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Emphasises economic stability for country's prosperity

# COAS expresses resolve to protect Pakistan's digital borders

Says no matter how difficult the situation may be, if we all stand together, nothing can harm us; we must always prioritize the country over personal interests as nothing, including politics, is above Pakistan; Commends active participation of defense manufacturers from friendly nations at IDEAS-2024 at Karachi Expo Centre

of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir says protection of Pakistan's digital borders and the digital security of the people is the responsibility of the state.

Addressing the business community in Karachi today, he said that terrorism is backed by those who do illegal businesses, with certain elements behind

The Army Chief emphasized that we must altry over personal interests all stand together, nothing

KARACHI (APP): Chief as nothing, including poliofArmy Staff General Syed tics, is above Pakistan. Encoura

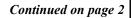
Describing the state as a motherly figure, he said the value of the state should be understood by looking at the people of Libya, Iraq, and Palestine. He reminded the audience, 'Remember, we have no identity other than Paki-

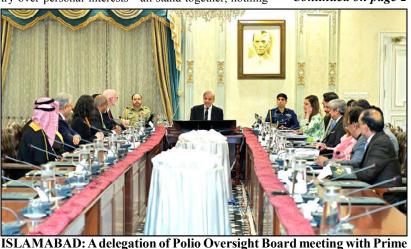
Talking about challenges facing the nation, General Syed Asim Munir said no matter how difficult ways prioritize the counthe situation may be, if we

**Encouraging Pakistani** expatriates to bring their investments back home, he said through this move, the people will prosper, and the country will develop.

The Army Chief expressed his unwavering confidence in Pakistan's bright and stable future, and said that the clouds of despair that loomed over the country one year ago, have now cleared.

General Asim Munir





Minister Muhammad Šhahbaz Sharif.

on their part but it was not

criminal misconduct by the

officers. The NAB had not

recommended any disci-

plinary action against these

said was never submitted to

toshakhana, adding that the

accused managed to get a

low-value assessment of

the set and caused a loss to

founder and his wife both

took benefit of it. He fur-

ther said that this court had

granted bail to Bushra Bibi

but she was not appear-

ing before the trial court

which is delaying the in-

dictment process of the

founder misused his posi-

tion and threatened the per-

son responsible for assess

He said that the PTI

He said that the PTI

the national exchequer.

He said that the jewelry

officers, he added.

## Imran Khan gets bail in new Toshakhana case

ISLAMABAD (APP): said that it was a mistake The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday granted post-arrest bail to the PTI founder in Toshakhana-II

The court accepted the bail against surety bonds worth Rs. one million and ordered the authorities to release the accused.

The court, however, said that the bail could be withdrawn if the accused didn't cooperate during the trial process.

Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb announced the verdict on the arrest bail petition of the PTI founder.

During the hearing, the court questioned what action was taken against the three customs officers responsible for the wrong assessment of the Bulgarian



Chief of the Naval Staffl Admiral Naveed Ashraf laid foundation of Pakistan Maritime Science and Technology Pak (PMSTP) during IDEAS 2024.

## No chance of Imran's release despite bail in new Toshakhana case: Tarar

**Monitoring Desk** ISLAMABAD: Informa-

tion Minister Ataullah Tarar has said that PTI founder Imran Khan is unlikely to walk free despite duct. securing bail in the new Toshakhana case.

There is no chance of the PTI founder's release," the information minister said while speaking to a private tv channel on Wednesday.

Tarar said that the case regarding the selling of state gifts was being heard in a trial court and that sufficient evidence was available against the PTI founder. "The trial is yet to be concluded," he

He further noted that the "bail can be cancelled"

in case of non-cooperation on Imran's part, particularly if he emulates his wife, Bushra Bibi, who has a history of such con-

The information minister reiterated that case would continue for a long

Addressing the possibilities of Imran Khan's release. Tarar said the PTI founder had not received bail in eight FIRs related to the May 9 mayhem when the party and its members targeted defence structures, including monuments for the martyrs. "Release for him is not possible; there are many other cases he needs to secure bail in,"

#### **CNS** inaugurates **Pakistan Maritime** Science and Technology Park **Independent Report**

groundbreaking ceremony of Pakistan's first Mari time Science and Technology Park (PMSTP) was held at EXPO Centre during IDEAS-2024. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, graced the event as the Chief Guest.

While addressing the

ceremony, the Naval Chief highlighted historic significance of the project, stating that PMSTP will pave the way for much-needed growth in maritime sciences, technologies, businesses, and industries. He emphasized that this initiative will open new avenues for enhancing Pakistan's GDP and advancing the maritime sector. The Naval Chief further underscored that the success of PMSTP reflects strong partnerships cultivated with visionary individuals and organizations. PMSTP is the country's first dedicated maritime science park, integrating academia, industry, and government in a unique collaboration to foster growth across Pakistan's maritime

#### Tribal elders, scholars call on IGFC (North) in Loralai

QUETTA (APP): Tribal elders and scholars called on Inspector General Frontier Corps (IGFC) Balochistan (North) in Loralai district.

Civil administration officers and FC officials were also present in the meeting. In the meeting, the law and order situation and other matters were dis-

cussed in detail. The tribal elders and scholars assured full cooperation with all the institutions for the establishment of law and order situation in the area

On this occasion, tribal elders and scholars paid tribute to the key role of law enforcement agencies in establishing peace in the prov-

They expressed full satisfaction over the steps taken by the Balochistan government and the Pakistan Army for the development of the area and the establishment of peace and



visiting the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024) at the Karachi Expo Centre.

President, Prime Minister pay tribute to martyred soldiers

# 12 security personnel martyred in Bannu suicide attack: ISPR

Six terrorists killed in attempt to attack joint check post in Bannu's Mali Khel; 10 personnel from security forces, 2 from FC martyred

curity Forces killed six this heinous act will be Khwarij terrorists on Wednesday by effectively thwarting Khwarij attempt to enter the Joint Check Post in general area MaliKhel in Bannu District.

"In ensuing fire exchange, six khwarij were sent to hell. The attempt to enter the post was effec-tively thwarted by own troops, which forced the khwarij to ram an explosive laden vehicle into the perimeter wall of the post. The suicide blast led to collapse of portion of perimeter wall and damaged the adjoining infrastructure, resulting in Shahadat of 12 brave sons of soil that include 10 soldiers of the security forces and two soldiers of Frontier Constabulary." said a news release issued by Inter Services

Public Relations (ISPR). "Sanitization operation

brought to justice. Security forces and law enforcement agencies of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave men further strengthen our resolve," it

President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday expressed grief over the martyrdom of 12 security forces personnel in a terrorist attack that took place in Bannu. In their separately is-

further said.

sued statements, both the president and prime minister paid tributes to the armed forces personnel for sacrificing their lives and killing six terrorists while safeguarding the country. "The whole nation sa-

ficing their lives for the seis being conducted in the curity of their motherland," rison.

RAWALPINDI (APP): Se- area and the perpetrators of the president said and reiterated the nation's resolve to wipe out terrorism from the country.

He also prayed to Allah Almighty for the elevation of the martyrs' ranks in paradise and for strength for the bereaved families to bear the loss.

"The sacrifices of the nation's soldiers will never be squandered. The Fitna Al Khawarij (terrorist) posing threats to the lives and properties of the people will have to pay a heavy price for it," Prime Minister Shehbaz said and reiterated that the fight against terrorism will con tinue till the complete elimination of this scourge.

Meanwhile the funeral prayers of 12 Shaheed personnel of armed forces who fought valiantly against Khwarij terrorists in lutes the soldiers for sacri- MaliKhel were offered on Wednesday at Bannu Gar-



**OUETTA:** Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail being briefed by Vice Chancellor Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University Prof Dr. Rubina Mushtaq about University.

#### Governor Balochistan says SBKWU becomes even more stable than before coming out of continuous hardships of several years

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that Sardar Bahadur Khan University (SBKWU) has risen rather more stable than before after coming out of the con-

tinuous hardships and problems of several years. He said that it is not mere a statement to get the Women University to the height of educational devel-

opment and standard and take the score of performance of the University to 80 percent, rather it is his commitment with you all. The Governor was speaking to the delegation of SBKWU who called on

him under leadership of its Vice Chancellor, Professor Rubina Mushtaq here on Wednesday. The Governor was also

briefed about the performance and financial hardships of the University. Also present during the

meeting was Principal Secretary to the Governor, Hashim Khan Ghilzai.

While appreciating performance of the SBKWU, Governor said that still a lot has to be done. He announced that the meetings of Senate and Syndicate of the University would be conducted as per the sched-

He said that complete merit and decision making would be ensured with mutual cooperation. He made it clear that he would keep strict vigil on all matters of the University through his

He exhorted the management to pay wholehearted attention on studies of the students and ensure examinations at the scheduled dates.

Besides he also directed to ensure transparency, answerability and merit in the administrative and academic affairs of the univer-



**QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Saleem Ahmed** Khosa, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi, Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani and Mir Barkat Rind talking during Balochistan Assembly session.

#### China reaffirms strong support for Pakistan's fight against terrorism

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: A Chinese For eign Ministry Spokesperson reiterated Beijing' strong backing for Pakistan in its ongoing efforts to combat terrorism, particularly in the troubled region of Balochistan.

During a regular press briefing on Wednesday, Lin Jian expressed China's unwavering commitment to supporting Pakistan's fight against the menace of ter-rorism. "Let me say broadly that China firmly supports Pakistan's effort of fighting terrorism," he stated, responding to a query about Pakistan's comprehensive military operation targeting terrorism in Balochistan.

#### Joint military exercise between Pakistan, China begins in Pabbi PABBI (Online): Opening

Ceremony of Pak-China Joint Exercise Warrior-VIII between Pakistan Army and Peoples' Liberation Army of China was conducted at National Counter Terrorism Center Pabbi today. Three weeks long Ex ercise in Counter Terrorism domain is 8th in the series of bilateral exercise bing conducted annually. The exercise is aimed at refining professional skills through joint training besides harnessing the historic military to military relations among the Iron Clad Brothers.

Lieutenant General Shahid Imtiaz, HI (M) Commander Rawalpindi Corps graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

# PM reaffirms commitment to eradicate polio from Pakistan

Muhammad Sharif on Wednesday reiterated the resolve of the government to make Pakistan a polio-free country and said that the federation along with all the provinces were taking steps at polio eradication.

Minister confidence over the polio Shehbaz eradication measure and to-

> A delegation of Polio Oversight Board comprising Christopher Elias, Representative of Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation,

Continued on page 2 He said all the prov-

Sarfraz Bugti meets Maryam Nawaz

#### CM Punjab assures wholehearted assistance to eliminate terrorism in Balochistan

We are determined to improve governance in Balochistan; All available resources are being utilized for collective welfare of the people: CM Bugti



**Independent Report** LAHORE: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti met the Chief Minister Punjab, Ms. Maryam Nawaz in Lahore on Wednesday.

During the course of meeting, political situation and the measures about promotion of inter-provincial harmony were discussed. Also present in the meeting were the former caretaker Prime Minister, Anwarul Hag Kakar, senior Provincial Minister Punjab, Ms. Maryam Aurangzeb. senior leader of PML-N, Pervez Rasheed.

Speaking to the Chief Minister Punjab, Mir Sarfraz Bugti said that we

are determined to improve governance in Balochistan. He said that the available resources are being utilized for collective welfare of the Besides, we are also

taking steps to cope with terrorism in the province, e added. The Chief Minister

Punjab on the occasion said that people living in Balochistan are like brothers. She said that the terrorists want to influence the development Balochistan. Ms. Maryam Nawaz assured wholehearted assistance to the

Chief Minister Balochistan for eliminating terrorism in the province.

#### CM condemns act of terrorism in Bannu, says conspiracies about destabilizing State would fail

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has strongly condemned the incident of terrorism occurred in

Malikhail area of Bannu. In a condemnation statement issued here on Wednesday, the Chief Minister paid homage to the soldiers embraced martyrdom in the terrorism act and said that they maintained the tradition of courage and bravery by rendering sacrifice of their lives.

He said that sacrifices of the martyrs won't go

He said that terrorism is being done under a preplanned conspiracy to destabilize Pakistan, however, all such conspiracies of destabilizing the State would fail.

Referring the meeting of the national committee of Apex, the Chief Minister said that the detailed discussion was held on the situation of terrorism in the meeting



ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Asad Qaiser meeting with Chairman PMAP and Chairman Tehreek Tahafuz Aain-e-Pakistan Mehmood Khan Achakzai.

#### **SCP** paves way to re-polling in PB-15, Jatak looses cabinet portfolio

ISLAMABAD (APP): Re- 2024. Usman Pirkani, jecting the appeal of PPP Madad Jatak, the Supreme Court of Pakistan has upheld the judgment of the Election tribunal, paving way to re-polling in 15 polling stations of the Baluchistan Provincial Assembly constituency

Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P) leader Ali Madad Jatak was declared winner from PB 45 Quetta by securing 5671 votes in general election

Jamiat Ulemae Islam (JUI-Baluchistan leader Ali F), the runner up candidate with 4346 votes challenged the results and got a judgment in his favor from the Election Tribunal No.1 for re-polling in 15 polling sta-

Ali Madad Jatak, who took oath as Member of the Provincial Assembly and Provincial Minister for Agriculture in the meantime. challenged the judgment of the Election Tribunal for repolling in 15 polling sta-

# CII calls for balanced approach to social media regulation

The Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) on Wednesday stated that merely imposing restrictions on modern media platforms is insufficient to address issues and urged the government to promote the positive use of social media and modern gadgets or provide suitable alternatives

In a 10-point consensus declaration issued after a meeting on the use of social media, the CII notes that VPN apps are commonly used for various purposes while accessing the internet. It clarifies that no VPN, software, or app is inherently illegal or un-Islamic: rather. the Sharia ruling depends on how they are used—whether correctly or incor-

Any acquisition or dissemination of content that is offensive, insulting, disruptive, anarchic, or against national security will undoubtedly be deemed unlawful under Sharia. In such cases, the government has the authority to take action to prevent this unlawful

use,"
The CII stated that if a VPN is used for legitimate

nication, education, or commercial activities, it is permissible. In such cases, government regulations should be followed, as the government has begun registering VPNs. Therefore, using registered VPNs should be prioritized, and the use of unregistered VPNs should be avoided whenever possible.

Citing Article 19 of the Constitution, the CII stated that every citizen is granted the right to freedom of speech, expression, the press, and access to information, as long as it is in accordance with the dignity of Islam, national integrity, public order, civilization, and relevant legal restric-

The Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) emphasized the undeniable significance of social media and modern technologies, highlighting the need for their positive use. It called for administrative measures to prevent the misuse of these technolo-

The CII believes that social media is a powerful tool for self-expression, providing unique opportunities for both positive and nega-

purposes, such as commutive uses. Muslims must use it responsibly, ensuring their online presence aligns with slamic teachings.

> The CII emphasizes the need to harness social media's potential for the betterment of society, in line with Islamic values and principles, by promoting trade, strengthening the nation, and encouraging other positive uses. The CII emphasizes responsible social media usage, adhering to Islamic principles and respecting naonal laws.

The CII believes that social media should not be used to promote insults falsehoods, fraud, deceit, immorality, unrest, sectarianism, extremism, or any other illegal or un-Islamic activities. The CII declares that it is the responsibility of an Islamic government to support its citizens in achieving legitimate objectives and to take measures to prevent the misuse of social media for illicit purposes. All government agencies involved with media and social media should actively monitor and regulate all platforms and apps used for these purposes.

**Bilawal constitutes** 

committee to raise



KARACHI: General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M) Chief of Army Staff (COAS), visiting the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024) at the Karachi Expo Centre.

#### **US strongly condemns** recent spate of terrorist attacks in Pakistan

Quetta.

WASHINGTON (INP): The United States (US) has strongly condemned the recent spate of terrorist attacks in Pakistan.

US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller expressed concern over the ongoing terrorist incidents in Pakistan and the abduction of police officers during a press briefing in Washington.

Miller acknowledged the significant losses suffered by the Pakistani people due to terrorism. He stated that the US stands with the families Pakistan

different issues with federal govt SLAMABAD (APP) lence, particularly in the Chairman Pakistan Peoplés aftermath of the Novem-Party Bilawal Bhutto ber 9th bombing in Zardari has formed a com-

In response to questions regarding the Taliban's role in supporting terrorism, Miller reiterated that the Taliban had previously pledged to be used by terrorists.

partment spokesperson emphasized that Wash ington remains committed to counterterrorism efforts in partnership with

Raza Farooq and other se-

the prime minister and the

polio eradication team for

Bill and Gates said that the

current strategy of the

country against polio dis-

ease had effectively been

implemented and its effects

were being witnessed at the

macro-level which hope-

fully would end the polio

that for the public health,

the regional countries were

required to strengthen their

contacts and initiate dia-

Under the prime

minister's directive, a third

party audit of the anti-po-

lio drive was carried out.

The children diagnosed

with polio were being

looked after. The spread of

polio was minimized in

those areas where the vac-

cination ratio was better, it

was added.

Dr Hanan Balkhy said

The delegation praised

The representative of

nior officials.

their efforts.

#### PM reaffirms commitment...

Continued from page 1 Dr Hanan Balkhy, Regional Director World Health Organization, UNICEF Regional Director Sanjay Wijesekera, Deputy Director Center for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention Andrea Fristedt, Rotary Foundation Trustee and National Chair Dr Aziz Memon, Dr. Ziyad bin Ahmed Meemish of King Salman Humanitarian and Relief Center and Health and Environmental Advisor KSrelief Dr. Abdullah bin Saleh called on the prime minister, PM Office Media Wing in a press release said.

The prime minister thanked the delegation for their visit and support to government's efforts to end

He also expressed his gratitude to King Salman Foundation, Bill and briefing government's steps was Malinda Gates Foundation, given. Under the prime Foundation, minister's directive, the UNICEF and CDC that are team on polio eradication partners to government in had visited the polio afits anti-polio measures. fected far flung areas.

The prime minister observed that the part played by these organizations showed global efforts in the polio eradication drive and expressed the confidence that they would overcome the challenge of polio and would not rest till it was banished forever.

The meeting was at-

mittee to raise the different issues with the Federal gov-The committee will comprise Raja Pervez Ashraf, Naveed Qamar,

Sherry Rehman, Chief Minister Sindh Murad Ali Shah, Chief Minister The US State De-Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, Makhdoom Ahmed Mahmoud, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem

Hyder, Governor Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi and Haider Gilani. The committee will interact with the Federal government to raise the differtor on National Health Dr ent issues and will submit Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, its report to the meeting of PM's Focal Person on Po-Central Executive Commitlio Eradication Ayesha

tee (CEC) to be held next month. The notification in this egard was issued from the Chairman's Secretariat by his Political Secretary Jameel Soomro here on

#### Wednesday. Jhangir condemns attack on check post in Bannu

QUETTA (APP):Political social leader Jhangir Shah condemned the attack on a security force check post in Bannu district on Wednes-

In a statement issued here, he said that the secuue.
During the meeting, a lover the rity personnel who sacrificed their lives to protect the lives and property of the people are the pride of our nation.

He said that we welcomed the decision of the Apex Committee to approve a comprehensive military operation against

terrorists. While paying tribute to martyrs of security forces in attack, he said that the sacrifices of security forces would not go in vain.

He expressed his condolences and sympathy to the families of the martyred



KARACH: Visitors takes interest in exhibition during second day of The 12th edition of the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS) 2024 at expo center.



BAKU: A MoU being signed by Bilal Anwar of the National Disaster Risk Management Fund and Amna Munawwar Awan of the Center for Climate Diplomacy of Pakistan to enhance climate resilience through research in Baku at Pak Pavilion COP29 Summit, PM'S Coordinator on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid witnessing the signing ceremony.

#### **Azam Nazeer reaffirms** unwavering commitment to protect rights of children

ISLAMABAD (APP): in access to education, par-During his address at the World Children's Day event hosted by the Ministry of Human Rights and the National Commission on the Rights of the Child at the Pakistan National Council of Arts, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to protecting and promoting the rights of children.

He highlighted the importance of listening to children's voices, reflecting this year's theme, "Listen to the Future." He emphasized that children are not only the future of the nation but also an integral part of shaping its present The Minister under-

scored Pakistan's progress in advancing child rights through initiatives like the National Commission on the Rights of the Child and the Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Agency (ZARRA), which provides swift interventions for missing children. He also mentioned the Awaz App and the Take It Down Portal, reflect which government's dedication to ensuring safer digital spaces

online risks effectively. Highlighting education as a top priority, he spoke about efforts to bridge gaps

for children and addressing

ticularly for girls, and reiter-ated the government's commitment to creating an inclusive and empowering environment for all children.

The Minister concluded by calling for a unified approach involving families, communities, civil society, and private sector stakeholders to build a society where children's voices are heard, their rights are protected, and their dreams are nurtured. He expressed hope that through collective efforts, Pakistan can create a future where every child thrives without fear or discrimination.

"Children are the strength and hope of our nation," he remarked, "and investing in their well-being is an investment in the pros-perity and progress of Pakistan.'

In her address Chairperson NCRC Ayesha Raza Farooq highlighted that the Commission has been working tirelessly to safeguard the rights of children. From combating child marriage and child labour to ensuring access to education and online safety, the Commission has undertaken various initiatives ranging from legal and policy reforms to research, advocacy and awareness raising

BCSA held first session on IWRM as part

of its Mid-Career Management Course

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Balochistan Civil Service Academy (BCSA) held its first session on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) as part of its Mid-Career Manage-

ment Course. This training initiative is a vital step towards equipping future leaders

with the expertise and knowledge needed to address Balochistan's pressing water

IWRM, a globally recognized approach, aims to balance economic benefits with

The session emphasized the importance of harmonizing the various uses of water

This initiative marks a crucial step in fostering innovative solutions for water-

social equity and environmental sustainability. This methodology holds particular

significance for a water-scarce region like Balochistan, where managing and conserving

to achieve sustainable development and enhance the quality of life in the region. Partici-

pants were introduced to strategic decision-making tools for better water resource

related issues and preparing civil service leaders to build a sustainable future for

international exhibitors

while 224 are domestic ex-

hibitors. 36 countries es-

tablished exhibitors' stalls

of which 17 countries are

participating for the first

egates from 53 countries

attended the event and

showed full confidence in

the exhibition and the de-

fence industry of Pakistan.

During the exhibition, the COAS also engaged in

meaningful interactions

with foreign military offi-

cials and defense delegates

of the occasion was the in-

auguration of the Shahpar-

III, a state-of-the-art com-

bat Unmanned Aerial Ve-

hicle (UAV) developed by

Global Industrial Defence

Solutions (GIDS) Pakistan.

advanced capabilities, in-

cluding an operational ceil-

ing of 35,000 feet and an

endurance of over 24 hours.

It is equipped to carry a

wide range of munitions,

including bombs, missiles,

2024 commenced on 19th

November and will culmi-

nate on 22nd November

at Karachi, the COAS was

warmly received by Lieu-

tenant General Babar

Iftikhar, Corps Com-

mander Karachi

12th Edition of IDEAS

Earlier, upon his arrival

and torpedoes.

The Shahpar-III boasts

A significant highlight

present at the event.

Over 300 foreign del-

water resources remains a critical concern.

Continued from page 1

reaffirmed his belief that

"despair is forbidden for Muslims," and highlighted

that all of Pakistan's eco-

nomic indicators are now

positive. He expressed op-

timism that these indicators

will further improve in the

questioned those who had

spread fears of economic

default, saying, "Where are those who talked about de-

fault and spread despair?

Shouldn't they be held ac-

countable for their actions?

Munir emphatically stated

that only Pakistanis can

bring economic stability to

Pakistan through a "bail-

Earlier General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M) Chief

of Army Staff (COAS) on

Wednesday visited the In-

ternational Defence Exhibi-

tion and Seminar (IDEAS-

2024) at the Karachi Expo

COAS commended the ac-

tive participation of defense

friendly nations and ob-

served an impressive dis-

play of arms and equipment

by both domestic and in-

ternational exhibitors, said

an Inter Services Public Re-

lations (ISPR) news release.

tors are participating in the exhibition of which 333 are

A total of 557 exhibi-

manufacturers

During the visit, the

Centre.

General Sved Asim

The Army Chief also

coming year.

**COAS** expresses resolve...

#### Irfan Siddiqui briefs PM on performance of PML-N party in Senate

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Irfan Siddiqui, leader of the parliamentary party of Pakistan Muslim League (N) in the Senate and Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs on, Wednesday briefed Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif about the performance of the parliamentary party in the Senate.

During a call on, he also briefed the prime minister regarding the performance of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Af-

Irfan Siddiqui congratulated the prime minister for his excellent work in achieving the economic goals and bringing the economy of Pakistan on track, PM Office Media said in a press release.

The prime minister said that senators of Pakistan Muslim League (N) under the leadership of Senator Irfan Siddiqui were playing a commendable role, adding being a symbol of the federation, the upper house should play a dynamic role in national unity and provincial harmony. He said the Pakistan Muslim League (N) parliamentary group should maintain strong ties with all other parties in the House for this purpose.

Nagvi condemns

Bannu terrorist

attack, pays tribute

to martyred soldiers

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Federal Interior Minister

Mohsin Naqvi has strongly

condemned the terrorist at-

tack on a security forces

checkpoint in the Bannu

expressed his profound

sorrow over the loss of 12

soldiers who embraced

martyrdom while valiantly

Paying tribute to the martyrs, Naqvi stated,

'The brave sons of our

homeland sacrificed their

lives to thwart the nefari-

ous designs of terrorists.

They are the true heroes of

felt condolences to the fami-

lies of the martyrs, assur-

ing them of unwavering

support. "We stand with

the families of the martyrs

and will always support

fices of Pakistan's security

forces, Naqvi remarked,

'The great sacrifices of our

brave soldiers will be re-

membered for eternity. The

nation remains indebted to

their ultimate devotion to

peace." He also emphasized

. Pakistan's unmatched con-

tributions in the fight

against terrorism, asserting

that these sacrifices have no

parallel globally.

Highlighting the sacri-

them," Naqvi said.

He extended his heart-

our nation."

defending the nation.

In a statement, Naqvi

#### Saudi dy minister terior Minister Mohsin Naqvi held an important meeting with Saudi Arabia's Deputy Interior Minister Dr. Nasser bin Abdulaziz Al-Daoud on Wednesday and discussed enhancing

Naqvi discusses

cooperation with

Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki was also in attendance.

The Saudi Deputy Minister emphasized their close ties with Pakistan and expressed eagerness to enhance collaboration in various domains.

The ministers deliberated on measures to dismantle networks involved in sending beggars from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia. Naqvi revealed that 4,300 individuals have been placed on the Exit Control List (ECL) as part of a zerotolerance policy.

Both sides agreed to expedite the repatriation of

currently held in Saudi Arabia, with legal procedures expected to conclude soon. Discussions included strengthening ties through joint training programs and exchanges between paramilitary forces and police forces of both nations.

Naqvi commended Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030, expressing confidence that Saudi Arabia will emerge as a global leader in economic and social sectors under the current leadership.
"Saudi Arabia is a

brotherly Islamic country. Pakistan will extend every possible cooperation to deepen our ties," said Mohsin Naqvi. Senior Pakistani offi-

cials, including the Additional Secretary of Interior, Commissioner Chief Islamabad, and IG Islamabad Police, were present during the meet-



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Saudi Deputy Interior Minister Nasser bin Abdul Aziz Al Dawood.

## **Barrister Sultan assures** resolving Kotlitian problems on priority

(APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) president Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has assured that all the unresolved issues of Kotli district would be resolved on a priority basis. Addressing a huge public gathering held at Captain House by Mayor Munici-Chudhary Muhammad Taj in KotlionWednesday, the

being faced by the people. He said that the construction process of all major and link roads in and around the city would start soon. The government, he said, had recently approved a health package worth more than 800 mil-

lion rupees. 'This historic healthpackage will bring revolutionary changes in the health sector", he said, adding that the health package would also prosaid that the government Kashmir", he remarked.

MUZAFFARABAD would also announce an education package to bring further improvement in the education sector.

The president on the occasion, thanked the people of Kotli for according him a rousing welcome on his arrival to the city. The president paid eulogizing tributes to his pal Corporation Kotli devoted companion Captain Sadruddin. "His selfless services will always president said that practibe remembered", he cal steps were being taken—added.In his address, the to address the problems president strongly condemned government's policy of oppression and suppression against Kashmiris in the Indian held territory.

The new wave of oppression that the Indian government started in occupied Kashmir following the revocation of the special status of occupied Kashmir on August 5, 2019, shows no signs of abating."During the past three decades, more than vide job opportunity to one lakh Kashmiris have hundreds of people. He been martyred in occupied

Newspapers dated 05/11/2024 under TSE-242511585173 wherein the last date of submission 20/11/2024 has been extended to 28 /11 /2024. All other term and condition shall remain the same

PRQ No.2020/20-11-2024

E/Cost

7,000,000

4,500,000



Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Divisional Forest Officer Duki invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs. 1000/- and Bid Security 2% for each work

S.No Name of Work/s Construction of residential building at Duki

TSE-242511589263 Construction of three check points for wildlife

protection at Duki TSE-242511589273

Establishment of fence on protected area of 5,000,000 50 acres TSE-242511589353

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 4,900,000 PKR Amount in1 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 06 December, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 06 December, 2024 till 09:00 AM . Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 10:00 AM Address: Divisional forest officer duki Phone no: 0333787163 Email: attataransdo@gmail.com

PRQ No.2025/20-11-2024 📞 www.dpr.gob.pk. 💌 @dpr\_gob 🧓 dpr.gob

Duki

# PTI's "Final Call" for protest deemed failure: Amir Muqam

mir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRON and President PML-N Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Engineer Amir Muqam, Wednesday dismissed PTI's November 24 protest call as a 'flop show,' claiming it would yield no significant results.

Engr Amir Muqam, PML-N Khyber Pakhtunkhwa President, has described Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) "Final Call" for protests at D-Chowk on November 24 as nothing more than a 'mis-

He accused the party of attempting to provoke unrest and violence.

Pakistan remains committed to combating terrorism in politics, warning that those who bring terrorism into politics will face the same consequences as ter-

He emphasized this stance as a reflection of Pakistan's dedication to eradicating extremism and promoting peace.

Engr Amir Muqam claims PTI leaders are using the protest call as leverage for a deal, while simultaneously seeking behindthe-scenes apologies and

Muqam stated that the PTI founder's refusal to engage with other political parties raises concerns about his political judgment and commitment to democ-

He added that by avoiding discussions, Khan appears to lack trust in the democratic process, sparking worries about his unwillingness to consider opposing viewpoints or find common ground.

Federal Minister stated that Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin, should not act as the PTI founder's suicide bomber. He warned that if the law is taken into Muqam stated that one's hands, it will inter-

> Muqam also pointed out that Imran Khan has instigated a revolution by handing over the party to his wife and sister.

He urged Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin to focus on addressing the rising terrorism in his province rather than expending energy on federal conflicts. Imran Khan's actions have drawn criticism, with many accusing him of hypocrisy.

violent riots after his arrest vember 24."

with Federal Minister Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui.

NA body seeks 'clarity'

of PWD projects' fund

allocation, execution

of this critical educational

item, the members raised

questions regarding illegal

recruitments and encroach-

ments in the capital city,

which remained unrespon-

sive due to absence of the

Chairman Capital Develop-

ment Authority (CDA)

positive role in imparting

quality education to the

youth of Pakistan. He

stressed that Cambridge

needs to expand the hori-

zon of their role in Pakistan

He especially emphasised its role in cre-

ating enhance assessment

capabilities of the local edu-

cation boards. He said that

transparency in assessment

and enhanced engagement

briefed by Secretary Edu-

cation Mohyuddin Ahmad

Wani that the MOU sets

forth the understanding and cooperative framework be-

tween Cambridge and The

Ministry to offer Cam-

bridge qualifications in four

selected federal government

schools in Islamabad

Federal Minister was

is the need of the hour.

from the meeting.

**ICT public schools** 

Cambridge, Education

ministry agree to offer

**Cambridge qualifications** 

ISLAMABAD (APP): Cambridge is playing a

On another agenda

initiative.

Special Initiatives on

Wednesday deliberated on

the Public Works Depart-

ment (PWD) projects, seek-

ing clarity on fund flow,

disbursement and execu-

ing, chaired by Syed Abdul

Qadir Gillani, voiced con-

cerns over the information

provided, stressing trans-

parency and effectiveness

received a presentation on

Emerson College, Multan,

Ministry of Federal Educa-

tion and Professional Train-

ing and International Edu-

cation for Cambridge Uni-

versity Press and Assess-

ment on Wednesday agreed

to offer Cambridge qualifi-

cations in four selected fed-

eral government schools in

In that regard, a delegation led by Mr. Rod Smith, Group Managing

Director, International

Education for Cambridge

University Press and As-

sessment visited the Min-

istry of Federal Education

and Professional Training

Minister Dr. Khalid

Maqbool Siddiqui to sign

egates, Dr. Khalid said that

Talking to the del-

and met with Federal

Islamabad.

The body members

of the projects.

The committee meet-

doubts about his commitment to peaceful protest and democracy.

Mugam remarked that Ali Amin made bold statements before the Apex Committee but has remained silent since then.

He questioned whether Ali Amin is with the constitution or aligned with political terrorists.

Muqam also urged Imran Khan not to use innocent people as scapegoats, stating that it is not a leader's role to harm innocent workers and party

He further stated that PTI does not want the public to be relieved from inflation, noting that inflation has decreased and the economy has stabilized which seems to cause discomfort for PTI.

'Those asking 'are we slaves' have proven to be actual slaves.

K h y b e Pakhtunkhwa government employees are being used to target the federal government and Punjab", he said.

"PTI founder, be cautious-Ali Amin Gandapur might embark on another His involvement in tour of 12 districts on No-



Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Chaudhry Salik Hussain, met with members of the Japan-Pakistan Innovation Institute (JPII) in Islamabad

# Federal ombudsman reiterates commitment to protect rights of children

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Ombudsman, Ejaz Ahmad Oureshi has called upon all segments of the society to redouble their efforts for protecting the rights of the children in the country.

In a message released on the eve of the World Children's Day, being observed on November 20th every year, he underlined the need to work together for creating a society where children can thrive, learn and grow without fear of violence, discrimination or marginalization, adding that it is our collective responsibility to ensure that our children are safeguarded from all kinds of exploitation, abuse and

neglect. Following is the text of his message issued on the

"The Federal Ombudsman Office has taken several initiatives for the welfare of children in the country which includes, a pilot research study to address the plight of street children, providing them with access to education, healthcare, and social ser-

Pakistan has made significant strides in promoting the child rights, including the establishment of the National Commission for Children (NCC) and the introduction of child-friendly laws and policies.

# **WHO Regional Director** for Europe hails excellent organization of COP29

ISLAMABAD (APP): nificance of the Global Cligional Director for Europe, on the margins of the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Con-

vention on Climate Change. Minister Musayev emphasized Azerbaijan's strong commitment to cooperation with esteemed health institutions, including the WHO, according to Azerbaijan news agency

Highlighting the sig-

Teymur Musayev, mate Conference in Baku, Azerbaijan's Minister of he also noted that Health, met with Hans Henri Kluge, the WHO Re-joined the ATACH and will joined the ATACH and will serve as a co-organizer of the Alliance from 2024 to

> Minister Musayev expressed his confidence that bilateral cooperation

> would continue to grow. Hans Henri Kluge praised the organization of stating, COP29. "Azerbaijan consistently organizes pivotal international events at the highest

> level, and COP29 is no ex-

# 1.5 mln employment opportunities to be provided to youth: Rana Mashhood

Chairman of the Prime Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Aĥmad Kĥan on Wednesday said that Youth is the future of Pakistan and as many as 1.5 million employment opportunities would be provided to them in Pakistan and abroad this year under PMYP. Addressing a news conference here at Pakistan Sports Board Complex along with Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC)Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, he said that around 3,000 athletes were participating in the Prime Minister's University Sports (PMUS) Olympiad across the country

starting on November 21. Mashhood said that the young generation can play a major role in the prosperity and stability of the

**2-day** National

**PQI Summit-**

**2024 starts** 

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The Ministry of Planning,

Development and Special

Initiatives would hold a

two-day National Produc-

tivity, Quality and Innova-

tion (PQI) Summit-2024,

starting here from Thurs-

day. The summit titled

"Driving Growth Through

Excellence in Productivity

Quality, and Innovation

would be inaugurated by

Minister Ahsan Iqbal, high-

lighting importance of pro-

ductivity, quality.

pivotal role in advancing the country towards fast-paced development.

'We are dedicated to preparing our youth to excel in diverse fields, from sports to technical education, Information technology-driven industries to traditional crafts. This holistic approach will enable them to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan's socioeconomic development," he

Chairman PMYP said that the PMUS Olympiad will not only foster a spirit of healthy competition but will also serve as a platform for the youth to engage, excel, and represent their universities with pride.

He said that the country's economy was moving towards the right direction under the dycountry and Pakistan has a namic leadership of Prime

and was taking various initiatives to highlight the potential and provide more employment opportunities to the youth.

Mashhood said that the successful holding of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit reflected the best policies of the govt, adding Pakistan's position had been strengthened at the global level and the trust of international financial institutions and big powers showed the best economic policies of the government

The Chairman PMYF added that youth were misled in the recent past from the right path but "We are now preparing our youth to face the challenges of the modern world as dreamed by the founders of Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Muhammad Iqbal



ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Parlimantary Party of Pakistan Muslim League (N) in Senate and Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee in Foreign Affairs, Senator Irfan Siddiqui calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

# IG Islamabad presided over a high-level meeting

**Independent Report** SLAMABAD: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Raza chaired a high-level meeting at the Central Police Office to review the overall law and order situation in the federal capital.

ernment assets and impor-

ficer told APP that Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police Islamabad Syed Ali Raza, DIG of Police Headquarters Mohammad Javad Tariq, DG Safe City Shakir Hussain Dawar, all AIGs, SSPs, and Zonal SPs participated in the meeting.

The IG Rizvi directed officers to enhance the checking process at check- ity basis.

points and make patrol duties more active. Surveillance from the Safe City and to address crime.

ensure full security of public lives and property, govtant buildings.

A public relations of-

He issued orders to should be conducted across

Command and Control Center should be made more effective for the security of important locations Search operations

all areas to arrest suspicious elements, and countermeasures should be taken by carrying out final crackdowns on crimina hideouts. IG further directed of-

ficers to promote a friendly atmosphere at the police stations and ensure that public complaints are resolved promptly. "Our first priority is to ensure the safety of lives and property of the people and solve their problems on a prior-

# IHC adjourns appeals regarding political discussion of prisoners

SLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday adjourned hearing till November 26, on appeals against termination of rule regarding ban on prisoners for political discussions. The court asked the

appellants to satisfy it on next hearing that how the decision of single member bench was not right. A division bench com-

prising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Saman Raffat Îmtiaz heard the appeals of Punjab government and Chief Commissioner ICT against the verdict of single member bench. The

court granted time to the lawyer of Sher Afzal Murawat to submit the power of attorney.

The advocate general during the hearing, prayed the court to suspend the verdict of single member court which was rejected by the bench.

The chief justice remarked that the order for termination of any rule is extra-ordinary, adding that he had terminated only one law in ten years. He observed that the judge in chamber had written the reasons of the judgment and mentioned freedom of expression.



ISLAMABAD: Australian Deputy High Commissioner in Pakistan, Joanne Frederiksen admires paintings at the opening ceremony of the 'And Still Rise' exhibition, exploring women's empowerment, presented by PNCA in collaboration with Nomad Gallery.

#### ISLAMABAD: a delegation led by Mr. Rod Smith, Group Managing Director, International Education for Cambridge University Press and Assessment visited the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and met **Delegation of IQRA University** students visit

operations

division ISLAMABAD (APP): underlining the urgent need The National Assembly's for a new academic block ISLAMABAD (APP): Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Planning, Development and ISLAMABAD (API The student volunteers ICR A University visit IQRA University visited and information technology the Operations division of Islamabad Police and met They discussed powith SP Security/Operation tential funding avenues to Hakim Khan and SP Invesensure the timely execution

tigation Rukhsar Mehdi. A police spokesperson told APP that the SP Security/Operations welcomed the delegation and briefed them about operational police work.

The student delegation visited the Operations division under the friends of police program. They were fully briefed about the procedures and advantages of Operations division.

#### Bilawal strongly flays terrorist attack in Bannu

SLAMABAD (APP) Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Wednesday strongly condemned the terrorist attack on a security checkpoint in Bannu district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, claimed the lives of 12 se-

curity personnel. He expressed heartfelt sorrow over the tragic loss and extended his condolences to the bereaved families. In a press release issued by the Media Cell Bilawal House, he paid tribute to the martyrs who laid down their lives while combating terrorists in the Mali

Khel area of Bannu district. "These brave soldiers are the pride of the nation, and their sacrifices will always be remembered," he



ISLAMABAD: A motorcyclist passing trough out of order Ambulances of Integrated Reproductive Maternal Newborn, Child Health & Nutrition Program under Directorate of Health Services, Government of Punjab parked in front of workshops along Kernal Sher Khan Road, in the Federal Capital.

#### ISLAMABAD: Government employees hold placards during protest in favor of their demands at Pak-Secretariat in the Federal Capital. **Committee expresses** satisfaction over **PCSIR** performance

National Assembly Standing Committee on Science and Technology in its fourth meeting held here Wednesday expressed satisfaction over the performance of Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR). The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Member National Assembly, Khawaja

Sheraz Mehmood. The meeting's agenda was to receive a briefing from the Chairman of the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) regarding its functions, responsibilities, and the targets set and country.

the last three years. During the meeting,

the committee expressed satisfaction with the briefing provided by the PCSIR. The Committee also

emphasized the need for the benefits of all PCSIR projects and research to be accessible to the general public. The Chairman of PCSIR provided an overview of the organization, stating that PCSIR is the largest public sector Research and Development body in Pakistan, with a network of 17 laboratories and units, including 6 tech-

# CDA to auction prime luxury hotel plots for overseas investors by Dec 17

ISLAMABAD (APP): Capital Development Authority (CDA) was informed on Wednesday that two luxury hotel plots have already been offered for international auction by 17th December, 2024 targeting overseas Pakistanis and companies. It was disclosed in a meeting chaired by CDA chairman which discussed best possible options for utilizing hotel plots in Islamabad. The meeting focused projects specifically designed for verseas Pakistanis, offer-

opportunities Islamabad's thriving real estate sector. projects aim to attract investments and foster economic growth while providing a platform for overseas Pakistanis to contribute to their homeland's development. During the meeting, Chairman CDA received a detailed briefing on integrated solid waste management for the capital city. It was highlighted that the study on solid waste management has been thoroughly reviewed, and bidding documents for ing lucrative investment outsourcing the services.

#### Wednesday, arresting two members of an organized burglary gang involved in multiple theft incidents. A police spokesper-son told APP that, the arrested suspects were found in possession of stolen cash, gold jewellery, and other valuables worth ap-

proximately Rs 10 million,

Saddar Zone

along with ammunition.

Two burglars

netted in

capital, 10mln

recovered

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police's Lohi Bher

Police team carried out a

significant operation on

police arrested 3851 outlaws in last 10 months ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Police

Saddar zone teams have carried out an extensive crackdown against criminal elements in the federal capital over the past 10 months to maintain peace and secu-

A public relations officer told APP that, during this period, the Saddar zone police teams arrested a total of 3851 accused involved in vari ous criminal activities and recovered cash and valuables worth over 44.5 million rupees from their possession. Moreover 360 accused of 161 crimi nal gangs were also appre-

# Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Thursday November 21, 2024

#### Islamabad protest From the scale of prepara-

tions, one wonders if the Islamabad Police is preparing mere façades and now

According to recent news laws and regulations orreports, thousands of security personnel, 1,200 containers, large quantities of antiriot gear, thousands of rubber bullets and thousands of teargas guns and shells have been requisitioned by the capital's police in anticipation of the protest announced for this Sunday by the PTI.

Reinforcements in the tens of thousands have also been requested from the FC, Rangers, Sindh and Punjab police, and the authorities have been told that millions of rupees will be required to feed and transport law-enforcement personnel while they are deployed in the city. At the same time, Section 144 has been extended for two more months in the city, and it appears from the security plans that Islamabad will once again be turned into what locals pejoratively describe 'Containeristan'. Is all of this really necessary? It must be asked.

The city administration may have intended to demonstrate strength by sharing the plans it has made, but instead, it looks like it is panicking. Large protests and sit-ins are part and parcel of Pakistan's political process, and the PTI's announcement of a march on Islamabad is nothing out of the ordinary if past precedents are considered.

It may be true that the party's decision to frame this unusual for senior establishment figures in Pakiprotest as a 'do or die' moment has raised the stakes, but if the predictions and analyses shared by TV commentators are to be believed, it seems that the security personnel requisitioned for the event will outnumber the protesters This week's column was many times to one. Instead of broadcasting its preparedness for a 'war' with protesting citizens, perhaps Islamabad Police should direct its energies towards coming up with a plan on how their right to protest will be accommodated while memory intervened. I was respecting security concerns.

On its part, the PTI leadership needs to tone down the rhetoric and reconsider the pressure it is placing on its cadres to ensure turnout. Demanding that each lawmaker turn up with a prescribed table—and persuaded me number of supporters or forego their party ticket reflects a lack of confidence in the party's position. Requiring its leaders to prove their 'loyalty' could also push some diehards to take more extreme measures to please their leaders. This could prove counterproductive.

The protesters should not be led to believe they are marching to 'conquer' Islamabad.

The party is within its rights to organise and protest, but at the same time, it must demonstrate that it is conscious of its responsibility to ensure that its activities remain peaceful. As Nov 24 draws nearer, both the PTI and the Islamabad administration I gratefully accepted) bemust remain wary of how their fore launching into a broad posturing will be interpreted and keep within the limits of reason and the law.

# OPINION Daily Independent Weighed down by urban atrocities

Rafia Zakaria

If the smog is poisoning Lahore, it is perpetual neglect that plagues Karachi. Over the course of the past decades, the original portion of the city has been allowed to reach the point

Beautiful buildings that once held cafes and hotels have turned into even those façades are being torn down. Despite daining the maintenance of heritage sites and the preservation of old buildings, areas of Soldier Bazar. Kharadar, Jamshed Road. Parsi Colony, Clifton, and M.A. Jinnah Road are crumbling before our very

In some cases, good intentions have led to reater harm and even hazardous situations. One such project was the clean-up of the Empress Market. Prior to the clean-up', the area outside was peopled by a swarm of hawkers who sold everything from shoes to clothes to Afrimeant that the exterior of the building was not

clearly visible to the small vendors have no bother about making one's neighbourhood more pleasor walking past the colonial-era structure.

In recent years, the hawkers have been moved from the area so that the area around the original market building appears tidier and cleaner. However, because hawkers, too, had to search and find their livelihoods elsewhere, they moved into the arteries surrounding the building, clogging roads in the process. Instead of finding a proper place for the hawkers removed from Empress Market, they were forced to relocate themselves in nooks and

residential neighbourhoods in the old parts of the city are now surrounded by the din of commercial activities, such as the Parsi Colony, which is a living testimony to the city's history. The decades have seen many residents whose forebears had lived in the area much before the creation of Pakistan leave, but observers have described the colony as can grey parrots. This serene. Sadly, with the eviction of hawkers from their traditional spots, the

In fact, a number of

to sell their ware near such residential areas.

In their remarkable essay, 'Reaching for the stars: digging a hole', architect Marvi Mazhar, Komal Rehman, and Ayesha Jamal portrayed how certain areas like Bahadurabad, KDA, Tariq Road, Ghanchi Para and others have seen incredible vertical growth. The absence of any centralised urban planning in the city means that unsightly high-rises have brought even more population densification without the basic needs of residents being catered to.

The regular supply of water, proper sanitation, daily garbage removal, traffic redirection, and public parks for leisurely walks are all figments of the imagination in a city where growth continues with feral ferocity.

Old residents complain of the disappearance of what were once tranquil neighbourhoods that allowed for the maintenance of communal relationships. Now, people flit in and out of neighbourhoods, and

ant if it is only to be your neighbourhood for a small

bit of your life? The transformation of the area around Abdullah Shah Ghazi's mazar has rendered the locality almost unrecognisable in recent times. In previous years, seeing the shrine's dome rise above the hillock on which it sat was a landmark that everyone knew and appreciated. Old Clifton, the area around the shrine, is also home to structures such as the Jehangir Kothari Parade.

Though the landmark

is still there, the overall aesthetic of Old Clifton has been drastically transformed. Malls and shops and restaurants with large. ugly flashing neon signs have made the place a lurid and hideous instance of crass consumerism. The towering Bahria Icon Tower stands ominously in the foreground. It is inexcusable that reportedly the developers of the tower thought it fit to renovate the shrine to conform to their own sense of aesthetics, rather than vice versa. this transience creates its As a result, something own carelessness — why beautiful that was

uniquely Karachi has been demoted to a replica of this or that building in one of the Gulf states.

To blame are the greed for land and the equally damning lack of imagination whose only purpose appears to be an obliteration of the city's heritage and dignity. The evisceration of the latter runs parallel to the harassment campaigns faced by many owners of high-value property in areas that developers are targeting for even larger monstrosities where people can be scuttled into small, poorly ventilated cubby holes.

Stories abound of developers harassing old homeowners, and demanding that they sell large plots of land so that one of these buildings can be built and profits drawn from the occupants

Until now, no land regulation has been able to prevent these developers from trying to transform Karachi into a garish and pathetic version of Dubai on a budget.

The pre-eminence given to consumer culture over community development and sustainable was urbanisation means that it

is just a matter of years before Karachi will come to resemble a large slum whose teeming, churning innards continue to spew smoke and pollution. This is urban festering at its worst, where some bare shape of a city is replaced by a revolting organism that condemns all lives within it to a meagre and aesthetically damned ex-No one is demanding

grand metropolis with hundreds of millions devoted to the maintenance of heritage. The ask from Karachi has always been small and reasonable: should there neighbourhoods where life can flourish and people should have some idea of what existed on the ground on which they walk today and how their footsteps connect with those that traced the ground before

When a city preserves its history and is serious about its future it forestalls becoming a place that people constantly want to escape. For how long must Karachi demand attention before it crumbles inwardly into it-

# t war with itself

#### Zahid Hussain

It could not have been more bizarre: the government is taking its war against social media to a new level. After banning X, the government now seeks to restrict the use of VPN (Virtual Private Networks).

To do so, it has gone to the extent of obtaining a fatwa from the Council of Islamic Ideology, which initially termed the use of ne network 'un-Islamic'.

The statement by the head of the CII came the same day as the remarks made by the army chief at an Islamabadbased research institute that "Unrestricted freedom of speech is leading to the degradation of moral values in all societies". The army chief also called for the enforcement of "comprehensive laws and regulations" to stop what has been referred to restrictions on democratic as "digital terrorism" by and media freedoms that those who hold the reins

Although it is not on regulating freedom of speech give cause for conhas yet to understand that

cern, especially in a country that is already witnessing increasing curbs not only on social media platforms but also on mainstream media. The government's move to downgrade internet services and restrict the use of VPNs seems to be a part of the effort to stifle freedom of expression and to prevent access to information.

What is most alarming is that all such restrictions are being enforced in the name of national security. It leaves us wondering how the country can be made a safer place by shutting down social media and curbing the freedom of expression. It may be true that social media is also being used for negative propaganda and to spread fake news. But how does that threaten our national security? If anything, it is make the country more insecure.

that social media campaigns against the secustan to delve into policy rity forces have height-matters, such comments ened over the past few by the narrowing of democratic space and greater involvement of non-political forces in political power games. Instead of addressing the public's growing disenchantment with the existing system, the leadership has responded with more stringent measures to stifle dissent.

The move to control mainstream media was bound to give greater space to social media platforms. Notwithstanding its negative side, it's a fact that people now trust social media more, with a large section of the mainstream media losing its credibility in the eyes of the public.

Stringent regulatory measures and attempts to further curtail freedom of expression will only push the public to rely more on social media to access ininformation technology, it will be hard for the state to completely control this platform, despite attempts to install a firewall whose cost is es-

this is a reflection of the of rupees. The only way existing tensions caused to counter fake news and negative propaganda is to restore democratic rights and remove restrictions on freedom of expression.

It might be true that social media has become a major venue for anti-establishment views over the past few years. But to simply term them as 'enemy-sponsored propaganda against the state' is to overlook the increasing public concern over the involvement of nonpolitical forces in civilian

More distressing is the growing public alienation in insurgency-infested areas, despite the large number of casualties suffered by the security forces. It is also a fact that social media has now become a venue for protest particularly among young the status quo. Any repressive measure is formation as well as voice bound to widen their their views. Given the alienation. This is the lesmassive advancement in son of history that our of a country in the throes information technology, civil and military leader- of a conflict than to lose dom of expression and ship have yet to learn.

It is not anyone's job to judge society's moral values or for those outside the civilian sphere

freedom of expression. Instead, those in the security sphere should focus more on the grave security challenges the country is facing, which is crucial to winning and maintaining the public's

Blaming social media for all evils is not going to help tackle what is clearly an existentialist threat. The situation is further compounded by the fact that KP and Balochistan, both strategically important provinces, are caught in the midst of insurgencies, which are by far the biggest threat to national se-

curity today. There has been a marked upsurge in the number of terrorist attacks in recent months, with growing political instability in the country people seeking to change and the weakening of local administrations in the two provinces.

it has become imperative situation. leadership to restore potimated to be in billions to talk about regulating litical stability in the coun- a war with itself.

try. Setting up firewalls and restricting digital services will not help resolve the crisis that the state

It is not just about the political aspects but also the economic costs of internet disruptions. The damage to the economy could be devastating. According to an IT firm, internet restrictions and the firewall could inflict 'devastating financial losses estimated to reach \$300 million, which can further increase exponentially". Other restrictions on online services can exacerbate the crisis.

Access to X has been blocked since the time of the elections in February and more restrictions could come with the opposition PTI threatening to storm the capital to increase pressure on the coalition government.

The confrontation is the trust of its own curbs on social media people. In this situation, would only worsen the for the civil and military government's actions are pushing the country into

# Past and future

# **Mahir Ali**

intended to be a diatribe against the circumstances that are choking the denizens of Delhi and Lahore, and a reflection on the absurdity of the inevitably doomed Conference of the Parties (COP29) in a country determined to thrive on

But then, a sorrowful still a relative novice in the newsroom of this paper 40 years ago today when Ghazi Salahuddin, Dawn's energetic news editor, innation's foremost poet was on his deathbed in a Lahore

Shortly afterwards, Ghazi confirmed the inevito write a tribute. I was out of my depth, given my perfunctory knowledge of Urdu literature. I had known him as 'Faiz chacha' since my childhood as a friend of my parents, although I was better acquainted with his warmhearted partner, Aunty Alys. It wasn't until my mid-teens that I began to appreciate Faiz as an ex-

My only one-to-one

with him occurred in an antechamber at Moscow's Metropol hotel in 1977. I was at the cusp of a fruitless journey to earn a medical degree at the People's Friendship University, and only vaguely aware of the disaster that was unfolding in Pakistan. I can't recall the month, but it was after the March elections and before the July coup. Faiz summoned me out of his crowded living-room salon into a dining room where he offered me one of his Kent cigarettes (and was mildly surprised when overview of what was tran-

spiring in our homeland. was mildly bewildered to begin with, but the primary purpose of the

poet's narrative was to assuage any concerns I might have about the safety of my parents. Blissfully unaware at the time of their ultimately unsuccessful endeavours to effect a rapprochement between prime minister Z.A. Bhutto and the Baloch leaders he had stupidly incarcerated amid death threats that persuaded my father to carry his World War II service revolver on train journeys to Hyderabad, where the National Awami Party stalwarts were imprisoned — I wasn't particularly worried. Until that conversa-

Not long afterwards, a fellow student informed me that Pakistan, like Bangladesh, had a Zia at the helm, and reminded me of the inimitable Punjabi poet Ustad Daman's sadly evergreen couplet: 'Pakistan diyaan maujan ee maujan/ Jithay waikho faujan ee faujan' (a loose translation: "There is no end to Pakistan's joy/ Wherever you look, the military is deployed"). A distraught Daman left his own deathbed to attend Faiz's funeral, where he reputedly wailed, "Don't leave me behind!" Neither of them lived to witness the unexpected demise Pakistan's most toxic tyrant, or the hybrid horrors that followed

The aftermath might have reinforced their despair. And both the Lahoris (sure, Faiz was a Sialkoti who also lived in Karachi and Beirut, and spent time elsewhere, while Daman never budged from his inner-city bolt-hole) would have been appalled by their hometown's profoundly depressing contest with Delhi as the most polluted city in the world. They would have been familiar with the delightfully crisp air, crunchy frost and morning mist of the Lahore winters that enthralled me as a child, walking or cycling to

Faiz might also have been alarmed by the venue of COP29. I'm not sure if Baku ever figured in his verse, possibly because even during its Soviet phase Azerbaijan's capital tended to be viewed as an oily city. Several of his 1970s poems are datelined Moscow, Tashkent, Samarkand and so on but never, as far as I can tell, Baku. Luckily for him, Faiz passed away well be-fore the USSR ce--ased to exist, a mock democracy resurfa-ced in his beloved Pakistan, and an India where he was widely adored - a sentiment he heartily reciprocated — lapsed into

Hindutva. Faiz would have been disappointed but perhaps not surprised by what has occurred in the past 40 years. I don't have a copy of the tribute I speedily churned out in 1984 just three weeks after an unexpected morning phone call from Ghazi at my YMCA lodgings, minutes away from the coalface, had alerted me to Indira Gandhi's assassination — but I do recall focusing in part on Faiz's consistent internationalism, and notably the drumbeat of rebellion that echoed throughout Aajao Afreeka (Come Back, Af-

A couple of years

later, his poem Hum Dekhain Geentered the stratosphere courtesy of Iqbal Bano's brilliant rendition. It envisaged a future that remains suspended between now and a possible tomorrow. His record as a journalist, literary critic and trade unionist testifies to the fact that Faiz was always more than just a poet. Yet it is primarily his verse that will forever remain a guiding torchlight towards a brighter tomorrow in which today's younger generations might revel across the subcontinent. Courtesy Dawn

# **Self-radicalisation**

#### Mohammad Ali

Babakhel Radicalisation is a human tendency that is as old as humanity itself. However, in the modern age, instant connectivity has increased the possibility of selfradicalisation. Technolinternet and social media, has enabled individuals to connect globally, share their ideologies, recruit and train others, make appeals for funding, and propagate, communicate, and coordinate their activities. The anonymity of the internet aids these activities and allows individuals to self-radicalise without active and face-

to-face support. The radicalisation process can vary, but generally involves four stages: pre-radicalisation (the lifestyle of an individual prior to radicalisation), self-identification, indoctrination, and acceptance of a role as a warrior. During radicalisation, an individual adopts extreme political, social, or religious thoughts, rejects the status quo, or undermines contemporary values. Extre-mist websites, direct interactions with violent extremists, community support for violence, and anger against certain political decisions regarding as one of the prime reaforeign and internal policies may provide 'justification' for radicalisation.

Historical factors, such as the involvement of family or friends in violence, an individual's previous criminal record and previous exposure to violence, history of training imparted by militant groups, and foreign travel, particularly to a conflict area, are important factors that may lead to radicalisation. Radicalisation can also be inspired by experiences while travelling abroad, research, or human rights violations, particularly in areas occupied by foreign

Home-grown terrorist cells are generally semi-autonomous or consist of isolated individuals. These individuals may be 'self-starters' and may not have a criminal record. There is an impression that home-grown recruits ogy, particularly the are usually second-generation immigrants facing an identity crisis. Narratives of unresolved conflicts in history may provide them motive for action and lead to self-radicalisation. Personal experiences of victimisation, political grievances, and feelings of exclusion are also instrumental in radicalisation.

During the self-

radicalisation process, the person may experience a crisis caused by personal or social disruption. Rela-ti-o-nships, rituals, and roles may change during the radicalisation period. In this time, individuals may be on a slippery slope where they engage with a radical group or individuals propagating a radical ideology. Exterfactors polarisation within society and social isolation faced by an individual may contribute to selfradicalisation, as isolation reinforces radicalism. Poverty is also often seen sons for radicalisation, but it seems to be a myth as many militants come from middle-class backgrounds and have a university edu-

Self-radicalisation can be tackled throu--gh partnerships between law-enforcement agencies and citizens

To address the menace of radicalisation, LEAs have implemented various programmes, including 'neighbourhood policing', which seeks to establish trust within a community by establishing an information ex-Turkish police have de-

veloped a 'community partnership' program--me to gather information from community members about suspicious activities. Similarly, in 2010, the US Department of Homeland Security announced the 'See Something, Say Something' programme.

Disengagement and de-radicalisation are wellthought-out psychological and social processes. Disengagement involves behavioural changes in the affected person, including leaving a radic-alised group or limiting one's role within the group.

De--radi-calisation involves cognitive chan--ge, such as relinquishing an ideology. Deradicalisation programmes can be evaluated and monitored to understand the economic. psychological, and social motivations for joining an

extremist group. What financial incentives did the radicalised person or their family derive from engagement in violence? How can family members be engaged in the deradicalisation pro-

Governments and LEAs must adopt measures to address terrorists' use of the internet. This includes removing radical content from the web, filtering and restricting users' access, controlling the exchange of information, and investing in countering extremism in cyberspace. Blocking certain websites may seem like the easiest solution, but simply blocking them may only be a technical fix. An alternative, more effective option is to counter extremist narra-

There is a dire need to shift the focus from the war on terrorism' to the battle of ideas. Killing terrorists may be easy. but defeating ideology change mechanism. The can prove rather difficult. -- Courtesy Dawn

# CM directs CS to take action against non-performing DCs, SSPs, DHOs during anti polio campaign

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presiding over a meeting regarding the eradication of polio, directed Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah to remove deputy

commissioners, senior superintendents of police (SSPs), and district health officers who are not actively contributing to the polio campaign.

"I am working tirelessly to eliminate polio, but I am facing three challenges: refusal cases, reluctance from officers concerned and migration, which introduces the polio virus into the province," he

The meeting was held Jacobabad and Keamari, at the CM House on along with one case each in Wednesday and attended by Minister Health Dr. Azra Fazal, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Public

Management (PSCM) demographics and the Health Rehan Baloch, Incharge of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Irshad Sodhar, and others.

During the meeting, Minister of Health Dr Azra Fazal and Incharge EOC Irshad Sodhar gave a detailed briefing to the chief Shah was

informed that there have been 50 polio cases reported nationwide, with Sindh accounting for 13 cases, followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 11, Punjab with one, and Balochistan with 24. In Sindh, there are two cases each in Hyderabad, along with one case each in Shikarpur, East (Gujro), Sujawal, Mirpurkhas, Sanghar, and

Agha Wasif, Secretary of polio/EPI situation, the chief minister was informed that there are 10.6 million children under the age of five in the province. Additionally, 321,323 children have been recorded as migrating with their parents.

Currently, 69 per cent of children are fully immunised.

In 2024, reports indicated that 66 per cent of samples collected from 20 districts across Sindh tested positive for environmental samples of the virus.

When asked about the situation, the CM was informed that there were 43,227 refusal cases identified in various districts in October.

Shah said, "The time for refusals is over; we cannot



HYDERABAD: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit, **Excise Taxation and Narcotics Control, Sharjeel Inam Memon addresses** during a ceremony on the eve of World Sustainable Transport Day, at Isra University in Hyderabad.

# KP judicial academy holds workshop on gender-responsive human resource management

in collaboration with ROZAN Pakistan, organized a two-day directors and officers of training workshop on the Academy, and "Gender-Responsive Representatives of Management" for D&SJs/ Zilla Qazis, Senior Civil Judges/A'ala Ilaqa Qazis. Twenty-three (23)

Judges/Qazis of various Pakhtunkhwa participated in the training workshop.

The workshop was designed to arm the Judges/Qazis with essential skills and knowledge for promoting generatices. gender-

inaugural ceremony was graced by Barrister Ikhtiar Khan, worthy Registrar, Peshawar High Court, as

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faculty, Dr. Qazi Ataullah, Judicial Academy (KPJA), Senior Director Research & Publication, Director Instructions, and other Resource ROZAN Pakistan, also

attended the ceremony.

Mr. Jehanzeb Shinwari, DG, KPJA, in his inaugural speech welcomed the chief guest districts of Khyber and thanked him for sparing time to grace the occasion

He also appreciated the role of ROZAN Pakistan in arranging this specialized 02-day training workshop on Gender-Responsive Human

Resource Management.
He highlighted the important role of women in society and said that no one can deny the the chief guest. Mr. significant role of women Jehanzeb Shinwari, in the development of Director General KPJA, nations.



PESHAWAR: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Central Information Secretary and Member National Assembly (MNA), Sheikh Waqas Akram along with others addresses to media persons during press conference, at Peshawar press club.

## Marriyum Aurangzeb says: Anti smog drive to be continued in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Senior without zigzag technology Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb has three industrial units in stated that despite an improvement in the smog situation, the anti-smog have been sealed campaign will continue Crackdowns on vehicles, with full vigor.

efforts efforts of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Punjab government institutions, and the police, emphasizing that public cooperation is key to improving environment and eradicating smog.

mentioned that while schools have reopened, strict adherence to precautionary measures has been instructed. Teachers and students must ensure use of masks, while parents and students are encouraged to adopt carpooling to reduce traffic congestion. Additionally, truck owners to cooperate 15 brick-kilns operating in combating smog.

have been dismantled, and Gujranwala, Rahim Yar Khan, and Sheikhupura trucks, and buses with She commended the faulty engines or excessive smoke emissions are

Marriyum Aurangzeb also highlighted that inspections of commercial generators and water sprinkling on roads are underway in Lahore. Monitoring of vehicles further transporting sand and construction materials continues throughout night to prevent fugitive dust. Heavy transport has been prohibited from entering

Lahore's boundaries. The Senior Minister urged every citizen to fulfill their responsibility, calling on motorbike, car, bus, and

# In response, Murad

Nine dead,

**1,424** injured

in Punjab

road accidents

AHORE (APP): At least

nine people were killed and nine people were kined and 1,424 others injured in 1,375 road accidents in Punjab during the last 24

hours. As many as 626

798 with minor injuries

site by the rescue medical

showed that 806 drivers, 55

underage drivers, 183

pedestrians, and 444

passengers were among the

victims of road crashes. The statistics showed that

271 accidents were

reported in Lahore, which

affected 274 persons

placing the provincial

capital at top of the list,

followed by Faisalabad

with 107 accidents and 114

victims, and at third Multan with 79 accidents

According to the data, 1254 motorbikes, 63

auto-rickshaws, 141 motorcars, 33 vans, 15

passenger buses, 31 truck and 127 other types of

vehicles and slow-moving carts were involved in the

26 children

fall victim to

diphtheria in KP:

Health Dept

diphtheria infection among

children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has turned

into a dangerous epidemic,

wherein at least 26 children

have died during the

current year, reported the

department here on

children in Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa have been

reported infected with

Peshawar remained at the

top where the most 12

children lost their lives to

the disease. In Nowshera

and Charsadda districts

three children each

reportedly died of

diphtheria followed by

Mohmand district with

succumbed to the disease

aged above 5 years, the

authorities said, adding that

228 union councils of 27

districts of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa were the

health authorities, the

victim children did not

complete their course of

prevention from the

diphtheria infection.

According to the

It said that 380

Among the most

districts.

health

provincial

Wednesday.

Diphtheria.

affected

two deaths.

Those

most affected.

ESHAWAR (APP): The

and 84 victims.

road accidents.

The data analysis

#### education, protection, and development of children. Minister Insulin Program, and children will be LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said that She mentioned that the Punjab government has launched the 'School foremost responsibility for everyone to ensure the provision of education, health, and Nutrition Program' to protect children from stunted growth and malnutrition. The 'Early protection to innocent children for their bright and excellent future. In her message on World Childhood School System' will focus on the mental and

Children's Day, the CM said, "Children are a special gift of Allah Almighty, there is nothing more beautiful in the world than their smile." The CM added that the state is like a mother, and there can be no compromise on the health, home through the Chief

intellectual development of children. Additionally, the 'Virtual Centre for Child Safety' has been launched for their protection, she added. She further stated that children with diabetes will receive free insulin at

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a meeting regarding polio eradication, held at CM House in Karachi.

CM Punjab message on

World Children's Day

# Sharjeel inaugurates newly constructed faculty of civil engineering at Isra University

HYDERABAD (APP): Transit, Sharjeel Inam Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon inaugurated constructed faculty of civil engineering at Isra University on Wednesday. He emphasised that

the younger generation worldwide is introducing new ideas and innovative solutions. "We must encourage our youth so they can advance and bring pride to our country and nation," he said.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony for the newly constructed s of people with serious and injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while University Hyderabad, for Transport, and Mass shut it down.

Memon, praised the university's contributions to Hyderabad. "Isra University is doing commendable work for the city. Just look at the student stalls; our students are doing excellent work and introducing new ideas. We must encourage our youth," he said.

He stated that the Sindh government is the first in Pakistan to generate electricity from wind energy. He highlighted that the PPP was also the pioneer in generating electricity from Thar coal.

"Shaheed Bibi initiated the Thar Coal Information, subsequent administration

#### **Kundi condemns** attack on Mali Khel check post Bannu

safeguarded from fatal

diseases through the

vaccination program.

Pakistan's first government

autism school is being built

to cater to the special needs of differently-abled

children. She emphasized

that a zero-tolerance policy

is in place regarding any

form of cruelty, abuse, or

child labor. She pledged that every child should

remain safe, healthy, and educated, and that the

Punjab government would

ensure the protection of

children's rights at any cost

PESHAWAR Governor Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, or Wednesday strongly condemned tragic suicide attack on Mali Khel security forces check post in Bannu district, resulting in the martyrdom of 12 security personnel.

governor heartfelt expressed condolences to the families of the martyred heroes.

In a statement, the governor paid tribute to the brave security forces, saying, "The sacrifices of these martyrs will never be forgotten, and we salute their dedication to initiated the Thar Coal Project, but after her He also prayed for the 798 with minor injuries were treated at the incident Sindh Senior Minister and Provincial Minister government's fall, the elevation of their ranks and patience and perseverance

**ANF** seizes

over 83 kg

drugs; arrests

7 suspects

RAWALPINDI (APP):

Anti-Narcotics Force

(ANF) while conducting

six operations managed to

recover over 83 kg drugs

worth Rs 10 million and

arrested 7 suspects, said an

ANF Headquarters spokesman on Wednesday.

kg hashish was recovered

from an accused arrested on

confessed to selling drugs

to the students of educational institutions.

2 kg heroin and 1 kg ice were

recovered from the trolley

bag of a passenger going to Doha at Peshawar International Airport. 43.2

kg hashish and 16.8 kg

opium hidden in secret

cavities of a vehicle was

recovered near Ravi Toll

Plaza Lahore and an

accused was arrested

during the operation.13.2

kg hashish was recovered

from the possession of a

drug dealer netted near Kot

Momin, Sargodha. A total

of 4.6 kg hashish was recovered from two accused held on M-1

Motorway, Islamabad. 1.3

kg ice was recovered from

the possession of an

accused rounded up on

Sakhi Sarwar Road in Dera

Ghazi Khan. Cases have

been registered against the

arrested accused under the

Narcotics Control Act and

further investigations are

under process.

KKH Road in Haripur.

He informed that 1.2

The arrested accused

In another operation,



HYDERABAD: Villagers gather to witness a heavy trailer transporting a used Boeing MD-83 airplane from Karachi to Hyderabad near the airport.

# Punjab govt accelerates efforts to make Nawaz **Cancer Institute operational**

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique has directed the Infrastructure Development Authority Punjab (IDAP) to expedite the completion of the Nawaz Sharif Institute of Cancer Treatment and Research project to make it functional as soon as possible.

Chairing a meeting at King Edward Medical University on Wednesday, the minister reviewed progress on the project and set a target of twelve months for the completion of the first phase. He reiterated that initiatives improving public health are a top priority for the Punjab government. The hospital will be expanded in phases and equipped with modern, state-of-the-

discussed various aspects, including the construction progress, modifications to master procurement of advanced medical equipment, and other operational arrangements. It also emphasized the importance of establishing a premier bone marrow transplant facility and suggested increasing the number of beds in the Cancer Care Hospital. Key decisions included appointing highly qualified cancer specialists

four cancer patients. The minister underscored the Punjab government's ambition to develop the hospital into one of Asia's most advanced cancer treatment centers.

and establishing a separate

hospice center for stage



LARKANA: A large number of school students traveling on the rooftop of a van at Miro Khan Road may cause any mishap and needs the attention of concerned authorities.

#### Khyber Faisal Kundi The committee will maintain communication

Kundi lauds Bilawal

to form committee

to tackle issues

Pakhtunkhwa, Wednesday Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to form a committee to raise issues government.

The nine-member includes committee prominent figures such as Raja Pervez Ashraf, Naveed Qamar, Sherry Rehman, Chief Minister Sindh Murad Ali Shah, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Safaraz Bugti, Makhdoom Mahmood,

Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, and Haider Gillani.

government and highlight key concerns. A report will be presented at the upcoming Central Committee (CEC) meeting

next month. regarding the formation of the committee was issued by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's political secretary, Jameel Ahmad



SUKKUR: Peoples Party (PPP) Senior Leader and Member of National Assembly (MNA), Khursheed Shah addresses during the inauguration ceremony of newly established Indus Eagle Squad to facilitate the resident of Sukkur, in Sukkur.

# Policy Dialogue on "Energy Crisis: Problem, Impact & Solutions" concludes

LAHORE (APP): The Ahmad Nazir Warraich two-day Policy Dialogue on "Energy Crisis: Problem, Impact & Solutions" jointly organized by Executive Development Institute (EDI) of the National School of Public Policy (NSPP) concluded here Wednesday.

The Executive Development Institute aimed to (EDI) is working for the continuous professional development of officers and executives of the public and private sectors by organizing multiple activities such as trainings, policy dialogues and webinars etc.

On behalf of Dr

inaugurated the session and provided an overview of NSPP and EDI. He emphasized Pakistan's energy sector challenges, such as debt, high energy imports, power shortages affecting the economy, and reliance on fossil fuels.

The Policy Dialogue distribution inefficiencies, finance obstacles, power generation, renewable energy, oil and gas supply chains, and energy conservation through input from national experts. The goal was to

propose practical solutions for a sustainable and Munir, Rector, National resilient energy future in School of Public Policy, Pakistan.

# **Defamation case** Court issues bailable arrest warrants of Jahangir

KARACHI (Online): Additional District and Sessions judge Karachi South has issued bailable arrest warrants of Jahangir Siddiqui in the light of high court decision. The warrants have

been issued following the rejection of criminal review petition of Jahangir Siddiqui No 2015/68 by high court. This case has come to being due to filing of a private complaint by Aqeel Karim Dheedhi wherein charges of defamation and targeted media campaign have been leveled. Bailable arrest secure on compliance.

warrants were issued by additional district and sessions judge Karachi South Syed Waqar Haider. Jahangir Siddiqui was ordered to appear in court on November 22, 2024.

It has been said in the arrest warrants that Siddiqui has been indicted under section 499, 500, 501 and 120 A. Pakistan Penal Code court has directed Siddiqui

to file surety bonds worth Rs 1 lac. Surety bonds of Rs 50000 will have to be deposited to keep release



LAHORE: School student are going back their homes after schooling as all government and private schools reopened today due to air quality improves in city, in Lahore.

# PA speaker chairs meeting of standing body on law reforms

LAHORE (APP): A commissions are a legal meeting of the Standing requirement under the Committee on Law Reforms and Delegated Legislation, chaired by Speaker was held in the Punjab Assembly, here on Wednesday.

Discussions focused on police accountability, oversight mechanisms and modernizing the legislative process. The committee expressed concern over the non-establishment of Public Safety and Complaints Commissions at the provincial and

Police Order 2002, yet 22 years have passed without implementation. The commissions are crucial for Muhammad Ahmad Khan, curbing police corruption, ensuring transparency, and protecting citizens' rights.

advised the government to establish a Provincial Public Safety and Complaints Commission within two weeks. The members unanimously government assured the committee amendments would be introduced in the Police Order 2002 to resolve obstacles in forming district levels. These district-level commissions.

Quetta



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja in a meeting with TikTok delegation.

# Ahsan proposes GSP-Plus, 5Es framework alignment to get export-led economic growth

Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday proposed a multi-pronged strategy, aligning the GSP-Plus programme with the 5Es framework to get export-led economic secure a prosperous future for Pakistan. "The GSP-plus programme represents more than just trade preferences. It is a roadmap for sustainable development and good governance. By aligning it

potential of export-led growth, empower our Pakistan," he said. The minister was speaking as the guest

titled "Promoting Good Governance through Trade Leveraging through GSP+," organized by Fredrick Naumann Foundation. Addressing the gathering, Ahsan Iqbal called for seizing the

**DISCOs suffers** 

Rs 591 bln loss

in FY 2023-24

ISLAMABAD (APP): Power Distribution Companies (DISCOs)

suffered a loss of Rs 591

billion on accounts of line

losses and less recovery during last fiscal year

However, the losses stood at Rs 239 billion in

first quarter of the current fiscal year 2024-24 as compared to Rs 308 billion

during the corresponding period of last year,

showing an improvement of Rs 69 billion, said a

statement issued by Ministry of Power Division here Wednesday.

billion increase in last four

months of the current

reduce tax on

larger house

"Together we can ensure citizens and secure a that trade becomes not only prosperous future for a driver of economic prosperity but also a catalyst for equity, transparency speaker at a conference sustainability," he added.

Despite successes, challenges remained, adding weak enforcement of laws, low diversification of exports and environmental vulnerabilities needed immediate attention to maximize the benefits of opportunity to strengthen governance and build GSP-Plus and align with

Environment and Climate Empowerment. Elaborating proposed strategy, the suggested

> technologies and highvalue products. He asked for setting up a National Compliance Task Force to oversee GSPplus implementation and address gaps in governance on permanent/quarterly

diversification centers

with incentives for green



KARACHI: Syed Hafeezuddin, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Industries&Production, chairing the meeting at Pakistan Steel Mills.

# Rana unveils plan to shift 30% of transport

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister Federal Minister for comprehensive briefing on Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan on Wednesday the planning and execution of the upcoming events. Chaired high-Level meeting on Wexnet and OIC Trade

on OIC trade fair

Fair Progress.
The Minister of significance of Wexnet 2024 as a platform to Commerce today visited the National Insurance promote women entrepreneurs and directed Corporation Limited (NICL) to preside over a TDAP to intensify efforts in showcasing their achievements. He also meeting on the progress of the highly anticipated Wexnet 2024 and the 18<sup>th</sup> stressed the importance of utilizing both events to amplify TDAP's role in OIC Trade Fair, scheduled to be held from November fostering 29 to December 1, 2024, at development the Expo Centre Lahore, said a press release issued

Pakistan (TDAP). During representation of the session, TDAP Pakistan's trade and officials provided the business capabilities.

to EVs by 2030 ISLAMABAD (APP): transportation and directed that the policy alleviating the financial burden of import bills Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer

> fuel costs. The minister said that many countries are currently using electric vehicles, and the demand is increasing due to new technology, which offers manifold advantages and benefits. Rana Tanveer

> associated with traditional

highlighted commitment and hard work of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to launch a new electric vehicle policy (2025-30) to control air pollution and reduce oil

focus must be on incentives and affordable prices for consumers

highlighted that currently, two licenses have been issued for manufacturing of electric vehicles, and around 31 people have applied for

The government has given many incentives to foreign companies to build their plants in Pakistan. Currently, Dewan, an electric vehicle company, is operating in the country and launched a car this

# imports. He said, PM has

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production, Rana Tanveer Hussain briefing the media on New Energy Policy on adoption of Electric

# Women empowerment imperative for country's

ISLAMABAD (APP): society The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) in collaboration with appreciated. the Shirakat—Partnership Development

organized an event to c o m m e m o r a t e International Women's Entrepreneurship Day (November 19) to highlight the critical role of women entrepreneurs in Pakistan's economic landscape.

Managing Director, the National Education Foundation, Ms. Tahira S. Sheikh was the Chief guest.

In her address, the chief guest Ms. Tahira Sheikh highlighted the importance of education and skill development of girls and women for a prosperous Pakistan, according to a press release

She said that women

participation must be

Deputy Manager of SBP, Imtiaz Ali, highlighted the State Bank's commitment to promoting financial inclusion and gender

He also highlighted the banking services on equality policy, which focused on creating gender diversity in financial institutions and developing banking products for

He also said that SBP, through its banking services corporation offices, has organized more than 50 sessions and reached out to more than 1,500 businesswomen to inform them about the available financing are an integral part of opportunities.

# prosperity: Tahira Sheikh

fiscal year as compared to Rs 301 billion increase during the period of July to October 2023, it further **Shenzhen to** 

> transactions SHENZHEN20 (Xinhua/ APP): Shenzhen in south China's Guangdong Province on Tuesday became the latest major Chinese city to reduce taxes for transactions involving larger houses.

The city said in a notice that it will scrap the distinction between ordinary and non-ordinary housing starting on Dec. 1 which will unify favorable tax policies for the two categories. According to the notice, non-ordinary houses that have been owned for two years or more will enjoy the same tax exemption from 5percent value-added tax (VAT) as ordinary homes during transactions. In Shenzhen, non-ordinary housing usually refers to houses with building areas exceeding 144 square meters. The announcement by Shenzhen follows similar moves by Beijing and Shanghai, another two first-tier cities in China, to eliminate the distinction between ordinary and nonordinary housing. China has rolled out a slew of measures to prop up its sluggish property market—including cutting mortgage rates.

# Shaza urges TikTok to use its platform for educational purposes

ISLAMABAD (APP): Hasham Khan, was also Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunications Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Wednesday urged TikTok to use its platform for

educational purposes. "Various skills and basic education can be imparted through TikTok, and the Ministry of IT will fully support TikTok in achieving this objective," she said during a meeting with a TikTok delegation led by its Director of Public Policy, Mr. Emir

The recovery of DISCOs also witnessed a According to a news visible upward trend and it was recorded as 91 per cent as compared to 84 per cent during the said periods. debt witnessed only Rs 11

release, the meeting focused on matters of mutual interest, including the availability of quality social media platforms.

delegation briefed the Minister on the platform's initiatives in Pakistan and outlined upcoming programs.

Shaza emphasized the importance of ensuring that quality content is accessible, noting that TikTok has a vast user base in Pakistan.

delegation assured the Minister that TikTok would prioritize meaningful and educational They also expressed

the platform's willingness to collaborate with the Ministry of IT & Telecom departments to achieve

# Agriculture Census plays an important role in the development: Speakers

Independent Report
QUETTA: Agriculture has an important role in the

fields must find out so that way in their respective development of the districts and complete the country. Speaking about agriculture census in a



organized in the conference hall of Secretariat P&D organized by Statistics, he said that all the participants should participate fully in the training.

The training was started with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Muhammad Soheib, the director of the Federal Institute of Statistics, Islamabad, Senszaind Survey, introduced the training participants as the chief guest.
Muhammad Soheib,

while briefing the participants about the IT training held regarding agriculture census, said that you all There are master trainers. Those who want to get information regarding training and

questions and gave a complete briefing regarding agriculture census. He said that agriculture census is a national duty and agriculture is the backbone of any country's economy.

He said that in agriculture census 2024-2025, agriculture livestock and The data of the machinery used for agriculture will be taken.

He said that the data obtained from the agriculture census will be used in other fields including future planning for the country and will be a milestone for the country. During the training, the participants were informed about the problems faced by the participants in the field and their solutions.



HYDERABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia Arie Poluzzi addressing to members of SITE Association of Trade & Industry, while President Abdul Rehman Rajput sits beside him.

# **Commerce Minister** chairs high-level meeting

Minister emphasized

and promoting Pakistan's exports globally. here. The meeting was attended by Secretary Highlighting the transformative potential of TDAP Sheryar Taj, Chief these flagship events, the Executive TDAP Zubair Minister urged all stake-Motiwala, and senior holders to ensure robust officials from the Trade outreach, meticulous Development Authority of planning, and impactful

**Railways CEO** holds public e-court

Pakistan Railways is committed to providing facilities to passengers while ensuring their safety, utilising all available resources to the best of its

Aamir Ali Baloch during an and phone numbers of train e-Kutchehry on managers will soon be Wednesday, where he prominently displayed in

addressed public queries.
He said that while trains
He a were currently facing delays due to smog and adverse conditions,

LAHORE (APP): The over addressing delays," he stated.

to upgrade two to three trains in the near future and weather introduce a new service Pakistan with fewer stops. Railways continues its operations even when anticipated ML-1 project airports and motorways is expected to commence are closed. "Our priority is within two to three

assured that he is impacting issues This was stated by punctuality. To enhance Pakistan Railways CEO convenience, the names



Hussain unveiled the

government's ambitious

plan here on Wednesday,

aiming at shifting 30

percent of transportation

to electric vehicles (EVs) by 2030 to promote an environmentally friendly

Addressing a press conference, the minister

said that the plan includes

shifting of two-wheelers,

three-wheelers and four-

wheelers to electric vehicles, adding the plan

was aimed at reducing the

environmental impact of

transport system.

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Wednesday met with residents from his constituency at his residence in Karachi to hear their grievances and address pressing issues.

The Minister engaged directly with constituents, listening to their concerns, said a Press release issued here.

He assured them of commitment to resolving their problems and directed the relevant authorities to take prompt action to address the issues

'The well-being of my people remains my top priority. I will ensure that the concerns brought to me today are resolved swiftly," said the Minister.



ISLAMABAD: A Delegation from China Geological Survey (CGS) Calls on Secretary Petroleum to Bolster Geoscientific Collaboration.

that the three-year Citrus

Rehabilitation Programme

focused on using modern

agricultural technologies to

produce certified citrus

plants and provide

technical guidance to

farmers. Gardeners would

be provided with the best

possible resources to

enhance citrus production.

It was highlighted that

climate change had

adversely impacted citrus

comprehensive strategy to

reduce post-harvest losses

in citrus. He maintained

functionality of the Citrus

Research Institute in

Sargodha. This included

introducing improved seed

varieties and new

techniques to increase

productivity. Special

attention was also being

given to standardising

citrus processing and

packaging to meet global

Punjab Iftikhar Ăli Sahoo

emphasised that ensuring

the availability of high

quality and cost-effective

citrus plants was a priority.

Additionally.

Secretary Agriculture

benchmarks, he added.

provincial

directed

production in Punjab.

The

formulation

minister

# Mega programme worth Rs1.2b to promote citrus production, exports: Ashiq

Minister for Agriculture & Livestock Punjab Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani on Wednesday said that a mega programme worth Rs1.2 billion was being implemented to promote citrus production and He said Pakistan

earned approximately USD 185 million annually through citrus exports, could significantly increased. The Punjab government was taking various initiatives to restore and enhance citrus production in the province, he added.

Under the Chief that funds were being sister's Farmers' allocated to enhance the Minister's Package, a substantial allocation of Rs1.2 billion had been made for citrus revival, which included establishing a Citrus Research Institute in Toba Tek Singh and a Citrus Research Center in Layyah, he said and added that these initiatives aimed not only to establish certified citrus nurseries and new orchards but also to boost citrus production and exports, thereby strengthening the national

During the briefing, the minister was informed

#### PFC to participate in 3-day expo in Nigeria

AHORE (APP): The Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) is set to participate in a three-day international expo in Lagos, Nigeria, commencing on November

Chairing board of directors meeting here on Wednesday, CEO PFC Mian Kashif Ashfaq informed that event will bring together industry leaders, manufacturers, and stakeholders from around the globe, providing a platform for showcasing innovative designs and

craftsmanship.
PFC will exhibit an array of premium-quality furniture, reflecting Pakistan's rich cultural heritage and modern design expertise. He said participation aimed to strengthen trade ties, explore new markets, and promote Pakistan's furniture industry on an international stage

PFC Chief Executive emphasized that the expo an excellent opportunity to highlight the country's potential in producing world-class furniture, attract foreign buyers, and enhance export volumes. Mian Kashif said will facilitates networking and business

collaborations.

ISLAMABAD: Former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari administered oath of office to the newly elected office-bearers of The Traders'

# **CDNS** achieves Rs 550b mark in annual savings target

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamic finance for the The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) will lead to the growth of has achieved a target of Rs 550 billion in fresh bonds and achieved 15 percent of the annual target for the current fiscal year, from July 1 to November 15th.

The CDNS has set an annual target of Rs 1650 billion for the current Fiscal Year, 2024-25, which will promote the saving culture in the country, the senior official of CDNS told APP on Wednesday.

Similarly, the CDNS

the Islamic economy in the

Replying to a question, he said that the CDNS has realized a target of Rs1.742 trillion in fresh bonds and exceeded 100 percent of the annual target in the last fiscal year 2023-24, from July 1 to June 30. National Savings has

set an annual target of Rs 1.7 trillion for the year 2023-24; it is encouraging that this year, "We that this year, has set a target of Rs 170 surpassed the 100 p billion in investment in of the annual target. surpassed the 100 percent

# Putin, ascendant in Ukraine, eyes contours of a Trump peace deal

**Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin is open to discussing a Ukraine ceasefire deal with US President-elect Donald Trump but rules out making any major territorial concessions and insists Kyiv abandon ambitions to join Nato, five sources with knowledge of Kremlin thinking told Reuters.

Trump, who has vowed to swiftly end the conflict, is returning to the White House at a time of Russian ascendancy. Moscow controls a chunk of Ukraine about the size of the American state of Virginia and is advancing at the fastest pace since the early days of the 2022 in-

In the first detailed report of what President Putin would accept in any deal brokered by Trump, the five current and former Russian officials said the Kremlin could broadly agree to freeze the conflict along the front lines.

There may be room

for negotiation over the West to rearm Ukraine. precise carve-up of the Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia Kherson, according to tween Russia and Ukraine," three of the people who all Putin told the Valdai discus-

requested anonymity to

discuss sensitive matters.

While Moscow claims the four regions as wholly part of Russia, defended by the country's nuclear umbrella, its forces on the ground control 70-80 per cent of the territory with about 26,000 square kilometres still held by Ukrainian troops, opensource data on the front line

open to withdrawing from the relatively small patches Kharkiv and Mykolaiv regions, in the north and south of Ukraine, two of the officials said.

Putin said this month should reflect the "realities" on the ground but that he ceasefire is agreed, the two feared a short-lived truce sources said, then Russia

"If there is no neutralfour eastern regions of ity, it is difficult to imagine Luhansk, the existence of any goodand neighbourly relations be-

> sion group on November 7. Why? Because this would mean that Ukraine will be constantly used as a tool in the wrong hands and to the detriment of the interests of the Russian Federation.' Two of the sources

said outgoing US President Joe Biden's decision to allow Ukraine to fire American ATACMS missiles deep into Russia could Russia may also be complicate and delay any settlement — and stiffen Moscow's demands as of territory it holds in the hardliners push for a bigger chunk of Ukraine. On Tuesday, Kyiv used the missiles to strike Russian territory for the first time, according to Moscow that any ceasefire deal which decried the move as a major escalation. If no

Trump taps

former WWE

**CEO Linda** 

McMahon as

education

secretary

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: US

President-elect Donald Trump has chosen Linda

McMahon as education

secretary, putting the

former pro-wrestling mo-

gul at the helm of a de-

partment Trump has pro-

"For the past four years, as the Chair of the

Board at the America

First Policy Institute

(AFPI), Linda has been a

fierce advocate for Par-

ents Rights, working hard

at both AFPI and America

First Works (AFW) to

achieve Universal School

Choice in 12 States, giv-

ing children the opportu-

nity to receive an excel-

lent Education, regardless

of zip code or income,'

Trump said in a state-

posed abolishing.



Palestinians gather to receive food cooked by a charity kitchen, amid a hunger crisis, as the Israel-Gaza conflict continues, in Khan Younis in the south-

# UN to vote again on Gaza ceasefire, US plans unclear

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: The adding: "We cannot allow the UN to tie the hands of in Gaza in its latest attempt to exert pressure to end the

But the draft could be blocked by the United States. Israel's main ally.

resolution demands "an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire" in the war between Israel and Hamas and "the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages.

The wording has angered Israel and raised fears of a US veto.

Israeli ambassador to the UN Danny Danon has called the text "shameful," AFP tally of Israeli official figures.

UN Security Council is ex- the State of Israel from propected to vote on Wednes- tecting its citizens, and we day on another draft reso-lution calling for a ceasefire will not stop fighting until we return all the kidnapped men and women home. "For us, it has to be a

linkage between a ceasefire and the release of hostages," said Robert Wood, the deputy US ambassa-The latest draft of the dor. "It has been our principle position from the beginning and it still re-

The war was triggered by Palestinian group Hamas's assault on Israel on October 7, 2023, a stunning cross-border raid that resulted in the deaths of 1,206 people, mostly civilians, according to an

# Italian Premier Meloni's coalition suffers setbacks in 2 regional elections

Monitoring Desk ROME: Italy's Premier Giorgia Meloni suffered election setbacks in two regions as the opposition Democratic party won a tight race in the central Umbria region and deepened its control of the traditional left-leaning stronghold of Emilia-Romagna.

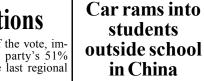
The results of the two-days of voting that ended Monday were a clear victory for Democratic Party leader Elly Schlein, who called the outcome 'extraordinary.

Stefania Proietti won with 51% of the vote in Umbria, compared with 46% for the conservative coalition's candidate. In the northern region of Emilia Romagna, the left's candidate Michele de Pascale

won 57% of the vote, improving the party's 51% result in the last regional vote in 2020.

In both cases, the Democratic Party candidate won without the support of the 5-Start Movement, which has been in a shaky center-left coalition.

The bigger electoral test for Meloni comes in 2025 when six regions head to the polls, including the populous norther region of Veneto that has long been governed by the populist League, a key member of her ruling coalition. Meloni's coalition held on to control of the Ligurian region last month in an election prompted by the resignation of the right-wing governor in a



**Monitoring Desk** 

BEIJING: A driver in an SUV ploughed into students and pedestrians outside a primary school in southern China on Tuesday, leaving several people injured, state media said, as worries spread over a spate of violent attacks in the

country in the past week. CCTV and other state media reported that the SUV hit people outside a primary school in Changde city in Hunan province as students were coming in for the day. Many bystanders were injured, CCTV reported, and police said they were sent to the hospital 'as soon as possible.



Vehicles burn as demonstrators stand during a protest against the recent killings, in Imphal West, in the northeastern state of Manipur India.



US President Joe Biden delivers remarks during an event launching the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

# Hamas negotiators 'not in Doha', but political office not closed, says Qatar

**Monitoring Desk** DOHA: Hamas negotiators are not in Doha but their office has not been permanently closed, Qatar said on Tuesday following speculation that the Palestinian group had been ordered out of the Qatari capital.

"The leaders of Hamas that are within the negotiating team are now not in Doha," foreign ministry spokesperson Majed Al-Ansari said, adding: "The decision to ... close down the office permanently, is a decision that you will hear about from us directly." Qatar, along with the

the Gaza conflict, but the Gulf state announced earlier this month it was pausing its mediation efforts. The announcement followed reports Qatar had

had led months of fruitless

negotiations for a truce in

warned Hamas that its political bureau, which the Gulf state has hosted since 2012 with the blessing of the United States, was no longer welcome. "The mediation pro-

cess right now ... is suspended unless we take a decision to reverse that which is based on the positions of both sides," Ansari United States and Egypt, said on Tuesday.

# IAEA says Iran has offered to cap stock of sensitive uranium

**Monitoring Desk** VIENNA: Iran has offered not to expand its stock of uranium enriched to up to 60 per cent purity, near the roughly 90pc of weapons grade, and made prepara-tions to do that, the UN nuclear watchdog said in confidential reports to member states on Tuesday.

The offer is conditional, however, on Western powers abandoning their push for a resolution against Iran at this week's meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation Board of Governors over its lack of cooperation with the IAEA, diplomats said, adding that

the push was continuing.

During IAEA chief Rafael Grossi's trip to Iran last week, "the possibility of Iran not further expanding its stockpile of uranium enriched up to 60pc U-235 was discussed", read one of the two confidential quarterly IAEA reports.
It added that the IAEA

had verified that Iran had "begun implementation of preparatory measures".

#### Indonesia can reach net zero emissions before 2050: president **Monitoring Desk**

JAKARTA: Indonesia is optimistic it can reach net zero emissions before 2050, a decade earlier than previously targeted, President Prabowo Subianto told a G20 forum,

Prabowo also said Indonesia planned to retire all coal and fossil-fuel-fired power plants within the next 15 years, versus an earlier target of 2056, according to a statement from his office released on Wednesday.

Indonesia will build 75 gigawatts of renewable power plants within the next 15 years, he added, echoing a commitment his envoy told the COP29 climate summit last week.

'We are also situated along the equator, therefore we have more than plenty of sunlight to fuel solar-based energy," Prabowo told the forum.

'We have other sources of renewables and that's why we are very optimistic that we can achieve net zero before 2050."

Indonesia is one of the world's biggest greenhouse gas emitters and its top exporter of thermal coal. But it is also home to the world's third biggest rainforests.

Its current installed power capacity is more than 90 GW, with more than half of that powered by coal and less than 15% by renewables.



Britain's Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer attends a bilateral meeting with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 summit at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

# Bangladesh ex-police chief faces crimes against humanity charges

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Bangladesh's former police chief appeared in court on Wednesday, accused of overseeing a deadly crackdown in a failed bid to suppress the August revolution that toppled the regime of Sheikh Hasina.

Former police inspector general Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun was flanked by serving officers as he was led into court, where prosecutors alleged he was responsible for overseeing massacres, genocide, and crimes against humanity. Eight defendants appeared in court in Dhaka, including Ziaul Ahsan, a former commander of the feared Rapid Action Battalion paramilitary force.

Chief prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam, from Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal, said the eight men had committed crimes "that even devils dare not do". Islam said the former police chief was the "commander of all atrocities carried out against the student protesters".

# A surge in mass attacks has killed dozens in China in recent months

BEIJING: Dozens of people have been killed in China in the past three months in a series of mass attacks. The latest on Tuesday saw primary school students struck by a car as they arrived for classes. The attacks take one of two forms - either drivers mowing down people on foot or knife-wielding assailants stabbing multiple victims. Guns are strictly restricted in China and gun at-

**Monitoring Desk** 

tacks are rare. The attackers appear to be taking out their anger and frustration over a personal issue, according to police reports. The victims are often unknown to them. Such attacks are not

new in China and have targeted kindergartens and other schools in the past. The recent surge has gotten the attention of authorities and the public. Here is a look at some of the recent events. Nov. 19: Vehicle hits students at primary school gate A small white SUV struck students arriving for class at Yong'an Elementary School in Changde, an inland city in China's Hunan province. Several adults also were injured, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Security guards and parents subdued the driver, Xinhua said. Authorities later issued a a brief statement saying the 39-year-old driver had been detained.

#### Senegal's president faces budget challenge after likely parliamentary win **Monitoring Desk**

DAKAR: A likely absolute majority for President Bassirou Diomaye Faye's Pastef party in Senegal's legislative election would empower him to pursue his ambitious 25-year agenda, though his first challenge will be coming up with a

budget amid a fiscal crisis. Faye sought a clear parliamentary majority in Sunday's vote to implement the reform agenda that helped sweep him to power in a landslide election victory in March. But analysts say cre-

ating a budget catering both to his voters' needs and to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with which his government is currently in talks, will be challenging. Former president Macky Sall, who headed an

opposition coalition, on Monday congratulated Pastef on its win. Former prime minister Amadou Ba, who ran against Faye in the presidential election, also conceded defeat, as did other opposition leaders. Senegal's sovereign

debt rose in price on Mon-Tradeweb data day, showed, while most other African nations' bonds lost ground. The yield on its 2033 dollar bond was down about 10 basis points by 1145 GMT at 9.28%.

"If confirmed by the electoral bodies, Pastef's victory could give a free hand in passing budgets and implementing its programmatic reforms

# Israeli strikes kill 15 in Gaza as hospital in north of the region makes distress call

**Monitoring Desk** 

AIRO: Israeli forces killed at least 15 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, including a rescue worker, health officials said, as tanks deepened their incursion in the area and blew up homes, according to resi-Medics said at least 12

raeli strike on a house in the area of Jabalia, in northern Gaza, earlier on Wednesday. They said at least 10 people remained missing as rescue operations continued. Another man was killed in tank shelling

people were killed in an Is-

nearby, they said. In the Sabra suburb of Gaza City, the Palestinian ern Gaza Strip, medics said civil emergency said an Israeli air strike targeted one ers wounded in an Israeli air of their teams during a res-strike on the eastern terricue operation, killing one tory of the city.

staff and wounding three

The death raised the number of civil emergency service members killed since Oct 7, 2023, to 87, it

There was no immediate Israeli comment on the two incidents.

Adding to the challenges facing the healthcare system in north Gaza areas, the civil emergency service said their vehicles were hardly operational because of shortages of fuel and equipment, citing Israel's continued refusal to allow them to bring the needed supplies.

In Rafah, in the southone man was killed and oth-

# Over 200 kids killed in Lebanon as US envoy sees end to war

**Monitoring Desk** GENEVA: Unicef has said more than 200 children have been killed and 1,100 in-

jured in Lebanon in just two months, as US special envoy Amos Hochstein met officials in Beirut on Tuesday to discuss a truce plan with claims that an end to the war is "now within our

Unicef spokesperson James Elder at a press briefing in Geneva said, "Despite more than 200 children killed in Lebanon in less than two months, a disconcerting pattern has emerged: their deaths are met with inertia from those able to stop this violence. "For the children of

Lebanon, it has become a silent normalisation of horror," he said, while drawing 'chilling similarities' bet-ween the conflicts in Lebanon and in Gaza, where a significant portion of nearly 44,000 people killed in are reported to be children.

On the other hand, Israel expanded the focus of its operations to Lebanon within our grasp," he added.

from Gaza, where forces stormed Jabal Mukaber area and cordoned off the decades old Al-Shiyah mosque before tearing it down, Al Jazeera reported.

Éarlier, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said that the US had shared ceasefire proposals with both Lebanon and Israel. During a visit to Beirut

on Tuesday, US special envoy Amos Hochstein said an end to the Israel-Hezbollah war was "now within our grasp" as he met with officials to discuss a truce plan largely endorsed by Lebanon.

Following a meeting with Hezbollah-allied parliament speaker Nabih Berri, who has led mediation on behalf of the group, Hochstein told reporters he saw "a real opportuni--ty" to end the fighting. "I'm here in Beirut to facilitate that decision, but it's ultima-tely the decision of the part-ies... It is now

# **Bomb cyclone pounds** Northwest US, leaving 600,000 without power

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: A powerful storm was clobbering Washington state on Wednesday, knocking out power to hundreds of thousands while wreaking havoc on road travel and causing at least one death and two injuries. A woman was killed

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

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

The storm with tropical storm force winds of 50 days, he said.

miles (80 km) per hour and gusts around 70 mph felled trees and power lines overnight. It knocked out electricity to more than 600,000 homes and businesses in Washington, Southwest Oregon and Northern California, according to the Poweroutage.us.

"The storm is just beginning," said Rich Otto, a meteorologist with the NWS Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland.

'We haven't gotten a ton of rain yet, just 2-3 inches over Southwest Oregon and Northern California," Otto said.

But the storm, called "bomb cyclone" which happens when the storm rapidly intensifies, is going to stall over Northern California in the next few

# **Toxic smog persists** over India's north; Delhi pollution remains severe

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: Residents in ranked New Delhi as the

India's northern states world's most polluted city woke up to another day of poor air quality on Tues- ardous" 489, although that day, as a layer of dense fog was a significant improveshrouded most of the region, and pollution in the reading. capital Delhi remained se-

India battles air pollution every winter as cold, heavy air traps dust, emissions, and smoke from farm fires started illegally in the adjoining, farming states of Punjab and Haryana.

(AQI) touched a peak of 491 in Delhi on Monday, forcing the government to introduce restrictions on vehicle movement and construction activities, and schools to conduct classes online. On Tuesday, Delhi's 24-hour air quality index (AQI) reading was at 488 on a scale of 500, India's Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) said, and at least five stations in the capital reported an AQI of 500. CPCB defines an AQI reading of 0-50 as "good" and above 401 as "severe", which it says is a risk to healthy people and "seriously impacts" those with

existing diseases.

ment from Monday's 1,081

Experts say the scores vary because of a difference in the scale countries adopt to convert pollutant concentrations into AOI, and so the same quantity of a specific pollutant may be translated as different AQI scores in different coun-The air quality index tries. India's weather department said a shift in the fog layer towards the northern state of Uttar Pradesh had helped improve visibility over Delhi.

Visibility dropped to zero metres in Uttar Pradesh's Agra, which lies southeast of Delhi. The Taj Mahal, India's famed monument of love, has been obscured by toxic smog for nearly a week.

The strict measures to mitigate the impact of high pollution have hurt production at more than 3.4 million micro, small and medium enterprises in the nearby states of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi, local media reported.

# Pak pledges stronger financial protection against climate risks as Global Shield beneficiary

Pakistan, which is ranked the fifth most vulnerable country to climate-induced disasters, reiterated its commitment to strengthening financial protection against climate risks as a beneficiary of the Global Shield

After a thorough incountry consultation process, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), with assistance from UNDP Pakistan, has identified key priority areas for its request to expand pre-arranged finance through the Global

Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam while delivering a keynote address at an important event 'Pakistan and the Global Shield' held at the Pakistan Pavilion in Baku on the sidelines of COP29 global climate sum-

that the escalating adverse fallouts of climate change including extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and prolonged droughts have underlined the urgent need for climate-vulnerable developing countries to hammer out comprehensive strategies to address loss and damage in vulnerable

broader loss and damage efforts is a crucial step toward building resilience, ensuring timely response, and supporting long-term

"Integrating disaster risk financing into loss and damage efforts represents a proactive approach to managing the escalating costs of climate change. By combining innovative fidata-driven strategies, govners can mitigate climate ments.

mit held on Wednesday said risks, support recovery, and foster resilience," the PM's participants from various countries, UN agencies and nongovernmental organisations. "Collaborative action today will safeguard communities and ecosystems for a more secure

disaster risk financing into and disaster insurance experts and the climate change & environmental coordination ministry's senior officials explored the pressing gaps in pre-arranged financial protection-particularly in public infrastructure, agricultural livelihoods, and small Global Shield can bring unique value by aligning development efforts, fosnancial tools with inclusive, tering a country-led process, and leveraging pre-arernments, and global part- ranged financing instru-

ensure "equitable represen-

tation" – the key objective

of the Council reform pro-

2009 on five key areas-

ship, the question of veto,

regional representation, size

of an enlarged Security

Council, and working meth-

services

SLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has ac-

quired consultancy services

of National Economic Re-

search Associates Inc

NERA) for 'Release of

IMT Spectrum for Im-

provement of Next Genera-

tion Mobile Broadband Ser-

lease the contract was

signed on November,5 2024, accordingly.

tion has been initiated, con-

sultant will recommend to

government on salient fea-

tures of upcoming spectrum

release process including

proposed reforms, spec-

trum valuation and auction

The process will most likely be completed by

190m pounds reference

Bushra Bibi

did not appear

in court

in Adiala jail

RAWALPINDI (Online)

Bushra Bibi did not appear

in Accountability Court

(AC) in Adiala jail Rawalpindi Wednesday

during hearing of 190 mil-

emption plea for one day

on medical grounds in the court. NAB prosecution

team raised objection over

exemption plea for one day.

Bushra Bibi has not ap-

pointed her pleader. The

exemption plea by Bushra

Bibi is tantamount to delay

the reference. The replies to

questionnaire of 342 were

not given by the accused

persons. NAB prosecutor

said the application given

by the accused for sum-

moning 16 witnesses is not

Prosecutor

Bushra Bibi filed ex-

lion pounds reference.

April 2025

According to news re-

Stakeholder consulta-

vices in Pakistan.

Full-scale negotiations



ISLAMABAD: Mr. Rod Smith of Cambridge University Press and Assessment signs an MoU with the Ministry of Federal Education, accompanied by Federal Minister Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui.

# **More non-permanent members** not new permanent seats will make UNSC effective: Pakistan

(APP): Pakistan, member of the Uniting for Consensus (UfC) group which opposes new permanent members in the U.N. Security Council, has reaffirmed its demand for adding more non-permanent seats to the (IGN) aimed at restructur- Council began in the Gen-15-member body so as to ing the Council resumed on eral Assembly in February make it more effective, rep- Tuesday. resentative and account-

"The UfC continues to believe that its proposal for an expansion of Security Council membership to 26 or 27, with the addition of 11 or 12 new non-per-

manent members, offers the of the entire membership, best basis for Security he said, adding it will also Council reform," Ambassador Munir Akram, permanent representative to the UN, told delegates when the deadlocked Inter-Gov-

The UfC's proposal the categories of memberto add only non-permanent members, elected periodically by the General Assembly, is "democratic and consistent" with the



BAKU: Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam hands over to Global Shield organization an official request document support regarding Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) during an event at Pakistan Pavilion on sidelines of the COP29 climate summit.

# **SC nullifies IHC decision** on matter of allotment of plots to judges, bureaucrats

Supreme Court (SC) has announced reserved judgment after six months on the matter of allotment of plots to judges and bureaucrats in sector F-14 and F-15

SC while accepting appeal plea of Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA) has declared Islamabad High Court (IHC) decision

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by Justice Munib Akhtar had reserved judgment on May 21.

Justice Ayesha Malik announced the decision. The decision said IHC should see the matter agair and decide in this regard.

It is pertinent to mention here IHC had declared Federal Government Employees Housing Scheme (FGEHS) unconstitutional

# IT exports surge by 42% due to prudent govt policies: Daniyal

ISLAMABAD (APP): The country's IT exports have risen by 42 percent compared to the previous corresponding period, due to the government's effective policies, Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Broadcasting Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry said

Speaking at a news conference, he stated that in the first four months, the country's IT exports have doubled compared to the same period last year. He also noted that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) billion mark.

has met its highest-ever tax collection targets.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has always led the country out of crises whenever it came to power, even when the country was in ruins, and that PML-N was the only political party voted into power based on its performance. He also ĥighlighted that in September, the country's IT exports increased by \$292 million, with total exports the \$1.3 nearing

and equitable future.

She said that today' However, integrating discussions with climate



stitutions The Governor was speaking to the honorary Consul General of Russia, Dr. Abdul Rauf Rind, who called on him here at the Governor's House on Wednesday.

ern skills to the youth of

province by making our technical and vocational in-

During the course of meeting, they discussed the

matters about mutual relations between Pakistan and Russia as well as economic development, prospects of investment and provision of scholarships for poor students of the province.

QUETTA: A Russian delegation led by Honorary Consul General Dr. Abdul

Expects Russian cooperation & guidance in education sector:

Governor Balochistan calls for

Rauf Rind meeting with Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor said that Pakistan and Russia enjoy pleasant relations, however, still there are bright prospects of boosting these relations in different sectors including trade, education and technology between the two countries.

He mentioned that Russia provides opportunities of training to the Ph.D scholars and professors in modern education

He said that Russia has the honour to provide most inexpensive education in the world. The Governor said that Balochistan has vast area with scattered population. However, there is great potential of invest-



Asim Kurd Gailo meeting with Provincial Minister for Food Haji Noor Muhammad Dummar.

# Maulana Wasey voices concern over new wave of terrorism, law & order situation

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Ameer of Jamiat Ulema-e-

Maulana Àbdul Wasey has expressed deep concern over what it termed deteriorating situation of law and order in the province. While addressing a

scheduled press conference at the JUI's provincial secretariat on Wednesday afternoon along with other Jamiat leaders, Maulana Abdul Wasey said that we are deeply concerned about the new wave of terrorism in the province.

He said that protests were lodged against incidents of terrorism in the province. He referred to the incidents of terrorism at Quetta Railway station, attacks at the coal mines in Duki and Harnai besides the abduction of a school child from van in Quetta saying that these and other similar

acts of terrorism and law lessness are matter of great concern for us.

He said that a meeting of JUI was also held on circumstances of the province, in which it was feared that there may be more disturbance in province in future. He questioned perfor-

mance of the law enforcement agencies saying that if the law and order can't be controlled then why billions of rupees are allocated for the purpose. He stressed that the law enforcement agencies should fulfill their responsibilities with regard to maintain law and order in the province.

The JUI Provincial Ameer criticized the government for raids in madrissas in Pishin and

He said that madaris are our red line and we wouldn't accept the illegal raids on them



QUETTA: MPA Naeem Khan Bazai meeting with Provincial Minister for Health Bakht Muhammad Kakar. **Education Festival continues in Chaman:** 

# Removal of educational backwardness our collective responsibility: Brig. Adnan By Sardar Khondai Achakzai, Principal of the

CHAMAN: The Regional Director Anti Narcotics Force (ANF), Brigadier Adnan Danish has stated that it is our collective responsibility to remove educational backwardness.

Brigadier Adnan Danish was addressing the gathering of Educational Festival, held at the Shaheed Advocate Aimal Khan Achakzai Degree College in Chaman on Wednesday.

The prominent among the participants were Professor Dr. Abdul Samad Achakzai, Professor Dr. Najeeb Sarparah, Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Habib Ahmed Bangulzai, Wing Commander Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Irfan, Assistant Commissioner Chaman. Imtiaz Ali Baloch, District Education Officer, Abdul Quddus

Achakzai, Principal of the College, Ajab Khan Marwat, Principal FC School and College, Professor Ehsan Elahi, District Coordinator UNICEF, Jameel Kakar besides the senior officers, tribal elders, teachers and students.

The students delivered speeches on the anti narcotics, and other topics. Similarly, a ceremony

was also held at the Girls College Chaman the same day. There were interesting competitions on the occasion. In the end, the guests witnessed the stalls of books set up there. The Deputy Commis-

sioner Chaman gave away awards and shields to the

The Educational Festival would also remain continued today (Thurs-

# Planning minister directs sites' identification, concept paper preparation for M-SEZs

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday directed the officials concerned to identify suitable sites for the establishment of Model Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and prepare a comprehensive concept paper for the

He passed these directives while chairing a meeting on Model-SEZs and the policy framework for the relocation of Chinese industries to Pakistan, following a detailed briefing by officials from the Board of Investment (BOI). Stressing the need to

paying attention on learning mod enhance G2G (governmentto-government) joint cooperation with China, he said

the investment potential

the province has in differ-

and the guest exchanged

LHC declines

interim bail

plea for PTI

founder in

all cases

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Wednesday declined a

plea to grant interim bail to the Pakistan Tehreek-

e-Insaf (PTI) founder in all

cases registered against

him in Punjab and

Justice Farooq Haider heard the petition filed by

Noreen Niazi, the sister of

the PTI founder, seeking

details of the cases regis

During the hearing, re-ports on behalf of the fed-

eration and the Punjab

Home Department were

submitted, revealing that 62

cases had been registered in Islamabad and 54 cases in Punjab against the PTI

petitioner's counsel re-

quested the court to grant

interim bail to the PTI

remarked that it was neces-

sary for the accused to an-

pear before the court in per-

son to seek pre-arrest bail.

founder in these cases.

At this stage, the

In response, the court

tered against her brother.

Islamabad.

founder.

commemorative shields.

In the end, Governor

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan would provide land to Chinese industries, while they would manage the infrastructure and market these zones them-Ahsan Igbal high-

lighted the importance of

industrial zones and said

that a one-window facility

would be provided to these zones so that investors do not face any difficulties. He also mentioned that no negligence would be tolerated in the construction of the zones or the pro-

vision of facilities there. The planning minister further said there would be regular meetings with Chinese companies every month to address their problems promptly, if any



SLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Igbal, chaired a high-level meeting to review the identification of locations for Model Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and the policy framework for relocating Chinese industries to Pakistan.

## Umrani says:

# **Provincial Govt utilizing** available resources on projects of public welfare

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister for Labour and Manpower, Sardar Ghulam Rasool Umrani has stated that the government is utilizing the available resources on the collective

nature development projects of public welfare. He said that our resources are limited while problems are more, despite this, government is doing its best to remove the sense of deprivation prevailing

among the people. He said some 30,000 youngsters are being provided opportunities of livelihood abroad by making them skilled.

He said that third party hiring firms have been assigned the respon-vation in the province.

the Programme.

The Advisor to Chief Minister was speaking to different delegations of tribal elders and other people in his office on Wednesday. He also said that the youth of Balochistan are being provided opportunities of livelihood and progress under leadership of Chairman Pastan Peoples Party, lawal Bhutto Zardari.

He said that several projects of improvement in manpower as well as the Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Programme and Youth Development Programme have been implemented, which would



BAKU: Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization and Board of Investment, Abdul Aleem Khan during the COP 29 in Baku.

#### **HarimauMarkhor** ceremony ends successfully at NCTC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The closing ceremony of exercise HarimauMarkhor Series 2/2024 was successfully held at the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) here on Wednes-

Pakistan has significantly strengthened the military-to-military cooperation between Malaysia and Pakistan.

The event was attended by Malaysia's High Commissioner to Pakistan Ambassador Mohammad Mazlan, who highlighted the exercise's success in fostering closer defence ties between Malaysia and Pakistan.

#### Asad Qaisar, Pervaiz Khattak others acquitted in Haqiai Azadi March case

ISLAMABAD (Online) District and Sessions Court Islamabad has acquitted all accused persons including Asad Qaisar and Pervaiz Khattak after Imran Khan in Haqiqi Azadi March case. PTI Haqiqi Azadi March cases came up for hearing in district and session courts Islamabad led by judge Azhar Nadim Wednesday. Sardar Masroof Khan advocate and Aamna Ali advocate appeared on behalf of the accused. The court acquitted Asad Qaisar, Pervez Khattak, Ghulam Sarwar and other accused from both of the

# FC (North) sets up 22 free medical camps in remote areas of Balochistan

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan (North) set up a series of free medical camps in the remote areas of the prov-

According to an official communique shared with the media on Wednesday, in all 22 free medical camps were arranged by the FC (North) in different far flung areas of the province between November 1-19,

2024. Over 10,850 patients including women and children were provided free of cost medical treatment in the camps. In addition to this, the free eye camps were also organized in collaboration with the Al-Shifa Trust and SPCB in Quetta, Dera Bugti, Dhadhar and Mach. Besides, the tribal jirgas were also held with the tribal elders in Lehri, Maiwand, Killa Saifullah and Zhob areas.

# SC constitutional bench dismisses petition seeking sacking of govt employees

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) Constitutional bench has dismissed the petition seeking sacking of government employees declaring it non maintainable.

A 7-member SC constitutional bench presided over by Justice Amin ud Din Khan took up for hearing the petition seeking dismissal of government employees from

quest in your petition all the government employees do not work and they should be sacked. Why you had not resorted to respective institutions. The petitioner said no one hears him therefore, he has come to SC.

Justice Ayesha Malik remarked you have made re-



**QUETTA: Students and local people participating** in protest for missing Mosaver Khan at Balochistan Assembly Chowk.