives," he said while describing the city as "a testament to what a culture said that his country was

the past, shape the present and guides us towards more resilient future," he added.

The minister remarked, as I reflects upon the legacies like Baku, I reminded of the cultural gems back home in Pakistan where the people of Indus civilization which originated along the banks and tributaries of the mighty river Indus which is also a home to one of the world UNESCO heritage sites Mohenjo Daro which dates back to 2500 BC. He said, "today, as we

convenehere to discuss about how we channel these values, our ingenuity, creativity and resilience to address one of the greatest challenges of our times, the global climate crises, the communities, across the world, are feeling the devastating impacts of climate change

Highlighting Pakistan's meager contribution to the global carbon emission, he

among the top ten countries that was most vulnerable to the climate change which not only posed great threat to the lives and livelihoods but also culture and na-

tional heritage. "In 2022, we were faced with most devastated floods. Thousands of people including indigenous people were displaced, and when we come to calculate loss and damage we were caused a damage of 13 billion USD," he noted.

He said the world is not only facing the risk of losing lives and livelihoods but also "irreplaceable tradition, knowledge and size that define who we are". "If we hope to alter this discourse, we must unite to bring forth our most innovative and inclusive ideas, he remarked. As representatives of culture in our nation, he said all the nations hold the responsibility to advocate for the role of cul-

ture in driving climate ac



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with the Interior Minister of Turkiye Ali Yerlikaya.

Pakistan, Turkiye to strengthen bilateral ties in diverse sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a tion of Pakistani prisonsignificant diplomatic ers currently held in Turmeeting, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Friday met with Turkish Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya and discussed matters of mutual interests, focusing on enhancing the historic relationship between the two

The meeting, held during Minister Naqvi's visit to Turkey, covered a wide range of topics, including regional secu-

The discussion revolved around strengthening Pakistan-Turkey relations, which both leaders described as deeply rooted in shared history, culture, and religion.

Minister praised the enduring brotherhood between the two countries, noting that their collaboration is steadily evolving into a

Bahrain awards 'Medal-First Class' to Air Chief Marshal Zaheer tor enhanced military cooperation The Air Chief reiterated

ISLAMABAD (APP): On behalf of King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Deputy King of Kingdom of Bahrain, conferred Bahrain Medal - First Class upon Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force at

Sakhir Air Base, Bahrain. The medal was awarded to Air Chief in recognition of his distinguished efforts to enhance military cooperation and defence collaboration between the two brotherly countries, said a press release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) here Friday.

The ceremony was witnessed by senior civil and military leadership of Kingdom of Bahrain.

His Royal Highness conveyed his heartfelt acknowledgement to Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu for the participation of Pakistan Air Force contingent com-

Train service

resumes from

Quetta

Independent Report

QUETTA: The train service

was resumed after four

days of suspension from

Quetta Railway Station

when Jaffar Express de-

parted for Peshawar on Fri-

The senior officials of

Pakistan Railways Quetta

were present on occasion of

the restoration of train ser-

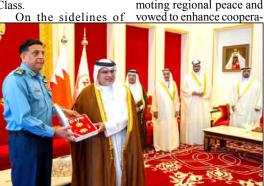
vice from the Quetta Rail-

day morning.

prising JF-17 Block-III fighter jets alongside air and ground crew in the Bahrain International Airshow

Chief of the Air Staff expressed his gratitude for the honour of receiving the Bahrain Medal - First

two strategic partners. The Commander AFCENT appreciated Pakistan's efforts in promoting regional peace and



Bahrain International Airshow, Commander of Ninth Air Force (US Air Forces Central Command AFCENT), Lieutenant General Derek France called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force.

tion in the fields of joint training, mutual exercises and military to military collaboration. In a separate meeting, Chief of the Air Staff also called on Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Com-

party's victory ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Muhammad

Sharif on Friday extended his heartfelt felicitations to President of Sri Lanka Kumara Anura Dissanayake on resounding victory of his party in the parliamentary elections. 'This is a testament to

PM felicitates

Sri Lankan

President on his

the confidence and trust that the people of Sri Lanka have reposed in his vision and leadership," the prime minister wrote on his X ac-

He said Pakistan remained committed to further expanding its close and longstanding relations with Sri Lanka, which were based on mutual respect, shared values, and a long history of cooperation.

Bilawal hails party's resounding success in local govt polls in Sindh

ISLAMABAD (INP) Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed his gratitude and appreciation for his party's resounding success in the recent local government by-elections across Sindh, including Karachi.

He celebrated this victory as a testament to the public's trust and unwavering support for the PPP, as well as the dedication and hard work of committed party workers.

In a statement issued by the Media Cell Bilawal House, he extended the heartiest congratulations to all successful PPP candidates, commending the tireless efforts of party workers who transformed the campaign into a deci

Jamal Shah Kakar is also present. PM Shehbaz-led govt making all-out efforts to revive country's economy: Nawaz

Sharif said on Friday that the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led government was making all-out efforts to boost the country's economy.

ISLAMABAD: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail meet-

ing with Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Igbal, MNA

Speaking to media in London, the three-time former premier said, "Why people will pour on to the

LONDON (INP): Pakistan streets for the PTI founder? Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz nize his [PTI founder's] achievements as his performance is zero.

He recalled his ouster as the premier, saying, "I had been the country's prime minister thrice. I was informed in jail that my wife has passed away. We have suffered the worst persecution.'



BAKU: Chairman NADMA Lt. General Inam Haider Malik held a significant meeting with Mr. Kamal Kishore, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) at COP 29

Salat-e-Istisqa offered across country to seek divine mercy for rain

sponding to an appeal by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the nation collectively turned to Allah in Salat al-Istisqa (prayers for rain) on Friday, with the central congregation held at the iconic Faisal Mosque in the Federal Capital.

A large number of worshippers, including families and community leaders, attended the prayer, demonstrating a united front against the ongoing dry spell that has exacerbated environmental and health challenges, including smog. The special prayers he said.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Re- were offered immediately after the weekly 'Jummah, (Friday) prayers, with clerics urging people to seek forgiveness and turn towards righteous deeds as a means to invoke Allah's mercy. Addressing the congregation at Faisal Masaue the prayer leader highlighted the significance of collective repentance.

"Rain is a blessing from Allah, withheld only when humanity strays from His path. We must correct our ways, mend our treatment of the environment, and earnestly seek His mercv.

rity, economic partner- sustainable strategic partships, and the repatria- nership. CTD, intelligence agencies jointly foil terror plot, arrest 3 militant in Islamabad

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police, rested terrorists were Counter-Terrorism Defound in possession of expartment (CTD), in collaboration with intelligence agencies, carried out a joint intelligence-based operation in the outskirts of Islamabad, arresting three operatives of a banned organization on

son told APP that the arfound in possession of explosives, hand grenades,

eration successfully foiled a potential terror plot that could have posed a significant threat to the security of the federal capital.

and firearms with ammu-He added that the op-



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives (PDSI) and Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Ahsan Iqbal chaired the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) meeting and approved three major development projects worth Rs. 58.857 billion.

mander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force. CJP chairs meeting to view

progress regarding jail reforms ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Justice of Pakistan/ Chairman, National Judicial Automation Committee Justice Yahya Afridi on Friday chaired an online meeting to view the progress on the decisions taken regarding jail reforms in a meeting dated 2nd November held

in Lahore Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court, Ms. Aalia Neelum, along with Justice Shams Mehmood Mirza, Administrative Judge / Monitoring Judge of Prisons in Punjab represented the LHC, Justice Shabbar Raza Rizvi, former Judge of the LHC, Secretaries of the Home and Prosecution Departments, Punjab, Inspector Generals of Police and Prisons departments, Punjab, Ms. Aminah Qadir, Constitutional and Human Rights Lawyer, Ahad Khan Cheema, Senator and Ms. Khadija Shah participated in the meeting.

The Chief Justice of

Pakistan nominated Ms. Aminah Qadir as coordinator to the sub-committee on Jail Reforms and directed that she along with Ahad Khan Cheema and Ms. Khadija Shah, as per TORs of the committee, to visit the jails in Punjab in order to prepare a comprehensive report in consultation with other stakeholders of the criminal justice system.

US says it stands by Pakistan in combating terrorism, slams **Quetta train station bombing**

WASHINGTON (APP): The United States stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Pakistan in its fight against terrorism, the State Department said Thursday, while condemning last week's deadly bombing on the railway station in Quetta.

We strongly condemn the BLA (Balochistan Liberation Army) Majeed Brigade's November 9th bombing at a railway station and we extend our deepest condolences to the victims and their families," Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel told the daily press briefing

Daily Aoice of Masse. Independent

Last call

It does not seem prudent for a party of PTI's heft to have issued a 'final call' for a 'final' protest. Politics is, by its very nature, never final' — it requires persistence and immense patience to bear fruit.

Yet the PTI, directed by its incarcerated founder, is now ready to risk everything on a single show of force. Of course, the party is well within its rights to protest democratically and to make demands from the government on issues that it feels strongly about. It is also within its rights to hold such a protest anywhere it wishes to in Pakistan — a right that the government would do well to respect.

However, it should hardly be turning it into a 'do or die' occasion. This could create unrealistic expectations and foster unnecessary angst in the minds of the PTI's supporters, which may push them to engage in needless confrontations with the state. It may also motivate the state to clamp down even more forcefully on the protest, as it will consider the 'final' protest as a 'final' opportunity to eliminate the political threat posed to the current regime by the PTI. No side will emerge as a winner from such a situation.

The sense of despondency that has settled over the nation needs to be eliminated, but this will not happen by a party making its final stand. A sustainable settlement can only be achieved by thoughtful deliberation and reflection on what our national priorities must be at this critical juncture in our history. Both sides have already taken matters too far while refusing to sit and talk to each other.

The PTI has remained unyielding in its vitriol and averse to engaging with its rivals to negotiate a way forward.

Its founder's latest message, issued from jail, once again reiterates that the party will only negotiate with the 'handlers' of the current regime. On the other hand, the ruling coalition, led by the PML-N and supported by the PPP, has dealt a blow to Pakistani democracy and judicial independence. This has created a state of anomie and harmed chances of a rulesbased negotiation.

It is, therefore, understandable why the PTI feels tempted to make one 'final attempt' to upend the current order. It may not be the right choice. Its founder chose long ago to take the difficult path forward. Such a choice necessarily demands more patience and fortitude than his party has lately displayed.

Indeed, it has seemed quite rudderless and impatient for instant gratification of its demands. Its mercurial support base does not really help: without discipline from within, the PTI cannot expect to achieve much. Perhaps it should focus on setting its own house in order first.

Bonding values

Zubeida Mustafa Time flies, and we fail to realise that someone

who had departed has been gone for over a year. Then an event erie to remind us of our loss. That is how it felt when Dr Kamleshwer Lohana called to inform me that he was organising a memorial lecture in honour of his father, Vali Ram Vallabh (1941-2023), who enriched our culture and society with his transla-

He perceived his contribution as the bonds he had created between communities. For him, love was the most fundamental esof being. sence Vallabh', meaning In fact, he was a writer and poet of merit.

The lecture was held under the aegis of the newly formed Vali Ram Vallabh Literary Society, with City Press founder Ajmal Kamal presiding over the event also an activity to which and HRCP's secretary general Harris Khalique being the keynote speaker. The two gentlemen are themselves eminent litterateurs, and did justice to the great scholar translator and, more than that, the superb embodiment of the ther. Of course, the final humanism that Vali Ram Sahib was.

sically on the genre of translation. Multiple dimensions of the subject came under discussion. The translation of literary works enables people speaking different languages to understand each other's culkistan has really not benefited from its Vali Rams a reading culture, with

The lecture was ba-

high rate of illiteracy talent. There was Rai contributes to this de- Chand Rathore, the grading feature of life.

cussion that followed reminded me of what Vali Ram Sahib had once told shakes us out of our rev- me: "The higher the moral and spiritual values of a society, the more it cherishes books. When creative literature is at its peak, translation also flourishes." Here I would like to add that all literary activity is not a solitary act, as many believe. Even reading the ultimate culmination of literary creation — involves collective work. To initiate reading, one needs motivation. That comes from another reader — maybe a sibling, friend, teacher, parent or a book group. The Unsurprisingly, he chose post-reading exchange of views on a book is the lover', as his pen name. most stimulating outcome of the reading exercise. Our schools do not 'waste' their space and resources on libraries. Can we then expect

> the reading culture to thrive? Similarly, writing is many contribute by reading some chapters or discussing a book with the author at the pre-publication stage. The lengthy acknowledgments in books vindicate my point that writing is not a solitary activity eiresponsibility is that of the author, as they alone decide what they would like to write when brainstorming opens the floodgates of ideas. The readers' feedback is al-

ways of utmost importance for the author. For Vali Ram Sahib, such literary activities, which he enjoyed, were ture and fosters peace a part of the process we between them. I feel Pa- call translation. This ultimately led to the bonding of people. In his inbecause we do not have terview with me, he dwelt considerably on the preonly a miniscule minor- liminaries, such as the ity of our 241m popula- teachers who taught him tion reading books for in early childhood and pleasure. Of course, the helped him discover his tesy Dawn

headmaster of his school The lecture and dis- in Chelhar (Thar-parkar), who inspired his young student by giving him a

copy of his own book titled Tarikh-i-Registan. It would appear that learning and enlightenment became his passion and drove him on. Three Master's degrees in Urdu, sociology and mass communications, and an LLB, along with his love for languages (Dhatki, Sin-dhi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Punjabi, Persian and English), paved the way for the bon-ding process that Vali Ram Sahib la--unched. It was sing-ularly his own ef-

Even selecting the book he would translate was a part of this process. He would not compromise on his values. Hence he never translated a book as a professional assignment that had to be done.

The books he translated were always his own choice. It had to be a book with values that he shared.

What were these values? Egalitarianism, progressivism, feminism, respect for people's dignity, peace and love. It was not simply a mission to promote understanding of the culture and lifestyle of communities speaking other languages by translating their literature to create bonds between them.

He was, in this way, also propagating the mentioned ideals above, which permeate his own short stories and poetry. A poem he wrote for his daughter Ghauri on her birthday reflects his liberal views on the empowerment and autonomy of women. "The kite you are flying/ is perfectly positioned/ Now remain focused on it/ As you let your children hold it/ Keep the string firmly in your hand."

At the crossroads

Imran Sabir

The girl never existed. The rape never happened. But thousands marched. Even the HRCP couldn't find 'forensic evidence and credible testimonies' to back the allegations, but the damage had already been done.

Welcome where truth is whatever trends on social media, and our youth wage wars with hashtags and 'shares' instead of guns. Those protests over a fabricated campus assault weren't just about a fake story they were a mirror reflecting our broken relationship with the truth itself.

I've spent several years studying and te--aching human te--aching behaviour, but nothing had prepared me for what I witnessed at the Lahore protest. "We know this case might be fake," a young undergrad told me, but how many real cases go unreported? That's why we were there to pro-

It's this raw anger, this deep-seated distrust, that our lawmakers seem to miss completely. While the Punjab Assembly busies itself drafting yet another law against 'fake news', they're missing the forest for the trees. Speaker Malik Ahmad Khan's recent announcement of impending legislation felt like putting a band-aid on a bullet wound.

Truth is, we're losing our kids to cyberspace. Not in the way anxious gossip aunts complain at family dinners, but in a far more insidious way. Every morning, millions of young Pakistanis wake up and dive straight into a cesspool of manipulation. TikTok and YouTube conspiracies about political rivals get more views than election policies. WhatsApp forwards about foreign conspiracies spread faster than Covid did.

These kids think even after pol-ice de- Dawn

they're immune to propa- bunked it, hashtags and ganda," says Dr Zaman, a sociologist specialising in youth behavior at Quaidi-Azam University. "They laugh at their parents falling for fake WhatsApp forwards, then share unverified tweets because it

about Pakistan's Pakistan's new reality, economy that's com-"They trust random anonymous accounts more than conventional credible sources of information now. Meanwhile,

government's response

oscillates between panic

and paralysis. The recently announced 'crackgers' was just another headline in a long list of reactive measures that tackle symptoms while the disease spreads. You can't fight digital wildfires releases. A junior officer at the FIA's cybercrime wing (speaking off the record) puts it bluntly: "We're fighting a fifthgeneration war with firstgeneration thinking. By the time we trace one fake news source, 50 new ones

have popped up."
The term 'fifth-generation warfare' gets thrown around a lot in Pakistan these days, usually by people in uniform or politicians looking for scapegoats. But what's happening on social media isn't warfare; it's worse. It's the systematic dismantling of our vou-th's ability to separate fact from fiction.

Visit any university campus today. The ethnic, religious, and ideological divisions aren't just visible — they're carved in digital stone. Students live in algorithmic bubbles so thick, two people can witness the same event and walk away with completely opposite versions of reality. The fake rape case proved this perfectly:

shares de--manding justice kept trending. The truth had become irrel-

evant to the narrative. "It's like we're living in parallel universes, said a student activist. "My newsfeed on feels right to them." He Facebook shows me one shows me a viral post Pakistan, my classmate's shows him another. We're not even arguing pletely fabricated but has been shared 50,000 times. about the same facts anymore." And therein lies our real crisis. It's not just about fake news it's about the death of shared reality. When a society can't even agree on basic facts, progress becomes impossible. Justice becomes a pipe

The solution does down on rumour-mon- not lie in another law or crackdown — not even in better fact-checking (though we need that). The solution lies in rebuilding trust — between generations, bewith paperwork and press tween institutions and citizens, between the state and its youth.

But trust is earned, not legislated. While the worthy Speaker of the Punjab Assembly announces new laws and federal agencies plan crackdowns, they're missing the whole point. Our youth aren't sharing fake news because they're foolish or malicious; they're sharing it because they've lost faith in official narratives. The protests should be a wake-up call. Young Pakistanis aren't just fighting imaginary battles online; they're screaming to be heard, to be trusted, to be taken seriously.

Until we understand this, and address the deep rot in our information ecosystem, we'll keep fighting shadows while the real war for our youth's minds is lost in the digital darkness.

The truth may be damaged, but it's not dead yet. The question is: are we brave enough to face it? -- Courtesy

Commerce News

Sufficient fertilizer stocks available for Rabi season

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Fertilizer Review Committee (FRC) on expressed Friday complete satisfaction with the country's current fertilizer reserves, ensuring adequate supplies of both DAP and urea for the

upcoming Rabi season. The committee met under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Industries, Production, and National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain to assess the stock position of DAP and urea fertilizers for the Rabi season 2024-25, said a news release.

The minister highlighted

the increasing demand for DAP fertilizer in the country, with a 44% surge in DAP off take. This rise in demand is attributed to the Punjab government's Kisan Card

initiative. The DAP offtake estimate for October 2024 was 215,000 tonnes, which has increased by 44% to 309,000 tonnes.

This increase is mainly due to the disbursement of Rs 75 billion by the government of Punjab as an interest-free loan through the Kisan Card (Rs 30,000 per acre for seeds, phosphorus, and nitrogen) for 500,000

farmers, each with up to 5 acres (Rs 150,000 per He emphasized that farmer).

So far, farmers have drawn

Rs 18 billion to procure

fertilizer. This initiative by the Punjab government is farming community to apply more DAP for

balanced fertilizer use. The trend of increased DAP off-take in October is expected to continue through November and

December 2024. Rana Tanveer assured that additional fertilizer stocks are available to meet farmers' needs. helping them achieve higher yields during the Rabi season.

farmers' prosperity is crucial for the country's progress and urged provinces to take stern action against hoarding and price manipulation. expected to encourage the farming community to attended by the Secretary Ministry of Industries Saif Anjum, the Secretary Ministry of National Food Security Ali Tahir. senior officials from the Ministry of Finance, Commerce, Security, Food

> representatives of provincial governments and other stakeholders.

Industries.



ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain chairs meeting of the Fertilizer Review Committee (FRC).

ISLAMABAD: Sardar Dr Rashid Ilyas Kahn President the Centaurus Group Ayesha event organizer and Senior Management of the Group jointly inaugurated Three Day Gems and Minerals exhibition at Centaurus Mall.

Weekly inflation up by 0.55 percent

ISLAMABAD (APP): as compared to 320.17 The weekly inflation, points during the past measured by the Sensitive week. Price Indicator (SPI), went up by 0.55 percent for the combined consumption corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the groups during the week ended on November 14, the group in the week under Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Friday

data, the SPI for the week mentioned group was items for all expenditure recorded at 321.94 points groups.

As compared to the combined consumption review witnessed an increase of 13.89 per cent.
The weekly SPI with

According to the PBS the base year 2015-16 =100 covers 17 urban under review in the above- centres and 51 essential

SBP injects over Rs3 trillion in the market

KARACHI (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) injected Rs3,089.9 billion in the market through reverse repo purchase and Shariah Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market Operation (OMO) on Friday.

According to OMO results issued here, the SBP conducted Open Market Oneration, Reverse Repo Purchase (Injection) on November 15, 2024

to boost ties in IT, **Telecom sector** ISLAMABAD (APP):

Pakistan, Algeria

and

Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Friday said that Algeria can benefit Pakistan's experiences in the field of technology.

During a meeting with the Algerian Ambassador to Pakistan, Brahim Romani, Shaza Fatima said that Pakistan greatly values its relations with Algeria, as the ties in the IT and telecom sector between the two countries are vital.

Matters of mutual interest, such as IT and telecommunications, startups, and cybersecurity, were discussed in the meeting. The two sides agreed to enhance ties in

telecommunication sectors.

Shaza Fatima said the exchange of students, startups and entrepreneurs will be beneficial for both countries, adding that Pakistan can organise IT training programs for the youth of Algeria.

Pakistan's solar & EV sectors open up with unique perks for China

BEIJING Chinese investors with exclusive incentives in the booming solar and electric vehicle (EV) sectors, said Pakistan's Trade and Investment Counsellor to China Ghulam Qadir.

Addressing the 4th Beijing International Procurement Conference technology.

Pakistan is set to attract Engineering Construction Supply Chain (EPC Expo), focused on sustainable trade between China and Pakistan, Ghulam Qadir emphasized that the Pakistani government has introduced special incentives designed to strengthen bilateral Engineering cooperation in green

Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Friday pledged support for textiles and apparel industry amid mounting challenges.

During a meeting with the delegation of All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), he reiterated the government's commitment to facilitate textiles and apparel sector

Federal Minister for

to promote value-addition

Gold prices up by Rs.1,300 to Rs.267,700 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24 karat per tola gold increased by Rs.1,300 and was sold at Rs.267,700 on Friday against its sale at Rs. 266,400, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association

reported. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also went up by Rs.1,115 to Rs.229,510 from Rs. 228,395 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold increased to Rs.210,384 from Rs. 209,362.

ISLAMABAD (APP): and product/market Fayyaz Chairperson Textile Council diversification and boost (Kohinoor Mills), Anees exports, said a press release issued here Friday. In a meeting with the

Commerce minister pledges

support for textiles sector

APTMA representatives, led by its Chairman, Kamran Arshad, the minister emphasized the importance of the textiles and apparel industry visa-viz socio-economic development and growth.

The delegation of APTMA included Aamir

APTMA North).

Khawaja (Mahmood Group), Rahim Nasir (Ayesha Group), Naveed Ahmad (Indus Dyeing), Naveed Gulzar (Crescent Mills), Asad Shafi (Cross Stitch), Ali Ahsan (Ashiana Cotton), Shahid Sattar (Executive Director, APTMA), and Raza Baqir

PSX continues with bullish trend, gains 571 more points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The against Rs. 32.680 billion on 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with bullish trend on Friday, gaining 571.75 points, a positive change of 0.61 percent, closing at 94,763.64 points as compared to 94,191.89 points on the last trading day.

A total of 893,170,249 shares were traded during the day as compared to 1,084,344,207 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 30.811 billion at Rs.8.24 per share.

the last trading day. As many as 473 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 204 of them recorded gains and 204 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 65 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were WorldCall Telecom with 77,999,077 shares at Rs 1.34 per share, Fauji Foods Limited with 70.721.702 shares at Rs 11.61 per share and Hascol Petrol with 55,501,231 shares

Punjab senior minister declares smog a national emergency

Marriyum Aurangzeb, at a press conference on smog, said smog had escalated to the status of a national disaster and it was adversely affecting other districts in Punjab also.

She noted that fog had also merged with smog this season, causing health hazards. The absence of fog during other times of the year often conceals smog. Referring to 10-year anti-smog plan initiated in March by the Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Marriyum Aurangzeb said that all

departments had been given specific targets to combat the menace. She farmers at a 60pc subsidy.

LAHORE (APP): Senior recently met members of Provincial Minister the Supreme Court's Smog Commission to discuss ongoing efforts, expressing her intention to personally brief the judiciary.

Marriyum Aurangzeb highlighted the health issues posed by smog, citing the World Health Organization's recommendations, which the government has been implementing for the past eight months. Additional gaps will be addressed so as to ensure that sectoral targets are achieved.

Agricultural interventions: For the first time, the agriculture department has provided 1,000 super seeders to the



MULTAN: Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani attended the "Rasm-e-Chehlum' of the late Syed Jamshaid Abbas Shah, the brother of noted personalities Syed Qaswar Abbas Shah and Syed Iftikhar Hussain Shah.

First installment of 64 crores released for construction of 800 homes: Minister

Chairman of Akhuwat Foundation Dr. Amjad Sagib met with Provincial Minister for Housing and Urban Development Bilal Yasin to discuss the progress of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's "Apni Chhat

Apna Ghar" scheme. Loan Sche DG PHATA Saif affordable Anwar Jappa briefed on installments. received applications. He received the checks of the said that over 300,000 applications have been successfully, all the received, which would installments will be paid, applications have been likely be double by he added.

December.

Provincial Minister Installment of Rs. 64 crores has been released for construction of 800 houses, adding that loans will be provided based on 100% merit, ensuring transparency. Interest-Free Loan Scheme offers

Bilal Yasin said that first People first installments



KARACHI: A delegation of Khidmat-e-Khalq Foundation Trustees led by MNA Dr. Farooq Sattar meeting with Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori.

CM reviews progress on 99-point public agendaa

Zulfiqar Cheema says:

Qualities of Iqbal's

'Shaheen' must be

instilled in youths

FAISALABAD (APP): Relations and Publications

Minister Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Ámin Gandapur on Friday chaired a high-level meeting to assess the government's 99-point public agenda, aimed at improving governance and public services.

Saturday November 16, 2024

During the meeting, officials provided updates on various initiatives, highlighting significant achievements: Under the CM's Open Door Policy, 429 public forums (khuli kutcheris) have been held, including 27 for women,

14 dead,

1,387 injured

in Punjab

road accidents

LAHORE (APP): At least

14 people were killed and

1,378 others injured in 1,311

road accidents in Punjab

people with serious injuries

were shifted to different

hospitals, while 777 with

minor injuries were treated

at the incident site by the

showed that 800 drivers, 57

underage drivers, 159

pedestrians, and 442

passengers were among the

victims of road crashes.

The statistics showed that

224 accidents were

reported in Lahore.

The data analysis

rescue medical teams.

As many as 610

during the last 24 hours.

others targeting farmers, persons with disabilities, and traders. Over 7,000 waste

dumps were cleared, 843 public toilets cleaned, and 590 canals, 1,066 roads, and 287 recreational areas cleaned. The province repaired 4,682 manholes and 6,300 streetlights, while 293 illegal parking stands and 4,500 speed bumps were removed.

Drinking water was provided in 114 public parks, seating benches installed in 169 parks, and 300 trash bins placed at

Qualities of Iqbal's

'Shaheen' should be

instilled in the young

generation so that they can

overcome obstacles in the

path of progress with belief,

Chairman Allama Iqbal

Council and former IG

Police Punjab Zulfiqar

Ahmed Cheema while

addressing the students

during a public lecture at

University of Agriculture

The program was

Faisalabad (UAF).

This was stated by

action and high character.

Officials inspected

108 bus stands, cleaned 497 washrooms, and upgraded 100 waiting rooms. Fare charts were displayed at 93 bus stands. The chief minister

urged strict monitoring of ongoing projects and directed monthly public forums by divisional and deputy commissioners to engage with citizens.

He also ordered the

completion of patwar khanas mapping within 51 days and immediate relocation of offices operating outside their jurisdictions. "This agenda

Department and the Senior

Tutor Office, while CPO

Faisalabad Kamran Adil and

Principal Officer Public

Relations & Publications

Dr Muhammad Jalal Arif

also spoke.
Zulfiqar Ahmad
Cheema called for
promoting Iqbal's thoughts

and poetry among the

youths and said that

today's youth were facing

disappointments. If they

benefit from Iqbal's

thought of living a dignified

life, they can achieve their

good governance. Any negligence implementation will not be tolerated," Ali Amin Gandapur said, reaffirming his commitment to the welfare of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's citizens.

Moreover, 439 sewer lines were cleaned, and 101 were repaired. During the campaign against illegal dumping sites, 368 such spots were cleared, and 226 designated sites for waste disposal were notified. A total of 4359 trash bins have been installed for

1 injured in grenade attack in Kohat

KOHAT (APP): policeman was injured on Friday in a grenade attack by unknown persons on the Mills area police post in Kohat.

According police, the incident occurred when unidentified individuals hurled a grenade at the police post, leaving one policeman injured Deputy Commissioner Kohat, Mr. Abdul Akram, swiftly responded to the incident by visiting the injured policeman at DHQ Hospital Kohat.

Akram strongly condemned the attack, labeling it a "cowardly act" by miscreants.

LHC directs Punjab govt to formulate long-term policy to combat smog

combat smog.

regulation of housing societies and directed that wastewater treatment plants be made mandatory for houses of 10 marlas and above, as well as all commercial buildings.

Justice Shahid Karim Punjab issued these directions while hearing a set of petitions filed by Haroon ineffective measures to proceedings, the court effectively utilized

LAHORE (APP): The directed Advocate General Lahore High Court (LHC) Punjab Khalid Ishaq to on Friday directed the discuss the long-term Punjab government to policy matter with the formulate a comprehensive chief minister upon her long-term return from abroad. The environmental policy to court further noted that significant work remains to The court also be done on groundwater stressed the need for strict conservation, though it commended the current government's efforts to revive projects that had been stalled over the last

five years. The court highlighted recent study by the government, conducted in collaboration Development Bank, to Farooq and others against restore the Ravi River, and suggested that this control smog. During the research should be



LAHORE: Chairman Islamic Ideological Council of Pakistan, Allama Dr. Raghib Hussain Naeemi, offers prayers for rain and mercy at Jamia Masjid

Speaker PA praises public welfare service of Hina Butt

LAHORE (APP): Speaker rights, in line with the of the Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmad Khan praised MPA Hina Parvez Butt's public service, stating that she is fulfilling her duties diligently. Other members of the Punjab Assembly also acknowledged her initiatives with applause. The speaker highlighted that her active role in the Punjab Women

Protection Authority reflected her commitment

vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif. He appreciated the steps taken within the Authority to prevent incidents of violence and harassment against women, acknowledging Hina Butt's efforts as a positive step toward women's rights protection in the province. The speaker said, "Your direct engagement with the public and personal to enhancing the meetings with affected girls authority's role in and their families is safeguarding women's commendable.

International News

organised by the Public unique place in the world.

Sri Lankan president's coalition wins majority in snap election

COLOMBO: Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanavake's leftist coalition won a thumping victory in a snap general elec-tion, gaining the power to

push through his plans to fight poverty and graft in the island nation recovering financial meltdown.The sweeping mandate, which included surprise backing from the north and east of the country which is home to the minority Tamil people, is an unprecedented vote for change and indicates that Sri Lanka is in sync on moving

ahead, analysts said. While the strong showing will strengthen political stability in the South Asian country, some uncertainty on policy direction remains due to Dissanavake's promises to

country out of its economic crisis, they said.

The new government tre for Policy Alternatives. is also expected to face a talent challenge as the coalition has few leaders with governance and policymaking experience. Dissanayake, a political outsider in a country dominated by family parties for decades, comfortably won the island's presidential election in September.

But his coalition had just three seats in parliament, prompting him to dissolve it and seek a fresh mandate in Thursday's snap election. Sri Lanka typically backs the president's party in general elections, especially if voting is held soon after a presidential vote.

'The president has a try and tweak terms of the huge mandate now to carry

International Monetary through the reforms but Fund (IMF) rescue also huge expectations from programme that bailed the the people," said Bhavani Fonseka, a researcher at Colombo think tank Cen-

> "People are looking beyond the issues of the past people want to see a direct impact on the cost of

> living," she said.
>
> Dissanayake's Marxist-leaning National People's Power (NPP) coalition won 159 seats in the 225-member parliament, the election commission said on Friday, a massive two-thirds majority and one of the biggest in the country's history.

NPP secured almost 62 per cent or almost 7 million votes, up from the 42pc Dissanayake won in September, indicating that he had drawn more widespread support including from minorities.

transition team on Thursday, after a series of provocative and startling cabinet choices that showed the president-elect's preference for absolute loyalty above experience or exper-

Trump has been rapidly rolling out his foreign policy and national security picks, but he is expected to shift focus over the coming days to key figures to enact his domestic agenda.

leader has yet to select treasury and commerce chiefs to help set tax and trade policy, a health secretary to oversee abortion, transgender care and a host of other potential flashpoints, or someone for education — a department Trump wants to abolish



Sri Lanka's President and National People's Power (NPP) party leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake meets his party supporters after casting his vote on the day of the parliamentary election in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Fragile countries make \$20bn climate finance push at COP29, letter says

Monitoring Desk BAKU: A group of conflictaffected countries is pushing at COP29 to double financial aid to more than \$20 billion a year and combat the natural disaster and security crises facing their populations, a letter seen by Reuters showed. The group is one of several pitching at the climate talks in Azerbaijan this week for funds to better prepare for the impacts of extreme weather as countries seek to agree to a new annual

Island nations, for example, argue climate change threatens their very existence as seas rise, while group of fragile countries.

mission said the US tech

target on financing.

rainforest nations say they need more money to protect their vast carbon sinks.

Countries mired in conflict and its aftermath say they have struggled to access private investment as they are seen as too risky. That means UN funds are even more critical to their populations, many of whom have been displaced by war and weather. In response, the COP29 Azerbaijan Presidency on Friday will launch a new 'Network of Climate-vulnerable Countries', including a number of countries that belong to the g7+, an intergovernmental

EU fines Meta \$840m for 'abusive' practices

titan also abused its dominant position by imposing unfair trading conditions on other online classified ads service providers that advertise on its

"This is illegal under EU anti-trust rules. Meta must now stop this behaviour," the bloc's competition chief, Margrethe Vestager, said in a state-

Israel savs it hits military sites in Damascus, Syrian media says 15 killed **Monitoring Desk**

DUBAI: Fifteen people were killed in Israeli strikes on residential buildings in Damascus on Thursday, Syrian state media reported, and Israel claimed the attacks targeted military sites and the headquarters of the Islamic Jihad

The buildings targeted were located in the suburbs of Mazzeh and Qudsaya, both in the west of the Syrian capital, SANA news agency reported, citing Syrian military source.

Fire kills at least ten elderly people in Spanish retirement home

Monitoring Desk MADRID: At least 10 elderly people were killed when fire ripped through a retirement home in the northern Spanish town of Villafranca del Ebro early on Friday, authorities

The blaze started in one of the rooms, Fernando Beltran, the national government's top official in the region, told reporters. All the victims were elderly people living in the "Jardines de Villafranca" residence, he added.

Trump says Russia-Ukraine war has 'gotta stop' they're people sitting in

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: US President-elect Donald Trump said on Thursday

that his administration will work hard to end the Russia-Ukraine war, adding that the conflict needs to come to an end. "We're going to work

on the Middle East, and we're going to work very hard on Russia and Ukraine. It's gotta stop.

Russia and Ukraine's gotta stop," Trump said at a gala for the America First Policy Institute at the Mar-a-Lago Club in Florida.

"I saw a report today. Thousands of people over the last three days were killed. Thousands and thousands were killed. They happened to be soldiers, but whether they're soldiers or

towns, we're going to work it," he added.

Turning to his election victory last week, Trump said the American people delivered "something very, very amazing".

"The biggest political victory in 129 years...We swept all swing states. We won the popular vote," he said. He stressed that the country is "doing good" since he was elected on November 5. "Now the only thing is, Mr. Speaker, I think it's important, maybe you should pass a bill - you have to start my term from November 5, OK? Or November 6 if you want. November 5, because the market's gone through the roof, enthusiasm's doubled in the last short while," he said.



South Korea's main opposition Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung arrives at a court in Seoul,

Xi inaugurates South America's first Chinese funded port in Peru

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday inaugurated Latin America's first Beijingfunded port in Chancay, Peru — a symbol of the Asian superpower's growing influence on the continent as it prepares to face off with a new Donald Trump administration.

The \$3.5 billion complex, about 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Lima, is meant to serve as a hub for Chinese trade as the country is under threat of major tariff hikes once

Trump reenters the White House for a second term.

The port was officially opened in a ceremony overseen virtually by Xi and Peruvian counterpart Dina Boluarte from Lima, where they will attend an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit on Friday and Saturday.

'China plays a major role in the growth of our economy," Boluarte said at the event, even as a US official warned Latin American nations should be vigilant on Chinese invest-

Global environmental activists protest against the

gas industry during the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29), in Baku, Azerbaijan. Indonesia's VP visits area

hit by Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki volcano eruptions

Monitoring Desk INDONESIA: Indonesia's vice president visited areas hit by multiple eruptions of the Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki volcano on Thursday, as some international airlines resumed flights to the resort island

of Bali, officials said. Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki from Bali.

in East Nusa Tenggara province on Nov 3 killed at least nine people, damaged more than 2,000 houses and forced the evacuation of 13,000 residents. It has since erupted repeatedly, belching ash up to 10 km (16 miles) into the air. East Nusa Tenggara is located The first eruption of about 800 km (497 miles)

Trump's divisive picks show he prefers loyalty to expertise

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: All eyes were on Donald Trump's

The Republican

on Facebook platform **Monitoring Desk** BRUSSELS: The European Union fined online giant Meta almost 800 million euros (\$840m) on

Thursday for breaching anti-trust rules by giving users of its Facebook social network automatic access to classified ads service Facebook Market-The European Com-

Governor

province

Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim

Kundi, held a special meeting with Chairman of

Wapda, Lieutenant General

(retd) Sajjad Ghani to dis-

cuss various issues of the

Chashma Lift Canal

Parliamentary leader of Pa-

kistan Peoples Party (PPP)

in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Assembly, accompanied

the Governor during the

the progress of the Chashma Lift Canal project

and the Governor appreciated the role of Wapda offi-

ter Accord, all four prov-

Ahmad Karim Kundi,

The meeting reviewed

including

Governor KP discusses

various issues of KP

with Chairman Wapda

(APP): inces were entitled to wa-

Khyber ter shares, but while three

provinces began utilizing

their allotted water, Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa remained de-

prived of its rightful share.

pressed gratitude to Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif

for allocating funds for the

project in the federal bud-

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto

Zardari for advocating for

the province's case at the

that the completion of the

Chashma Lift Canal would

usher in a "green revolution"

in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

contributing to the estab-

federal level.

Governor Kundi ex-

He also thanked PPP

Kundi emphasized

Ahsan suggests countrywide Mobile Learning Festival in collaboration with Pak Railways

ISLAMABAD (APP): when both Pakistan and from Gilgit-Baltistan to Minister for Planning, De- India would celebrate their Karachi. Additionally, the Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday suggested launching a Mobile Learn-ing Festival in collaboration with Pakistan Railways, providing students from every district an opportunity to listen to the struggle stories of successful personalities and set their fu-

ture goals.
"The Ministry of Education will be asked to take this initiative. It will help students explore their capabilities and set their future direction with complete determination," he said while addressing students at the inaugural ceremony of the Pakistan Learning Festival-2024, held at Islamabad College for Boys, G-6/3.

He remarked that Muslims of the Indian subcontinent managed to secure Pakistan after great sacrifices, and it was the responsibility of the vounger generation to make it a proud nation by 2047, fiber optic cables running

stone with pride, without added. any excuses for lagging behind in development," he emphasized.

Citing an example, he

said the country needed to give its full effort over the next 23 years, much like an athlete running a 1,200-meter race: maintaining a calculated pace for the first 1,000 meters, and then giving full energy during the final 200 meters to cross the finish line and clinch victory. He also mentioned Pakistan's development iourney since its inception in 1947, when the newlyborn state had nothing even common pins to bind papers in offices.

Today, however, he said Pakistan manufactured the JF-17 Thunder aircraft, became the world's first Islamic nuclear power and seventh overall, and has

100th year of indepen- country has increased its dence. "Pakistan's youth should celebrate this mile-2-3 to around 250, he

> "Pakistan's situation is like a glass of water that is half-full and half-empty. We just need to fill it with hard work, greater unity, positive and constructive thinking, moving forward with a strong commitment to attain progress and prosperity among the community of nations," he said.

Ahsan Iqbal said setting aside negativity, disappointment, hatred and intolerance was essential for achieving set goals and realizing big dreams. "There should be no virus of hatred and bias in the mind to move forward in life and achieve success." he remarked. The minister also shared his personal success story, recounting how his education and practical experience helped him meet his goals through higher built a digital backbone with education, hard work, and commitment



SC still can take suo

motu notice, says

Justice Mazhar

World leaders hail Azerbaijan's excellent organization of COP29

ISLAMABAD (APP): Guests representing various countries, officials, media representatives and experts, as well as world leaders commended the successful organization of the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change by Azerbaijan, expressing their optimism that the COP29 negotiations would yield productive results. According to AZERTAC news agency, in session, Shehbaz the plenary Muhammad

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Supreme Court (SC) con-

stitutional bench has re-

marked SC can take suo

motu notice now too but its

hearing can be conducted

only by constitutional

expressed by Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar in

reply to Munir Paracha

plea wherein he had said

that SC cannot take suo

motu notice after 26th con-

tional bench presided over

by Justice Âmin ud Din

Khan took up for hearing

A 6-member constitu-

suo motu notice case in bench.

stitutional amendment.

These remarks were

Aliyev on the successful organization of the COP29 $\,$ in Baku, calling him "Dear Brother" Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, expressed his gratitude to Azerbaijan for the high-level organization of the COP29 and wished the country a successful conference. Giorgia Meloni, Prime Minister of Italy, said she was delighted to see Azerbaijan as the President of COP29, which is considered as part of the climate initiative for peace, express-Sharif, Pakistan's Prime ing her gratitude to Minister, congratulated Azerbaijan for the organi-

connection with Anti Ter-

rorism Court (ATC) case

sel for the petitioner ap-

peared in the court and

took the plea no further

proceedings is needed in

this case as SC cannot take

suo motu notice after 26th

constitutional amendment.

Ali Mazhar remarked wakil

sahb only procedure has

changed after 26th consti-

tutional amendment. SC can

still take suo motu notice,

The difference is only that

now suo motu notice will

run in constitutional

TOGETHER FOR CHANGE AND BETTERMENT

Justice Muhammad

Munir Paracha coun-

Irakli Kobakhidze, Prime Minister of Georgia, also expressed his deep appreciation to the President of Azerbaijan for the excel lent organization of the COP29. Judith Suminwa Tuluka, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, thanked Azerbaijan and personally President Ilham Aliyev, for hosting in Baku such a mo mentous event for humanity. Maia Sandu, President of Moldova, expressed her deep gratitude to President Ilham Alivey and the Gov ernment of Azerbaijan fo hosting COP29 in Baku.

Senator Afnan slams PTI's 'politics of chaos'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator of the Pakistan Muslim League-N Afnan Ullah Khan Friday lambasted the PTI's "politics of chaos," vehemently warning that the government will not tolerate any attempts to destabilize the nation and undermine

In an Interview

progress.

with a private news channel, "PML-N Senator Afnan Ullah Khan cautioned that protesting in the red zone will no longer be tolerated fol-lowing CM KPK's dareto-government state-

cials in this regard.

He highlighted that under the 1991 Indus Waunder the 1992 Indus Waunder the 1991 Indus Waund

ISLAMABAD: Manuel Frederico Pinheiro Da Silva Ambassador of Portugal called on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Āshraf at Naval Headquarters.

Senator Rubina Khalid emphasizes transparency in funds transfer to women

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) ,Senator Rubina Khalid Friday emphasized the need to ensure transparency and dignity in transferring funds to deserving

She was speaking during a meeting with the Karandaaz Pakistan's Chief Digital Officer, Sharjeel Murtaza and Associate Director, Usman Kokab.

Secretary Amer Ali Ahmad was also present during the meeting.

The meeting focused hance transparency is distribution of funds.

on key topics, including the implementation of the RAAST payment system to facilitate payments to BISP beneficiaries, biometric verification of women for enhanced security, and skill training programs aimed at providing employment opportunities to deserving families.

Speaking on the occasion, Rubina Khalid said that bilateral talks between the State Bank of Pakistar and the BISP are scheduled in the coming days to enhance transparency in the

IG Rizvi holds khuli katchery to address public grievances

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi on Friday held a Khuli Katchery (open court) at the Central Police Office, where he listened to the concerns of citizens and police officers, issuing onthe-spot directives for their timely resolution. During the khuli katchery, IĞ Rizvi listened to the issues of citizens and police officers and issued directives to senior police officers on the spot for timely resolution of their concerns, a public

relation officer told.

solving citizens' issues on merit is our top priority. Negligence and carelessness in duties will not be tolerated. Citizens facing any issue related to the police can come to the Khuli Katchery. My office is always open for my citizens, G Rizvi said.

IG further directed the officers to resolve the citizen grievances on merit within the stipulated time frame and report back to the Central Police Office. Rizvi directed all SDPOs and SHOs to adhere to the designated office hours and prioritize resolving citizens



Chairperson BISP, Senator Rubina Khalid, along with Secretary Amer Ali Ahmad, met with Karandaaz Pakistan's Chief Digital Officer, Sharjeel Murtaza, and Associate Director, Usman Kokab, at the BISP Headquarters Islamabad

Wafaqi Mohtasib team holds Khuli Katchery in Kotli (AJ&K)

directions of Wafaqi Mohtasib, Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi, the Director General, Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat Ashfaq Ahmad accompanied by Consultant Khalid Sial, held an open court (Khuli Katchery) at Kotli (AJ&K) and heard complaints against the federal entities there. They also issued instructions to the official concerned representing the federal government organizations and disposed of many complaints on the spot, said a press release issued here on Friday. The Khuli Katchery was attended by a large number of complainants and they aired their grievances against the Electricity, Sui Gas, Passport Office NADRA

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Under the

Postal Life Insurance and National Savings. With a view to prompt redressal of complaints, the Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat officials issued on the spot instructions to the officials representing the Federal Agencies, who assured their fullest cooperation in this regard.

BISP, Pakistan Post,

Speaking on the occasion, DG Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat said that the officials belonging to Federal entities must discharge their responsibilities in accordance with the rules and regulations and to desist from any kind of wrong doing. The Wafaqi Mohtasib officials also met the local media representatives after the Khuli Katcheri and briefed them on Wafaqi Mohtasib's

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Spanish Senators called on Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization & Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan. **Martyred Pakistan Army ICT admin** Major, Havaldar laid to rest

with full military honours RAWALPINDI (APP): Two brave personnel of armed forces including Major Muhammad Haseeb who embraced martyrdom during an operation against terrorists at Harnai District were laid to rest in their native towns with full military honors.

Major Muhammad Haseeb (age: 28 years) and Havildar Noor Ahmed (age: 38 years) were laid to rest in Rawalpindi and Barkhan respectively with full military honors, said an Inter Service Public Relations news release here Friday

A large gathering of military and civil officials, per-



sonnel of armed forces, relatives of the martyrs, and local community members attended the funeral prayers and burials of the martyrs. Pakistan's security forces remain steadfast in their commitment to eradicating the scourge of terrorism, and the sacrifices of these brave soldiers only strengthen nation's resolve.

Journalism plays vital role in democratic societies; Mashhood

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Prime Minister's Programme (PMYP), Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Friday said that journalism played a very important role in democratic societies and parliamentary reporters were doing excellent coverage of the Parliament. Talking to a delegation of the Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA) here at his office, Mashhood reiterated the importance of youth in nation-building and assured the PRA representatives that the government, through the Youth Programme, remains committed to supporting the young people of Pakistan

in every possible way. He said that persons associated with the media industry could also avail the facility of modern training courses started by PMYP.

Mashhood said that journalists have an important responsibility regarding the supremacy of the Constitution and the stability of democracy. The PRA representatives on the occasion praised Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan for his tireless efforts in the realm of youth empowerment and development. The representatives acknowledged that Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan was widely regarded as one of the best choices for championing youth causes, noting his deep commitment to providing opportunities for young Pakistanis and creating a pathway for their success. The PRA also highlighted his strategic initiatives aimed at fostering skill development, educational opportunities, and

overall growth for the

nation's youth.

launches campaign to combat smog ISLAMABAD (APP)

Deputy Commissioner (DC) İslamabad, İrfan Nawaz Memon on Friday chaired a high-level meeting with key officials to enforce stricter regulations on polluters and promote public awareness to tackle rising air pollution and smog.

The meeting was atended by the senior officials, including the SSP Traffic, Director Excise, and Assistant Commissioners (ACs), to address the growing smog issue in the ederal capital.

The meeting expressed resolve to take decisive steps against sources of air pollution. Vehicles emitting smoke would be barred from entering the Federal Capital, and strict action would be taken against factories contributing to poor air quality.

PTA continues crackdown on illegal issuance of SIMs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Zonal Office Peshawar, in collaboration with the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Cyber Crime Peshawar conducted successful raids on telecom franchisees in Barakahu. Islamabad, and Shinkiari.

District Mansehra. According to news release both franchisees were involved in the illegal issuance of SIMs by deceitfully obtaining fingerprints of underprivileged women from various villages in Orakzai Agency.

During the Barakahu raid, 6 BVS devices, 8 activated SIMs, 200 suspected SIMs, 2 computers, and digital fingerprints were confiscated. The FIA team also recovered several original CNICs and 6 mobile phones. Three individuals were arrested, and an FIR was registered





ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana

Mashhood Ahmad Khan is visiting at truck art stall in Punjab pavilion during

Lok Mela at Lok virsa, in the Federal Capital.

Pak-China relations are of great importance at int'l level": Asma

ISLAMABAD (APP): President of All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation (APCOYF) and Chairperson of Dolphin Communication Asma Ismail Butt Friday said the relations between Pakistan and China are of great importance at the interna-

tional level. She said this while participating in the overseas meeting at the Chinese Embassy Islamabad and also held an important meeting with Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, said a press re-

Asma said the example of mutual unity between two countries is no- APCOYF.

where to be found, and stressed the need for continued diplomatic efforts to further strengthen cultural and bilateral relations

ISLAMABAD: Senator Lt Gen (Retd) Abdul Qayyum HI (M) and former Chair-

man Senate Standing Committee on Defence Production in a group photo with

participants at Secretariat Training Institute Islamabad during his visits.

On this occasion, Asma Ismail Butt and the Chinese Ambassador discussed important points related to the mutual values and strengthening of mutual relations between the two countries.

Ambassador Jiang Zaidong praised Asma Ismail Butt for organizing a successful media award show to pay tribute to the services of the distinguished journalist community at the national level

Ayaz greets Sikhs on Guru Nanak's birth anniversary

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has extended warm greetings to the Sikh community in Pakistan and around the globe on the auspicious occasion of Baba Guru Nanak's birth anniversary. In a statement, Ayaz Sadiq highlighted Baba Guru Nanak's teachings of love for humanity peace, brotherhood, and equality. He lauded the Sikh spiritual leader's role in promoting religious tolerance, interfaith harmony and peace, which continue to inspire generations.

The Speaker warmly welcomed Sikh pilgrims from across the world who have traveled to Pakistan.

The development of

green belts along Islamabad

Parliamentarians call for expanding electric bus routes across city

delegation of Parliamentarians on Friday urged the need for expanding electric bus to new routes across the federal capital. The delegation com-

prising Tariq Fazal Chudhary, Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz, and Anjum Ageel, said during a meeting with chairman CDA Muhammad Ali Randhawa.

The chairman stated that the existing routes will be reviewed and the new routes would be added as per the need of residents. He emphasized the importance of regular meetings to address issues faced by the residents of Islamabad.

Randhawa stated that ownership of key initiatives and projects by the Parlia-

mentarians is essential for the city's development and progress. The Parliamentarians reaffirmed their commitment to support CDA for Islamabad's development, beautification, and overall betterment. They expressed their

full cooperation for CDA's initiatives and offered their valuable suggestions to resolve city-wide challenges effectively. During the meeting, progress on projects under the Rural Development Package was reviewed. Chairman CDA assured

that financial hurdles affecting progress would be resolved urgently. The DG Works CDA was designated as the focal point for expediting work on the ongoing projects

Expressway was also discussed, including proposals for establishing play grounds through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The DG Environment Environment was assigned to oversee issues related to upgradation of existing parks and new parks, green belts, and open spaces. The parliamentarians were briefed on the digital parking system recently launched in Islamabad and plans for its expansion to other commercial centers and markazs. Chairman CDA stated that the revenue gen erated from digital parking will be spent on the uplift and upgradation of the local area improvements.