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Four security personnel martyred during PTI protest

Rangers begin arrests, regain control of D-Chowk after pushing back PTI protesters

Army deployed in Islamabad as PTI anti-govt campaign turns violent; Over 100 police officers injured, many critically, in ongoing unrest.

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Rangers have regained control of Islamabad's D-Chowk after beginning arrests and pushing back PTI protesters from the venue of the party's much-touted power show.

A private tv channel report that PTI protesters began retreating from the site in the face of heavy teargas shelling and action by the authorities.

Protesters earlier gathered at the site for the party's protest to demand PTI founder Imran Khan's

release, among other things, amid reports of intense tear gas shelling by security forces to curtail the large crowds. The PTI convoys have been plying roads countrywide since Sunday.

There were blackouts in many areas of Islamabad. including D-Chowk, Jinnah Avenue, G6, G8 and G9.

Scores of people have also been injured, including journalists who were attacked by demonstrators, as dozens of PTI supporters beat a videographer covering the protest for The

Continued on page 2

Govt rejects any negotiations with PTI, accuses opposition of escalating tensions

ISLAMABAD (INP): The government has firmly rejected any possibility of negotiations with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) protesters, escalating tensions follow-

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Information Minister Atta Tarar held a joint press conference on Tuesday, stating that the protesters, who had gathered at D-Chowk, had been pushed back and the area was cleared. The ministers stressed that no discussions would take place with the demonstrators.



Pakistan, Belarus agree on early realization of bilateral accords in multiple sectors

Underscore significance of advancing political dialogue, expanding trade, economic cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- into agreements by Febru- enhancing economic ties kistan and Belarus on Tues- ary next year. day agreed on the early realization of bilateral accords to enhance cooperation in trade, agriculture, food, defence and technology to monetize the decades-old political bilateral relations

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko, addressing a joint press stakeout following their bilateral meeting and delegation-level talks, said that both sides had reached an agreement to solidify the understanding reached between the two

leaders and convert them

He stressed the need to

Referring the province

While resentment is

correct the historic facts.

Chief Minister said that

Balochistan is being pushed

towards instability in three

being spread by killing in-

nocent people through vio-

lence, he mentioned adding

that hatred is being spread

against the State through

baseless propaganda on so-

bility is being created

through the negative social

anced development is the

issue of whole country. He

Moreover, social insta-

He said that the unbal-

cial media.

tricks, he added.

witnessed the exchange of important agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), encompassing cooperation in environmental protection, disaster management, halal trade, audit institutions, financial intelligence sharing, vocational education and

science & technology. One of the key outcomes of the meeting was the signing of the "Roadmap for Comprehensive Cooperation between Pakistan and Belarus for 2025-2027," which outlines a strategic framework for

through high-level meet-Earlier, both leaders ings, inter-governmental commissions, and targeted collaborative initiatives.

Talking to the media, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif referred to the closeness between Pakistan and Belarus and said that in their "productive" bilateral meeting and the delegation-level talks, they discussed the cooperation in multiple sectors including commerce, tourism, defence, food and

He lauded President Lukashenko's commitment to turning the bilateral un Continued on page 2

Imran urges supporters to stand firm until demands are met

RAWALPINDI (INP): Pa- freedom in the face of the (PTI) founder Imran Khan has lauded his party's supporters in Islamabad and D-Chowk, urging them to remain steadfast in their protests until their demands are

In a statement shared via his official X account, Khan expressed his gratitude to the Pakistani nation and PTI activists for standing up for their rights and engaging in peaceful protests against what he described as a "mafia" that has taken control of the coun-

try.
"I salute the Pakistani nation and PTI workers who are standing for their rights, protesting peace-fully, and demanding real

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf mafia imposed on this country," Khan wrote.

The PTI founder stated that his message to his team was clear: "Fight until the last ball, and we will not back down until our demands are fulfilled." He reiterated the party's resolve to push forward with their protests, regardless of the

opposition. Khan accused the authorities of violence against protesters, claiming that police and Rangers forces, under the direction of interim Puniab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, fired upon PTI workers and used tear gas, resulting in injuries He demanded accountability for the actions taken



MOSCOW: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq being welcomed at Moscow on his arrival by Vice Chairman of Russian State Duma Mr. Alexander Babakov.

GoB grieved over martyrdom of Rangers' cops in attack of miscreants in Islamabad

Independent Report QUETTA: The Govern-

ment of Balochistan has expressed grief and sorrow over martyrdom of the personnels of Rangers in attack made by the miscreants in Islamabad.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, the spokesman of provincial government, Shahid Rind expressed condolence with the bereaved families of martyr cops of Rangers. He said that personnels

of Rangers embraced martyrdom while performing their duties.

He said that the incidents of torturing personnels of Rangers taking law in their hands by the armed groups are condemnable.

He said that the attack on federal capital by the armed groups in the name

of a so-called party is matter of great concern.

He said that there is nothing above than supremacy of law, and as such stern action is needed against the elements involved in the violence. The spokesman also

said that the citizens of Islamabad are being made hostage under the garb of protest. He questioned that what protest is this to subject the state personnels to torture taking law in hand.

He stressed to take action against the elements involved in the violence, according to the law and constitution.

He also demanded to lodge FIR against the elements involved in killing of the cops of Rangers, who otherwise were deputed for restoration of peace.

Information minister warns against testing the state's patience, says Bushra Bibi seeking "blood and bodies"

ing days of demonstrations in Islamabad.

The interior minister maintained that no negotiations would be held with the protesters, asserting that "now that they have come and seen the situation, there is no possibility of talks.

Continued on page 2 Continued on page 2

neral prayers of three Rang-

ers officials, who embraced

Shahadat yesterday during

the ongoing protest, were offered at Chaklala Garri-

Sharif, Deputy Prime Min-

ister Mohammad Ishaq

Dar, Interior Minister

Mohsin Naqvi, Minister

for Information Attaullah

Tarar, Chief of Army Staff

General Syed Asim Munir,

NI(M), senior serving mili-

son, on Tuesday.

Prime

Muhammad

'Miscreants want bloodshed. not revolution': PM Shehbaz

Says Pakistan cannot afford any form

of chaos or bloodshed; PM, ČOAS

attend funeral prayers of Shaheed

security personnel

ISLAMABAD (APP): Fu- tary and civil officials at-

Shehbaz

tended the funeral, PM Of-

fice Media Wing said in a

ford any chaos and blood-

shed for achieving vested

political purposes. These

acts of violence are unac-

ceptable and highly con-

demnable which are border-

ing the limits of restraint by

the Law Enforcement Agen-

cies. The entire nation

Continued on page 2

pays homage to the

"Pakistan cannot af-

press release.

Bushra Bibi, wife of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan, and PTI supporters attend a rally demanding his release, in Islamabad.

Sadiq Umraniconcerned about bringing exceptional amendments in IRSAAct by federal government

Independent Report

tion and member of Central Committee of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani has expressed concern over the efforts being made by the federal government for bringing extraordinary amendments in the IRSA

He said that IRSA Act would not only be weakened with the efforts being made by federal government to bring exceptional amendments in the Act, but it

would also be annulled. He said that the amendments in the IRSA Act would cause differences among the provinces be-

standings further.

QUETTA: The senior ProQUETTA: The senior Prowas approved with mutual consent of the provinces in 1991, which is intact even

> He also mentioned that all the provinces are being provided water from the Indus Main Irrigation System 1815.

He said that the share of Balochistan is very meager, and doesn't meet our requirements.

He said that we fully endorse the stance of Sindh on the matter of IRSA, and we would not withdraw

He also mentioned that the Provincial Assembly has already adopted a resolution against amendments

Lukashenko's honour ISLAMABAD (APP):

PM hosts

banquet in

President

Muhammad Sharif on Tuesday hosted a banquet in the honour of President of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko at the Prime Minister's House.

The banquet was also attended by members of the Belarusian delegation and members of the federal cabinet, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Earlier, President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko had arrived Islamabad on an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan at the invitation of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz

Security Forces foil Khwarij attempts to enter Pakistan,

kill 3 terrorists RAWALPINDI (APP): The Security Forces killed three Khwarij terrorists by thwarting their attempt to infiltrate through Pak-Afghan border on Monday night in general area of Hassan Khel, North

Waziristan District. "Movement of a group of khwarij, who were trying to infiltrate through Pakistan-Afghanistan border, was picked up by the security forces in general area Hassan Khel, North Waziristan District. Own troops effectively engaged and thwarted their attempt to infiltrate. Resultantly, three Khwarij were sent to hell, according to a news release by Inter-Services

Public Relations (ISPR). Pakistan has consistently been asking the Interim Afghan Government to ensure effective border management on their side of the border. The interim Afghan Government is expected to fulfil its obligations and deny the use of Afghan soil by Khwarij for perpetuating acts of terrorism against Pakistan, it fur-

Mir Sarfraz Bugti says any Punjabi, Sindhi, Siraiki or any other didn't keep Balochistan backward, rather there's hand of own people in it; says steps being taken to bridge gulf between State and youth in province on priority basis

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti speaking

Backwardness not basic reason behind

insurgency in Balochistan: asserts CM

to the participants of 14th National Workshop on Balochistan.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has categorically stated that backwardness is not the basic reason behind insurgency in the province, and added that any Punjabi, Sindhi, Siraiki or any other has kept the province backward, rather there's hand of the own people in it.

He said that backwardness in the province is not because of the people coming from outside, rather it is because of own people.

The Chief Minister also stressed the need to make the real concept of

He also stressed that province. there's a need to correct the

The Chief Minister was addressing the participants of 14th National Workshop Balochistan here on Tuesday.
The Chief Minister

said that the merger of Balochistan in Pakistan was made with mutual consent and the narrative of forced accession is just wrong propaganda.

He said that the operation was conducted against the insurgency in limited area and that at the limited

He said that it is just

wrong to attribute the op-Balochistan compatible eration in limited area as operation in the whole

Continued on page 2 Govt to maintain writ of state at any cost: Info Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Tuesday said that the state was showing great restraint against the protesters from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf. Talking to media, the minister said that the spouse of founder of PTI Bushra Bibi had come with a plan to fuel violence and get the protesters killed in clashes with the law

enforcement agencies so that they could take advantage of the situation. "Mercenaries have been brought to the front and they want to use children of the or people", he remarked.

He said that it seemed the PTI leadership wanted to achieve the objectives of May 9 He asked who should be held responsible for the blood of martyrs of police and

ther said.

QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Health Bakht Muhammad Kakar presides over the meeting to ensure medicine supply in hospitals. Secretary Health Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Panezai is also present.

sides mounting misunderin the IRSA Act. NDI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and COAS General Asim Munir attend the

US urges Pak to respect human rights, PTI protesters' right to demonstrate

funeral procession of the martyred Rangers officials.

The United States has urged Pakistani authorities to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the PTI protesters' right to demonstrate peacefully, US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said on Tuesday. As the PTI convoys

from various parts of the country are enroute Islamabad to demand the release of its incarcerated founder Imran Khan, the federal government has vowed to not let them reach their desired destination in the capital, D-Chowk. Containers and barbed wires have been

strategically placed to

while heavy police de-

the authorities are de-

WASHINGTON (INP): need be. In the State Department briefing earlier on Tuesday, Miller was asked to comment on the PTI supporters' protest as well as their reported clashes with the police. "In Pakistan and around the world, we support freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association," the spokesperson

"We call on protesters to demonstrate peacefully and refrain from violence, and at the same time, we call on Pakistani authorities to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to ensure respect for Pakistan's laws and constitution, as they work impede PTI supporters, to maintain law and order."The statement ployments indicate that comes after clampdown on PTI's 'do or die' protest termined to use force, if in the federal capital.

Saim Ayub, Abrar Ahmed help Pakistan thrash Zimbabwe in second ODI

BULAWAYO (INP) - ting performance as 1 wicket each. Pakistan defeated Zimbabwe by 10 wickets in the second ODI to level the three match series

Chasing a modest target of 146 runs, Pakistan opener Saim Ayub smashed his maiden century, remaining unbeaten with 117 runs, while his partner Abdullah Shafique contributed 32 runs. The duo achieved the target in the 19th over. Earlier, Zimbabwe

had set Pakistan a target of 146 runs. The host were bowled out for 145 runs in 32.3 overs. Debutant Abrar Ahmed took 4 wickets for Paki-

displayed a poor bat- and Faisal Akram took match series 1-0.

Joylord (5) and openers Gumbie Tadiwanashe Marumani (4) were dismissed early. The third-wicket partnership added 38 runs, but Devon Myers (33) and captain, Craig Ervine (18) were also

After that, no Zimbabwean batter was able to withstand the Pakistani bowlers. Sikandar Raza scored 17, Sean Williams 31, Brian Bennett 14, Blessing Muzarabani 11, Brandon Mavuta 3, and Richard Ngarava 2 runs before being out. For Pakistan, Abrar

Ahmed claimed 4 wickets, while Salman Ali Zimbabwe batters Agha took 3, Saim Ayub

BEIJING: Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Mr. Khalil Hashmi welcomed

Mayor Liu Jianjun, including 29 agro enterprises, of Weifang city in

Shandong province to the 3rd Pakistan-China B2B Investment Meeting on

Rangers begin arrests, regain control of....

forcement personnel exer-

given permission to protest

in D-Chowk. We offered

them Sangjani. We asked

them to give application and sit in Sangjani," Naqvi said

during his D-Chowk visit.

"My information is that

they got approval from

Imran Khan but we haven't

got a final answer from PTI," he added.

Belarus president is here in

Pakistan, so do not cross

the Red Line. Otherwise,

we will have to take extreme

steps, including invoking

Article 245 [calling in the

army], imposing curfew or

any other extreme steps,"

four personnel of Rangers

embraced martyrdom while

five others and police per-

sonnel sustained seriously

APP adds: At least

the minister continued.

"I'm saying again the

"No one has ever been

cised restraint.

fruits, vegetables and animal fodder sector in Beijing.

Continued from page 1 Pathargarh, yet the law-en-

Associated Press and

Earlier the Pakistan

took his camera. He sus-

tained head injuries and was

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) con-

voy, led by Bushra Bibi, the

wife of Imran Khan, is ap-

proaching Islamabad's Zero

Point, which has been taken

under the control of Paki-

The Ministry of Inte-

ior earlier during the day

had announced the deploy-

ment of the Pakistan Army

under Article 245 of the

Constitution in response to

escalating security concerns

wanted "bodies to advance

their disruptive agenda" but

the authorities would not

give them the chance. He

warned that if the police fire

bullets in response to the

protesters' firing, they

could not even cross

Naqvi said that the PTI

stan Army soldiers.

in Islamabad.

treated in a hospital.

Zimbabwe XI: Joylord Gumbie, Two changes were been made to the team, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Dion with Tayyab Tahir re-Marumani, Myers, Craig Ervine ©, placing Haseebullah Khan, and Abrar Ahmed coming in for Mohammad Hasnain. Sean Williams, Sikandar Raza, Brian Bennett, Brandon Mavuta, Richard Ngarava, Blessing Muzarabani, Trevor Both players would make their debuts today (Tuesday) in Bulawayo. Gwandu

Zimbabwe must win today's match to secure their first-ever ODI series victory against Pakistan, while Pakistan must win today's match to save itself from losing the firs-ever series from Zimbabwe.

Pakistan lost the first ODI against Zimbabwe by 80 runs under the DLS method. Zimbabwe lead the three-

injuries when miscreants

rammed a vehicle into them

at Srinagar Highway in the

sources, , four personnel of

Rangers and two of police

have been martyred so far

in attacks on law enforce-

ment agencies by PTI mis-

creants. Over 100 police

officials have also been in-

jured and many of them

sustained severe injuries,

said that under Article 245

of the constitution, Army

has been summoned to deal

with the miscreants and

troublemakers with iron

hands. Shoot at sight orders

have also been issued, they

further said that all neces-

sary measures were being

taken to deal with anar-

chists and miscreants in re-

sponse to any act of terror

The security sources

ine security source

they further said.

According to security

wee hours of Tuesday.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Belarus H.E. Aleksandr Lukashenko introducing their respective delegations.

SP Chagai for action against criminal elements to maintain peace

QUETTA (APP): Superin- Superintendent Shakeel tendent of Police (SP) Chagai Syed Fazil Shah Bukhari on Tuesday said that strict action would be taken against criminal elements and drug peddlers to maintain law and order situation in the area.

Pakistan XI:

Mohammad Rizwan ©, Saim Ayub,

Abdullah Shafique,

Kamran Ghulam, Tayyab Tahir, Salman

Ali Agha, Mohammad

Irfan Khan, Aamer Jamal, Faisal Akram,

Abrar Ahmed, Haris

He said this while assuming charge of his post SP Chagai.

The newly appointed SP Syed Fazil Shah Bukhari was greeted by a police contingent upon his arrival at the SP office,

Sherzai,SHO Dalbandin Abdul Qadir Mengal Office tance.

Ahmed Baloch and other officers were also present.

After assuming charge, a meeting was called immediately. In the meeting, all DSPs and Investigations officers were directed to further improve their performance. The SP Chagai said that the police should intensify the checking process at all the routes.

He said that the police should immediately resolve the legitimate complaints of the people coming to the police stations and ensure their every possible assis-

Govt rejects any negotiations...

The government has made a clear decision that there will be no negotiations with those on the sit-in."

He detailed the actions taken by the government the demonstration. He speforces, stating that not only had the protesters been removed from D-Chowk, but they had been pushed back 'two roundabouts away.

Naqvi accused the PTI protesters of trying to provoke violence, claiming that their objective was to cause casualties, a situation the government worked hard to

We saw the type of people who came in these protest caravans," he remarked. "Their goal was to provoke violence and create martyrs, but we managed to clear the area without any loss of life," he added.

He also referred to Bushra Bibi, wife of PTI founder Imran Khan, as being responsible for instigating the unrest. "The person responsible for the loss of life and property is one woman." Nagyi said, without explicitly naming Bibi, adding that the authorities added. would "deal with her accordingly.

Information Minister Atta Tarar joined Naqvi in condemning the protesters. accusing PTI of using children as human shields and

attempting to stir violence. During the press conference, he displayed marbles and shells used by the protesters to attack law enforcement, further highlighting the escalating nature of the protests. He said, Today, we dealt with them, and we have pushed

Continued from page 1 one by force here." The minister also ac-

cused PTI of orchestrating the protest with the help of foreign elements, claiming that Afghan nationals had been recruited to join cifically named a "daily wage worker from Swat' and a 16-year-old Afghan boy as examples of foreign participation.

In a direct challenge to PTI and Bushra Bibi, Tarar demanded that she bring forward her family members, including her sons Qasim and Suleman, for further confrontation.

He declared that the government had repelled PTI's assault, and no negotiations would be entertained. "There are cases in the courts; what is there to talk about? Can we offer an NRO or a deal?" he re-

marked. Tarar warned against testing the state's patience, accusing Bushra Bibi of seeking to take "blood and bodies" in her pursuit of political goals. "She should have the courage to lead from the front. We are still standing at D-Chowk," he

The information minister stated that while firing a gun may seem easy, the government would not allow protesters to receive the deaths they were seeking. "We will not give them martyrs," he said. "Let's find out whose hands are stained with the blood of the police and Rangers mar

He concluded by daring the PTI protesters to advance, stating, "Come forward, we are ready. Anyone who tries to come them two roundabouts here will face a strong re-

Speakers at webinar demand end to Indian atrocities on women in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (INP): Speakers in a webinar expressed deep concern over the ongoing atrocities, sexual violence, and human rights violations against women in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kash-

The webinar, organized by Friends of Kashmir International on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, was attended by various global and Kashmiri leaders who called on the international community to take immediate action to address these issues.

Mushaal Hussain Malik, Chairperson of the Khwaja stated that the ac-Peace and Culture Founda-

forgivable crime. She noted that Kashmiri women, through their courage and sacrifices, are resisting oppression, but they need international support to continue their Ghazala Habib, Chair-

person of Friends of Kashmir International, pointed out that women in Kashmir are systematically subjected to violence and oppression, and she called for the immediate intervention of the international community to stop these atroci-

Legal and international affairs expert Dr. Asma blatant violation of interna- Ayesha Kirmani, Asim sexual and mental abuse of tional human rights laws, Zaeb, and Nazia Sheikh.

women in IIOJK is an un- and there is an urgent need for strong measures against

Ali Raza Syed, Chairman of the Kashmir Council EU, urged the European Union to play a proactive role in stopping the violation of women's rights in IIOJK.

The webinar was attended by several other participants, including Abdul Hamid Lone, Mohammad Haroon Abbas, Naila Altaf Kiani, Rana Basharat Ali Khan, Professor Taqdees Gilani, Shaheen Kausar Dar, Nazish Khattak, Mirza Asif Jeral, Khurshid, Sadia Sattar, Nazneen Gilani, Rimsha tions of Indian forces are a Malik, Hina Basheer,

Pakistan Shaheens, Sri Lanka A last two 50-over matches postponed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Cricket Board, in consultation with Sri Lanka Cricket, has postponed the last two 50-over matches of the Pakistan Shaheens-Sri Lanka A series due to a political activity in the federal capital.

The last two matches were scheduled for Wednesday and Friday at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. Both boards will collaborate to finalise new dates to complete the

series, said a press release. The Shaheens lead the series, having won the two four-day matches 1-0 and the opening 50-over match on Monday by 108 runs.



QUETTA: Parliamentary Secretary Haji Barkat Ali Rind meeting with Provincial Minister for Communication and Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa.

Backwardness not basic reason behind....

Continued form page 1

said that measures are being taken to bridge the gulf between State and youth in the province.

The Chief Minister also mentioned that implementation has been started on first Youth Policy after its formulation.

In addition to this, it has been decided to grant scholarships to the students of Balochistan for Ph.D from 200

pressed their satisfaction at

the successful organization

courage both government

and private sectors to col-

laborate and organize series

of seminars on "Doing

Business with Each Other

aiming to reduce trade bar-

riers and facilitate market

ages, both sides welcomed

signing of an MOU between

the National Logistics Cor-

noration (NLC) and

Beltamozhservice and

agreed to encourage other

stakeholders, including lo-

gistics companies, to de-

land routes for efficiently

delivering goods to each

streamline transportation.

reduce costs, and improve

the overall efficiency of

trade between the two coun-

mense potential for expand-

ing collaboration in science

and technology, and noting

the progress made over the

This initiative aims to

Recognizing the im-

other's markets.

velop optimal maritime and

To enhance trade link-

They also agreed to en-

of the forum

access.

prominent universities of the world. Similarly, the Pro-

vincial government would bear 16 years educational expenditures of the topper students from each district.

going to send 30,000 youngsters to abroad after making them ment. skilled in next three

He also reiterated the government's of-

their business plans. He said that we ince. are also working for in governance in the

that we would restore trust if youth on the State by improving governance. He asserted that

now youth of the province has to decide that whether they would become While on the part of the abortive other hand, we are war or move ahead in educational and developsocial We have stopped

selling of government jobs in the province, he said adding work fer of interest free is continued to reloans to youth for open the closed schools in the prov-

He said that 100 bringing improvement closed schools have been reopened in province. He said Pishin district.

TENDER NOTICE

The Section Officer Services And General Administration Department (S&GAD) invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following objects. Tender Fee +1 (Green Challan) Rs.1000/-

Bid Security S. No. Name of Objects 1. Manufactured Vehicles & Accessories 100,000 PKR fixed

(Total Item(s) Count: 1) TSE-242511594241 Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Eligibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security of Rs.100000/- (Fixed) fo Manufactured Vehicles & Accessories in the form of Call Deposit of amount 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 upon payment (non refundable) bidding document fee Rs.1000/-through Green Challan. In account of C03870/If Others please specify (The NIT & Bidding Document can also be downloaded from www.bppra.org.pk) Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 10/12/ 2024, during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 10/12/2024 till 12:00 PM at the office of the undersigned. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 01:00PM. on EPPS System Address: Section Officer (B&A) Services And General Administration Department

PRQ No.2068/26-11-2024

(S&GAD)

Services And General Administration Department (S&GAD) 🚭 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔽 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🚹 @dgpr.ba

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah meets with the 51th Specialized Training Program officers of the Initial Command Course at CM House. back. No one can free any- sponse Pakistan, Belarus agree on early realization of bilateral....

Continued from page 1

derstandings into practical agreements and ac-

The prime minister told the media that the two sides would sit together later in the day to finalise the roadmap for cooperation in agriculture, joint ventures, mining and minerals, IT and possibilities for heavy machinery manufacturing. This will follow another discussion in Minsk to finalize and make arrangements for agreements to be signed in February next year by him and President Lukashenko to convert them into concert actions.

The prime minister said that their meeting also featured a discussion on the heart-wrenching situation in Gaza where 45,000 people had been killed while the ceasefire could not yet take place despite the UN resolutions and the ruling by the International Court of Justice.

Expressing gratitude to the Belarusian president for the Kashmir cause, he said global peace would remain a far cry until the issues were resolved

In his remarks, Presi-

dent Lukashenko said both sides discussed the ways to realize the MoUs signed by two sides and also appreciated Prime Minister Shehbaz's vision and approach to turning the bilateral understanding into ac-

He said Pakistan and Belarus had decades-old political and diplomatic relations which necessitated to monetise these ties for the benefit of the two peoples and utilise immense potential.

He expressed his country's willingness to share technology with Pakistan in different areas of expertise and also assured support to work on the agreed areas of cooperation.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz eas Sharif and President of Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko on Tuesday emphasized the importance of advancing political dialogue and strengthening in-

ter-parliamentary relations. They also focused on expanding trade and economic cooperation, adopting a collaborative approach to regional economic integration and connectivity and enhancing the eration legal framework to facilitate bilateral collaboration, said a joint statement between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of

President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko had arrived on an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan at the invitation of Prime Muhammad Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

During the visit, the two leaders comprehensively reviewed the full range of bilateral relations and reaffirmed their mutual commitment to deepening friendly ties between the two countries across political, trade, economic, cultural, social, and other ar-

This year marked the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Belarus. Both sides acknowledged that their relationship had grown into a durable, broadbased and comprehensive

significance Pakistan congratulated Belarus on its full membership in the Shanghai Coop-

partnership of increasing

Organization tive manufacturing and tech-(SCO), with Belarus noting Pakistan's early support for its accession. The prime minister an-

preciated the active participation of the prime minister of Belarus in the SCO Council of Heads of Governments meeting, hosted by Pakistan in October 2024. The two sides agreed to work closely within this important forum to further strengthen their coopera-

Recognizing Belarus's advanced agricultural manufacturing capabilities and the needs of Pakistan's agriculture-based economy, the two sides agreed to promote the establishment of joint ventures in the agriculture and industrial sectors, including for the production of high-tech and large-scale agricultural ma-

chinery. Both sides also agreed to collaborate in sales, manufacturing and servicing of vehicles, including through partnerships between private and public organiza-

tions of both countries. This initiative aimed to leverage the strengths of both countries in automo-

nology, boosting industrial growth and innovation. Both sides also agreed

to cooperate in expanding the network of sales and services of Belarusian agricultural machinery in various Pakistani cities, including through partnerships with Pakistani private and public organizations. Additionally, they con-

sidered initiating educational programs in sphere of agricultural machines manufacturing. During the visit, the

Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), in collaboration with the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BelCCI), organized a Belarus-Pakistan Business Forum.

The event saw participation from over thirty Belarusian companies and nearly one hundred Pakistani counterparts from various sectors, fostering valuable interactions and potential business oppor-

The two leaders ex-

past decade, both sides agreed to establish stronger ties between their scientific



Belarus, Aleksandr Lukashenko at Prime Minister's House

National Curriculum Summit 2024 inaugurated at AIOU Ahsan vows educational reforms to meet 21st-century needs during PML-N tenure ISLAMABAD (APP): dressing the National Curpressed a desire to estab-South Asia, providing stu-

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal expressed a strong commitment on Tuesday to reform Pakistan's memorization-based education system and develop a world-class curriculum during the current tenure of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) govern-

"With the support of all stakeholders and experts, we will develop a curriculum that aligns with 21st-century requirements," he said while adriculum Summit titled "Empowering the Future by Reviewing Existing Curricula to Integrate Skill and Technology," organized by the National Curriculum Council (NCC) and the Inter-Board Coordination Commission (IBCC).

The minister said the government was pursuing a goal of equipping the country's youth with modern education, enabling them to compete internationally and contribute to national develop-

Ahsan Iqbal also ex-

lish a state-of-the-art Teachers' Training Center to improve education quality and produce skilled professionals who meet contemporary needs. The Ministry of Education has already been tasked with this initiative. He said the PML-N

government had initiated this project during its previous tenure but was unable to complete it due to political instability. The center, in collabo-

ration with provincial education departments, is expected to be the best in

NATIONAL CURRICULUM

SUMMIT 2024

dents with high-quality education focused on enhancing critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving and teamwork.

"It will be a paradigm shift from memorizationbased education," Iqbal said, adding that the initiative would also reform the existing examination sys-

Ahsan Iqbal stressed that memorization-based education was outdated in the modern era, where innovation and creativity were essential for develop-

PTI's involvement in lawlessness puts its political party status in doubt: Irfan

ISLAMABAD (APP): time for a clear and decisive the federal government, Senator Irfan Siddiqui, the parliamentary party leader of PML-N in the Senate and chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, on Tuesday questioned PTI's stato its involvement in terrorism, lawlessness, and anti-Pakistan actions.

X, Siddiqui said the time has come for clear and decisive action regarding PTI, warning that any further delay could be very costly.

Siddiqui stressed that PTI's actions, especially after May 9, 2023, have gone too far, and it is now

ISLAMABAD (INP): The

Islamabad High Court has

delivered a landmark ver-

dict, upholding the Securi-

ties and Exchange Commis-

sion of Pakistan's (SECP)

orders against the legal heirs of Siddiq Moti.

the appeal filed against the decisions of SECP's Secu-

rities Market Division and

its Appellate Bench. The

judgment, issued on No-

vember 19, 2024, reaffirms

SECP's regulatory author-

ity and underscores the im-

portance of safeguarding in-

from a complaint alleging

unauthorizedly transferred

shares by brokerage house

of Siddig Moti from sub-

Syed Nayyar Bukhari, Sec-

retary General of Pakistan

tarians (PPPP), on Tuesday

expressed deep sorrow and regret over the tragic mar-

tyrdom of Rangers and Po-

lice personnel on Srinagar

the party secretariat,

Bukhari expressed solidar-

ity with the families and

colleagues of the martyred

soldiers, highlighting that

their sacrifice in protecting

citizens' lives and prop-

erty will always be remem-

Nayyar Bukhari con-

In a statement from

Highway.

People's Party Parliamen-

The case originated

vestor securities.

The Court dismissed

decision regarding the party's status.

Soon, a decision must be made on whether a group that fosters insecurity, lawlessness, sedition, corruption, murder, destruction, tus as a political party due and an anti-Pakistan agenda deserves to be recognized as a "political party."

He emphasized that In a statement shared Pakistan has never seen a on his social media platform political party that has waged war against the federation using provincial power, resulting in the deaths of officials and injuries to hundreds.

"In Pakistan's 77-year history, which political party has used provincial power to wage war against

SECP, following an inves-

tigation, determined that

these transactions were car-

ried out in violation of the

Central Depositories Act,

1997 and the findings were

subsequently upheld by the SECP's Appellate Bench in

2015. The Islamabad High

Court found no legal or procedural flaws in SECP's

handling of the case. It ob-

served that broad authori-

zation clauses in account-

opening forms do not grant

brokers the authority to

transfer securities from cli-

ents' sub-accounts without

explicit and specific approval.

The court emphasized that

factual determinations made

by SECP and its Appellate

Bench, as specialized regula-

tory bodies, cannot be over-

forgivable act of terrorism.

He urged the authorities to

track down the perpetrators

who drove their vehicle

into the Rangers and bring

them to justice without de-

manded the immediate ar-

rest and prosecution of the

criminals behind this hei-

nous act. He urged strict

Nayyar Bukhari de-

ISLAMABAD: A motorcycle burned from Support-

ers of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party during protest at D- Chowk, in the Federal Capital.

IHC opholds SECP

orders against Moti

accounts maintained by the turned in a second appeal

complainant with Central unless substantial legal er-

Depository Company. The rors are clearly established.

PPPP SG expresses

grief over Srinagar

Highway tragedy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Rangers, terming it an un-

open fire, deploy tear gas, kill several officials, and injure hundreds"?

Siddiqui stated that PTI ceased to be a political party after May 9, 2023, yet it was granted an extended reprieve. As a result, a ruthless force carrying a political agenda has reached Islamabad, spilling blood and bringing with it a May 9 that far surpasses the

original event.

When the state, fulfilling its constitutional duty by handling funerals and collecting the bodies, responds, the riotous group cries out for "political rights" under the guise of persecution.

Litigants face

problems in

IHC due to

PTI protest

SLAMABAD (APP)

The litigants in Islamabad

High Court (IHC) on Tues-

day faced severe problems

due to the protest of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI)

in the capital. Chief Justice

Aamer Farooq could not be

available on this day, too,

due to which the cause list

of court-I has been cancelled.

The division bench com-

prising Chief Justice Aamer

Faroog and Justice Saman

Raffat Imtiaz also could not

hear the intra court appeal

of Punjab and Chief Com-

NUST showcases innovative technologies at IDEAS 2024

The National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) made its mark at the 12th edition of the International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS 2024), held recently at the

NUST, the Defence Technologies booth showcased NUST's advanced research the NUST Technologies nerships and contributing to

ISLAMABAD (APP): university's contributions to advancements in various



before the court. Advocates including Mirza Asim Baig, Atiq Rehman and Amna Ali were also among the peti-The petitioners said that the trial court's judge Shahrukh Arjamand allowed

IHC adjourns

lawyers' plea

to attend PTI

founder's trial

permitted by the jail au-The IHC fixed the case for hearing on December 3.

them to attend the hearing

in jail but they were not

Muqam strongly condemns attack on Rangers, police personnel

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRÖN Engineer Amir Muqam strongly condemned the attack on Rangers and police personnel on Srinagar Highway by miscreants.

Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs paid tribute to four martyred Rangers personnel and police constable Mubashir, said a press release.

Amir Muqam expressed heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the families of the martyrs.

Engineer Muqam prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured personnel.

Nation salutes the martyred personnel, Amir Muqam.

Federal Minister paid tribute to police constable Mubashir, who was martyred in the violence of protesters near Hakla.

Protesters who resorted to violence will be brought to justice, Engineer

The rise of Hindutva ideol-

extremism and terrorism.

other right-wing Hindu or-

ganizations is deeply

rooted in violence and big-

otry. Since coming to

power, the BJP has un-

Mehbooba decries attacks on Minorities especially Muslims ISLAMABAD (APP): Uttar Pradesh state, where

Former "Chief Minister of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir(IIOJK) and PDP President, Mehbooba Mufti, has expressed grave concern over the escalating threats faced by the muslims, largest minority in India, particularly in light of the ongoing violent attacks on their dignity,

ISLAMABAD: Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Develop-

ment & Special Initiatives addressing National Curriculum Summit 2024 on

the theme "Empowering the Future by Reviewing Existing Curricula to Inte-

grate Skills and Technology at Allama Iqbal Open University.

places of worship. Mufti stated in a statement of condemnation in occupied Srinagar that these attacks were a stark violation of the Indian constitution's alleged guarantees of equal rights and dignity for all citizens, irre-

lives, livelihoods, and

four innocent lives of minority Muslim community were tragically lost, serves as a painful reminder of the reality minorities were facing across the country," Mufti said. She highlighting the alarming pattern of violence against the, Muslims, major minority community in India.

She pointed out the disturbing trend of searching for temples beneath mosques, which continues despite a clear Indian Supreme Court ruling maintaining the status quo of religious places as they existed in 1947.

Mufti further highlighted the erosion of the spective of their back- Indian constitution and the ground, says a report reach- ruining of the rule of law, ing here Tuesday from warning that if this trend across the line of control. continues India's identity The recent violence could be at severe risk, she in Sambhal area of Indian warned, the report added.

Daniyal flays martyrdom of police constable, attack on Rangers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Broadcasting, Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry, on Tuesday condemned the martyrdom of a Punjab Police constable and the attack on Rangers personnel on Srinagar Highway by PTI miscreants. In a statement, Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry paid tribute to the martyrs and extended his condolences to

the grieving families.

the perpetrators of the attack are brought to justice. 'The nation salutes the bravery of the martyrs who gave their lives in the

recent attack, which was aimed at sabotaging the visit of the President of Belarus," Chaudhry said. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to preventing anti-state el-

ements from succeeding in their malicious designs. Those behind these Vowing to take strict attacks will be held ac-

action against the culprits, countable, and the sacrifices Chaudhry stated that the of the martyrs will not go government would ensure in vain," he added.



in city due to container placed for PTI protest.

D-Chowk to review security arrangements ISLAMABAD (APP): In-He individually met with the personnel of Rangers, FC, Police, and Sindh Police, appreciating their enthusiasm. The personnel on duty chanted slogans of

Interior Minister visits

terior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday visited D-Chowk to review the security arrangements upto Shaheed Millat Chowk. Despite the ongoing

shelling by miscreants, Mohsin Naqvi reached Shaheed Millat Chowk and met with the personnel on

The Interior Minister stood by the personnel during the shelling, boosting their morale, urging them to

"Pakistan Zindabad". Talking to the personnel, Interior Minister said: You are all soldiers of Pakistan, and you have to deal with the miscreants according to the law.'

IG Islamabad Police. Chief Commissioner. Deputy Commissioner, and bravely counter the miscre- other relevant officials accompanied the Minister.

Karachi Expo Centre.

As a leading institution in technological research and development, NUST's participation was a highlight, with its pavilion featuring three specialized booths: Defence Technologies, NUST Technologies and Emerging Technologies.

According to the

technological fields.

nologies booth featured innovative projects that reflect the university's commitment to pushing the boundaries of innovation, from AI-driven solutions to sustainable tech applications. IDEAS 2024 saw a diverse array of local and international delegates from over 70 countries, alongside representatives from national and global organizations. This year's event set the stage for meaningful collaborations in research and innovation. NUST's active participation underlined its



the morale of the security personnel.

Islamabad admin denies fuel shortage reports

ISLAMABAD (APP) Islamabad's district administration on Tuesday dismissed the reports of fuel shortage in the city due to road closures and called the news regarding it "fabricated and baseless." A spokes-person for the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration said that there is enough stock at petrol stations to meet demand and residents should not be concerned about any disruption in supply.

measures to prevent such attacks in the future. "The petrol stations in He criticized the mis-Islamabad are well-stocked. Khyber and the reserves are enough Pakhtunkhwa's resources to last for at least five to six and authority, stating that days," the spokesperson said and added, "There is the province's resources are being recklessly exploited no truth to claims of an im-

NA speaker expresses solidarity with families of slain Rangers, police personnel ISLAMABAD (APP): the martyrs," he said.

Speaker National Assembİy Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Tuesday expressed his deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences over the tragic incident on the Srinagar Highway that claimed the lives of Rangers and police personnel by the violent protesters

Condemning the un-fortunate event, he extended his sympathies to the families of the martyrs, assuring them of the nation's unwavering support during this difficult

with the grieving families of covery.

Recognizing the immense sacrifice of the Shaheed personnel, the Speaker praised their professionalism and dedication to duty, highlighting their ultimate sacrifice in the service of the nation. 'The brave martyrs

laid down their lives while fulfilling their responsibilities, and their sacrifices will always be remembered," he added. The speaker also directed authorities to ensure that the injured personnel receive the best medical care possible, emphasizing the "I stand in solidarity importance of their swift re-

SC constitutional bench in houbara bustards case dissolved

constitutional bench, tasked with hearing the case against the hunting of Taloor (Houbara Bustards), was dissolved after Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail excused himself from the case. Justice Mandokhail cited prior involvement in a related case at the Balochistan High Court (BHC) as the reason for his recusal.

During an earlier hearing on Tuesday, the fivemember constitutional

ISLAMABAD (INP): The bench, led by Justice Supreme Court of Pakistan Aminuddin Khan, had taken up the matter. Additional Attorney General Amir Rehman informed the court that the concept of Houbara Bustard hunting is akin to trophy hunting for the Markhor.

Justice Mandokhail, however, pointed out the differences between Houbara Bustard hunting and Ibex trophy hunting. Justice Musarrat Hilali highlighted that Houbara Bustards are migratory birds

grave threat to India's minorities ISLAMABAD (APP): leashed violence against India's religious minorities, ogy in India, promoted by with Sangh Parivar activthe Bharatiya Janata Party ists given a free hand to led Modi regime, has been implement their Hindutva linked to a surge in religious

"This is a form of re-

Rise of Hindutva terrorism poses

According to Kashmir ligious terrorism, where the Media Service, political experts and civil rights activoppression of religious minorities is a practical maniists, who wish to remain festation of the Hindutva anonymous due to fear of ideology," says a political expert disclosing just last reprisals from the Hindutva regime, are sounding the name as Ghatade. alarm. They warn that the Hindutva ideology is being

"The world must come forward to confront Hindutva terrorism and exploited to justify violence against religious mihold the Indian government accountable for its role in norities, particularly Muspromoting this ideology.3 According to experts, the history of the BJP and

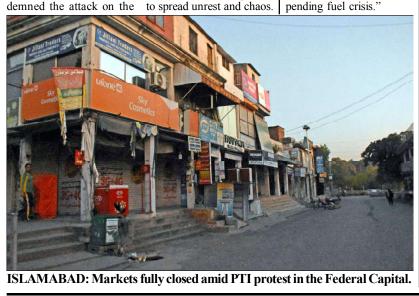
Civil rights activists are also concerned about the impact of Hindutva ideology on Indian society. "The BJP is working to make India a Hindu state where minorities will be forced to

live as second-class citizens," says a prominent

"Hindutva activists are using violence to impose Hindu culture on religious minorities across In-

The Indian government and judiciary have been shielding groups sympathetic to its Hindu-nationalist agenda. "This is a clear case of state-sponsored terrorism, where the government is using its power to promote a particular ideology and sup-press dissent," says a political analyst.

As the situation in India continues to deteriorate, experts and activists are calling for international intervention to stop the spread of Hindutva terror-



Daily soice of Masse Independent

Wednesday November 27, 2024

Kurram ceasefire

Despite efforts by the KP gov- demonstrations — the ernment to bring about a ceasefire in Kurram tribal district, the bloodletting has continued. An official delegation said on Sunday that a are a constant state of alfairs, while the notion of seven-day truce between ri- a lockdown is temporary, val tribes had been brokered. The latest round of violence here because the PTI is on was sparked by the atrocious attack on a convoy on Thursday in which over 40 people were murdered. In an apparent retaliatory move, over 20 people were killed in armed about the protest are attacks on Friday.

Locals told media that are no visuals. In a way, there were few signs of a it's like the smog in sumceasefire on Monday, while mer — everyone knows it's still there but it officials said the death toll doesn't need to be adhad risen further. The unfortunate fact is that Kurram has been rocked by tribalcum-sectarian violence for the past several months, yet the state has preferred a firefighting approach, only stepping in after high loss of life. A land dispute is said to be the trigger for the violence that erupted in July, while deadly clashes also took place whatever power he may last year. In fact, tensions go back to 2007, when lethal clashes and their aftermath reportedly resulted in thousands of deaths.

The continuing violence indicates the complexity of the situation in Kurram. For there couldn't tell the differto be durable peace, the underlying factors fuelling tension need to be addressed judiciously. For one, terrorist from Joe Biden. For and sectarian groups cannot Estragon and Vladimir be given any space to oper- conversing under a withate. These malignant actors use local tribal and land disputes to stoke the flames. they were fed up with in many ways. This catand possibly the hos-Thorough action is needed to they vented their spleen neutralise the militants in Kurram and the surrounding working each other. "Vermin", "Cretin", fear Trump would embars fear Trump would enbars fear Trump would enbars fear Tr districts, while strict vigilance should be maintained to ensure that terrorists based in Afghanistan cannot cross the border.

Moreover, the state must ensure people can safely travel between cities and towns, and that violent groups do not maintain any were railing. As capitalism's damaging toll 'no-go areas' in the region. It on humans expands is the state's duty to secure nugery, the search for alternatives to the beast asthoroughfares, and it must sumes urgency. Many deliver on this obligation. Also, an official land commission has reportedly reached a conclusion regarding the dispute at the heart of the had existed even before matter, but has not made its capitalism for long. Capitalism rose only in the 17th findings public due to 'sectarian sensitivities'. These find- terests became society's ings should be made public, and all sides must reach an with a false promise that amicable solution to end the welfare. dispute.

PPP chief Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has blamed the KP administration for the poor se- that they are satisfying via curity situation in Kurram. family, community, state Unfortunately, over the decades, all organs of the state ter cater to all human tocracy and economic — the federal and provincial governments, as well as the security establishment have repeatedly failed to maintain order, protect citizens and judiciously resolve disputes in Kurram.

This must change if the man realms that transcend state wants to prevent further bloodshed in this volatile area. Local tribes had signed an accord in Murree in 2008, which was revalidated in 2011, to state-owned production assets. But Polyani's inhelp bring peace to the region. This framework should be pursued to permanently with common welfare as end violence in Kurram.

Covid-19 may be a thing of the past for the rest of the world but in Pakistan, the lockdowns are

Arifa Noor

here to stay Lockdowns to conthe smog and lockdowns to control state has tried and tested all. One could perhaps argue that the internet is also in lockdown but for the fact that its slow speed and blocked apps with an end in sight.

The lockdown is its way again from KP to Islamabad with a crowd. Its size varies on social media, depending on who in lockdown. On the latter, while discussions aplenty, there is little to no reporting. And there dressed because it's less

A capital lockdown

No one can say whether the protest will end with Ali Amin Gandapur and Arif Alvi dancing to the tune of The Final Countdown, with parliament in the backdrop. But there is merit to the argument that the lockdown in itself is a defeat for the government for it shows not just nervousness but also puts paid to its claims of a healthy economy with interest from investors

The PTI under-

abroad.

than it did in October. Its journey to Islamabad is leisurely making progress, and it is comfortable in the knowledge that the government is scoring an own goal by locking up half the country, leading to economic losses as well as running the risk of shortages of necessities in urban centres. At the same time, the slow march is tiring out police which was deployed days earlier. In a vlog on Sunday night from D-Chowk, Asad Toor reported that Sindh Police recruits were without

But this is not to say the PTI faces no risks. Those in government in KP and others who are part of one assembly or another also do not want to upset the applecart too much, despite the pressure from Imran Khan and the workers. This was evident not just in the constant reports of PTI

leaders who wanted to

delay the protests; in ad-

dition, the criticism being directed at Gandapur since his disappearance stands this even better at the previous protest in Islamabad from the party base also shows the pressures the KP government has to juggle. At the same time, the crowds accompanying the KP rally shows that

> the party workers and supporters are not sufficiently disgruntled by the leadership to stay at However, it is still worth asking what the PTI hopes to achieve. Overthrowing the govern-

ment as an aim is great for rhetoric but it is doubtful if even the party ideologues believe it. Second,

weakening of a govern-ment rather than prove to be the final blow. But in this specific case, the PTI might be more interested in using it as a bargaining chip. There is now a strong perception that the release of Imran Khan's wife was a result of the previous protest. This time around too the reports of the negotiations held before this protest point to this; the PTI asked for the release of Yasmin Rashid and other prisoners in Lahore as a confidence-building mea-

If the demand is (or isn't) conceded, this game of cat and mouse can be played again and again.

Perhaps, though, it is also important to understand why the PTI can play this game repeatedly, considering it has a government in KP and the province's short distance from Islamabad.

It appears there was some understanding at the time of election that depriving the PTI of forming a government in KP would perhaps lead to far too much instability. And

in large numbers to has been over a year since Islamabad. While there are constant threats to impose governor's rule in the province, this would be a foolhardy step. The already volatile situation in KP will simply worsen.

However, even this would not have been enough for the PTI to mount such shows of power were it was not for the fragile economic situ-

Despite the nonstop repression in Punjab, each such occasion allows young men to play a catand-mouse game with the police for hours. It may not show that Pakistan is at the cusp of a revolution but the possibility of violence on the streets cannot be discounted. With Pakistan's demographic numbers and the economy, this is a risk no one can calculate accurately, regardless of the multiple analyses about Punjab's DNA of subser-

Khan are counting on. And not a revolution.

Postscript: Perhaps this is a good time to ask warm clothes as they patrolled on a cold winter ally set the stage for a warm clothes as they patrolled on a cold winter ally set the stage for a with the party now what the state plans to do with the PTI prisoners. It Courtesy Dawn

these people were de-— in jails as well tained as military custody without any kind of trial. We are told via trusted journalists and tajziakaars (analysts) that they cannot be freed, cannot be forgiven, for the 'crime' was so great. And that this is also to create deterrence.

Indeed, Pakistan society has always been big on deterrence — if we hanged a few thousand in the streets, corruption would stop, or if a rapist was hanged, the crime would stop. But thankfully, for reasons of incompetence, we have rarely managed such events of brutality, though it has allowed the myth to continue.

Still, it needs to be pointed out that at times a state needs to calculate if the deterrence it creates at the cost of people's anger and hatred is worth the risk. The prisoners need to This is what PTI and be released, all of them, and especially the women. The trials can continue but without this endless incarceration. It is time to send Yasmin Rashid home.

Waiting for Trump, apprehensively

Jawed Naqvi

Is Donald Trump the Godot the world is waiting for, with apprehension and hope? But Godot, as Samuel Beckett's 1949 cult play suggests, may not show up at all, ever. In fact, Godot, whoever he be or hold over his characters, could be no more than a figment of a deliberately absurd imagination.

More realistically,

Godot Godot perhaps symbolises ennui that beset a generation of intellectuals after the gory victory of Churchill over a gruesome Hitler. Many ence between the colonial racists, just as it is difficult for pacifists to divine Keir Starmer from Boris Johnson, or Trump the two morose tramps

mate insult: "Critic!"

In today's living abtruly existential not just in an ideational sense. Biden and Vladimir Putin are posing a mortal threat to the planet, Biden more than Putin, as one is inclined to believe with the support of Douglas Macgregor, Scott Ritter, Theodore Postol and America's leading security analysts.

Yet, much of the world seems to be waiting for Trump one way or another, mostly with apprehension, like passengers in a plane with engine failure, bracing for a crash landing, heads lodged firmly in the knees or thereabout. Others see him as the saviour they were waiting for. There are those

climaxing as one silences Ukraine under the bus. the other with the ulti- Putin sees in him an outside chance to win the war allowing him to fosurdity, the stakes are cus instead with China

on building BRICS. Those who see Trump as a saviour include Israeli settlers of the West Bank and potentially also of Gaza. For the Palestinians, it can't get any worse. For them, the attributes ascribed to Trump as the Ray McGovern among ogre, have been usurped and enacted by the supposedly agreeable Biden and his advisers, Antony Blinken and Jake Sullivan, principally.

Many supporters of Palestine, most of them Muslims in Michigan, voted for Trump as the lesser of the evils. It was desperate gamble against extremely heavy odds. Biden feigned support for human life in Gaza by promising to who haven't a clue what stop the arms flow if Isthey are in for with rael didn't open the boregory includes Benjamin tages too, from the visi-Netanyahu and Narendra tations of arriving winter.

indulge Netanyahu's sadism unleashed on Arab women and children.

Trump promised Netanyahu the world in his previous avatar but is likely to settle for his eviction if it strengthens Israel's hand in striking a deal with Arab states. The dealmaker he fancies himself as, saw Trump turning his back when a leading Saudi dissenter was chopped into pieces on the alleged orders of the crown prince of Saudi Arabia. He put two competing interests in the balance and concluded that \$100 billion worth of arms to be sold to Riyadh held greater charm than beating the

and personal liberty. The Saudis are incipiently hostile to an independent Palestinian state fostered by Iran and Arab masses, but are in no position to disown it deal a crushing blow to New York. Iran but fear the risk to To Inc. their own survival as nation he also met then greater. Trump the Pakistan prime minister dealmaker could put pet-

drums of human rights

rights to the Palestinians

the Godot Netanyahu sees him as. Because Iran would need to be placated too, possibly with the relaxation of sanctions he imposed on Tehran. Godot, if he exists, has no easy choices. Iran is a handful, and it holds a tricky prospect, given its nuclear threshold and capability with advanced missiles, to disrupt Trump's dream for a great America. As for Modi, Trump had the words to flatter

his ego. "I remember India before... It was very torn. There was a lot of dissension, lot of fighting. And he brought it all together. Like a father would bring it together. Maybe he is the father of India. We would call him the father of India ... I think he has done a fanpublicly. They may be tastic job," Trump said wishing for Trump to before meeting Modi in

Imran Khan, and reportthe other and offer a A few things have happens, twice".

state with municipal pened to worry Modi under Biden's watch. He was invited as a key Trump may not be member to the anti-China Quad, but the group is now considered dead in the water. The Anglo-Saxon AUKUS - involving Australia, the UK and US has supplanted it.

Two other events have threatened to queer Modi's pitch internationally, and both occurred under Biden's watch. His closest political advisers are struggling with a US indictment in an assassination plot targeting an American citizen, a Sikh activist. worryingly, his closest

associate in the business world, Gautam Adani, is wanted in the US in a case of high corruption. Reports say Modi

could bail out of the crisis with a lucrative arms purchase as the Saudis did. However, that could annoy his trusted friend, Putin. There are no easy answers for what Trump probably comes from a theatre critic who described Samuel Beckett's rodollars in one scale and edly offered to mediate two-act work as "a play Netanyahu's future in on the Kashmir dispute. in which nothing hap-

Future socialisms

Dr Niaz Murtaza 'Socialism is dead; Long

Live Socialism," wrote fellow Berkeley scholar Roger Burbach in 1997, predicting socialism's rise in new forms even as older ones falling. hugely, the search for althink this means ending wage labour, profits and private capital, which they wrongly see as

capitalism's core. But sociologist Karl Polyani argued that these century when capital's indominant logic to replace other human concerns, its sway ensures common

Capitalism expands its profits by penetrating all human spheres and coaxing humans to satisfy all their needs via markets or nature for free, arguing that market solutions betneeds. But the ills of this idea, spread cunningly by owners of big capital, are visible now in high inequity, environmental loss, resource wars and irrelevance of millions of workers as AI spreads fast, as capital's dehumanising interests hold sway even over hucommercial logics. Thus, ending capital's corrupting sway over all other human

concerns is imperative. Socialism is usually seen as a system with state-owned production tally and vertically. Em- will use the political and sights about capitalism's core inspire a new vision of socialism as a system its dominant logic/ aim services. The economic (rather than an uncertain

derived one as in capitalism) that allows all ownership forms that don't nix forms, ie, employeecommon welfare. This vision can spawn many forms of socialism, as the plural in the title suggests. The Nordic model is a form built on private capital, with common welfare ensured via provision of public social services, big state investment in education, health, and other human capital services and strong labour-force protection via unions and safety nets

But poor states lack enough taxes to fund a generous welfare state. They need a conjoint twin: a developmental-cumwelfare state where the clusive economy that gives income options to all able beings and the welfare twin that gives safety nets to the few labourdeficit beings. But new forms must avoid the ills of failed forms: overcentralised political and economic power that disempowers disincentivises masses, kills energies and creativ-

unproductivity. Oddly, huge oligopolies are producing some ducers. This in turn will such results even in capitalism that aged oligarchs did in former USSR. Donald Trump wants to keep afloat US oligarchies that can't compete with efficient Chinese units, just as Soviet oligarchs tried against efficient US ones 50 years ago.

ity and causes political au-

forms must embrace multiparty democracy over a one-party system and disperse power horizonempower community organisations to help gain market power, protection, assets, skills and social system must be similarly Courtesy Dawn

Politically,

devolved and encourage a wide range of ownership owned, non-profit, producer cooperatives, dispersed ownership by different state levels and bodies and private companies, with a bias for micro, small and medium The state must re-

view the cause of poverty among small producers and labourers in rural and urban areas in different regions. Such bottom-up analysis will reveal not only the lack of economic the globally competitive and social investment by economies to generate the state for such groups as key factors but also their exploitation and marginalisation by markets and local elites. This will give a wide, structural first twin spawns an in- agenda that covers legislation, policies, strategies, projects, services and institutional reform at federal, provincial and local

This major investment in poor regions will drive national progress as reduced poverty ignites win-win growth that benefits society. Our internal market is small, despite our large population, given low incomes. Increasing incomes will expand the national market size and profits for proexpand incomes for the petitiveness poor and hence national If we shift our gaze market size and ignite a to banks in similar marvirtuous progress cycle. Local initiatives will tap

Smart regulation will replace deregulation and broader state units restructuring will replace only privatisation.

local savings digitally to

plough them into local in-

Such devolved and empowering socialisms powered local bodies must economic mobilisation of masses as the key force driving both a state and economy of the people, by the people and for the people.

Banking shortcomings Jawwad Farid |

Rimmel Mohydin

Systems in Pakistan often operate below potential. We could be close, but remain mired in red tape, beholden to power structures and burdened by hidden and friction costs. Despite an educated middle class and a growing youth bulge, we barely make a dent in the world. Our banking sec-

tor is no exception. Banks are crucial to capital formation, documentation and of the digitisation economy. Implementers of monetary policy, banks are the first port of call when it comes to improving national savings rate, international trade or private sector credit. Without healthy banking, standards of living or the GDP will not improve. So why isn't our

banking there yet? One could be forgiven for believing that our banks are creating all the value they can, based on the recent national debate on banking profitability. However, Banking on our Banks, a joint analysis by CERP and Alchemy Technologies, asks if we are looking at the right benchmarks for evaluating banking com-

kets, there is a widening performance gap. Consider India's HDFC bank. Twenty years ago, HDFC and HBL were comparable in size. In 2024, HDFC ranks 11th globally by market capitalisation. The closest Pakistani bank is at number 394. HBL stands at 477. While the volume of reserves, market size and regulatory contexts must be acknowledged, it speaks to the impact of the decisions made by both

banks. Our best banks re-

ity, and growth, when measured against their peers in the region who compete by focusing on growing advances with innovative products and technology-driven improvements to credit allocation and disbursement. Pakistani banks focus on investments and debt. The outcome of

both choices is clear. When we widen our lens to include context that our banks operate in, course correction becomes urgent. By conservative estimates, frictional costs in Pakistan's tax collection system cause leaks of Rs2 trillion every year, including the opportunity cost of currency in circulation (Rs9tr) and noninterest-bearing current accounts (Rs6tr).

Part of the challenge in our over-regulated banking sector is the emphasis on safety, minimising risk at the cost of innovation. Innovation results from a desire to change but often breaks things. When safety is the prime motivator, breakage becomes a four-letter

regulator has driven banking innovation — ATMs, national connectivity, faster check clearance, branchless banking and now digital and mobile banking. Yet many believe this top-down approach with a focus on safety is restricting risk appetite

and growth. Banks incentivised to lend well-trodden within paths, prioritising uncompetitive sectors like energy, agriculture, and textiles while ignoring high potential industries. A banking-specific mutation of the 'Dutch disease'. Absence of competition discourages new product development and the ability to bet on new

veal similar shortcomings sectors. Cumbersome apin efficiency, profitabil-proval processes and predictable returns deter innovation with both the regulator and within banking boards.

We need marketdriven incentives, responsive regulators, forwardlooking boards and a sandbox approach to experimentation. Otherwise, banks will continue to returns on government prioritise comfort lending over bold decisions necessary for economic transformation. Small and medium enterprises are the backbone of economic growth but remain a banking stepchild. Export focused borrowers pose a different challenge. Their tech focus makes them asset-light and talent-heavy making them unsuitable for assetbacked loans. The same is true for the growing lowcost private school market. Partly inform--al, partly under the radar, it doesn't fit within conventio-n--al credit frame-works.

Is it just burdensome compliance and underwriting requirements that deter banks? Or is there more to the equation that prioritises larger exposures? The mystery ele-For decades, the ment 'X' is scale. We scaled the liability side but left advances behind. Data-driven models, market-relevant pricing and customer-driven products are one solution.

Digitalisation, reducing inefficiencies and building anew come with a price tag. There are regulatory burdens to overcome, are skittish investors to pacify, unprecedented economic challenges to confront. The question is not if these challenges are surmountable — they are, but if we are willing to take them on. The path forward demands courage for regulators to rethink models, for banks to take calculated risks, for policymakers to align incentives with innovation. - Courtesy Dawn

CM Murad urges WAPDA to allocate 50 MGD of additional water for Karachi

KARACHI (APP): The Khan Shoro, PSCM Agha to submit a written K-IV (Phase-I) is planned Sindh Chief Minister Sved Murad Ali Shah, in his meeting with the Chairman Water and Power Development Authority Shah said that the Sindh (WAPDA), Lt Gen (R) Sajjad Ghani at CM House, discussed several critical projects, including the K-IV project, Right Bank Outfall Drain (RBOD) and urged him to provide source of water for the additional 50 MGD water city. He urged him to from Hub Dam to meet the needs of Karachi.

The meeting was attended by Minister Local Government Saeed Ghani, Minister Irrigation Jam

government is in the process of constructing a parallel canal aimed at enhancing the water supply infrastructure and ensuring a more reliable allocate the provision of 50 MGD of additional water from the Hub Dam for the Karachi. The Chairman of communique said. WAPDA suggested the

Wasif, Secretary Irrigation request. Mayor Karachi, Zareef Khero, PD K-IV Murtaza Wahab, stated that the request had already been made.

The Chairman of WAPDA informed the CM that the water board owed Rs1 billion to WAPDA for is executing the project, the maintenance of the Hub Canal. The CM responded that his government would settle the outstanding dues, instructing Minister Local Government Saeed Ghani to send him a summary for purpose,

to supply 260 MGD bulk water to the mega city of Karachi at termination points - Pipri, NEK, and Manghopir from its source at Keenjhar Lake, Thatta. The WPDA and its completion date is June 2026. On the other hand, the

Sindh government is working on the distribution and augmentation system, establishing a power supply arrangement of 50 MW, and managing land The Greater Karachi acquisition and clearance of

Independent Report

LAHORE: A delegation of

the business community

led by Humayun Iqbal Mir



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo with delegation of the business community led by Humayun Iqbal Mir at Governor House. Senior PPP Lahore leader Aslam Gill is also present on the occasion.

CM direct the water board Bulk Water Supply Scheme the right-of-way (ROW).

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Sved Murad Ali Shah meets WAPDA Chairman Lieutenant General (Retd) Sajjad Ghani at CM House.

Zardari. Although other

provinces also suffered

significant destruction and

damages due to the floods,

the reconstruction of

Sindh, under the instructions of Chairman

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, he

added.He said that Sindh

Chief Minister Syed

Murad Ali Shah and the

Sindh Cabinet members are

implement the chairman's

funds in the Peoples

Housing Program. He said

that the delay occurred due

to the non-opening of the

bank accounts of flood

victims. He said that there

is no shortage of funds and

the Sindh government had

already released its share

of funds in the first year of

this program adding that

transferred

making

efforts to

Govt to launch solarization program, aiming to benefit 500,000 households: Nasir

Provincial Minister for Energy, Planning and Development, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that numerous complaints have been received regarding the Peoples Housing Program in the Sukkur division and directed that irregularities be removed and FIRs be registered against those involved.

He asked the Deputy Commissioners of all three districts, including Sukkur, Ghotki, and Khairpur, Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) and non- instructions to give government organisation to ownership to people's miscreants are writing a take the lead in this regard housing program. He said bloody chapter in political as flood victims are a weak that there is no issue of segment of society who are

not position to make any complaint or Lodge FIRs. The minister directed this during a meeting at the Commissioner's Office in Sukkur regarding the Peoples Housing Program

and Solarization Program. He said that the reconstruction of houses flood-affected donor agencies have also individuals is the vision of

CM grieved over martyrdom of four Rangers personnel LAHORE (APP): Chief Chairman Bilawal Bhutto

Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif while expressing a deep sense of over sorrow martyrdom of Rangers' personnel, said houses has only started in the martyrs someone's sons and brothers, injustice was done.

> She strongly condemned an attempt of the miscreants to crush Rangers' personnel with a vehicle.

Madam vision. He said that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto and injuring others Zardari has given strict | considered considered peaceful protest?" She added, "The

Dengue bouts continue in KP as Peshawar

mostly affected PESHAWAR (APP): The dengue virus remained on prowl in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with the provincial metropolis reported as the most affected district, said a report of KPK Health Department Tuesday.

The reports said that the number of people affected with dengue virus was 2891 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa wherein Peshawar remained at the top with 978 cases during the current year.

The number of active dengue cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was 446, the report said, adding that from Mansehra district 235 cases were reported and from Abbottabad 212 cases while from Hangu district 197 dengue cases were reported.

The report said high fever, aches in the backbone and legs, strong headache and vomiting were among the initial symptoms of the dengue fever. With further intensity in fever, the may also patients experience bleeding from gums and nose.

The dengue fever also causes dizziness and breathing problems besides affecting the blood flow

taken on board while Governor said that the visit met with Governor Punjab making any policy. Governor Punjab said that of a high-level delegation Sardar Saleem Haider Khan from Belarus to Pakistan is at Governor House Lahore. good news for the strengthening the business Senior PPP Lahore leader country's economy. He said that protest call of PTI Aslam Gill was also community is vital to present on the occasion. improve the economy as During the meeting, the delegation demanded that the Governor Punjab lift opportunities. He said that protest can of PII is not in the national further said that all political further said that all political political and protest can of PII is not in the national further said that all political further said that all political politica a large number of the restriction on closing business community pays markets at 8 pm. Speaking taxes, adding that tax on the occasion, Governor payers should respected. Pu Punjab Sardar Saleem payers Punjab Haider Khan said that the Governor further said that business community is

Punjab Governor says:

Business community playing

a major role in the economic

improvement of the country

the country. He said that

stakeholders should be

playing a major role in the economic improvement of the PTI's protest is not a solution to the problems,

parties should be on the same page regarding the country's economy. On this occasion, the delegation told the Punjab Governor that the closure.

they should come to the

negotiating table. Punjab

PA resolution condemns attack on security personnel LAHORE (APP):

resolution condemning the incident of crushing rangers personnel by PTI personnel by supporters under a vehicle has been submitted to the Punjab Assembly by PML-N MPA Hina Pervaiz Butt.

The resolution states that this house strongly condemns the act of crushing three rangers and a police officer under a vehicle on Srinagar Highway by miscreants. It said that the "extremist organisation" Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) orchestrated a calculated against the federation. The resolution adds that extremist groups targeted security forces and

The resolution demands the federal government to take strict action against these extremists and ensure the safety and protection of citizens' lives

police vehicles.

7th Maritime Security Workshop commences

Security Workshop (MARSEW-7) aimed at enhancing knowledge and understanding of maritime security, geopolitical dynamics in the broader Indian Ocean region and the Blue Economy besides exploring Pakistan's untapped maritime potential commenced on Tuesday at Pakistan Navy War College.

The workshop was representatives, inaugurated by the deliberate on p. Commandant of Pakistan national maritime in the commandant of the commanda Navy War College, Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood, said a news release issued by the Directorate General Public Relations (Pakistan Navy). MARSEW

national-level

The workshop seeks sea.

LAHORE (APP): Seventh to highlight the challenges edition of the Maritime and opportunities in Workshop Pakistan's maritime sector and its critical role in supporting the national economy. This forum provides a shared platform for participants from the public and private sectors, including parliamentarians, senior bureaucrats, maritime industry professionals, business leaders, academia, think tanks, and media deliberate on pressing

national maritime issues.

A total of 38 participants from the public, private, and military sectors are taking part in MARSEW-7.

address, Rear Admiral forum Azhar Mahmood outlined organized under the the purpose of the auspices of the Pakistan workshop, emphasizing Navy, with the theme the need for Pakistan's "Secure Seas, Prosperous intelligentsia to shift its strategic focus towards the

CS reiterates govt commitment to ensure rule of law

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief craft a sustainable peace Aslam Chaudhary has government underscored the critical implement importance of restoring suggestions commitment to ensuring the rule of law.

He was addressing a Grand Peace Jirga that was convened at Commissioner House Kohat to deliberate on prevailing situation in Kurram district and devise damaged more than 20 a roadmap for enduring peace.

Jirga was attended by leading religious figures of Sunni and Shia sects

The Chief Secretary emphasized that consultative process with

Secretary (CS) Khyber framework. He assured Pakhtunkhwa, Nadeem participants that the their peace and stability in recommendations Kurram district reiterating effectively. He condemned the government's strong the violence stating that such acts of inhumanity must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. Anti-state and anti-social elements responsible for

> would be brought to justice, he said. Commissioner Kohat Division, Syed Mutasim Billah Shah announced that all future meetings of Peace Jirga would continue in Kohat ensuring an ongoing consultation process to address pressing concerns and reinforce communal

unrest in Kurram district



Commandant Pakistan Navy War College Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood addressing the inaugural session of 7th Maritime Security Workshop being held under auspices of Pakistan Navy at Lahore.

to the state, saying, "The remarked. **Resolution demanding** ban on PTI submitted in Punjab Assembly

importance of their service activities in Islamabad. to the nation. "The party that has

out that the masterminds Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is

behind the May 9 incidents engaged in terrorism in

continue to pose a threat Islamabad as well," Kundi

KARACHI: Mission leader FOUR PAWS Dr. Amir

Khalil briefing the media about shifting of elephant

'Madhubala' from Karachi Zoological Garden to

Kundi flays martyrdom

of Rangers personnel on

Srinagar highway

Khyber

Highway

PESHAWAR

Pakhtunkhwa,

never be in vain.

Srinagar

Karim Kundi, on Tuesday

strongly condemned the

martyrdom of Rangers and

police personnel on the

Islamabad, emphasizing

that their sacrifices will

Governor Kundi expressed

his deep sorrow and

solidarity with the families

and colleagues of the

martyrs, sharing in their

by these brave personnel

will never be forgotten," he

"The sacrifices made

stressing the

Kundi further pointed

In a statement,

(APP): masterminds behind May

the state today.

added

9 attacks are still assaulting

personnel, where a vehicle

was driven into them, as

part of a larger agenda of a

hostile group. "Running

over Rangers personnel

with a vehicle is a mission

of anti-state elements," he

accused certain political

groups of fostering

terrorism, particularly

highlighting the role of a

party that has been accused

of supporting militants in

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

while engaging in terrorism

been fostering terrorists in

The Governor also

He labeled the recent

on Rangers

LAHORE (APP): A chief executive of a resolution demanding a ban province and the on the PTI has been submitted in the Punjab Assembly.

The resolution was submitted by PML-N member Hina Pervez Butt, in which it was said that this house strongly condemns the PTI's attack on the federation in droves. The text of the

former first lady are attacking th federation in droves.

The resolution states that miscreants and rioters injured police personnel and set vehicles on fire, a specific group has caused damage to the lives and property of the people under a well-planned



RAWALPINDI: Passengers rush to the railway station due to the closure of transport amid PTI protest.

Preparations underway for polio campaign in Battagram

BATTAGRAM (APP): Deputy Commissioner Battagram Asif Ali Khan Tuesday chaired a meeting to finalize preparations for the upcoming polio campaign district.

The meeting was attended by District Police Officer Ayaz Khan, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Additional Assistant Commissioners, health department officials. WHO representatives, and relevant other stakeholders.

During the session, the PEI focal person presented a detailed briefing on various aspects of the campaign. Deputy Commissioner instructed Khan monitors to closely oversee all campaign activities and ensure a thorough review of the preparations.

He also directed the District Police Officer to provide timely and adequate security for the frontline polio workers.

'Suthra' Punjab Outsourcing of sanitation system in progress for four UCs

The outsourcing of the cleanliness and sanitation system under the 'Suthra' Punjab programme is in progress in four Union Councils (UCs) and zero waste would be ensured in cities and villages through, the 'Suthra' Punjab programme. According to a district administration spokesman, the 'Suthra' Punjab programme was launched on the directives of Chief Minister Punjab and it is a gift for the

Rawalpindi Waste Management Company is taking solid steps regarding programme, he added.

The environmental sustainable friendly measures are being taken under 'Suthra' Punjab programme, he informed. All the required

resources are being provided by the Punjab Government, after which and in each Tehsil.

RAWALPINDI (APP): there should be no problem in ensuring 100 percent cleanliness.He said that outsourcing cleanliness and sanitation systems in rural areas would ensure manual, and mechanical sweeping, waste collection, drain cleaning disposal government departments would monitor the outsourcing digitally, he said. The monitoring

would include biometric attendance, tracking management system, vehicle weighing at dumping site, digital monitoring of the fleet and container clearance through geo-tagging and prompt resolution of complaints, he informed.

At the district level, a control room under the supervision of Assistant Commissioners is being built in the Deputy Commissioners's Office

KARACHI: An AI teacher introduced with new

technology, sits in her chair at a private school in Karachi. A new era of education begins in Pakistan! Ainee, the country's first AI-powered teacher, takes the stage at a Karachi school. This innovative technology will assist 5th graders in math, science, and languages, providing personalized learning experiences. This AI-powered robot teacher was introduced.

Marriyum chairs meeting to mark comprehensive plan to combat smog

LAHORE (APP): Senior Minister Provincial \(Marriyum Aurangzeb held a meeting with a delegation Asian Development Bank discuss to comprehensive measures to combat smog. The delegation was led by Emma Xiaonqin. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on regulations, action plans, technology, infrastructure, and short, medium and long-term projects aimed at addressing smog.

Marriyum Aurangzeb stated that over the past eight months, all Punjab institutions have been actively engaged in tackling smog and climate change. Under the Multi-sectoral Action Plan, strict action is being taken against violations of smog regulations, and the Environmental Protection Department has been equipped with modern technology. Six AQI

monitors have already been installed to measure smog, with 30 more set to be installed soon Additionally, experts are

being sent to Beijing for training in e-vehicle technology. To address crop burning, farmers are being provided super seeders at a 60% subsidy, and factories are receiving financial and technical support to install emission control systems. She further highlighted that smog has been included in school curricula, and universities have initiated research and studies on the issue. As part of the efforts, 800 brick kilns have been demolished to

modern technology. A ban has been imposed on plastic usage, veĥicle fitness certifications have been made mandatory, and a smog observatory along with digital monitoring has

been established.

facilitate their conversion

Pak, China sign 13 MoUs on fostering joint ventures in animal fodder, fruits, vegetables processing sectors

BEIJING (APP): Pakistani and and Chinese companies on partnerships in the animal Tuesday signed 13 memorandums understanding (MoUs) sectors. The event featured valued at US\$ 250 million insightful presentations,

fodder and fruits and vegetables processing

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi witnessed the signing ceremony held at the conclusion of a day-long Matchmaking Meeting on Animal Fodder and Fruits and Vegetable

Pakistan Embassy Beijing, in collaboration with the Board of Investment (BOI), third in a series of sector-

on fostering joint ventures processing sectors.

Andreas, at the Finance Division.

Chief Minister Maryam

Nawaz Sharif has said that

for the first time, there is

meeting on agriculture here

fertilizer is available in

Punjab, and 17 percent

reduction in its price during the wheat season

has been observed for the

125 percent more stock of

urea fertilizer than required

is available, and 25 percent

reduction in its price has been observed in the

The CM said that

first time.

Chairing a special set.

Fertilizer available

at low prices across

Punjab: CM Maryam

LAHORE (APP): Punjab been completed. She added

an abundance of fertilizer 10. She highlighted wheat

in Punjab in the Rabi cultivation on 326,000

season, and prices have acres of government land also come down.

across Punjab has been

on Tuesday, she said 30 agriculture graduate interns percent more stock of DAP are available to assist

fodder and fruits and of vegetables processing on fostering joint ventures individual B2B meetings, investment networking opportunities, partnerships in the animal and the signing of 13 Memorandums Understanding (MoUs) also valued at approximately

USD 250 million. Over 150 productive B2B meetings, including 30 virtual engagements, took place, providing a robust platform for Pakistani and Chinese companies to explore partnerships and expand trade in these priority

In his remarks, Ambassador Khalil Hashmi successfully hosted the highlighted the strong trade ties between Pakistan and specific B2B matchmaking China and emphasized the strategic importance of This event, focused agriculture and food

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator

Muhammad Aurangzeb, held a meeting with a delegation from the

International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), led by its Chairman, Dr.

wheat cultivation target

will be completed across

the province by December

The CM said 40,000

farmers in the field across

the province, adding that

applications have been

invited for free grant of

1,000 green tractors and 1,000 land levelers for

wheat farmers under Chief

Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's scheme. CM Maryam Nawaz

concerned to improve

authorities

directed

Pakistan's ongoing efforts to bolster its trade relationship with China, focusing on creating opportunities for direct connections and long-term partnerships. Ambassador Hashmi

underscored

Pakistan's position as a leading producer of a variety of fruits, vegetables, and animal products, pointing out the country's vast agricultural resources. He highlighted Pakistan's investorfriendly policies, such as 100% foreign equity ownership, zero tariffs on plant and machinery imports, and profit repatriation, as compelling incentives for Chinese companies to explore joint ventures.

Reflecting on the agriculture sector's immense potential.

Farmers

advised to

complete wheat

cultivation till 30th

FAISALABAD (APP)

The agriculture exporters

complete cultivation of

wheat crops by November

A spokesman for the

30 to get a bumper

agriculture department said

on Tuesday that November

was the most suitable time

for wheat cultivation a

production of wheat and

quality of grain would

decrease gradually if the

cultivation would be late

after November. However,

farmers should use 60-kg

instead of 50-kg wheat seed

per acre up to December

10 if they failed to

complete wheat cultivation

up to November 30, he

added. He advised growers

to use one-and-a-half bag

of DAP fertilizer and at

first watering 2-3 bags of

Urea fertilizer. A bag of

Sulphate of Potash (SOP)

should also be applied for

getting good produce, he

Gold prices

dip Rs.4,100

per tola

The price of 24 karat per

tola gold decreased further

by Rs.4,100 and was sold

at Rs.274,300 on Tuesday

against its sale at Rs. 278,400, All Sindh Sarafa

Jewellers Association reported. The price of 10

grams of 24 karat gold also

went down by Rs.3,515 to

Rs.235,168 from Rs

238,683 whereas that of 10

gram 22 karat gold decreased to Rs.215,571

and ten gram silver

remained constant at

Rs.3,400 and Rs.2,914.95.

respectively. The price of

gold in the international

The price of per tola

from Rs. 218,793.

advised

production.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Belarus H.E. Aleksandr Lukashenko witnessing the MoUs and Agreements exchange ceremony held in Prime Minister's House.

Finance minister highlights govt's policy framework

Federal Minister for were crucial for fostering Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Senator Aurangzeb, here on Tuesday highlighted the government's comprehensive policy framework aimed at enhancing tax revenues through improved documentation financial transparency.

During a meeting with delegation of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) importance

emphasized on Tuesday

that achieving economic stability is contingent

upon political stability.

Talking to a private news

channel, the minister

government's repeated

efforts to resolve political

highlighted

included Jianqiao Lu, Member IASB, Farukh Rehman, President of the Institute of Chartered

The

investor confidence, both

domestic and international.

delegation

Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), Rana Usman Khan, Chairman of the Asia-Oceania Accounting Standards Group, Ashfaq Tola, Chairman of the Reforms and Resource Mobilization Commission led by Dr. Andreas, of Pakistan (RRMC) and Chairman IASB, the senior officers from the minister emphasized the Finance Division also attended the meeting.

standardizing financial regimes to align with global release issued by finance

initiatives faced resistance.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) opted for a path of

disruption rather than

peace," said Sheikh.

Minister stressed the urgent

need to attract foreign

investors, pointing out that

"The founder of

Qaiser Sheikh says:

Economic stability

contingent upon

political stability

ISLAMABAD (APP): past, including offering Federal Minister for consultations on a

Maritime Affairs, Qaiser proposed "charter of Ahmed Sheikh, economy," but these

issues through dialogue. He the current political and

ISLAMABAD (APP): practices, which he said division, the minister Federal Minister for were crucial for fostering reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring policy continuity to create a conducive environment for sustainable economic growth.On the occasion. Dr. Andreas acknowledged Pakistan's leadership in adopting international accounting standards and commended the country for being an early follower of global practices.

He expressed appreciation for the support provided by ICAP in administration ICAP in advancing these efforts, emphasizing the role of professional organizations in promoting financial transparency and capacity building.

94% wheat achieved in Layyah

(APP): The Agriculture Department Layyah has announced achieving 94 percent of the wheat cultivation target set by the Punjab government for the district in the ongoing

the target has been achieved in Tehsil Layyah, while Tehsil Karor Lal

sowing target M U Z A F F Å R G A R H

A spokesperson for the department revealed that wheat has been sown over 641,000 acres across the district's three tehsils. He noted that 92% of



LAHORE: Parliamentary Secretary for Women Sadia Taimoor addressing the awareness campaign at Lahore Chamber of Commerce.

Minister reviews progress on wheat cultivation campaign, other projects

Agriculture & Livestock Minister Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani presided over an important meeting at Agriculture House, Lahore, to review progress on the wheat cultivation campaign and other major projects, including the Chief Minister's Kissan Package.

Secretary Agriculture, Punjab, Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, was also present.

During the briefing, the minister was informed that wheat cultivation has been completed on 1 crore 20 lakhs acres across Punjab. All resources are being mobilized to meet the wheat cultivation target. Fertiliser, including DAP are available in ample quantity across the province and accessible to farmers at controlled rates. Applications have been

LAHORE (APP): Punjab sowing wheat on larger areas under the Chief Minister's "Grow More Wheat" Package, with an online application deadline of December 15, 2024. Additionally, monitoring is in place to ensure the availability of quality wheat seeds and fertilizers in markets.

It was further briefed that 13 lakh 21 thousand applications have been received for the Chief Minister's Kissan Card, with verification completed for 500,000 farmers. Through this card, agricultural inputs worth Rs 24 billion have been purchased across the province, with 92 per cent used for fertiliser purchases. The minister the praised Minister's Kissan Card as a historic, farmer-friendly

concludes **FCA** for **October**

October. The hearing was presided over by Chairman NEPRA Waseem Mukhtar while other members Mathar Niaz Rana of Balochistan, member Sindh Rafique Ahmad Shaikh, Member Pakhtunkhwa Engineer Maqsood Anwar Khan and member Punjab Amina

Rs 1.1 per unit reduction in the power tariff for the

NEPRA hearing into

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on Tuesday concluded public hearing into public petition filed by Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) on behalf of XWDISCOs in power tariff increase under monthly fuel cost adjustment (FCA) for

Ahmed were also present. The CPPA has sought

project led by the chief market decreased by \$41 acquired from farmers minister of Punjab. to \$2,631 from \$2,672. said period. A group photo of Ambassador of Pakistan to China H.E. Mr. Khalil Hashmi with the participants of the

3rd Pakistan-China B2B Investment Meeting hosted by the Embassy of Pakistan in collaboration with Board of Investment (BoI) in Beijing today, focusing on animal fodder, fruits and vegetables processing sectors. This dynamic event brought together over 100 Pakistani and Chinese companies for over 150 B2B meetings, including 30 online, showcasing the strength of Pakistan and China collaboration.

Most Asian markets drop, dollar gains as Trump fires tariff warning

HONG KONG (AFP/ APP): Asian markets fell and the dollar rallied Tuesday after Donald Trump warned he would impose huge new tariffs on China, Mexico and Canada on his first day in office, dealing a blow to hopes of a more moderate approach to trade policy.

The former and next president said on his Truth Social account that he would hammer the United States' largest trading partners in response to the illegal drug trade and immigration.

The news dampened optimism that his pick to lead the Treasury, Scott Bessent, could temper the tycoon's assertiveness, with fears now of another trade war with China and warnings that the move along with promised tax cuts—will reignite US inflation.

"On January 20th, as Executive Orders, I will necessary

Mexico and Canada a 25 products coming into the United States, and its ridiculous Open Borders,"

In another post, he added that he would hit China with a 10 percent tariff "above any additional Tariffs" on all of its products entering the US, citing Beijing's failure to tackle fentanyl smuggling.

The announcement fuelled a sell-off across most Asian markets, though Hong Kong and Shanghai advanced in early exchanges.

The dollar surged more than one percent against its Canadian equivalent and Mexico's peso as well as the Chinese yuan. However, the yen strengthened thanks to its safe haven status. "In a striking return to

hardline President-elect Trump has one of my many first dramatically escalated tensions with a brash promise to impose a documents to charge sweeping 25 percent.



Association Chairman Mir Nawab Mengal addressing a press conference.

OGRA seeks support for uninterrupted transportation of petroleum products

ISLAMABAD (APP): In the Petroleum Division, the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has urged law enforcement agencies to ensure the smooth transportation of tank lorries carrying petroleum products to

Secretaries and local District Administrations

coordination with the transportation of tank lorries carrying petroleum products to the retail outlets," said an OGRA spokesperson

challenges faced by tank lorries transportation, dedicated coordination with the communication channel Petroleum Division, has has been established requested law enforcement between Oil Marketing agencies through Chief Companies (OMCs) and

LCCI wants cellular companies to address network issues

administrations to ensure Law Enforcement agencies.

LAHORE (APP): Lahore chamber of commerce and Industry (LCCI) Tuesday urged Cellular companies to resolve networking issues as businesses are facing huge financial losses.

Speaking during a meeting with Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Zonal Director Sadiqa Khalid, he pointed out the growing frustration among traders and IT professionals.

The meeting was also infrastructure to n attended by LCCI Vice increased demand.

President Shahid Nazir Chaudhry and Executive Committee Member Asif

Mian Abuzar Shad said that frequent system shutdowns have become routine, disrupting business operations and causing financial losses.

He said that cellular companies are aggressively expanding their user base by issuing new connections without upgrading their infrastructure to meet the



LAHORE: Farmers in the provincial capital are busy in harvesting carrots from the fields to earn livelihood by delivering carrots to the vegetable market and meet household expenses.

PCJCCI says: 2,300 Chinese firms working in Pakistan

China Joint Chamber of Żafar Iqbal said on Tuesday approximately 2,300 small, medium and large scale Chinese companies are currently working in Pakistan in various sectors including the China-Economic Pakistan Corridor (CPEC).During a meeting with the joint chamber's executive body here, he said that Chinese companies have interested sectors such as electronics, automotive, exchange education programmes, insurance, agriculture, textiles, shoe manufacturing, chemicals, battery recycling plant and real estate

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan

Zafar Iqbal said Pakistan's Commerce and Industry industry, which provides (PCJCCI) Vice President inputs for many other sectors such as textiles, agriculture, food and beverages, leather, paper, pharmaceutical, plastics, printing and sugar, needs to build a global reputation of "Made in Pakistan" from strength to brand. He added that Pakistan is the 8th largest exporter of textile products in Asia. This sector contributes 9.5 percent to the GDP and provides employment to about 15 million people i.e. 30 percent of the 49 million workforce of the

He said, "We should seek help from All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA).



BAHAWALPUR: People buying overcoats from roadside stalls as the temperature rapidly falls in

SBP revises instructions for profit sharing on IBI saving deposits

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), on Tuesday, revised the instructions for profit and loss distribution and pool management for Banking Institutions (IBIs) which

now are required to pay profit on their PKR saving deposits equivalent to at least 75 percent of the weighted average gross yield of all pools of an IBI. Deposits of financial

institutions, public sector enterprises and public limited companies are excluded from the above decision that shall be effective from January 01, 2025, said a circular issued by SBP's Islamic Finance Policy Department to circulate the revised instructions in the regard to the all Islamic Banks and Conventional Banks having Islamic Banking branches.

The banking regulator has elaborated the method for determining the gross

KARACHI (APP): The gross earnings of the pool shall be divided by the monthly average assets of the pool (excluding fixed

However, the pool(s) created by IBIs for Shariah compliant standing ceiling facility and Shariah compliant open market operations (OMOs) will be excluded while calculating weighted average gross yield of pool(s), it added.

The SBP has also revised the Clause 5.2.1 that allowed the IBI to forego up to 60 percent of its Mudarib share as Hiba to meet the market expectation in case of lower than expected/market returns earned by the pool and the clear threshold of 60% has been replaced with a relatively vague phrase, i.e. 'a part of'

Another clause regarding across the board distribution of hiba by IBI to all the deposit categories in a pool has been replaced yield of each pool as "If needed, IBIs may outlining, "... the monthly give hiba to saving account. as "If needed, IBIs may

Israel pounds Beirut suburbs as Lebanon says 31 dead nationwide

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Israeli strikes pummelled south Beirut, Lebanese official media said, and health authorities reported 31 people killed across the war-hit country, most of them in the south.

Israel's military said in a statement Monday afternoon it had hit "approximately 25 terror targets" belonging to Hezbollah across Lebanon, including in Nabatiyeh, Baalbek, the Bekaa Valley and southern Beirut and the city's out-

AFPTV images showed palls of smoke over the capital's southern suburbs after strikes that began in the morning after successive Israeli military warnings to evacuate.

Lebanon's state-run National News Agency (NNA) reported a fourth wave of Israeli raids in south Beirut on Monday evening,

saying "enemy warplanes launched strikes on (the) Haret Hreik and Shiyah" districts. The attacks came after a weekend of heavy raids in the area, despite ongoing international ceasefire efforts. Early Saturday, a deadly strike on central Beirut's densely populated Basta neighbourhood killed

Israel's army said Monday it had struck a Hezbollah command centre there, though an official with the Iran-backed group denied reports that a senior member had been targeted.

at least 29 people, the health

ministry said.

The NNA reported Israeli strikes on Tyre and Nabatiyeh after Israel issued evacuation warnings for parts of the main southern cities.

Lebanon's health ministry said Israeli strikes killed at least 31 people on Monday.

A statement listed "the casualty toll of Israeli enemy strikes on a number of Lebanese cities and towns" in the east, south and near Beirut, with most people killed in the south and four killed in the east. The NNA also re-

ported "a drone strike that targeted a residential complex" in a Druze-majority town on the outskirts of Beirut, without prior evacuation calls.

Lebanon's community follows an offshoot of Shiite Islam, and its heartland around Mount Lebanon has largely been spared in the current hostilities. The education ministry suspended classes on Monday in schools, technical institutes and private higher education institutions in Beirut and a number of surrounding areas, citing "the current danger-



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Foreign Minister of France, Jean-Noel Barrot, Foreign Minister of Canada, Melanie Joly, Foreign Minister of Italy, Antonio Tajani, Foreign Minister of Japan, Takeshi Iwaya, Foreign Minister of Germany, Annalena Baerbock, Britain's Foreign Office Political **Director Christian Turner.**

Gazans at long-term risk from war remnants: NGO

Monitoring Desk JERUSALEM: Internaturned to areas where there tional humanitarian NGO has been active combat, Danish Refugee Council raising the risk of their comwarned on Monday that ing into contact with explofrom unexploded and un- ritory in the grip of a huused ordnance in the manitarian crisis and very densely populated Palestinian territory. "These rem- in desperate need of basic nants of war, which fail to goods have "sifted through detonate upon impact or rubble for essential supmay have been abandoned during warfare, pose a longterm threat to civilian populations, often causing injuries and deaths long after the fighting ceases," said DRC's

Corinne Linnecar. a presence in the Gaza Strip, said in a report that ammunition, exploded or otherwise, can be found in many populated areas of the territory. The report said 70 because they can confuse munitions with toys.

percent of Gazans have resive materiel. With the terlittle aid getting in, Gazans plies" but where they can also encounter munitions.

Longer-term healthcare services are also nearly nonexistent, DRC said. "Only 19 percent of explosive ordnance victims receive emer-The NGO, which has gency first aid, and longterm medical support is virtually non-existent," the report said, noting that children are especially at risk

Namibia to vote in toughest election yet for ruling party

Monitoring Desk WINDHOEK: Namibians will vote on Wednesday in what is expected to be the most competitive election yet for the ruling SWAPO party, which has governed

the southern African na-

tion for 34 years.

If SWAPO candidate Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah wins, she will become the country's first female president. A SWAPO loss would mean the first transition of power to a new party since Namibia gained independence from apart-

heid South Africa in 1990. High unemployment, corruption allegations and inequality have eroded SWAPO's support, which fell to 56% in the 2019

presidential election from 87% in 2014. There are no reliable polls on how it might fare this time.

The frontrunner among 14 opposition candidates is Panduleni Itula, a former dentist who won 29% of votes in 2019 after splitting from SWAPO and now leads a new political party, the Independent Patriots for Change. Namibians vote

separately for members of parliament and for the president, who needs more than 50% of votes to win.

This will be the most challenging and significant election after the first one of 1989," Rui Tvitende, a lecturer at the University of Namibia,

UK travel disrupted as **Storm Bert** fallout continues

Monitoring Desk

LONDON: Britain's roads and railways were hit by closures on Monday after Storm Bert battered the country over the weekend, widespread flood causing ing and killing four people.

There were more 200 flood warnings and flood alerts in place across England and Wales, while trains from London to the southwest were cancelled and rail services in central England were severely disrupted.

'Do not attempt to travel on any route today,' Great Western Railway, whose trains connect London to Bristol and Cornwall, said on X.

Among those killed during the storm were a dog walker in North Wales and a man who died when a tree hit his car in southern En

Irish PM's party slips to third place in pre-election poll **Monitoring Desk**

DUBLIN: Irish Prime Minister Simon Harris' Fine Gael party has slipped into third place after losing a quarter of its support in less than two weeks, according to one of the final opinion polls before Friday's general election. Support for Fine Gael

has fallen to 19% from 25% the Irish Times/Ipsos B&A poll showed on Monday. Fine Gael's main coalition partner Fianna Fail was up two points to 21%, while opposition party Sinn Fein was up one point to 20%. The poll comes after a series of campaign missteps by Harris, including walking away from a care worker who was complaining about conditions.



State police personnel deployed outside the Shahi Jama Masjid following religious violence in Sambhal.



A man moves a scooter amid the rubble, in the aftermath of Israeli strikes on Beirut's southern suburbs, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, in Lebanon.

Iran's Khamenei says ICC warrant for Netanyahu 'not enough'

Monitoring Desk TEHRAN: Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Monday that a war crimes case against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over the Gaza war was insufficient and that he deserved a "death sentence".

In his first remarks since the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant for Netanyahu last week, Khamenei told a Tehran meeting that it was "not

His country, Israel's arch nemesis, backs armed which is linked to Iran movements in the region Revolutionary Guards.

including Palestinian militant group Hamas, whose October 7, 2023 attack sparked the war.

The ICC's judges said there were "reasonable grounds" to believe that Netanyahu and his former defence minister Yoav Gallant bore "criminal responsibility" for using starva-tion as a method of warfare and intentionally attacking

warrant for him, it's not enough," said Khamenei, speaking to a group from the Basij paramilitary force

civilians in the Gaza Strip "They issued an arrest

Trump vows big tariffs on Mexico, Canada and China

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON:

President-elect Donald Trump on Monday said he intended to impose sweep- one of my many first Executive Orders, I will sign ing tariffs on goods from Mexico, Canada and China, prompting a swift warning from Beijing that "no one will win a trade war."

In a series of posts to
his Truth Social account,
Trump said he would also Trump vowed to hit some of the United States' largest trading partners with

duties on all goods entering the country.

"On January 20th, as all necessary documents to charge Mexico and Canada a 25 per cent tariff on all products coming into the United States," he wrote.

be slapping China with a 10pc tariff, "above any additional Tariffs"

Taliban of negative list **Monitoring Desk**

Kabul said.

Russia's interest in increasing the level of bilateral cooperation with Afghanistan," Baradar's office said in a statement released on

"He also announced that, to expand political and economic relations between the two countries, the Islamic Emirate's name would soon be removed from Russia's blacklist.

The Islamic Emirate is ernment uses to refer to it-

Moscow assures removal from

KABUL: Top Russian security official Sergei Shoigu visited Afghan government officials on Monday, assuring them Moscow will soon remove the Taliban from its list of banned organisations.

delegation's visit coincides with ongoing diplomatic efforts by China and Iran. Special envoys from these nations are currently in Kabul, marking a rare political gathering of representatives from three US rivals since Donald Trump's recent election victory.

Shoigu, the secretary of Russia's Security Council, met an Afghan cohort in Kabul headed by Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Abdul Ghani

social media site X.

the name the Taliban gov-



they make their way to the Constitutional Court, where the political party is challenging the National Assembly's rejection of a report that could have led to impeachment proceedings against President Cyril Ramaphosa due to the Phala Phala scandal at his private game farm in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Focused on domestic defence. Germany works on expanded civilian shelter proposal

Monitoring Desk BERLIN: Germany is cur-

rently working on a proposal to expand the number of shelters available for civilians by looking at public and private facilities that could be converted if necessary, according to the German interior ministry.

Basements, underground car parks and subway stations could be converted into shelters, with a special app detailing where the closest bunker is, said on Monday. Bild newspa-

per, which reported on the so-called "bunker plan" earlier on Monday, said the concept was being developed in response to the worsening international threat situation. However, the spokesperson did not mention the current situation and also did not say when the concept would be ready.

Civil protection organizations in Germany have been calling for a faster expansion of shelters, which includes the construction of the ministry spokesperson structures in which up to

Countries remain divided on UN plastics treaty

175 countries gathered in Busan, South Korea, on Monday for the fifth round of talks aimed at securing an international treaty to curb plastic pollution, lingering divisions cast doubts in plastics treaty talks curb plastic pollution, linon whether a final agreement is in sight.

South Korea is hosting the fifth and ostensibly final UN Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5) meeting this week, after the previous round of talks in Ottawa in April ended without a path forward on capping plastic production.

Instead, talks will be focused on chemicals of concern besides other measures, after petrochemical-

BUSAN: As delegates from Saudi Arabia and China strongly opposed efforts to target plastic production over the protests of countries that bear the brunt of plastic pollution.

> echo conflicts that have long stalled UN efforts to curb global warming, with the most recent climate summit COP29, having just ended with an agreement that poorer nations assailed as inadequate. Without significant

intervention the amount of plastic entering the environment annually by 2040 is expected to nearly double compared to 2022," INC Chair Luis Vayas Valdivieso said at the opening session producing nations such as in Busan on Monday.

Republican Rand Paul opposes Trump talk of using military in deportations **Monitoring Desk**

WASHINGTON: Republican US Senator Rand Paul voiced opposition on Sun-day to the idea of using the military to carry out mass deportations of people living in the country illegally President-elect Donald Trump signaled last week that he plans to

"You don't do it with the Army because it's illegal," Paul said on CBS's "Face the Nation" program. "If they send the Army into New York and you have 10,000 troops marching carrying semi-automatic weapons, I think it's a terrible image, and I will oppose that.

A 19th century US law prohibits federal troops from being used in domestic law enforcement except when authorized by Con-Paul, at times a mav-

erick within his party. noted that he supports the idea of deporting people living in the United States illegally who have criminal records, but said that law enforcement authorities are better equipped than the military to carry out that role and to heed the US Constitution's Fourth Amendment prohibition on unreasonable searches and seizures.

There is a "distrust of putting the Army into our streets" among Americans, Paul said.

G7 ministers discuss ceasefire efforts in Mideast

Monitoring Desk

FIUGGI: Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said he was "optimistic" for a cessation of hostilities in Lebanon, as Middle East tensions dominated a G7 meeting near Rome.

The Group of Seven foreign ministers also discussed the International Criminal Court's arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the Hamas military chief. US Secretary of State

Fiuggi and Anagni with ministers from Britain, Canada, Germany, France, Japan and host Italy. "I am optimistic

Antony Blinken attended

the talks in the towns of

national efforts for a attack.

ceasefire intensify—even if it was "more complicated than Gaza".

"We are strongly committed to strongly pushing Israel and Hamas to end this war in Palestine," he said.

Tajani hinted however at difficulties in reaching "an unambiguous position on the International Criminal Court decision".

The ICC issued warrants against Netanyahu and his former defence minister Yoav Gallant as well as Hamas' Mohammed Deif on Thursday.

They have been accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes in Israel's war on Hamas in Gaza, triggered by the about Lebanon," Tajani told a press conference as inter-group's October 7, 2023

Top EU diplomat says Israel has 'no excuses' to refuse a ceasefire with Hezbollah

Monitoring Desk

FIUGGI: The European Union's top diplomat said Tuesday there were "no excuses" for Israel to refuse to accept a ceasefire with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, saying all its security concerns had been addressed in the U.S.-French-brokered deal.

Josep Borrell, the outgoing EU foreign policy chief, called for increased pressure on Israel to blunt extremists in the government who are refusing to accept the deal. Speaking on the sidelines of a Group of Seven meeting in Italy, Borrell warned that if a ceasefire is not implemented, "Lebanon will fall

Israeli officials said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's security Cabinet was set to convene Tuesday to discuss a proposed ceasefire. Among the issues that remain is an Israeli demand to reserve the right to act should Hezbollah violate its obligations under the emerging

Borrell said under the proposed agreement, the U.S. would chair a ceasefire implementation committee, with France participating at the request of Lebanon.

"On the proposal agreement brokered by the U.S. and France, Israel has all security concerns (addressed)," Borrell told reporters in Fiuggi, Italy. 'There is not an excuse for not implementing a ceasefire. Otherwise, Leba-

non will fall apart.' Israeli bombardment has killed more than 3,500 people in Lebanon and wounded more than 15,000, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry. On the Israeli side, about 90 soldiers and nearly 50 civilians have been killed by rockets, drones and missiles in northern Israel and in the fighting on the ground in Lebanon. The G7 meeting of foreign ministers from the world's leading industrialized nations, the last of the Biden administration, was dominated on Monday by the Mideast wars in Gaza and Lebanon.

Austrian far right shows strength with state election win in Styria

Monitoring Desk

VIENNA: Austria's farright Freedom Party won a state election in Styria for the first time on Sunday in an echo of September's general election and a new show of strength while national coalition talks continue without it.

Sunday's election in Styria, home to Austria's second city, Graz, raises pressure on party leaders currently attempting to forge the country's first three-way government since 1949.

It is only the second which the Russiaeurosceptic, friendly Freedom Party (FPO) has ever won, the first having been Carinthia, the fiefdom of then-FPO leader Joerg Haider in his heyday in the late 1990s and fourth in September's

'There's been a landslide in Styria. I didn't expect such a resounding result," the FPO's deputy leader in Styria, Stefan Hermann, told national broadcaster ORF. It is the first time since

World War Two that neither the OVP nor the Social Democrats (SPO) have won in the state bordering Slovenia where actor Arnold Schwarzenegger was born.

The FPO will need a coalition partner to secure a majority in Styria's state assembly and form a government.

Nationally, leader Herbert Kickl continues to lambast efforts to form what he calls a "coalition of losers" by the parties that came second, third

and early 2000s. Death toll from mosque survey clashes in India's **Uttar Pradesh rises to 6**

election.

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: The death toll from violent protests in

India sparked by a survey into whether a centuries-old mosque was built on a Hindu temple has risen to six, an official said on Tuesday. Around 20 police officers were also wounded during the violence on Sunday in Sambhal in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh, district magistrate Chirag Goyal told AFP. Street battles broke out in a bid to block a team of surveyors from government's Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Jama Masjid in Sambhal. The six Muslim men were killed by gunfire with Goyal saying they were shot by fellow pro-testers. "The six killed were caught in crossfire by rioters using homemade pistols," he said. "The police only fired tear gas and rubber bullets"

from entering the Shahi

Two people were initially reported dead on Sunday, but more details

emerged later, while others later died of their wounds. Goyal said 25 people had been arrested following the violence.

Right-wing Hindu groups tend to lay claim to several mosques they allege were built over Hindu temples during the Muslim Mughal empire centuries ago. The survey in Sambhal was ordered by a local court, after a petition from a Hindu priest this month claimed it was built on the site of a Hindu temple.

Within hours the court ordered a survey of the mosque, a decision protested by local Muslim residents. The first survey was undertaken on November 19. A second survey four days later, which included taking photos and video of the mosque's features, triggered the violence.

The hilltop Shahi Jama Masjid was built in 1526 during the rule of Mughal emperors Babur and Humayun, according to historians, with renovations during the 17th century.

Hindu nationalist activists were emboldened earlier this year when Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a grand new Hindu temple in the northern city of Ayodhya, built on grounds once home to the centuries-old Babri mosque.

Gilani calls for enhanced Pak, Saudi Arabia cooperation in trade, textiles sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Tuesday emphasized the need to strengthen trade ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in key sectors such as textiles, agriculture, and technology to achieve shared prosperity.

During his official visit to Saudi Arabia, he accompanied by his delegation, held separate meetings with the Speaker of the Saudi Shura Council and the Saudi Arabia-Pakistan Friendship Group, according to a news

Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Chairman Senate, is currently in Saudi Arabia on an official visit on the invitation of Dr. Abdullah

ibn Muhammad Al ash-Sheikh, Speaker of the Shura Council and Saudi-Pakistan Friendship group. The visit aims to

strengthen Pakistan-Saudi Arabia relations, focusing on economic cooperation, legislative collaboration, and regional stability.

During high-level meetings, Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani proposed the establishment of a parliamentary friendship committee between the Senate and the Shura Council to promote regular dialogue and joint initiatives,

ing that bilateral trade reached \$4.5 billion in 2023, and called for increased cooperation in sectors like textiles, agriculture, and technology.

He also expressed gratitude for Saudi Arabia's humanitarian support during Pakistan's crises and for facilitating the Hajj and Umrah pilgrimage for Paki-

Highlighting shared religious and cultural ties, the chairman Senate proposed closer cooperation between the two legislative bodies to address regional challenges, including peace in Palestine and Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (İIOJK).

He informed the Saudi side about the brutal use of force by the Indian army to suppress the voices. Violation of human rights has become a norm in IIOJK.

The situation demands the global community to take notice of the He further said that

Israeli forces have made the lives of the Palestinians Crimes against hu-

manity are being committed in Gaza, he said and added that Pakistan wants an amicable solution to these issues as per aspira-

Gilani praised the tions of the people in ac-

Chairman Senate reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to deepening ties with Saudi Arabia and strengthening the bond between both nations.

Senate Chairman Gilani expressed deep gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation, recalling his previous visits to Saud Arabia in 2008 and 2011 which further solidified the friendship between the two

He also acknowledged the recent visit of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to Pakistan and reiterated his commitment to strengthening bilateral rela-

He commended the leadership of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in driving Saudi Vision 2030 and emphasized Pakistan's readiness to contribute to this ambitious vision, particularly in areas such as infrastructure development and technology.

As his visit continued Gilani reiterated Pakistan's unwavering commitment to further strengthening the Saudi-Pakistan partnership across all sectors, including trade, security, and regional



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Belarus H.E. Aleksandr Lukashenko introducing their respective delegations.

BA told Only Rs10.57 allocated per animal for medicine in current fiscal year

OUETTA Balochistan Assembly's standing committee on Livestock and Dairy Development on Tuesday expressed concerns over the small budget allocated in the current fiscal year for the provision of medicine, vaccination to livestock

The livestock department has allocated a Rs 480 million budget for the provision of medicine to animals in 36 districts, estimated Rs 10.57 per animal for medicine in a year, which is less than Rs.1 for medicine per animal in a In the budget 2024-25,

Rs 60 million was allocated for vaccination of animals against 16 pestilence infectious diseases which is Rs 1.32 per animal in a year.

Secretary Livestock Tayyab Lehri while briefing the meeting said that currently there are 147 civil

ISLAMABAD

Country Director World

Bank, Najy Benhassine on

Tuesday appreciated the government's reform initia-

tives and reiterated the

bank's commitment to as-

sist Pakistan in addressing

the province. He added that 262 of the 999 veterinary dispensaries are without proper buildings He said that a total of

veterinary dispensaries in

6,452 employees are currently working in the livestock department, of which 319 posts of camelmen have been cancelled by the finance department.

Lehri said that the land of the livestock department is being occupied in various districts and the department is facing an acute shortage of power supply to dairy farms and dispensaries across the province. He said various buildings, Livestock Farms, CVHs, CVDs, and AI Centers buildings are dilapidated and need reno-

The committee ordered to establishment of a Block Allotment Fund in the livestock department to deal with epidemics and veterinary hospitals and 999 emergencies. The meeting

Secretary and senior offic-

ers of the Finance Division,

according to press release

issued by finance ministry.

the federal minister high-

lighted the importance of

collaboration with the

During the meeting,

sustainable

tion of a Committee for the demarcation of land for cattle in all districts in collaboration with District Administration and the Board of Revenue

Chairman Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman expressed concern over the challenges of the department while stressing the need for immediate resolutions. He said that we are always ready to resolve the problems of the depart-

death of father

of Farah

Azeem

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Speaker of

Balochistan Assembly,

Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai has

expressed sorrow over

death of father of Member

Provincial Assembly, Ms.

ment issued here on Tues-

day, the Speaker prayed

that may Allah Almighty

Its eternal peace and give

enough strength and pa-

tience to the bereaved fam-

ily to bear the tragic loss of

his death.

In a condolence state-

Farah Azeem Shah.

also decided on the forma-

The committee ordered to establish offices for Divisional Directors and District Livestock Officers and the installation of a solar energy power supply, aimed to convert solar energy to overcome power shortage. The committee stressed for the renovation of old buildings and modernization of the infrastructure of the depart

massively used teargas shells upon rangers, police terior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday said that a secret hand is controlling the entire leadership of Pa-Speaker BA kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, who is pursuing an anti Pagrieved over

Addressing media at

the dialogue.

President, PM laud security forces for foiling infiltration attempt on Pak-Afghan border

President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Sharif on Tuesday lauded the security forces for successfully foiling an infiltration attempt by terrorists of Fitna-al-Khawarij on Pak-Afghan border near

North Waziristan. The president appreciated the security forces for taking timely action against terrorists of Fitna-al-Khawarij, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

He also lauded the bravery of security forces for sending three Khawarij to hell during the action, adding Pakistan's valiant security forces were always ready to protect the country's borders.

The president reiterated commitment to com-

(APP): plete elimination of terrorism, and protection of

While the prime minister commended the officers and personnel of the security forces for successfully thwarting an attempt by terrorists to cross from Afghanistan into Pakistan in North Waziristan.

He praised the professionalism of the officers and personnel for sending three Khawarijites to hell, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister also reaffirmed to continue the fight against terrorism till it was completely eradicated from the country.

He said the officers and personnel of Pakistan Army, who were guarding the country's frontiers, away from their loved ones, deserved appreciation.



Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghāzala Gola.

Secret Hand hostages entire leadership of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf: Naqvi

kistan agenda but has failed in its nefarious plan of bloodshed in Islamabad.

D-Chowk, the minister said that secret hand is a root cause of law and order situation which is creating more troubles for PTI. He said that government had convinced the leadership of PTI to avoid bloodshed and offered a place for sit-in at Sangjani upon which the leadership of PTI agreed but that secret hand sabotaged

and FC which were provide to them by the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The protestors are armed, using weapons and opened fire on law enforce-

ment personal Shakargarh, said the minister adding that the government has shown extreme restrain however the Inspector General of Capital Police has been given full authority to deal with the situation and government will provide full support.

Other day, three rangers and one police jawan were martyred, two ranger jawans are still in critical condition, four police personal of islamabad police

He said the protestors are in critical condition. NA Speaker leads parliamentary delegation to Russia for boosting ties

parliamentary delegation led by Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq is set to begin a threeday visit to Russia on Wednesday, November 27, to strengthen Pak-Russia relations through enhanced inter-parliamentary contacts. The visit, concluding on December 1, comes at the invitation of the Chairman of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, Volodin Vyacheslav Victorovich, aiming to strengthen, enhance, and expand friendly relations between the governments and peoples of both countries through parliamentary

ISLAMABAD (APP): A Assembly from all political parties including, Abdul Qadir Patel, Rana Muhammad Hayat Khan. Syed Agha Rafiullah and Dr. Muhammad Farooq Sattar. The parliamentary delegation will hold meet-ings with the Chairman of the State Duma, Volodin Vyacheslav Victorovich.

The call on will be followed by the signing of the MoU between the State Duma and the National Assembly of Pakistan, on expanding parliamentary cooperation and contact. Furthermore, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq would also hold bilateral meetings with the Chairperson of the Federation Council, Valentina

diplomacy.

The Parliamentary Delegation comprises Matvienko; and with the Members of the National DeputyPM of Russia.



QUETTA: Former Provincial Minister Mir Umar Khan Jamali meeting with CEO QESCO Engineer

DC Harnai chairs meeting to improve law, order situation

QUETTA (APP): Deputy illegal and immoral activi-Commissioner (DC) Harnai Hazrat Wali Kakar on Tuesday chaired a meeting regarding improving the law and order situation in the

General Harnai Syed Ali Kasi, SHO Levies Harnai, SHO Levies Delkona, SHO Levies Shahrag, in-charges of all Levies police stations and outposts and they presented detailed reports of their respective areas.

On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner Harnai Hazrat Wali Kakar directed all concerned officials that immediate action

ties in any area and to intensify their operations to suppress law-breaking elements. He said that some of the police stations and outposts have vehicles and The Meeting was attended by Additional directed the officials to pastrict checks by setting up checkpoints and ensuring the protection of lives and property of the people in

He said that the Lev-General

ies police stations and outposts would be repaired. He said that demand for more vehicles, motorcycles and uniforms for the Levies Force would be made to the Director would be taken against any Balochistan Levies Force.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, in a meeting with Mr. Najy Benhassine, Country Director of the World Bank, and his team at the Finance Division.

SHC regular benches recuses to hear constitutional petitions

KARACHI (INP): The clarified that while condi-Sindh High Court's (SHC) tional permission could be regular benches on Tuesday granted, it would first need recused to hear constitutional petitions after formation of dedicated constitutional benches.

A SHC division bench led by Justice Salahuddin Panhwar was hearing a case related to the Sindh Building Control Authority During the proceed-

ings, the petitioner's counsel argued that the matter fell under Article 199(2) of the Constitution and sought an urgent hearing.

Justice Panhwar observed that petitions involving restraining orders against provincial or Federal governments or their institutions should be addressed by the constitutional bench.

He advised the counsel to obtain permission tional benches as well as the

QUETTA (APP): Speakers

the occasion of the Interna-

tional Day for the Elimina-

tion of Violence against

Women, urged that every

section of society has to

play its role to protect

women's rights and elimi-

nate violence against them

der the supervision of the

Gwadar District Adminis-

tration, Gwadar Police De-

partment, and Social Wel-

fare Department on Tues-

day. The speakers empha-

sized that social awareness

and educational awareness

are of fundamental impor-

tance for protecting

women's rights and pre-

venting violence against

them. They said that it is

important to promote

awareness about women's

rights at all levels so that a

foundation can be laid for

positive attitudes in soci-

The seminar was un-

in respective areas.

Every section of society

needs to play role against

women violence: Speakers

of a seminar organized on the issues of various forms

to be determined whether the case should be heard by a regular or constitutional bench. In a separate development, the court declined to entertain cases concerning call-up notices, account de-freezing, protection requests and postponed all these matters for an indefi-

Additionally, a petition regarding the quashing of an FIR was directed to be converted into a Section 561 application and pre-

sented to the appropriate Just a day before, Judicial Commission of Pakistan nominated nine judges for constitutional benches in the SHC. Justice KK

Agha has been appointed as the head of these constitufrom Justice KK Agha and constitutional committee.

The event highlighted

At the same time, a

of violence faced by

women, such as physical,

mental, and sexual violence.

detailed discussion was

held on the legal rights of

women and the services and

performance of the women

police. The speakers said

on the occasion that women

would have to wage an or-

ganized struggle in society

to protect their rights. This

struggle will not only em-

power them but will also

provide them with oppor-

tunities to live an indepen-

dent life, they added. They

said that the event proved

to be an important effort to

raise awareness about

women's rights and bring

about positive changes in

more significance with the

special participation of the

SHO of Women Police Sta-

The event took on

social attitudes.

tion, Fiza Elahi.

Bushra Bibi insisted on **D-Chowk** protest: Saif

ISLAMABAD (INP): Adviser to Chief Minister of Information, Barrister Saif, revealed the administration had suggested holding the rally on the outskirts of Islamabad, the proposal that PTI founder Imran khan had initially agreed to.

Speaking to a private TV channel, he explained that while the party's announcement focused on D-Chowk, the administration had not granted permission

for the venue. the rally on the city's outskirt was taken to the PTI chairman and he consented. However, the proposal was later rejected by

He disclosed Bushra Bibi insisted on holding the

PTI spreading chaos to halt economic

progress: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (APP) Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday said that Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI), is spreading chaos to halt economic progress in the

personal interest, he said while talking to a private television channel. PTI protest demonstration and public rallies

he said adding that

He made it clear that the court will decide the cases of PTI founder.

economic challenges and World Bank to support achieving its developmen-Pakistan's economic reforms and development tal objectives. During a meeting with He appreciated the World Bank's financial and technical assistance across various sectors and reiter

cipline,

WB appreciates govt's

reform initiatives, assures

continued support

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, the WB Country Director assured continued support ated the government's from the bank in key identified areas.

The meeting was also attended by the Finance source utilization.

The suggestion to hold

the party members.

protest at D-Chowk.

'The release of our chairman must follow due legal process, but the government is influencing these cases unlawfully," Saif asserted, reiterating that the protests are against the mis-use of law to target the PTI leadership.

channelizing it.

ing different tactics to gain

PTI leadership is us-

could not pressurize the government for the release of PTI founder from jail, PTI founder is facing court

trial in different cases in-

cluding May 9 riots. pressed concern over the challenges being faced by department and stressed the need to resolve

Efforts being made to resolve problems being faced by Livestock Dept.: Jamali

The Minister for Live- out of 999 veterinary dis-

and ring road in the provincial capital.

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Livestock and Development, Sardarzada Faisal Jamali has stated that efforts are being

made to resolve the issues being faced by department. He said that we are working on increasing budget of the department and

stock and Dairy Development was addressing the meeting of standing committee here on Tuesday. The Member Provincial Assembly and Chairman

of the standing committee, Maulana Hidayatur Rehman presided over the The Chairman of standing committee ex-

the issues. He said that we are ever ready for resolving the issues of department.

LAHORE: Passengers rush to the railway station due to closure of motorway

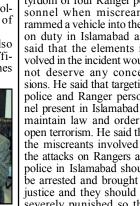
Earlier, Secretary Live-k Department, stock Muhammad Tayyab Lehri said that the department is facing certain issues due to the resources and financial constraints. He pointed out that

ing without buildings. He said that at present, a total of 147 civil veterinary hospitals are working in the province. There are a total of 6,452 employees in the de-

pensaries, 262 are operat-

partment, however, the Finance Department has abolished 319 vacancies of camel man. The committee also

discussed about insufficient budget for medicines of the animals



Ch Naeem flays attack on Ranger personnel in Islamabad

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)'s leader Chaudhry Naeem Karim strongly condemned the attack on Ranger personnel by miscreants on the Srinagar Highway in Islamabad.

He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is once again trying to repeat the events of May 9 saying that chaos on the occasion of the arrival of foreign guests in Islamabad are in no way in the interest of the country and the people. In a statement issued

here, Chaudhry Naeem Karim condemned the martyrdom of four Ranger personnel when miscreants rammed a vehicle into them on duty in Islamabad and said that the elements involved in the incident would not deserve any concessions. He said that targeting police and Ranger personnel present in Islamabad to maintain law and order is open terrorism. He said that the miscreants involved in the attacks on Rangers and police in Islamabad should be arrested and brought to justice and they should be severely punished so that no one dares to attack the forces in the future

QUETTA: Provincial Minister for C&W Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa presides over the meeting to review progress on works in Ouetta. Secretary C&W Lal Jan Jaffar is also present.