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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs the Federal Cabinet meeting.

Takes key decisions in different sectors **Cabinet approves National Prevention** of Violent Extremism Policy 2024

PM hopeful of further cut in policy rate after 'record decline' in inflation; Reduction in inflation to lessen common man's burden; Urges ministers to focus on fiscal growth after achieving initial milestone of economic stability

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Cabinet, on the recommendation of the Interior Ministry, approved the National Prevention of Violent Extremism Policy 2024 on Monday

The cabinet also approved in principle the proposal the interior ministry with respect to the establishment Islamabad Central Business District Development

The meeting, on the recommendation of commerce ministry, authorized to file review petition against the Supreme Court of Pakistan's decision of lifting ban on

the export of Monosodium glutamate (Ajinomoto). The decision was taken in the light of the report of the expert's special committee that was formed to monitor the impacts of Monosodium glutamate on human health. The report had termed the Monosodium glutamate safe for human health. The committee was comprised of representatives from Pakistan Scientific and Industrial Research, National Agriculture Research Center, National University of Sciences and Technology, Institute of Food and Nutritional Sciences, Federal Ministry of National

Continued on page 2

Inflation rate drops to 4.9% in November, lowest in 6.5 years

ISLAMABAD (APP): forms Khurram Schehzad The core inflation measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI) decelerated further to was lowest in 6.5 years, im-4.9 percent during November 2024 as compared to '.2 percent recorded during October 2024, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)

reported Monday.
According to PBS data, the CPI based inflation during the same month of last year (November 2023) was recorded at 29.2%.

On month-on-month basis, it increased by 0.5% in November 2024 as compared to an increase of 1.2% in the previous month and an increase of 2.7% in November 2023

"Pakistan Inflation as measured by CPI has made another multi-year low,' commented Advisor to Finance Minister on Economic and Financial re-

He said, the inflation pacts common man, businesses and government fiscal status.

He expressed the hope that such a low pace of inflation would result in more monetary easing, leading to further decline in cost of capital for businesses and industries and higher savings on debt servicing for the government resulting in improved fiscal balance in the coming months.

According to PBS data, CPI inflation Urban, decreased to 5.2% on year-onyear basis in November 2024 as compared to the 9.3% in the previous month and 30.4% in November 2023. On month-on-month

Continued on page 2

Chairman PkMAP describes Shahbaz's govt. as illegitimate

"Long live democratic Pakistan and Afghanistan"

Mehmood Khan Achakzai says only way out of running Pakistan lies in supremacy of constitution and law; demands of rulers to release PTI founder immediately; threatens to launch protest movement

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chairman

Pashtoonkhaw Awami Party (PkMAP) and head of the opposition alliance, Tahafuz-e-Aayeen Pakistan, Mehmood Khan Achakzai said that we want such Pakistan where every nationality has equal rights. He said that only way out of running the country lies in supremacy of constitution and law.

He described the PML-N's Shahbaz Sharif government as illegitimate and as Mortar explosion

kills three

seminary students

in Bannu

PESHAWAR (APP): Three

ploded in Janikhel area of

children namely, Zeeshan

and Wahab, sons of Ubaid

Ullah and Alamzeb, son of

Jahangir, residents of Seen

Tanga were playing with a

live mortar shell when it

As a result, all the three

exploded with a big bang.

children died at the scene.

Bodies of the children were

later shifted to hospital for

medico legal procedure and

Local police said three

Bannu on Monday.

such it has no right to rule institutions of the country the country.

He said that we would launch movement against the government, which came into being through might and manipulation. He said that Pakistan would become best country in the world only when due rights are given to the all.

He said that it is unavoidable to give all nationalities due rights, as without it, the country can't run. He said that Pakistan would survive till the day of judgment only when all

seminary were killed when a dumped mortar shell ex-

former Prime Minister of

Pakistan, has been arrested

in six more cases, according

on September 28, October

Minhas confirmed that

Khan will be taken on a

seven-day physical remand

on Monday for the six

cases. The remand in the

case registered by the New

Town police station has al-

ready been completed, and

the remand in the remain-

These arrests occurred

Amin

children of a local religious Imran Khan, the founding today.

to authorities.

4, and October 5.

Prosecutor

would work under their respective jurisdictions. He said that this country is ours and it is our homeland,

The integrity of Afghanistan is linked with integrity of Pakistan. We should honour independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan.

we can make our ends meet.

The Chairman PkMAP was addressing the public gathering held under auspices of the party marking 51st death anniversary of Continued on page 2

ported to be stable.

Adiala Jail

Jail sources indicate

Imran Khan remains in

His cell is now offi-

that there is no truth to the

rumors claiming that the

former prime minister has

been fransferred from

his designated cell, where all

necessary facilities are be-

ing provided in accordance

cially part of the New

Town police station, where

he remains under physical

remand until December 2.

with jail regulations.

Imran arrested in six

additional cases,

remand extended

RAWALPINDI (INP): ing cases will be processed

QUETTA: Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) Chief, Mehmood Khan

Achakzai addresses to his supporters during public gathering meeting on the occasion of 51st death anniversary of the Shaheed Abdul Samad Khan Achakzai, in Quetta.

PM topay a two-day Saudi Arabia visit from today to attend **WaterSummit**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to pay a two-day visit to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on December 3-4, 2024 to participate in the "One Water Summit."

A joint initiative of Saudi Arabia, France, Kazakhstan, and the World Bank the Summit aims to promote global cooperation and a coherent international approach towards water resource management through high-level political commitments, according to a curtain raiser issued by

the Foreign Office.

At the Summit, the prime minister will deliver a kevnote address at a Roundtable focusing on restoration, preservation, and adaptation in the context of fresh water resources and wetlands. He will also highlight the steps being taken by Pakistan to promote conservation, strengthen climate resilience, improve water quality, create livelihoods, and conserve biodiversity.

Prime Minister Shehbaz will underline the importance of international cooperation to tackle the impact of climate-induced floods, erratic and extreme weather patterns, and heat stress on water resources

of SCBAP for efficient dispensation of justice ISLAMABAD (APP): leadership's request, the The Chief Justice of Pakistan Mr Justice Yahya crease the number of judges

CJP agrees to many requests

Afridi has agreed to early fixation of all types of bail applications soon after the the process. filing, restoration of the chamber hearing to interim applications and many other steps requested by the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan (SCBAP).

The President SCBAP, Mian Muhammad Rauf Atta, accompanied by the General Secretary, Mr. Salman Mansoor, met with the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Yahya Afridi, to discuss challenges faced by the legal fraternity in ensuring efficient dispensation of justice at the Supreme Court

of Pakistan. acceded to many genuine requests of the Bar. He agreed to early fixation of all types of bail applications soon after the filing and to allow the request of restoration of the chamber hearing of the cases with regard to interim applica-

tions and stay matters. CJP indicated that throughout the week, judges nominated by the Supreme Court would be hearing the cases in cham-

Chief Justice agreed to inassigned to chamber appeals to further expedite

He also acceded to the request of the SCBAP that all applications requesting a video link would be entertained on the same day of the hearing of cases in the respective Registries. This initiative is aimed at facilitating lawyers, minimizing delays, and reducing the need for adjournments, particularly for those practicing in distant regions

Regarding the timely provision of certified copies, the Chief Justice outlined that the system is being revamped in the digitization initiative underway The Chief Justice was to streamline operations and improve service delivery. In response to concerns about file tracking and accessibility, particularly for lawyers from remote areas, the Chief Justice desired that all the Advocates of the Supreme Court should provide their designated emails and WhatsApp No's in the office so that the provisions of filing petitions directly online and issuance of certified copies and notices etc, be expedited.



KARACHI: Parliamentary Secretary of Information and Broadcasting Barrister Danyal Chaudhry and Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Awais Qadir Shah meet the YPF delegation, led by President Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar, to discuss YPF's role in legislative initiatives and youth engagement.

Committee formed to probe disinformation: Danyal Chaudhry persons, during his visit to able.

Independent Report KARACHI: The Parliamentary Secretary of Information and Broadcasting Barrister Danyal Chaudhry

Committee Disinformation had been

on Monday said that a

formed to probe into issues related to spreading disinformation. He said that the Com-

mittee would take strict action against those, who were in forefront of spreading disinformation specially belonging to parlia-

While talking to media

Sindh Assembly leading a delegation of Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) including its President MNA Syeda Nausheen Iftikhar and General Secretary MNA Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani, he said that the Committee had power to pronounce 10 years sentence.

Danyal Chaudhry said that those, who were involved directly or indirectly in attempts to sabotage Parliament, sovereignty of the country, and its stability would be made account-

Meanwhile, YPF President Syeda Nausheen Iftikhar said that their purpose of visiting Karachi was to develop coordination with provinces and form YPF at provincial levels.

She said that YPF was a chapter in which Speaker of National Assembly had keen interest to take along the provinces and our parliamentarians.

The age limit for YPF was 44 and there were 64 Young Parliamentarians in the National Assembly.

Continued on page 2



tor Mohammad Ishaq Dar has arrived in Mashhad, Iran. He was warmly received at the airport by Vice Governor General of Razavi Khorasan province Mohammad Ali Nabipoor and Pakistan's Ambassador to Iran, Mudassir Tipu.

DPM Dar arrives in Mashhad to attend ECO ministerial meeting

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Monday arrived in Mashhad, Iran to attend the 28th meeting of the road and rail networks; lib-Council Ministers of the eralization of visa regimes Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

He was warmly received at the airport by Vice enhance the geo-economic Governor General of potential of the ECO re-Razavi Khorasan province Mohammad Ali Nabipoor and Pakistan's Ambassador to Iran, Mudassir Tipu, according to a press release issued by the Deputy PM

ministerial meeting, DPM terial meeting.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Dar will reiterate Pakistan's commitment to the ECO tain sustainable growth and

Charter and highlight the potential of greater connectivity in the ECO region, through the development of and simplification of border procedures; and to at-

The deputy prime minister will sign the 'Charter for ECO Clean Energy Center' and hold bilateral meetings with participating ministers and dignitaries on In his address at the the sidelines of the minis-

Moon of Jamadi-us-Sani not sighted ISLAMABAD

dressing.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony on Monday an-nounced that the moon marking the Islamic month of Jamadi-us-Sani 1446 AH was not sighted.

According to a notification issued here, the first day of Jamadi-us-Sani wil fall on Wednesday, Decem ber 4, 2024.

The decision was made in accordance with the guidance of Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Chairman Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad. The announcement aligns with the lunar calendar's observance protocols followed nationwide.

PTI leaders decide to evolve white paper against central leadership, send it to Imran

> constituted consequent upon recent incidents of terrorism and vandalism and a massive malicious campaign to discredit the state in general and security forces in particular.

Multiple domestic and foreign based me-

aimed at creating serious law and order situation in the counvincialism and ethnic political interests. The TF shall present its findings within ten

ISLAMABAD (Online): leadership responsible PTI leaders have deevery time. Halim Adil Sheikh for tension. cided to work out white paper against central has taken plea in core committee " tell us who They said barrister Gohar neither was on leadership of party and send it to PTI founder ground nor did he play is their "peer" or who leadership role. gives them amulet. Imran Khan. Shoaib Shaheen said According

sources PTI leaders have tell us so that we may leveled grave charges obtain amulet from that against barrister Gohar, peer. Haleem Adil said Suleman Akram Raja FIRs are being regisand others. tered against us but cen-Party leadership is tral leadership is free

of the view our name are from them. registered in FIR but Core

members held central Barrister Gohar escapes

> Haleem Adil Sheikh said FIR is registered against us every time and workers are en

tangled. Muhammad Ali Khan said central leadership of party was engaged in talks.

Govt forms Task Force to identify propaganda perpetrators

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed

Ashraf exchanging views with Western Fleet Com-

mander of, Rear Admiral Mansour Bin Saud Al-

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Government has constituted a Joint Task Force (JTF) to identify Perpetrators involved in malicious propaganda against the state.

Juaid at Naval Headquarter.

The Joint Task Force will identify individual groups and organizations volved in creating and spreading fake and misleading news. The JTF has been

dia platforms are being used to perpetrate concocted, baseless and inciting news implicating State apparatus for committing serious human rights viola-This campaign is

try and foment procleavages for specific days and bring perpetrators to justice at the earliest.

committee

QUETTA: Country Representative of UNICEF Abdullah Fadel meeting with Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan.

Squash legend Jansher Khan inducted into PSA Hall of Fame

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani squash icon Jansher Khan was inducted into the Professional Squash Associa-

joined inaugural inductees Khan in the PSA Hall of Fame as the association continues to celebrate its greatest icons," it added.

Jansher's compatriot

A key part of the Pa-

kistani dominance of the

sport throughout the

1980s and 1990s, Jansher

Khan won the World Cham-

pionships eight times — a

record in the men's game

ish Open titles to a glitter-

months throughout his ca-

reer, Khan's final profes-

sional title count of 99 is

the greatest of any player

since records began, PSA

cause Hong Kong is my second home and I played

the Hong Kong Open for

many years and I won eight

"I feel very happy be-

ing trophy haul.

and also added six Brit-

A World No 1 for 97



during a special induction evening at the Hong Kong Football Club, according to a press release from the squash governing body on Sunday

Khan was honoured alongside Malaysian squash legend Nicol David, who has an unmatched 108-month reign as the World No 1

Held on the eve of the Hong Kong Squash Open, being held from December 2 to 8, David and Khan became the third and fourth members of the PSA Hall of Fame, which was launched earlier this year to recognise the achievements of the game's most influential characters, past and present, the press release said. "David and Khan have

me, it is the best place, Susan Devoy and Jahangir Khan said. "And I'm very happy to come to Hong Kong [to] see my old friends. It's an honour to get this award." Devoy hails from New

On the other hand David is widely regarded as one of the greatest players in the history of squash, with her illustrious career including an unprecedented eight World Championship titles and an un matched 108-month reign as the World No 1. She also took home five British Open titles and won two Commonwealth Games gold medals, the press re-

Since retiring, David founded the Nicol David Organisation, one of the Squash for Development programmes that the PSA Foundation supports. The 41-year-old was announced as a member of the Laureus World Sports Academy — a recognised group of 69 sporting leg-

in my squash career, you sometimes don't realise how much you've done until the moment when you are given this opportunity to be recognised in a hall of fame. That's when you go 'This is it!' And I l feel amazing, it's such an honour and I would like to thank PSA for honouring



QUETTA: Quetta Commissioner and Administrator, Hamza Shafqat is addressing the ceremony regarding Safa Quetta project, in Quetta.

Committee formed to probe...

present era was of misindisinformation and its im-

pacts could be seen at national level whether those were processions or protests in which properties of the country were damaged.

She said that their focus was on youth engagement, their own skill development, public dealing, and social media to cope with the vibe set against institu-

She was of the view that the formation of YPF in the provinces would also deal with the attempts of misleading the nation.

Earlier, upon their arrival, they were received by the Secretary of Sindh As-Ğ.M. sembly Umar Farooq.

Later, the delegation called on the Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Awais Qadir Shah and visited various parts of the historic Sindh Assembly building.

In the meeting, Syeda Nausheen Iftikhar, engaged in productive discussions with the Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah and members of the Sindh Assembly, according to a PA communique. The meeting

each work

S. No. Name of Work

PISHIN TSE-242512599623

PISHIN TSE-242512599613

Department District Pishin.

PRQ No.2184/02-12-2024

YPF Sindh chapter, an iniand tiative aimed at empoweron social and legislative is-

The YPF delegation,

comprising board mem-

bers, legislators, and sec-

retariat members from the

National Assembly included Jamal Khan Raisani (General Secretary YPF), Muhammad Iqbal Khan (Information Secretary YPF), Barrister Aqeel Malik, Danyal Chaudhary, Raja Osama Sarwar, Saad Waseem Sheikh, Kiran Imran Dar, Akhtar Bibi, Shaista Khan, Syed Ali Qasim Gillani, Ali Jan Mazari, Salahuddin Junejo, Pir Ameer Ali Shah Jeelani. Zulfigar Sattar Bachani, Muhammad Miqdad Ali Khan, Muhammad Saad Ullah, Usman Ali, and key officers from the National Assembly Secretariat, including Syed Shamoon

Hashmi, Muhammad Mushtaq, and Zafar Zultan. The Sindh Assembly delegation, led by Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah, featured a cross-section of leadership, including Ministers Muhammad Ali

E/Cost

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer (Building) CW PP&H Department Pishin

invites sealed bids from eligible bidders who can prove their eligibility

and qualification as mention in the bidding documents for the work

mentioned below. The work estimated cost and other information of

works as under tender based on Composite Schedule of Rates

2023. Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date as required

from interested contractors / firms for the work listed below under

BPPRA Rules. Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Earnest Money 2% for

CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING FOR BHU KILLI

BARSHORE DISTRICT PISHIN TSE-242512599633

3 REHABILITATION OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS 9.410 M

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan public

Procurement Rules- 2014. BASIC ELIGIBILITY: Eligibility Criteria

& Evaluation Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding

Documents. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single stage - one

Envelop Bidding Procedure. BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS:

the Bidding document can be downloaded for www.bppra.pk and the

same can also be obtained from the office of the under signed upon

payment of prescribed tender fee deposited in the head of account

LINE OF SUBMISSION: Manual Bid submit in the office of Executive

Engineer Building CWPP&H Department District Pishin before 19,

December, 2024 at 11:30 Hrs. Opening: "Technical Bids" will be

opened on the same day i.e. 19. December, 2024, at 12:30 Hrs

before procurement committee in the presence of bides. Address:

Office of the Executive Engineer (Building) CWPP&H

🌎 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr

Executive Engineer (Build

C-02716 NBP Bank green challan is verified by treasury. DEAD

AJRAM 1 AND AJRAM 2 TEHSIL SRANAN DISTRICT

HAJIAZIZ GHARAGHI TOBAAKAKARI TEHSIL

2 CONSTRUCTION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL KILLI

MOLVI ABDULLAH MC HURAMZAI DISTRICT

Continued from page 1 set the stage for the offi-Nausheen said that the set the stage for the offi-cial establishment of the Thaheem, and Riaz Shah Sheerazi; Leader Ali Khurshidi; and ing young lawmakers and MPAs Yusuf Baloch, Khurram Karim Soomro Sher Muhammad Mugheri Nida Khuhro, Makhdoom Fakhar Zaman, Taimoor Mirza, Shazia Karim Singhar, and Muhammad Awais. Advisor to the Chief Minister Sindh Babul Khan Bhayo and former MNA Ahsan Khan Mazari along with Secretary G.M. Umar Farooq and DG Irfan Ahmed Memon were

> present. The meeting focused the critical role young legislators must play in ad dressing the nation's challenges. President YPF stressed the importance of eradicating political polarization and promoting unity among the youth. She would ensure seamless collaboration between its federal and provincial chapters working collectively to em-

Both jointly address these issues through education, legislation, and awareness cam-

Opposition

power nationalism and strengthen democratic val-President Nosheen Iftikhar and Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah emphasized the need to tackle misinformation and disinformation, which have emerged as significant threats to governance and democracy. It was agreed to

Talpur, Sadia Javed, Najam

declared that YPF Pakistan

paigns.

Bid Security 2%

S.No. Description

Naqvi rejects surrender rumors over **Champions** Trophy issue

AHORE (INP): PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi has dismissed the stories of Pakistan's surrender regarding the Champions Trophy as baseless.

According to media reports, Naqvi and the PCB delegation have returned from Dubai, where he held several important meetings concerning the ICC Champions Trophy. During these meetings, Naqvi presented Pakistan's position to the ICC. PCB sources confirmed that the board remained firm on its stance and was awaiting responses from both the ICĈ and the Indian Cricket Board. Due to holidays in Dubai, responses may take

people of UAE on its 53rd National Day LAHORE (APP): "Heartiest congratulations to the lead-— in 2021. "After doing so much

journey of progress and prosperity achieved by the UAE, a vision brought to life by the wisdom and foresight of

the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan." This visionary path has been carried forward by my brothers, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Ål Nahyan and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin

Rashid Al Maktoum," he added. Shehbaz said that Pakistan has always stood as a steadfast brother and partner to the UAE and assured that,"we will continue to strengthen our historic and fraternal ties, transforming them into mutually beneficial economic partnerships".

Cabinet approves National Prevention... Balochistan High Court. Continued from page 1

Food Safety and Research, Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority and Board of Invest-

The meeting of the federal cabinet was held here under the chairmanship of Minister Muhammad Shehbaz

The cabinet, on the education and professional to the renewal of the Memo-

Furthermore, the cabinet, on the recommendation of ministry of education and professional training approved nomination of Dr Habib ur Rehman and Dr Kamran Ansari as subject experts in the Board of Governors of University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Lahore and the nomination of Dr Mumtaz Muhammad Shah and Dr Muhammad Farooqui as subject experts in Board of Governors of Center of Excellence in

Balochistan Quetta. The federal cabinet, on the proposal of ministry of law and justice and in line with Sindh High Court orders approved the amendment in the jurisdiction of

special courts. On the recommendation of ministry of law and justice and in line with Balochistan High Court orders, the cabinet also approved amendments in the jurisdiction of special courts (customs, taxation and anti smuggling) Quetta

Similarly, on proposals

MULTAN: The Pakistan Army men's athletics team poses for a group photo after their victory at the 52nd National Athletics Championship 2024 at Ayub Stadium.

PM greets leadership,

ership and people of the UAE on their 53rd National Day," says the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, in his tweet on Monday.
The premier said "We take pride in the remarkable

Long live Pakistan-ÛAE friendship!

act 2023.

the cabinet authorized the

additional session judges

and other relevant courts to

hear the cases under law-

yers welfare and protection

occasion, Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif appreciated

his economic teams' perfor-

mance saying that the

country's economy was on

track to progress amid strin-

gent clamp down on smug-

gling, plummeting inflation

and doubled revenue collec-

tion that helped improve

the eroding economy.
"Today the inflation

rate is at 70 months' low-est level of 4.9 per cent

[which was at 7.2 per cent

in October 2024] which is

beyond imagination and due

Minister

to the team work and bless-

chasing power parity.

"Drop in inflation will

incur propitious results as

the State Bank after its

meeting would reduce

policy rate which is its pre-

ter said

rogative," the prime minis-

that the protests held pre-

viously caused huge eco-

nomic and property losses

to the nation. "Pakistan

Stock Exchange also

crashed from its highest

vious losses," he said.

maintain more revenue col-

lection than the previous

E/Cost

5,793,228

PM Shehbaz reiterated

Earlier, speaking on the

proposal of ministry of training also gave a go ahead randa of Understands with respect to University of Cambridge, Saint Antony's College University of Oxford, University of Jordan, Pecking University China, University of Hydal Berg, many.

ings of the Almighty," he said while addressing the federal cabinet meeting. Prime Shehbaz Sharif said the sentiment on ground was positive as inflation had further declined and the govern ment would have to proceed towards growth with a focused approach to improve gross domestic product (GDP) ratio, exports, industry, employment and Ahmed special economic zones (SEZs).He said all these indicators were critical as inflation was the only tool Mineralogy, University of that aggravates poverty and diminishes poor man's pur-

and Khuzdar.

of ministry of law and justice and in line with orders of Peshawar High Court, Lahore High Court, Islamabad High Court, Sindh High Court, and

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

TSE-242511597184 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All

Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For

All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Request

for Proposal for selection of Consultancy service invited on Electronic Public Procurement System

criteria, viz having registration with FBR for Income Tax and BRA and who are on Active Taxpayers List

(ATL), and are not black listed in any procuring agancyv or authority for prepration of Hiring of

BRIDGE AT KAZAVALLAYA, TEHSIL BARSHORE, DISTRICT PISHIN PSDP NO. 756 (Z2022.3259)

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of

Bidders: 5 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity Turn over of at least 5,000,000 PKR Amount in

3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Payer List BRA Registration Certificate The bidding

firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan PEC/PCAD Registration 1203,

1215, 1222, 1214 and 1226 Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure

Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of of 2 % specified above in the name of

the under-signed from a scheduled bank. The FINANCIAL PROPOSALS shall be opened of those

Detail as under:

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN OF BRIDGE AT KAZAVALLAYA, TEHSIL

BARSHORE, DISTRICT PISHIN PSDP NO. 756 (Z2022.3259) 2023-24.

ultancy Services from Consulting Firms" Titled as CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN OF

(EPPS) from well reputed national/International firms (JV) / service provider meeting with eligibility

Continued from page 1 renowned the Pashtoon nationalist leader, Khan Abdul Samad Khan Achakzai, here at the spacious Sadiq Shaheed Football Ground on Monday.

Other leaders of the PkMAP including Abdul Rahim Ziaratwalk, Dr. Hamid Khan Achakzai, Sved Liaquat Agha, Abdul Qahar Wadhan and others also participated in the public meeting. Besides, a large number of the party workers and other people also attended.

The Chairman PkMAP said that Khan Abdul Samad Khan Achakzai founded the party for gathering the whole Pashtoon nation on a platform. He said that Khan Samad Khan Achakzai waged struggle for rights of the oppressed nationalities and for the cause, he was imprisoned for years. Besides, he (Khan Samad Khan) was not martyred for any enmity or for the sake of any property, rather he was martyred just to assemble the Pashtoon nation.

He said that the founder of PTI talks about the real independence, and we support it. He said that the founder of PTI is the highest vote taking leader in the country, and everyone should take it as reality. He said that the sooner

it would be better.

The Chairman PkMAP once against demanded of the rulers to release the PTI

stressed.

we would realize this fact,

founder, as nothing would happen by overlooking it. He said a popular political ideology and leader can not be eliminated.

Chairman PkMAP describes...

He proposed a solution to the current political crisis, stating that imprisoning Imran Khan and his party leaders, shooting at peaceful processions and killing innocent workers is not the solution.

He said that a dead Imran Khan would be more dangerous than a living one, he warned.

The Chairman PkMAP asked the bureaucracy and security forces not to pay heed to the illegal orders of the government, otherwise they have to pay the price. He insisted that the only solution to Pakistan's current crisis is the supremacy of people and the constitution, and the sovereignty of parliament. For this purpose, a broad national dialogue is essential, adding he

Referring Afghanistan, the Chairman PkMAP said that a sovereign and independent Afghanistan is in favour of Pakistan and there should be no interference in it's affairs. He said that instability in Afghanistan would bring no benefit to Pakistan. He stressed that Pakistan must participate in every necessary action to ensure Afghanistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and peace.

He said that Pashtoon stan and Pakistan due to the

Durand Line.

About the general elections, Mehmood Khan Achakzai said that we had succeeded in different election constituencies in the general elections, but allegedly got defeated intention-

He on the occasion expressed concern over the law and order situation in Pashtoon and Baloch areas and stressed that the people should be given due rights besides political and eco-

nomic autonomy.

He said that in Pishin district alone, 125,000 acres of land have been allotted to a resident of Sahiwal, which is causing political unrest and sense of deprivation across the Pashtoon belt.

He on the occasion demanded immediate compensation to the families of labourers killed in Duki. Harnai, Sanjavi and Rada

About the alleged killing of PTI workers during protest of PTI in Islamabad, the Chairman PkMAP said that the government has no right to fire bullets on the protesters, even they were protesting for their demands. He said that the government should tender apology to the bereaved families of those killed during the Islamabad's protest

In the end, the Chairman PkMAP also raised slogans of long live demonation is divided in Afghani- cratic Pakistan and stable Afghanistan.



A delegation of All Parties Citizen Action Committee meeting with Commissioner Kalat Division Muhammad Naeem Bazai.

Inflation rate drops to...

Continued from page 1 ber 2023. On MoM basis, basis, it increased by

0.5% in November 2024 as compared to an increase of 1.1% in the previous month and an increase of 4.3% in November 2023.

CPI inflation Rural, increased by 4.3% on yearon-year basis in November 2024 as compared to 4.2% in the previous month and 27.5% in November 2023. On month-on-month basis, it increased by 0.5% in November 2024 as compared to an increase of 1.5% in the previous month and an increase of 0.4% in November 2023. The Sensitive Price In-

trading level but after dedictor (SPI) inflation on escalation of the situation YoY decreased to 7.3% in at D-Chowk it bounced November 2024 as comback and mitigated the prepared to 9.7% a month earlier and 30.6% in Novem-He also noted that the government had managed to

it increased by 1.0% in November 2024 as compared to an increase of 0.6% a month earlier and an increase of 3.3% in November 2023

Index (WPI) inflation on YoY basis decreased to 2.3% in November 2024 as compared to 3.9% a month earlier and an increase of 26.4% in November 2023. On MoM basis, it decreased by 0.1% in November 2024 as compared to a no change in the previous month and an increase of 1.4% in corresponding month of last year i.e. November 2023.

The urban core inflation (NFNE), measured by non-food non-energy increased to 8.9% on (YoY)

basis in November 2024 as compared to 8.6% in the previous month and 18.6% in November 2023. On (MoM) basis, it increased by 1.2% in November 2024 as compared to an increase The Wholesale Price of 0.6% in previous month and an increase of 0.9% in corresponding month of last year i.e. November, 2023. The rural core inflation, measured by non-food non-energy Rural decreased to 10.9% on (YoY) basis in November 2024 as compared to 11.7% in the previous month and 25.9% in November 2023. On (MoM) basis, it remained unchanged at 0.7% in November 2024 as compared to previous month and an increase of 1.4% in corresponding month of last year

i.e. November 2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Deputy Director, Agriculture (On Farm Water Management) Kohlu, invites E-sealed Tender/Bid for execution of various development schemes under the following project of PSDP 2024-25 under CSR-2018 from interested contractors/firm with the Bid Security @ 2% of estimated cost/offered rate in shape of Call Deposit (Refundable). TSE No. 242512600023 and Bid Security 2% Name of Work/s E/Cost

CONSTRUCTION OF FARM PONDS, DEVELOPMENT OF DUG WELLS, INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PUMPING SYSTEM ON FARM PONDS & DUG WELLS PROVISION OF FRUIT PLANTS, OILSEEDS / PULSES & FODDER

WITH LAND PREPERATION IN DISTRICT KOHLU [Z2019.1958] (E-Bids Only)

51.145 M

Procurements shall be made under BPP Rules 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turn-over of at least 35,000,000 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-5 and above (Upto 65 million)In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(v) (Irrigation Only), CE09(ii) (Water Supply), CE10(i) (General Civil Engineering Works), EE11(ii) (Solar Energy). Income Tax Registration certificate is required The bidding firm must submit Income Tax Return of Taxation Year 2024 The Bidding Firm must submit Audit Report / Audit Balance Sheet of FY 2021-22 & 2022-23, 2023-24. The bidding Firm must submit Company's latest Bank Account Statement or Bank Credit Line Certificate. Method of Procurement: Single Stage-Two Envelope Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security (2%) in the form of Call Deposit or Bank Guarantee (Bank's certificate is mandatory) in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be downloaded from BPPRA website. Bid Validity Period: 90 days Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication, during office hours of any working day. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders should be submitted on 17 December, 2024 till 12:00 PM Sharp at the office of the undersigned. Tender opening: The Technical Proposals will be opened on same day through electronically bid on same day at 01:00 PM. Stamp Duty: The successful bidder must submit the Stamp Duty in shape of Judicial Stamp Paper or Special Adhesive Stamps as per policy. Address: Office the Deputy Director Agriculture On

PRO No. 2186/02-12-2024 🚭 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🐷 @dpr_gob 🌀 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr.balochistan

Farm Water Management, Kohlu Contact No. 3337927065

On Farm Water Management Kohlu

CWPP&H Department District

PRQ No.2180/02-12-2024 🌍 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr.balochistan

CWPP&H Department District Pishin

consultants whose technical proposal is considered and approved. The Selection of Consultants shall be made as per Evaluation Criteria method as mentioned in the 'Date Sheet' of this "Request for Proposal" document. The incomplete request for proposal or received after due date mentioned above will not be

considered. The RFP Documents can be downloaded from BPPRA Website (www.bppra.gob.pk). Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 17 December, 2024 till 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 PM Address: Office of the Chief Engineer Office, Quetta Zone, Communication Department, C&W Complex at Jaffar Khan Jamali Road Quetta Phone no: 0332804675 Email: pishinxen@gmail.com Executive Engineer Roads

President urges society's role to create a more inclusive Pakistan for PWDs

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari Pakistan had made signifireiterating Pakistan's commitment to full participation of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in all aspects of life, urged the society to help create an environment for their dignified treatment and provide them resources to

'Together, let us reaffirm our commitment to a more inclusive Pakistan, where every individual, regardless of their ability, has the opportunity to reach their full potential," the president said in his message on International Day of Persons with Disabilities annually observed on December 3.

He said that the Day was observed to promote the rights, well-being and inclusion of PWDs in all spheres of society and acknowledge the resilience, strength, and invaluable contributions of PWDs and their families towards the

PWDs in all aspects of life, cant strides in empowering and uplifting them through various legal and institutional frameworks.

The president said that the promulgation of the ICT Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2020 stood as a landmark achievement, guaranteeing improved accessibility, vocational training, job opportunities, and an inclusive environment for PWDs in all walks of

"The establishment of

the ICT Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under this Act represents another critical step toward ensuring a comprehensive, coordinated, and inclusive approach to addressing the challenges faced by PWDs. This Council will serve as a central body for policy formulation, implementation, and advocacy for the rights and welfare of PWDs" he

President Zardari said He said that to ensure that Pakistan recognised the the full participation of importance of special edu-

Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Develop-

ment Chaudhry Salik Hussain meets with Governor KP Faisal Karim Kundi

Pakhtunkhwa, 30,513

Balochistan,112,270 to the

Federal Capital area,9,290 to FATA and 14,312

as many as 600,000 laptops the residents of Azad situation in the province.

government was working

with the National Vocational

and Technical Training

Commission on skill devel-

opment, especially the pro-

vision of education, train-

ing and IT skills to youth

through youth develop-

provide direct training to

over two lac youth and in-

direct training to over six

lakh youth to meet the de-

mand for skilled labourers

abroad which will enable

Pakistan to send skilled

This year, we aim to

ment programs.

Mashhood said the

Chairman PMYP says:

600,000 laptops

distributed among

students on merit

Ahmed Khan has said that laptops had been given to

have been provided to the Jammu and Kashmir.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Chairman of the Prime

Minister Youth Programme

(PMYP), Rana Mashhood

students under the Prime Minister Youth Laptop

told APP that 334,556

laptops had been given to

males while 265,444 fe-

males received the laptops.

He added that 100,000

laptops were distributed

during the year 2024 includ-

ing 58,000 to females and

details of the total laptops

distribution, he informed

that 247,389 laptops were

provided to the residents of

Giving province-wise

42,000 to male students.

The Chairman PMYP

scheme on merit so far.

He said that for this purpose, the country had developed a nationwide network of Special Education Centres and Vocational Training Institutes, catering to the diverse needs of PWDs. These centres are designed to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to become self-reliant and contributing members of society.

Besides, he said that the implementation of a special quota in government jobs ensured PWDs' access to meaningful employment opportunities.

'While significant progress has been made, there remains much work to be done. We need to increase their access to Assistive Technology and public places and create legal, social and economic conditions to ensure their full participation in all sectors, including employment, sports, education and other socio-economic activities, he stressed

KP Governor

briefs Bilawal

about law &

order

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Governor Faisal Karim

Kundi on Monday briefed

the Chairman Pakistan

Peoples Party (PPP)

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

about the law and order

Zardari House wich was

attended by PPP's Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa President

Muhammad Ali Shah Bacha

and General Secretary

Pakhtunkhwa was a key

topic of discussion.

Muhammad Ali Shah Bacha

and Shazi Khan also high-

lighted issues related to the

federal government's policy

approach in the province.

Karim Kundi briefed Chair-

Zardari about the grand

Jirga held at the Commis

sioner House in Kohat.

Bilawal Bhutto

Governor

The situation of law

order in Khyber

Shazi Khan.

A meeting held at



ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Human Rights launches 16 days of VAW (violence against women) at PNCA, Federal Minister for Law and Justice and Human Rights, Mr. Azam Nazeer Tarrar and Parliamentary Secretary of Human Rights, Mrs. Saba Sadiq are present at the launch event.

Syria- Pakistan connected with historical, religious, cultural, economic ties: Ambassador

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic in Pakistan, Dr. Ramez Alraee on Monday said that Syria and Pakistan are connected by historical, religious and cultural ties, which will help in increasing bilateral economic and trade coopera-

The Ambassador said that Syria has always stood by Pakistan in difficult times and after the 2005 earthquake, Syria helped Pakistan in all spheres.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister of State for IT and

Telecommunication Shaza

Fatima Khawaja on Mon-

day directed Ignite to orga-

nize an e-sports competi-

tion focusing on locally de-

The directive was issued during the 45th meeting of the R&D Fund Policy

Committee, according to a

Rs. 599.29 million for Ig-

nite Company for the second quarter of FY 2024-25.

Secretary IT, Zarrar

Hasham Khan, and Special

veloped games.

press release.

Pakistan and Syria are lations between the two of a great Geo-strategic significance in the world's political arena and due to their geographical location; both countries have also a significant place in the global economy and trade, Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic in Pakistan, Dr. Ramez Alraee told APP here. Recently, Pakistan has cooperated fully with Syria and provided humanitarian aid to the Syrian govern-

ment, which will further

Secretary IT & Telecom Division, Azfar Manzoor,

also attended the meeting.

ing Ignite projects short-

completion. She stressed

delivered within the stipu-

Shaza Khawaja emphasized keep-

lated period.

Shaza directs

Ignite to organize E-sports

competitions on locally

developed games

countries, he said. Dr Ramez Alraee said that Syria has huge importance in the Middle East with which Israel has been

in conflict for decades and many countries in the region are facing Israeli aggression, including Syria. The envoy said that

Syria has a significant role in world peace and the Syrian government is paying full attention to peace, security and economic development in its country.

strengthen the bilateral regreetings on UAE's 53rd **National Day**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Monday extended his heartfelt congratulations to the leadership and people of the United Arab Emir-ates (UAE) on their 53rd National Day. National Day.

term to ensure timely In his message, he commended the exemplary that every project must have a clear timeline and be Earlier, Ignite officials The Committee ap- briefed the minister on the

Gilani extends

and fraternal relations between Pakistan and the UAE, highlighting their shared commitment to further strengthening these



ISLAMABAD: MNA Anjum Aqeel Khan, Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, Secretary Federal Education and Professional Training inaugurating and others new

prayer, and a grave. Despite

families and communities,

PTI seems to have over-

provide residents with di-

rect access to professional

medical consultations re-

motely, significantly im-

proving service accessibil-

ity and efficiency," he said.

attendees were briefed on

programme, which will be-

select BHUs. A phased ex-

pansion to cover all BHUs

is planned following the ini

officials to allocate budgets

for the initiative and ensure

the delivery of quality care.

He also highlighted the im-

portance of overhauling

BHUs and RHCs to en-

hance infrastructure and

services, proposing a rev-

enue-generating business model to fund these im-

Randhawa instructed

tial rollout.

provements.

During the session,

the devastating impact on

block of Islamabad Model School for Boys Golra Sharif. Siddiqui slams Tarar grieved over death of

PTI for prioritising faceless victims over 131 Kurram killings

Islamabad to launch

telemedicine services

at basic health units

(APP):

ISLAMABAD PML-N's Parliamentary Party Leader in Senate Irfan Siddiqui on Monday criticised PTI for making hue and cry over the loss of imaginary, unnamed lives without funerals or graves, while conveniently ignoring the 131 forgotten bodies lost in Kurram, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In a statement posted on his social media account X, Siddiqui, who also looked this.

ISLAMABAD

Chairman Capital Develop-

ment Authority (CDA) and

Muhammad Ali Randhawa

has unveiled plans to intro-

duce telemedicine services

at Islamabad's Basic Health

Units (BHUs) and Rural

revolutionise healthcare ac-

cess, particularly for pa-

tients in remote areas and

during non-operational

level meeting attended by senior CDA members, the

Deputy Commissioner of

ICT, the Executive Direc-

tor of Capital Hospital, and

other officials, Randhawa

emphasised the critical need

for innovative solutions in

This initiative will

healthcare delivery.

The initiative aims to

Presiding over a high-

Health Centres (RHCs).

Commissioner

father of editor of 'The Nation' Salman Masood ISLAMABAD (APP): serves as the Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs,

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture expressed his concerns over Attaullah Tarar on Monday PTI's apparent disregard expressed deep grief over for the victims of Kurram. the death of the father of He said "The tragic the Editor of English Daily
"The Nation" Salman incident in Kurram has claimed 131 innocent lives, Masood. each with a name, a funeral

In a condolence message, the minister expressed heartfelt condolences and sympathy to Salman Masood and other family members.

Terming death of a fa-ther an irreparable loss, Tarar said he was deeply saddened to hear the news of the death of Salman

Accuse involved in Bykea driver murder case arrested

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Police Bhara the proposed telemedicine Kahu Circle Homicide Unit on Monday used technical gin as a six-month pilot at and scientific methods to arrest Amir Shah, the accuse involved in the blind murder of a Bykea driver who resisted during a robbery. On October 12, 2024

the arrested accused killed the Bykea driver, Muhammad Amjad, by stabbing him with a sharp object within the limits of the Bhara Kahu police station during the incident of resistance. The accused then escaped after snatching the motorcycle and mobile phone.

Consultative Workshop in Malakand Division that the strengthening of Dispute Resolution Coun-

PJN, UNDP organize

work (PJN), in collaboration with the UNDP Pakiand Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police, convened a Malakand Divisional Consultative Workshop aimed at identifying actionable recommendations o strengthen Dispute Resolution Councils (DRCs) in Swat under EU-funded Deliver Justice Project. The workshop served as a platform for diverse stakeholders, including representa-tives from the Dispute Resolution Councils (DRCs) from Swat, Buner, Shangla, Dir, Chitral, Malakand and Bajaur, judiciary, law enforcement, civil society, local government, and community leaders, to share insights and develop strategies for enhancing the ca-pacity and efficiency of DRCs. The primary objective was to create a comprehensive action plan to empower DRCs as an effective mechanism for resolving disputes and improving access to justice

During opening sessions, Ms. Caitlin Chittenden Rule of Law & Justice Reforms Specialist, Rule of Law Program UNDP Pakistan and Syed Raza Ali CEO Peace & Justice Network highlighted communities.

across the region.

cils (DRCs) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was crucial to enhancing their ability to serve communities effectively in resolving disputes.

By addressing current gaps — such as inadequate resources, limited training for members, lack of inclusivity, and insufficient public awareness — DRCs can become more efficient, accessible, and responsive to community requirements. Strengthened DRCs not only provide timely and cost-effective justice but also play a vital role in reducing the burden on formal courts and fostering social harmony at the grassroots level.

DRCs established by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police (KP) are pivotal in addressing the challenges of access to justice, particularly for marginalized communities in KP.

These councils serve as alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, offering a platform for resolving conflicts efficiently and amicably without resorting to formal court systems.

Strengthening these councils is crucial for enhancing access to justice as many individuals, especially in rural and marginalized

Medical camp organized for **Islamabad Police Officers**

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to the details, various health

camp, police officers were screened for hepatitis B, C, and HIV, and were provided



activities, psychological with useful advice to imtests, and medical camps prove their health. were organized to improve On the occasion, senior police officers apprethe mental and physical health of the police officers ciated the efforts of all the doctors and stated that and protect them from dis-Islamabad Police priorieases. In this regard, a oneday free medical camp was tizes the physical and organized in collaboration mental health of its offic-

Hospital at the Central Po- such activities will continue lice Office (CPO) to be organized in the fu-Islamabad. During the ture. India using all evil tactics to perpetuate illegal occupation

ISLAMABAD (APP): All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir (APHC-AJK) chapter has said that India is using all kinds of cruel tactics to perpetuate its illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir.

APHC-AJK Convener Ghulam Muhammad Safi in a statement issued on the occasion of the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, said as soon as the word slavery comes to mind, the image of an old era comes to mind when people were enslaved, imprisoned and forced to work. He added that even today, in the 21st century, slavery is still present in world with all its ugliness.

He said India, which calls itself the world's largest democratic country and a champion of human rights, landed its troops at Srinagar airport in the darkness of night on October 26, 1947, and made a free and sovereign state its slave through

Ghulam Muhammad self-determination.

of Kashmir: Ghulam Safi Safi said to perpetuate this forced slavery and illegal occupation, India has martyred lacs of Kashmiris, imprisoned thousands and subjected them to the worst torture, while hundreds of children have been disabled for life by being beaten with pellets. Properties worth crores of dollars have been confiscated and hundreds of employees have been forcibly dismissed on baseless

charges, he lamented. He said this unstonpable cycle of cruelty and barbarity is still going on. He said the Kashmiri people have been struggling since 1947 to get rid of Indian slavery and they are determined that the just struggle will be continued at all costs until every single Indian soldier leaves the land of Kashmir.

Ghulam Muhammad Safi appealed to the United Nations, the Islamic world and human rights organizations to come forward and fulfill their responsibility to give the Kashmiris their right to

I'abad Police to constitute special squads for action against signal violators

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police has decided to accel-

erate efforts to ensure implementation of traffic laws and take strict action against those involved in violation of red-signal, a public relations officer said. He said that a special

campaign is underway to check violations while various squads are performing duties at main roads and boulevards of the city and taking action against the violators. Efforts are underway to ensure a disciplined traffic system in the city.
Chief Traffic Officer (CTO)

Islamabad Muhammad Sarfraz Virk directed the Islamabad Traffic Police Zonal DSPs to

ensure implementation on traffic rules and regulation irrespective of status and rank and demonstrate patience and politeness while issuing traffic violation tickets to the road users. He further said that the

Islamabad Police is utilizing all available resources to facilitate the general public. The force issues traffic violation tickets not as a punitive measure but the purpose is to ensure a safe road environment in the capital and secure the lives of the people. The education wing is also directed to give awareness to the road users about traffic laws and Islamabad Police FM Radio 92.4 to air special programs in this regard.

Sindh,76,094 to Khyber engagement. **OEC** seeking services of **CFO** on contract basis

Punjab, 107,034 to youth abroad for positive

ISLAMABAD (APP): nized body of professional Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) an attached department of Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) was seeking the services of Chief Finance Officer (CFO) on the contract basis with the following qualifications and experience.

An official source told APP here on Monday, he said that CFO post laying vacant from a long time in the OEC and current administration has decided to fill this important post on immediate basis for smooth working of the office.

He said that the CFO shall be responsible for ensuring that appropriate advice was given to the Board on all financial matter, for keeping proper financial records & accounts and for maintaining an effective system of internal financial

A member of a recog-

accountants or a person holding a master's degree in finance from a university recognized by the Higher Education Commission.

Nature of appointment contract basis for three years (extendable), must have at least 3 to 5 years relevant experience in a reputed organization in case of a member of a recognized body of profes-

sional accountants; At least 10 years of relevant experience in case a person holds a master's degree in Finance.

Interested applicants may send their applications along with a detailed CV along with all supporting documents, CNIC, and Photographs on belowmentioned address through courier. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for the test/interview.

No TA/ DA will be provided for the Test / In-

DC holds 'Khuli Kutchary' to resolve problems of citizens

ISLAMABAD (APP) Deputy Commissioner (DC) Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon on Monday held an open court (Khuli Kutchary') at his office under open door policy to resolve public problems on priority.

The DC listened to

the queries and complaints of the citizens in person and gave directions to the concerned officer/department for immediate redressal, said a spokesman of the

ICT administration. A large number of people attended the open court and lodged their complaints regarding different problems.

Irfan Memon directed all Assistant Commissioners to meet with citizens on a daily basis



ISLAMABAD: A beggar woman holds her child while asking for some mercy from people at traffic signal in capital city.

Daily soice of Masse. Independent

Tuesday December 03, 2024

The ban question

Renewed talk about banning one of the country's largest political parties shows nothing but the impoverishment of democratic thought in the infrastructure is not about Pakistani power elite.

Following the forcible eviction of the PTI's latest protest from the federal capital, some entities have once again taken to describing the party as a 'terrorist outfit' and are seeking its proscription. Thankfully, the PPP, JUI and some others have opposed system, installation of a the measure, calling it a bad national firewall, disrupidea.

Others, perhaps most surprisingly the ANP, have made no bones about the fact that they wish to see the PTI removed from the picture completely. However, the parties that want the PTI to be banned do not seem to realise that they are veering away from the very 'democratic' credentials they claim to possess.

The recent round of condemnations started with the Balochistan Assembly, which passed a resolution on Thursday amid an opposition walkout calling to ban the party after its recent protests. Even by the sketchy standards of democracy in the province, this marked a new low. A similar resolution was also tabled in the Punjab Assembly, but reprieve for the ruling coathis could not be passed with the same alacrity shown by the Balochistan Assembly, seemingly due to the PPP's opposition to the move.

Meanwhile, the federal cabinet considered imposing array was further reflected by the resignation of its security possessing narcotics. governor's rule in KP but retary general Salman again, saner minds seemed to have prevailed. None of this, however, is as disappointing for a student of Pakistan's The siege of the capital ordered by a panicky government, barricades of the journalist, as did the political history as the fact that the heir of Khan Abdul Wali Khan, Aimal Wali, current chief of the Awami National Party, has also joined the chorus of those seeking a ban on PTI, going so far as to call it a gically vital city of "waste that should be disposed of".

Among Pakistan's mainstream political parties, only entering Aleppo. This is two have been formally advance in almost a decade, banned. One was the National it is also the only time Awami Party, led by Wali Aleppo since 2012, when Khan, which was proscribed they seized control of in 1975 but then came back eastern Aleppo before being subjected to a brutal to life as the ANP. The other siege by Russian and Syrwas the Awami League, and an lorces in 2010, wi ended in their retreat. the disastrous consequences of banning it led to the secession of East Pakistan. Af- sian and Iranian interventer usurping power, the dictator Gen Ziaul Haq attempted to the dictator Gen Ziaul Haq to ban the PPP too, and was instrumental in carving some factions out of it, but Bhutto's party also endured.

This history shows that over approximately 70 per bans simply do not work. All cent of the country. parties make mistakes, and the state and the citizenry can with differing ideologies sometimes clash in violent ways. But this cannot be used to justify denying the public their constitutional right to organise under whatever banner they wish.

Instead of resorting to such arbitrary calls, all par(SDF). ties must focus on contributing positively towards the country's political culture by working to mitigate the divisions that exist between them western powers, notably the US, which retains 900 and focusing on a negotiated soldiers in Syria, ostensisolution. That is the only viable path forward in Pakistan's case.

And then they came for VPNs

Farieha Aziz

On Nov 28, 2024, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz posted a video on X — via a VPN, of course, since X has been officially banned by the government - announcing Pakistan's first IT city.

One wonders what an IT city can possibly offer a country that lacks basic connectivity and regular access to platforms and content on them. Digital constructing buildings or laying down roads, but ensuring stable connectivity and everything that sus-

Since the beginning of 2024, internet users in Pakistan have experienced slow internet speeds purportedly due to damage to the undersea cables. Then came the ban on X. announcements of an upgrade to the web-management tions in WhatsApp media functions, and the blocking of VPNs.

Typically, VPNs are used as a privacy measure. But in Pakistan, VPNs are mainly used to circumvent arbitrary government bans

such as the one on X. WhatsApp has become a medium of day-to-day communication for businesses and individuals. WhatsApp media disruptions — the inability to send and receive audio notes, images, videos and stickers over mobile data have led many to turn to

Lately, many users have reported their inability to access specific content on platforms, such as videos on YouTube channels. For instance, comments under videos by court reporters who provided extensive coverage on the 26th Amendment reveal how their videos do not load on mobile data without a VPN And now VPNs are being blocked.

What was initially attributed to a technical glitch, was soon followed by an announcement by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) to register all VPNs, accompanied by the usual narrative of terrorist activity and access to 'immoral' content. including a fatwa by the Council of Islamic Ideology

 later withdrawn — about VPNs being 'un-Islamic'. But the PTA's registra-

for which has been extended — is not for everyone. Their registration form provides two options: company and individual — the latter for freelancers only. In order to register, first an account has to be set up, which requires the following details: company name, nature of business, phone number, address, name of contact person, their email, mobile numher and CNIC. as well as the

Once the account is set up, the VPN registration form becomes accessible. That form asks for the following information: service provider, customer ID, phone number, purpose of use, type of VPN, planned date for establishing commu-nication link, IP address and static IP address

email of the CEO or head of

the company.

Apart from the privacy and traceability issues it creates, here's the other problem. The registration requires a static IP which is an IP that stays the same and does not change, unlike dynamic IPs which are more commonly used. There are only so many static IPs. There is an availability issue as well as a higher cost

who approached their ISPs for IP verification were told only connections on company names could be verified for VPNs.

So what happens to freelancers? Or those who work with various companies on a short-term basis who will not furnish them with the required documentation that the registration process requires? Or clients who refuse such data disclosure requirements due to privacy concerns? Given the connectivity

issues in Pakistan, people also tend to use multiple ISPs. or switch between broadband and mobile data, and between official and personal VPNs depending on where they are working from and what is working at any given point. Besides, VPNs are used across sectors, and not just in the corporate world. What of

The fact is that VPNs have become an integral part of daily life across sectors for personal and professional use for individuals and various organisations due to the arbitrary denial of access and blocking of content by the government. Students. journalists, researchers, and small-scale home-run busi-

nesses, who work solo or in fluid structures and from different locations and may not have the ability to meet verification requirements or even qualify, all rely on them.

Also, in a surveillance state where there is no data protection law, where the cybercrime and anti-terrorism laws (among others) are arbitrarily used to construct mala fide cases, coercive powers are abused to persecute dissidents and arbitrarily restrict access to platforms, and where there exists no accountability of the regulator, the executive and LEAs, and whims prevail over rule of law, more privacy should be the order

of the day, not less. Should it be permissible for the authorities to know every time you leave self your house, where you go, at what time and who you communicate with? Should it be permissible to have a permanent tracker on you, in real-time, all the time? A VPN ban allows for increased surveillance online and diminishes privacy.

In today's Pakistan, when we will have access to the internet, to what degree, what will be accessible and what won't, lies in the hands of the executive and

the regulator, without any guardrails or recourse. They transgress, and arbitrarily suspend services or restrict access. The courts provide no remedy either. This, unfortunately, has become the new normal.

The online world in Pakistan mirrors the offline reality — just like cities are shut down and areas cordoned off, at any given time networks are suspended indefinitely; and access to platforms and content on the internet is restricted much like containers are placed to prevent entry. No timeline is specified as to how long the disruption will last, because for that there will need to be acknowledgment and shouldering of responsibility for the act it-

Meanwhile, government officials continue to use a platform that is banned on account of national security and terrorist activity. The nation would love to know which VPNs they are using, which don't get blocked. Have these been registered? Does the use of VPNs by government officials to access and post on a banned platform such as X qualify as 'legitimate' -- Courtesy Dawn

iter the showdown

Maleeha Lodhi

Last week's showdown between the government and opposition may have ended sooner than anyone expected but it left serious unresolved problems in its

It has deepened the political divide and increased polarisation in the country. Tensions still run high. The use of force by the government and its establishment backers ultimately dispersed the protesters mobilised by Imran Khan's PTI, with its leaders fleeing the capital for their stronghold in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. But that may only be a temporary

To be sure, PTI failed to achieve its goal. The way its supporters retreated was a setback for the party and exposed its lack of strategy. The eruption of internal differences made matters worse. Party dis-

erected to prevent demonstrators from entering the nalists. city, cutting Punjab off from Islamabad, curbs on media reporting as well as internet and mobile phone service disruptions all laid bare the government's shakiness and failure to handle the situation by political means.

The crackdown on

demonstrators to break up the protests involved excessive use of force that left scores injured. Several protesters were killed, which the media was banned from reporting with hospital authorities coerced into silence. PTI leaders claimed many supporters were killed but government ministers denied this and instead congratulated themselves for quelling the protests. Over 1,000 demonstrators were arrested in Islamabad while a sweeping clampdown on party activists continued across Punjab. A journalist investigating the deaths of protesters was arrested on

The siege of the capicalled for the "immediate economy yet to be ad-

attached to it. Some people

crackdown prompted the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association to issue a statement condemning "the brutal and reprehensible handling of civilian protesters which resulted in the heavy loss of numerous lives". It also noted "bullets were directly fired on unarmed protesters". Amnesty International called for "an urgent and transparent investigation" into

"deadly crackdown" The economic damage has also been incalculable. How can the country be seen as a safe or attractive destination for investment with violent clashes on the streets of the capital?

Moreover, the prospect of more rounds of government-opposition confrontations indicated by the ongoing war of words, does little to build or revive business confidence. Political uncertainty and fears of more unrest obviously vitiates the business climate. All this undermined This at a time when ecothe government's credibil- nomic recovery remains ity. The Human Rights tentative and fragile with Commission of Pakistan structural problems of the

> dressed. Crushing a protest

doesn't mean establishing political stability. The danger, indicated by the government's triumphal mood, is that the ruling coamay impose governor's rule in KP to deliver a 'final' blow to PTI. This possibility was strengthened when many ministers recommended governor's rule in a cabinet meeting last week. The government apparently plans to consult allies before taking a final decision. Although imposing governor's rule is a complicated political and legal process, it would be a disastrous move

Removing an elected government in a province where it enjoys an overwhelming parliamentary majority and public support would not just be a blow to democracy and federalism. It would provoke public anger and lead to widespread alienation even unrest in the province similar to that witnessed in Balochistan. This would make it difficult for any arrangement foisted on the province to govern. It would have an exceedingly adverse impact on managing the insurgency in KP and resolving sectarian ten-

if it happens.

in violence in the Kurram region. Already 100 people have died in clashes.

PTI leaders say their protests will continue with KP chief minister warning the party won't back down in the face of threats to impose governor's rule or emergency. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has called PTI a "terrorist group" and warned of tough measures ahead. This indicates a state of denial about the widespread public discontent that fuels repeated protests. But what does all this mean for the democratic system and the country? Can anything be done to reduce political tensions?

Democratic backsliding is apparent with parliament rendered irrelevant and the political system becoming increasingly dysfunctional. Recent developments also signify a breakdown of politics because a political problem is not being tackled by deploying a political solution.

sions that continue to erupt Political reconciliation uncertainty.

may be a bridge too far given the absence of trust between the government and opposition. But both sides need to step back and come to some kind of modus vivendi for the sake of the country.

To achieve a political settlement, the government would have to cease its repressive measures, withdraw frivolous cases against opposition leaders, end policing the media, release those incarcerated for bailable 'offences' as well as free thousands of PTI activists recently taken into custody. It should also implement the Supreme Court judgement on allocation of reserved seats. This would incentivise PTI to fight their battle in parliament

rather than on the streets. For its part, PTI would have to suspend its agitational politics and refrain from disruptive conduct in and outside parliament. Its chief minister in There is no way out KP should commit to runof the present turmoil ex- ning his province rather cept through serious ne- than leading protest ralgotiations that can prolies. Such a compromise duce an agreement to de- may seem unrealistic in escalate political tensions the present fraught envithat are taking such a ronment but the alternaheavy toll on the country. tive is more turmoil and

Slicing Syria

Zarrar Khuhro

As I write this, Syrian rebels are in control of half of the ancient and strate-Aleppo. In a rapid threeday advance that saw government forces melt away, the rebels captured town after town before penetrate, this would not only the biggest rebel rebels have assaulted

eastern Aleppo before beian forces in 2016, which The offensive has up-

ended the fragile balance established since the Rustion — aided by a large devarious Iraqi militia groups and also the Al Fatemiyoun and Al Zeinabiyoun militias helped Bashar al-Assad's floundering Syrian Arab army (SAA) retain control The rebels — an al-

phabet soup of groups and composition — retained control of the rest of Syria and have enjoyed the support of a changing cast of regional actors, notably Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, which has carved out a 'buffer zone' in northern Syria, ostensibly as a defence against attacks by the Kurdish

The rebels have also received political and logistical support (along with not-so-covert mili-Western powers, notably bly to protest against a resurgence by the Daesh.

The current advance is being spearheaded by Hayat al-Tahrir Sham Hezbollah also opened it- tesy Dawn

groups and seemingly a intelligence gathering by Isnot insignificant number of rael due to their involveforeign fighters, such as ment in Syria and may es-Uzbeks and Chechens. Re- chew another such involveports also seem to indicate that the SDF is cooperating with Russia and Assad's SAA, and while the fog of war is hard to make sense given Turkey's support for the Syrian

Interestingly, the fall of Aleppo has also been welcomed by Taliban militant Hafiz Gul Bahadur, whose group hosted several Arab fighters in the certainly far too late, to past, some of whom went on to join HTS or its predecessor groups.

HTS has an interesting history: its leader, Abu Mohammed al-Golani, was the commander of Al Qaeda's Syria branch, and directed several bombing campaigns which targeted civilians as much as they did government forces. Since then, he has 'moderated' his stance enough to gain the tacit support (or at least end the opposition) of the US, which had designated HTS as a terrorist group. During Donald Trump's first presidency, the US acknowledged that HTS was no longer on its active tar-

get list. This offensive comes at a time when none of Assad's allies — Iran, Russia or Hezbollah have resources or troops that can be mobilised quickly to aid Assad's forces, which have often proven themselves incapable of fighting.

And it is no coincidence that this offensive while undoubtedly planned well in advance — was launched just a few days tary aid) from several af--ter the Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire. Having lost a great part of its most senior leadership, and having suffered casualties and a serious depletion of their war material sto-cks, Hezbollah is in no position to aid Assad.

(HTS) along with smaller self up for infiltration and ment so soon, even if they had the resources to man-

The same largely goes

for Russia, which is bogged down in Ukraine, where its best generals and troops must, of course, be deployed at the expense of the hitherto quiet Syrian front. Now, while some Russian air assets are indeed being deployed, it may well be too little, and slow the advance. Stra-tegically, the prospect of losing a chunk of Syria poses a dilemma for Russia, which relies on the Syrian port of Tartus, which is effectively Russia's only foothold in the Medi-ter-ra-nean, and allows the Russian navy to repair, refuel and resupply without having to resort to

its Black Sea bases. In effect, this advance opens up new fronts for Russia, Hezbollah and Iran. The obvious beneficiaries are Israel and the US.

Depleted by its war against Israel in support of Gaza, Hezbollah needs to keep its overland supply routes open in order to be prepared for the inevitable second round with Israel, and the advance directly endangers those routes.

Israel, meanwhile, is

sitting pretty, having closed the Lebanese front nomic productivity.

The Federal Minisand redoubled its destruction of Gaza. Tel Aviv has a long history of supporting anti-Assad forces and even evacuating Al Qaedalinked forces to occupied Golan for medical treatment by Israeli army medics. In 2018, outgoing Israeli chief of staff admitted to having armed antirevamp Assad rebels after years of denials. The dismantling of the 'axis of resistance' remains the goal and this is just one more step towards that end. -- Courteacher

Education reforms Muhammad

Memon

Educational reforms in the country have, from the start, struggled with issues of inequality, access, quality, and relevance. Major challenges have included insufficient public spending on education, low literacy rates. gender disparity, an inadequate infrastructure, and poor delivery. The national education policy of 2009 was a landmark reform. It emphasised increasing literacy rates, improving quality, and addressing gender disparities. However, it was not fully implemented due to many hurdles.

Pakistan is committed to the Education for All initiative, which aims at providing quality education to all children, parsional ticularly focusing on girls, marginalised groups, and those living in rural areas. Pakistan also undertook higher education reforms, notably with the creation of the Higher Education Commission in 2002. The HEC was tasked with improving research, funding, and infrastructure for the universities. To bridge the gap between education and the workforce, Pakistan has focused on reforms to enhance technical and vocational education in order to improve employability and eco-

try of Education has introduced a curriculum and assessment reform through a systematic process to improve the quality of education. The HEC has introduced teacher education reform, which helped pre-service teacher education in the country. In order to assure the quality of teacher education, the HEC introduced accreditation for

mittee has introduced a grading scheme for the SSC and HSC examinaoutcomes. tions conducted by the Boards of Secondary and Intermediate Education in the country — again a positive step towards im-

proving the quality of provincial governments have also made a number of interventions for improving the quality of education, but their impact is vet to be determined. Sindh has introduced

teacher licensing managed by the Sindh Teacher Education Development Authority. Although it is at the initial stage, it will help professionalise teacher education and improve teacher quality. Like other provinces, Sindh has also introduced a clusterbased continuous profespolicy, replacing the ad hoc nors. Although there are approach to in-service teacher education. A critical mass of human resources, including master tegrating with the maintrainers, guide teachers, and subject coordinators, has been developed. They will be responsible for teachers' continuous professional development. Under this policy, the subject coordinators have been playing a pivotal role observations and formative assessments for coaching purposes. The Sindh government has plans to develop the accreditation framework and the continuous professional development quali-

fication framework to promote quality teaching. In order to fully transform the education system, reforms should spending, which needs to be substantial in order to ensure that schools are well-funded and equipped with modern teaching resources. There should be education improve teacher training tem in the country. programmes. The Inter- and professional develop-

Board Coordination Com- ment. This would raise the quality of instruction and improve student learning

Education for girls must be a priority, especially in the rural and tribal areas. Incentive programmes, community engagement, and awareeducation. The respective ness campaigns will help resolve cultural barriers. Using technology for relearning and ising digital mote optimising educat-i--on platforms can reduce some of the geographical disparities in our ed--ucation system. Given the country's cultural and regional diversity, educational reforms should be localised to meet the unique needs of each region, while ensuring alignment with the larger national educational goals.

Educational reforms are normally projectdevelopment driven and funded by dosome successes, the projects tend to function in isolation rather than instream. Donor-driven projects normally take off late due to procedural matters. Athorough implementation plan seems to be the best solution for effective results.

The sustainability of education reforms and in conducting classroom their impact have been a long-standing issue, which must be tackled. Any education reform must be part of the national/regional education development plan based on a needs assessment.

Pakistan has an opportunity to reshape its education system into one that meets the needs of all its citizens. A balanced approach, combinfocus on increasing public ing investment in infrastructure, teacher quality, curriculum and assessment reform, and technology integration, could provide the foundation for a more equitable and a nationwide initiative to effective education sys-

CM Murad says: Thar Coal transmission challenges hold back promise low-cost power

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Monday while presiding Chief Minister Syed over a 28th Thar Coal Energy Board meeting at Murad Ali Shah has said that Thar Coal was the CM House. The meeting was attended by Minister most affordable source of electricity generation in the Energy Nasir Shah, MNA Shazia Marri, Chief country, however, due to transmission constraints, Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, there are instances when the delivery of this PSCM Agha Wasif, and Secretary Energy Musadik Malik. MD Thar Coal inexpensive power is hindered, preventing the Tariq Shah. From the full potential of Thar Coal Federal government (through video link) Federal Finance Minister from being realized. "Since 2019, 27000 GWh of electricity has been generated from Thar Mohammad Aurangzeb,

Coal Block-II at a Deputy Chairman Planning significantly lower fuel Commission, Federal Secretary Energy Fakhre price of Rs 4.8 per kWh, compared to Rs 19.5 per Alam, and others attended kWh for imported coal, the meeting. Shah said that Thar which has resulted in a Coal represents the most foreign exchange saving of approximately \$1.3 billion, economical source of a communique said on electricity generation within the country.



LAHORE: Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori talking to the media persons during meet the press program at Lahore press club.

CM Punjab says: Punjab's first regulatory authority established to tackle inflation, encroachments

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif chaired the first official meeting of the Puniab Enforcement and Regulatory Authority (PERA) to address crucial issues such as inflation and encroachments, here on Monday.

During the meeting, the CM set a target to make PERA operational within

The meeting also saw the approval of key officers for appeals at matters related to the enforcement stations. authority's establishment, appointments, regulations, and other procedures. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz directed that all appointments and hiring within PERA be carried out complete

transparency and merit. She also emphasized the monitoring system for the authority's operations. Additionally, the formation

LAHORE (APP): Punjab of committees related to PERA was approved, and positions headquarters, divisions, districts, and tehsils were also approved. Each tehsil will have Sub-Divisional Enforcement Officers, Investigation Officers, Senior Sergeants, and Sergeants appointed. The meeting also approved the transfer and deputation policy for PERA and the appointment of hearing

> Furthermore, the procurement plan and determination of powers for the Director General of PERA were also approved. The meeting also finalized the design and branding for PERA's vehicles.

uniforms, and caps, as well as the formation of need for an effective a special committee to review PERA's operational procedures and regulations



LAHORE: Punjab Education Minister Rana Sikandar Hayat talking to the media during his visit to the blood camp organized by Sundas Foundation at MAO College.

Speakers call for ending gender-based violence

LAHORE (APP): Punjab She highlighted the PU's University Department of commitment to fostering Gender Studies collaboration with the change in society. United Nations Women Development Department (WDD) Punjab marked the global campaign 16-days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence through an inspiring theatrical performance 'Rolling Resistance: A Theater on Wheels Campaign' here on Monday. The event aimed to raise awareness about gender-based violence and spark collective action towards a more equitable and

violence-free society. On this occasion, Chairperson Department of Gender Studies Prof Dr delivering a powerful Ra'ana Malik, Secretary Women Development the pervasive issues Department, Punjab Usman Ali Khan, Ms Saman and Nabila Malick from UN Women, Islamabad, faculty members and a large number of students were

In her address, Dr Ra'ana Malik emphasized the critical importance of rising voices against gender based violence in Pakistan.

awareness and mobilizing

Usman Ali Khan Women underscored department's initiatives and responsibilities in addressing women's issues in Punjab. He conveyed Chief Minister Punjab's unequivocal message of zero tolerance on violence against women and girls, reinforcing government's against gender based violence.

Saman encouraged all attendees to come together and advocate for a world free from violence and inequality. The theatrical performance captivated the audience, narrative that highlighted surrounding gender based violence and inspiring a collective commitment to

drive change. Women and WDD Punjab call on all stakeholders, including individuals, organizations, policymakers, to join hands in creating a safe, equitable, and violencefree society for all.



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presides over the 1st meeting of Punjab

KP cabinet decides to declare instigators in Kurram as terrorists

Decides to take decisive action in Kurram for lasting peace

PESHAWAR (APP): The 18th meeting of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Cabinet, chaired by Chief as terrorists.

The meeting was attended by cabinet members, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretaries, and relevant administrative secretaries.

The cabinet decided to identify elements spreading hatred between two and put their names on Schedule IV and take strict legal action against them under the law, said a press release issued here after the

The cabinet was informed that so far 133

CM condemns

attack on police

in D.I Khan

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief

Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin

Gandapur, strongly condemned the incidents

of firing on a police mobile

van and a check post in Dera Ismail Khan, resulting

in the martyrdom of

Assistant Sub-Inspector

(ASI) Mir Ghulam and

injuries to other police

Expressing deep sorrow over the loss, the

Chief Minister offered

heartfelt condolences to

the family of the martyred

officer and prayed for the

wishes for a speedy

recovery to the injured

police personnel and directed the district

administration to ensure

the provision of the best

medical care for them.

not go unnoticed.

Hike in prices

of petroleum

products

challenged

in LHC

recent hike in price of

petroleum products has

High Court (LHC).A

citizen filed miscellaneous

petition in LHC against the

recent increase in prices of

the plea the citizens are

worried over recent

enhancement in the prices

The petitioner requested the court to

nullify the notification

regarding increase in prices

KP CM's

relative gunned

down in Kulachi

DERA ISMAIL KHAN

(APP): Saqlain Khan

Gandapur, a relative of

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Chief Minister Ali Amin

Gandapur, was shot dead

by unknown assailants here

in the Kulachi tehsil of

Dera Ismail Khan district.

son of Sardar Ismail Khan

Gandapur and brother of

former provincial assembly

candidate Sardar Faridun

confirmed that the victim's

father, Ismail Khan, is the

first cousin of Amin Ullah

Khan Gandapur, the father

of Chief Minister Ali Amin

Gandapur.Local authorities

are investigating the

incident and have assured

the public that further

action will be taken.

Khan Gandapur.

The deceased was the

The family sources

of petroleum products.

of petroleum products.

The petitioner took

petroleum products.

been challenged in Lahore

elevation of his rank in the

He also extended

personnel.

afterlife.

people have been killed in the area while 177 were important decisions related injured.

It was told that a Minister Ali Amin Grand Jirga has been Gandapur on Monday constituted to mediate and decided to take decisive ensure a peaceful action in Kurram for resolution to Kurram lasting peace and declare conflict. The Jirga would the instigators in the area remain in the area until peace was fully restored. Meanwhile

government would dismantle all the bunkers in the area as part of security measures and heavy weapons would be confiscated from civilians.

Similarly, 65 security checkpoints would be established on Kurram highway to ensuysafe

The cabinet decided ask the federal government to deploy Frontier Constabulary in

The meeting took to payment of financial assistance to the victims including the bereaved families and injured of the clashes. Compensation to the

owners of damaged properties would be made on the basis of an ongoing an assessment and survey in the area It was said on the

occasion that an initial amount of Rs 380 million has been released for compensation, with more funds to follow if needed. The government would facilitate the

dignified return of displaced families to their

The cabinet formed a committee comprising the Provincial Minister for Adviser

Information, and relevant parliamentarians oversee the entire process. The cabinet also

decided to provide bulletproof and bombproof vehicles to the civil administration and Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in sensitive districts, including Kurram.

Speaking on the occasion the CM Ali Amin Gandapur stressed that the Kurram conflict was not terrorism rather a few elements had been inciting sectarian hatred in the

He urged local elders to help identify these individuals, vowing to treat them as terrorists. He reiterated the

government's commitment to ensuring peace, emphasizing the Grand Jirga's pivotal role.

Qaiser Sheikh lays foundation for two new public parks in Chiniot

Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh laid his office in Chiniot and foundation stone for heard public grievances establishment of two new public parks in Chiniot on Monday and vowed his commitment to public service and urban development in the area.

Among the new public parks in the city included "Fatima Ladies Park" in Mohalla Mashki Shah and "Irfan Qaiser Sheikh Park" near Lorry Adda Chiniot. Addressing

foundation stone ceremony, the minister highlighted these projects as part of a broader initiative to create recreational spaces for the residents. "Parks and sports grounds contribute to a healthier and happier society", he said, adding that these facilities would enhance Chiniot's urban unlocking that potential.

FAISALABAD (APP): landscape and quality of Federal Minister for life. The minister also arranged an open court at relating to provision of civic amenities, utilities and health services.

He said that redressal of public problems was collective responsibility. He issued on-spot directions for immediate resolution of public problems relating to electricity, gas supply, sanitation, and healthcare facilities.

Reflecting on his decade-long efforts to improve Chiniot's infrastructure, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh expressed his vision for a prosperous and vibrant city. He said that Chiniot tremendous potential as a hub for development and the development projects



CHINIOT: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh, distributing sewing machines to the poor ladies while holding a "Khuli Kachehri" (Open Court).

FAISALABAD: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haidar is distributing degrees and medals among the students during 11th convocation of The University of Faisalabad.

Awareness campaigns vital to tackle climate challenges: Rana

LAHORE (APP): Prime universities, Minister's Programme Chairman Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan has said that awareness campaigns are of utmost importance to tackle challenges of climate

The Chief Minister directed senior police officials to take immediate action to arrest those involved in the attacks and Capacity Building Training emphasized that the sacrifices of police officers on Climate Action Toolkit in protecting the lives and property of citizens would

Aiwan-i-Iqbal on Monday. He said that gym clubs in 137 public sector universities and green movement clubs had been than 18,000 persons have members. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also wrote being expanded a letter to the members to encourage them, he added. LAHORE (Online): The

Youth universities had also be contacted in this regard and there were 268 universities across the country. He said, "We are focusing to make gym clubs in all public and private universities by next year." Later, colleges He said this while and schools would be addressing PM's Green approached in this regard, Movement he said and added that currently smog was the biggest health hazard.

He said there was a need to adopt measures which would help to make society and places clean besides reducing carbon set up, adding that more emissions. The PM's Programme Youth been registered as club chairman said that horizon of volunteer corps was provinces, adding that Prime Minister Shehbaz Rana Mashhood said Sharif became the first

that after 137 public sector volunteer of the initiative. Governor calls for focus on law and

Governor of Pakhtunkhwa, Karim Kundi, on Monday said that resolving the province's issues and addressing public concerns should be the top priority.

news channel, he said that the province faces significant challenges, including law and order, which demand immediate attention from the provincial government.

place, making politics the sole focus as the head of the province is unfair." He said the Chief Minister was misusing state resources for protests against the federal government, neglecting the rights of the people.

grappling with instability, yet the CM remains preoccupied protests," he added.

drug trafficking in educational institutions vital: Governor FAISALABAD (APP): conspiracies against the ready to make vour own county since it came into being. "Our enemies do not want us but we pay tribute

Eradicating women harassment,

Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that eradicating women harassment in educational institutions is most important to enable them to play their due role in national development

freely.

He was addressing the 11th convocation of the University of Faisalabad here on Monday. Chairman Board of Governors Mian Muhammad Haider Amin, Vice Chairman BoG Dr Muhammad Hamza Amin, Deans, Faculty, parents and a large number of students were present on

the occasion. The governor said comprehensive policies are being framed to eliminate women harassment as well as clean educational institutions from drug trafficking. He said that some anti-state forces were hatching

Nov 24 protest case:

ATC sends 9

accused to jail

on judicial

remand

LAHORE (APP): An anti-

terrorism court (ATC) on

Monday sent nine

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) workers to jail on a

14-day judicial remand in

connection with a November 24 protest case

registered by Kasur police.

Earlier, Mustafa Abad police from District

Kasur presented the accused workers before ATC Judge Manzar Ali

Gill upon the expiry of their physical remand. The investigation officer

informed the court that

wooden clubs had been

recovered from the accused,

and further custody was

required for the recovery of

veĥicles and weapons. He

pleaded with the court to

extend the physical remand

of the accused for this

purpose. However, the

counsel for the accused

opposed the remand

request. Subsequently, the

court rejected the plea for

further remand and sent the

to our armed forces who are sacrificing their lives on borders to protect the homeland," he said. The governor also paid rich tribute to the

martyrs of law enforcement agencies. He also extended

proud

going to be ambassadors of Quran and Darood-o knowledge and shall be Salam," he added.

autograph in the virtual field. I pray that your journey may be filled with a vibrant mosaic of success, fulfillment and a deep sense of purpose. You are the future of a great nation, and your potential

knows no bounds. "I am happy that the girls have taken prominent positions", he said adding warm congratulations to that life is temporary, the the teachers, graduating real destination would be students and their parents. the hereafter, where we "I appreciated the have to live permanently. selfless efforts of parents He said that it was very who have overcome encouraging that more challenges to support their seats have been reserved children's dreams," the and more scholarships governor said. He asked the allocated for the children of graduating students, "As our brotherly Islamic you step into the country Palestinian in the professional world, university. "I am pleased world, university. "I am pleased remember that we will be to see during my visit that of your the entire university's achievements. You are not building was decorated just graduating but also with verses of the Holy



LAHORE: Chairman Prime Minister Youth Program Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan addressing to the workers of CERT Challenges 2024 Rescue 1122 at the Emergency Services Academy on the occasion of International Volunteer Day.

UNESCO Reactive **Monitoring Mission** begins at Lahore Fort

LAHORE (APP): The Ńations United Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Reactive Monitoring Mission on Monday officially started at Lahore Fort, the start of assessing conservation efforts and line with UNESCO's steps heritage standards.

According to the Walled City of Lahore Authority here on Monday the delegation including Kiamboon from Komos, Nao Hayasi from the World Heritage Centre, and Jawad Aziz a five-day visit aimed at from UNESCO Pakistan ongoing were visiting to closely examine the work carried planning future activities in out and the necessary preservation.

Eduction minister visits blood camp

LAHORE (APP): Punjab issue. I commend the Education Minister Rana teachers and students of expressed his gratitude to the foundation and said, 'Blood donations, especially for thalassemia

Sikandar Hayat visited a MAO College for their blood camp organised by outstanding support in the Sundas Foundation at arranging the camp and MAO College. During his donating blood." He visit, he praised the mentioned ongoing collaborative efforts of the Sundas Foundation and the education sector. "A new college administration for block comprising ten successfully organising the rooms, including cocamp. Speaking to the working spaces, will be media, the minister constructed at MAO College. Over the next 100 days, efforts will be made to address the issues faced by college patients, is a significant directors," he said.

Criticizing the Chief Governor's Rule, Kundi accused to jail on a 14-day Minister, he said, "While clarified. judicial remand.

KARACHI: A Group photo during Young Parliamentarian Form (YPF) delegation visited Sindh Assembly, held meeting with speaker and Assembly members, Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah briefed the delegation regarding working of the provincial Assembly.

order in KP ISLAMABAD (APP): political agendas have their Khyber Faisal

Speaking to a private

The province was

On the topic of

He highlighted that

the quarter 1 tax revenues

government's

comprehensive reforms

program and assured the

The Federal Minister

full support to FCDO.

was (YOY) increased by 25.6%

appreciated

PM satisfied over pace of Pakistan-Saudi bilateral projects, cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): collaboration with Saudi bilateral investments. Minister, Arabia continued to grow Shehbaz across various sectors, Sharif on Monday underscoring the strategic on bilateral cooperation in expressed his satisfaction partnership between the with the progress in investment projects partner in Pakistan's between Pakistan and challenging times, and we Saudi Arabia, hailing the are committed to deepening longstanding friendship between the two nations. Minister Shehbaz said.

Chairing a review

two countries. "Saudi and Arabia has been a reliable this cooperation," Prime

The meeting also meeting, the prime minister included a briefing on the

The meeting was briefed about the progress various fields in the second meeting of the Pakistan Saudi Arabia Joint Task Force held in November.

It was informed that within a short span of time, both the countries had signed of 34 memorandums of understanding (MOUs), seven of which have highlighted that Pakistan's remarkable progress of already been formalized

into agreements. These agreements, valued at \$560 million.The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Petroleum Dr. Musaddik Malik, and National Coordinator of the Special Investment Facilitation Council Lieutenant General Sarfaraz Ahmed.

Chemical

processing

petrochemicals

Globally,

industries, such as

automotive, engineering,

consumer durables, food

chemical industry is one of

the largest and fast-

growing sectors; a market of about USD 4 trillion with over 70,000 products.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) Vice

President Zafar Iqbal

disclosed this in a thinktank session held here at

PCJCCI Secretariat on

Pak-China Joint

PCJCCI says: Chemical industry

provides key linkages

for products tech

provides key linkages in development and self-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a review meeting regarding KSAs Investments in various sectors in Pakistan, in Islamabad.

ISLAMABAD (APP): meeting with finance Federal Minister for minister, Ms. Melinda

Finance Minister apprises

FCDO of structural

reforms program

accompanied by Ms. Jo

Director, and Louie Dane,

Finance Division also

attended the meeting, the

Senior officers from

Senior Economist.

statement added.

Development

Bohannaon

Moir,



Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with Ms. Melinda Bohannaon, Director General for Humanitarian and Development at the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).

Pakistan's regional exports increase 4.09% during Jul-Oct 2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): \$952.385 million last year Pakistan's exports to the to \$813.441 million during seven regional countries increased by 4.09 per cent in the first four months of the current fiscal year (2024-25) compared to the corresponding months of

last year. The country's exports to the regional including countries Afghanistan. China. Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, and the Maldives account for a small amount of \$1506.131 million, which is 14.33 per cent of Pakistan's overall exports of \$10.507 billion during July-October 47.71 per cent to \$1.746 (2024-25), State Bank of million from \$1.182

Pakistan (SBP) reported. China tops the list of Pakistan's exports to its neighbouring, leaving behind other countries such as Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Pakistan carried out its border trade with farther neighbour Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, and Maldives.

Pakistan's exports to China witnessed a decrease

Design and Heritages.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

country's busiest and most

vibrant markets, is not just

a hub for affordable

clothing, food, and groceries but also a beacon

of empowerment for

weekly bazaar has Section

C, a women entrepreneurs-

dominated area for the past

few years, where they run

products and earn a

respectable livelihood.

as a viable career path.

selling

While traditionally

women traders.

male-dominated,

Peshawar Mor, one of the security

last year whereas exports to Afghanistan surged to \$291.773 million from

\$182.616 million. country's The exports to Bangladesh also increased by 28.60 per cent to \$247.313 million this year from \$192.311 million whereas exports to Sri Lanka rose by 29.22 per cent to \$148.937 million from \$115.256.

The exports to Nepal decreased to \$0.742 million from \$1.138 million in the previous year while to Maldives increased by million, it added.

Pakistan exports to countries in terms of Maldives increased by 11.57 per cent to \$3.451 million from \$3.093 million while exports to India increased to \$0.374 million from \$0.069 million, it added. On the other hand, the imports from seven regional countries were recorded at \$5226.807 million during the months under review as compared

to \$3855.115 million of 14.58 per cent from during last year.

JAMSHORO: Students visiting different stalls

during 19th Annual Degree Show exhibition at

Women traders get

opportunities at

CDA's weekly Bazaar

CDA's weekly Bazaar at authorities to enhance

stalls selling various women entrepreneurs who

are

She urged the relevant

especially for women to

Rahila, highlighted that the

popular business ventures

for women in the bazaar

include the selling of

women-specific stuff and

items offer good returns

and are well-suited for

looking

for women like me.

She noted that these

for a

earning

children's clothes, toys,

ensure their safety.

food items.

respectable

opportunity

Another

measures

Sialkot president appointed SIALKOT (APP): With the approval of the

Kisan Board

Provincial President Kisan Board Punjab Central Chaudhry Asmatullah Waryah has been appointed as the President of Kisan Board, district Sialkot.

On the appointment of Chaudhry Asmatullah Waryah as the President of Kisan Board district Sialkot, Jamaat-e-Islami District Ameer Chaudhry Imtiaz Ahmed Baryar. Sheikh Atique-ur-Rehman Khalid Khalil Muhammad Ramzan, Arif

Mahmood Sheikh, Mukhtiar Ahmed, Danish Khan, Malik Munir Hussain, Ansar Farooq Bhatti, Aamir Siddique Cheema Advocate, Syed Mashood-ul-Haq Shah Waqar Azeem and Hafiz Muhammad Akram have congratulated him and prayed that Allah Almighty may grant him the ability to serve the farming community.

Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Seven ships, MSC Positano, Cussler, SM Falcon, Tsukuba Galaxy, Al Jasra, Energy Centaur and Al-Diab-II carrying Container Palm oil, Chemicals, LNG, Gas oil and LPG, berthed at International Container Terminal, Liquid Cargo Terminal, Engro Vopak Terminal, Engro Elengy Terminal, FOTCO oil Terminal and Sui Southern Gas Termina respectively on Sunday.

Meanwhile another containers ship 'MSC Silvana-VIII' also arrived at **Shaheed Allah Bux Soomro University of Arts** outer anchorage on today

Twelve ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them two ships MSC Positano and Milaha Qatar left the port on today morning, while six more ships, Tsukuba Glaxy, Al-Diab-II, SM Falcon Centarus Abdullah-M and Cussler are expected to sail on today afternoon.

Cargo volume of 241.500 tonnes, comprising 213,448 tonnes imports cargo and 28,052 tonnes export cargo carried in 4.250 Containers (3.242 TEUs Imports & 1,008 TEUs Export)was handled at the port during last 24

Thirteen ships at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them five ships, MSC Silavana-VIII

terms of product reliance, being a major technology to several provider of raw material to almost all sectors. Pakistan's chemical industry, despite facing

industrial

(APP): it is vitally important for industry overall industrial

global competitive markets and lack of policy support, has grown progressively over the years, and is considered one of the robust industries that has seen many ups and downs in the past but survived the odds. In fact, the industry has done well, said Zafar Iqbal, who is also CEO of Surfachem

About 70 per cent of country's overall industrial chemical output basic formulated He mentioned that it intermediates is consumed is also recognized as the 'by the larger manufacturing 'mother of industries' since sector.

PSX stays bullish, gains 1,917 more points

ISLAMABAD (APP): 47.097billion against Rs. The 100-Index of the 35.978 billion on the last The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Monday, gaining 1,917.63 points more points, a positive change of 1.89 percent, closing at and 85 sustained losses, 103,274.95 points as whereas the share price of compared to 101,357.32 38 companies remained points on the last trading unchanged.

total 1,556,252,523 shares were traded during the day as compared to 915,509,804 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs Foods Limited with

trading day.

As many as 462 companies transacted their shares in the stock market. 339 of them recorded gains whereas the share price of

of companies were WorldCall Telecom with 213,514,857 shares at Rs 1.46 per share, Cnergyico PK with 196,907,321 shares at Rs 5.72 per share and Fauji

Gold prices dip Rs.1,700 per tola

Finance and Revenue,

Aurangzeb on Monday

apprised the Director

General of Humanitarian

and Development at the

Commonwealth & Development Office

(FCDO), Ms. Melinda

Bohannaon of the

government's stabilization

and structural reforms

According to press release issued by finance ministry, during the

Senator

program.

Muhammad

Foreign,

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24 karat per tola gold decreased by Rs.1,700 and was sold at Rs.274,500 on Monday against its sale at Rs. 276,200, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also went down by Rs.1,457 to Rs.235,340 from Rs. 236,797 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold decreased to Rs.215,728 from Rs. 217,064.

The price of per tola and ten gram silver Rs.3,400 and Rs.2,914.95. respectively.

The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$17 to \$2,633 from \$2,650, the Association reported.



QUETTA: With the winter chill settling in, a street vendor at Joint Road sees a surge in demand for crispy peanuts, a favorite seasonal dryfruit perfect for cold days in the city.

DCs directed to ensure payments to sugarcane farmers within 10 days

FAISALABAD (APP): Divisional Commissioner Silwat Saeed has directed the deputy commissioners of Faisalabad division to take appropriate steps for payment to the sugarcane farmers within 10 days after purchase of the produce.

Chairing a meeting here on Monday, she said that the government is committed to save the farming community from exploitation. In this connection, strict action would be taken if management of any sugar mills is found involved in exploitation of sugarcane growers, she warned.

She said that Punjab government has issued stringent directions for protection of farmers' right. If any sugar mill failed to ensure full payment to the sugarcane growers within 10 days, the premises of such sugar mills would be sealed, in addition to getting cases owners and management.

would also be confiscated and auctioned to ensure payment to the sugarcane growers, she added.

She said that farmers would also be sensitized through advertisement that they should avoid from selling their sugarcane produce to the default sugar mills. She directed the

deputy commissioners of Faisalabad, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh and Chiniot to evolve a comprehensive strategy for protecting farmers' rights by taking strict action against all those sugar mills which failed to commence crushing season up till

She also directed to inspect weighing bridges regularly in addition to taking stern action against those who were involved in short-measuring.

D e p u Commissioner Faisalabad Captain (Retired) Nadeem Nasir, registered against their Director Agriculture Chaudhry Sugar stock of these mills Mehmood.

PEC launches free 'Generative AI Training' for engineers

ISLAMABAD (APP): its applications, and Engineering (PEC) has Pakistan Council launched a free online training program on 'Generative Artificial Intelligence' to equip engineers with cutting-edge artificial skills in intelligence.

developed in collaboration with PakAngels Silicon Valley USA, iCode Guru, and Aspire Pakistan, will skills boost knowledge, fulfill global requirement and enhance employment opportunities. month

initiative will equip around 15000 engineers from all over the country with cutting edge skills in Generative AI. The programme will

offer participants an opportunity to gain international certification with a traceable OR code and introduce engineers to generative AI technology,

practical model-building techniques. The training has been

tailored for engineers registered with PEC, engineering managers, university engineering faculty and students, and corporate sponsorship partners. The course will cover

topics such as an introduction to generative AI, an overview of generative models, and hands-on model-building exercises.

emphasizes the significance

of early adoption of AI technologies, offering participants several including advantages, automating timeconsuming tasks to efficiency, enhance expanding capabilities beyond traditional engineering methods, developing complex software without requiring programming knowledge.

Fatima Khawaja chairing 45th R & D Fund Policy Committee meeting. Fertilizer imports surge by 121.36% in first four months of FY 2024-25

ISLAMABAD (APP): product imports into the Fertilizer imports into the country have seen a significant increase of 121.36% in the first four at \$406.452 million months of the current imported, compared to financial year (July-October 2024) compared to the imports of the corresponding period of the last year.

During this period, the country imported over 612,622 metric tons of fertilizers valued at \$374.876 million, a sharp rise from 334,675 metric tons worth \$169.262 million in corresponding months of 2023, according to data of Pakistan Bureau of

Statistics. fertilizers, medicinal

12,441 metric tons valued 25,312 metric tons worth \$342.730 million during the same period in the previous year, it added. On the other hand, insecticide

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza

imports dropped by 31.49%, with imports recorded at 8,717 metric tons valued at \$44.831 million, down from 13,226 metric tons worth \$65.441 million in the same period of 2023, the data revealed. Meanwhile, imports

of plastic materials saw a slight decline of 1.85%. The In addition to country imported 630,414 metric tons of plastic.

detects 517 power pilferers in 24 hours LAHORE (APP): Lahore country also witnessed an

LESCO

Electric Supply Company (LESCO) has detected a increase of 18.59%, with total of 517 connections from where the customers were pilfering electricity in all its circles of five districts (Lahore. Sheikhupura, Nankana Sahib, Kasur and Okara) during its anti-power theft campaign in the last 24 hour. The LESCO spokesman told media here Monday that the company has submitted FIR applications against electricity thieves, out of which 189 FIRs have been registered in respective police stations, while 32 accused have been arrested by the respective police. Grand anti-power theft operations against electricity thieves

QUETTA: Provincial Finance Secretary Imran Zarkoon presides over the meeting of Finance Department.

Samira Moeed, who recently set up a stall Another buyer, Farah, purses and visiting the bazaar for the accessories, shared her first time, said, "I was experience, stating, "I've initially skeptical about the been running this stall for quality, but I am pleasantly a month, while the environment is quite safe surprised. The products are excellent, and the prices are here. We ensure quality lower than the local market. products at slightly lower I feel comfortable and prices than the market. inspired while purchasing Female customers feel anything from the women comfortable shopping with sellers." Ameena, a regular visitor said, "Having a us." She emphasized the importance of financial separate section for female independence, urging traders makes shopping women to embrace trading easier and more comfortable

He said the war that started in 2022 has entered

a "complicated period,"

claiming about 12,000

North Korean soldiers have

been deployed to Russia's

border region of Kursk,

which Ukraine invaded in

putable" that Russian President Vladimir Putin

will use the North Korean

soldiers as "cannon fodder"

dent said he has informa-

tion about casualties

among North Korean sol-

diers on the front line, but

did not provide specific

He said US President-elect Donald Trump and his

incoming administration are

aware of Ukraine's position

and "victory plan," and

that his team is studying the

party to the ICC's found-

ing document, the Rome

Statute, and this makes

contents of the plan.

to reduce its own losses.

He argued it is "indis-

The Ukrainian presi-

August.

numbers.

French claim of ICC immunity

for Netanyahu has no legal basis:

Ex-Greek foreign minister

Zelenskyy says Ukraine wants to retake territory under Russian

control through diplomacy

Monitoring Desk ISTANBUL: Ukrainian

Zelenskyy on Monday

said Kviv wants to retake

its territory currently un-

der Russia's control

through diplomatic means.

strength to take back some

territories, like Crimea. That

is true. We do have to find

diplomatic solutions," Zelenskyy said in an inter-

view with Japan's Kyodo

solution to the issue can

only be considered when

Kyiv knows it is "strong

enough" to prevent any fur-

ther military actions by

Reiterating that sup-port from partners for Kyiv

is "not enough," Zelenskyy

urged NATO to invite his

country for membership

talks as soon as possible.

Monitoring Desk

ATHENS: In the wake of

international arrest war-

rants issued for Israel's

He said a diplomatic

Our army lacks the

President

Volodymyr

56 people killed in stampede following clashes at a Guinea soccer match, authorities say

Monitoring Desk CONAKRY: Fifty-six people were killed and several injured in a stam-

pede at a soccer stadium in southern Guinea, following clashes between fans, Guinea's government said Monday. Authorities are con-

ducting an investigation to establish those responsible for the stampede on Sunday, Communications Minister Fana Soumah said in a statement read on national television.

Among the victims are several children according to local media and a coalition of political par-

The stampede broke out on Sunday afternoon at the stadium in the city of Nzerekore during the final of a local tournament between the Labe and Nzerekore teams in honor of Guinea's military leader, Mamadi Doumbouya, Guinea's Prime Minister Amadou Oury Bah said on the X

corded," Bah said, without giving details. The regional authorities are working to restore calm in the area, he added.

ing the wounded.

Democracy opposition coalition called for an in-

vestigation. It said the

tournament was organized

to drum up support for the

"illegal and inappropriate"

political ambitions of the

by the military since sol-

diers ousted President Al-

pha Conde in 2021. It is

one of a growing number

of West African countries,

including Mali, Niger and

Burkina Faso, where the

military has taken power

and delayed a return to ci-

ousted the president three

years ago, said he was pre-

venting the country from

slipping into chaos and

chastised the previous

government for broken

promises. He has, how-

Doumbouya, who

Guinea has been led

military leader.

vilian rule.

Local media reported that security forces tried to use tear gas to restore calm after the chaos that followed a disputed pen-"This (the disputed

penalty) angered supporters who threw stones. This is how the security services used tear gas, Media Guinea, a local news website, reported. It said several of those killed were children while some of the injured being treated at a regional hospital are in critical condition.

Videos that appeared be from the scene showed fans in a section of the stadium shouting and protesting the refereeing before clashes broke out as people poured onto the field. People were running

they tried to escape from the stadium, many of them jumping the high



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz visit an exhibition of Ukrainian unmanned vehicles, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv.

ICC collected more evidence in last 18 months than it has in past 20 years, says chief prosecutor

Cyclone Fengal toll rises

to 20 in South Asia

Monitoring Desk THE HAGUE: The International Criminal Court (ICC) has collected more evidence and information in the past 18 months than it has in the 20 years since it was founded, its chief prosecutor said on Monday.

Karim Khan emphasized the court's recent intense efforts during his address at the 23rd session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the ICC's Rome Statute.

The ICC has received the most evidence and documents in its history in the the other.

Monitoring Desk

ENGAL: The death toll

from Cyclone Fengal's

fierce push through Sri

Lanka and southern India

reached 20 on Monday as

downpours and flooding

followed the storm's wake

India's Tamil Nadu state on

Saturday, bringing the high-

est 24-hour rainfall seen in

30 years to nearby

Puducherry, before weaken-

ing to a normal low-pressure

weather system by Monday

morning. More deaths were

reported in Sri Lanka after

Fengal skirted the island na-

tion on Friday bringing in-

tense rains that triggered

landslides. Sri Lanka's disas-

ter management agency said

a total of 17 people had been

killed in the country while

Fengal made landfall in

after its winds calmed.

last year, with non-governorganizations (NGOs) and victims submitting a large number of documents and evidence under Article 15 of the Rome Statute, he noted. Of the 30 arrest war-

rants issued by the court, the chief prosecutor said 18 were issued within the last three years.

Stressing that the law must be applied equally to everyone, Khan said the protection that people on one side of the world enjoy is no different than that on

nearly 470,000 others were

taking shelter in temporary

deaths from electrocution as

caused the deaths, adding

that damage from the cy-

clone was otherwise "mini-

mal". India's disaster agency

was also attempting to res-

cue a family of seven in the

state feared trapped by a

landslide, local media re-

schools were shut in parts of

southern India with weather

officials on Monday warn-

ing that there remained a risk

of flash flooding.

Roads were flooded and

ports said on Monday.

India recorded three

KKSSR

relief camps.

minister

Monitoring Desk

diplomatic sources, the meeting in the alliance's headquarters will be held in three sessions.

discussed.

Indonesia, Canada sign comprehensive economic partnership

Monitoring Desk a result of the storm, Tamil Nadu disaster management Ramachandran told reporters late Saturday. He did not give further details on what

> take effect in 2026 and was signed in Jakarta by trade ministers of both countries. Indonesia's trade minister, Budi Santoso, said Indonesia appreciated Canada's support for its plan to prioritise its critical minerals sector, which was vital for its sustainable growth.

Turkish foreign minister to participate in NATO meeting in Brussels

In the first session, which will be attended by Jordan's King Abdullah II the crisis in the Middle East and cooperation between NATO and Amman will be

JAKARTA: Indonesia and Canada on Monday signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) that aims to strengthen economic ties between the two G20 members, three years after negotiations began.

ISTANBUL: Turkish For eign Minister Hakan Fidan will travel to Brussels to take part in a two-day meeting of NATO foreign ministers starting on Tuesday

According to Turkish

The agreement will



ted crimes, to justice.' its position again, as it contradicts legal principles.
George Katrougalos, On the potential legal consequences for states that do not comply with ICC dewho is also a professor of international law, noted that cisions, Katrougalos warned that failing to implement the French government's such decisions would violate reasoning is based on the international law. fact that Israel is not a

Ex-NATO chief Stoltenberg suggests Ukraine could temporarily cede territory for peace

Monitoring Desk BERLIN: Former NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has suggested that temporary territorial concessions to Russia could help establish a cease-fire in the ongoing Ukrainian

In an interview with German media outlet Table.Briefings published on Monday, Stoltenberg emphasized that diplomatic negotiations and compromise could pave the way toward

a cease-fire agreement. 'We need a cease-fire line, and of course ideally this (the Ukrainian part) should include all areas currently under Russian control. But we see that this may not be realistically achievable in the immediate

future," Stoltenberg said. "If the cease-fire line means that Russia continues to control all occupied mean that Ukraine has to conflict.

give up the territory forever," the experienced politician added.

Stoltenberg emphasized the importance of providing Kyiv with security guarantees in exchange for any territorial considerations as part of a ceasefire agreement. While NATO membership remains an option, he said "there are also other ways to arm and support the

Ukrainians.' Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said last week that a cease-fire deal could be reached if the Ukrainian territory under Kyiv's control was put "under the NATO umbrella," in a bid to stop the 'hot stage of the war.

International efforts have intensified in recent weeks to achieve a ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia and initiate diploterritories, this does not matic talks to resolve the

Taiwan is a trusted partner for high-tech sector, president says in Hawaii

Monitoring Desk TAIPEI: Taiwan's partnership with the United States is a source of strength for the high-tech industry, including the semiconductor sector, and shows the island is a trusted and reliable partner, President Lai Ching-te told a think-tank in Hawaii.

Taiwan is a major producer of chips used in everything from cars to AI applications and is home to key Apple and Nvidia supplier TSMC.

But President-elect Donald Trump criticised Taiwan during the US election campaign, accusing it of stealing business from American semiconductor companies. His threat of broad import tariffs could also affect an industry that is crucial to the island's economy. Addressing Hawaii's East-West Center on Sunday, Lai said Taiwan actively contributes to the global supply chain, especially in high-tech industries such as semiconductors, according to a summary of his remarks released by the presidential office in Taiwan.

'The US-Taiwan partnership not only strengthtegic importance of Taiwan as a trusted and reliable partner," the statement paraphrased Lai as saying in closed-door comments he gave in English. 'Taiwan also actively

also demonstrates the stra-

cooperates with likeminded countries, demonstrating that Taiwan utilises its expertise to contribute to global development." The excerpts of the remarks made no mention

of Trump, who also said before winning last month's US election that Taiwan should pay to be protected. Lai is making a stop-

over in Hawaii as part of a week-long visit to allies in the Pacific. China has condemned the trip, saying it opposes any such transit stops by Taiwanese leaders on US territory.

China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, a position Lai and his government reject, and has stepped up its military activities around the island in the past five years

Security sources have told Reuters that China could hold more drills around Taiwan to coincide ens these industries, but with Lai's Pacific trip.



Independent far-right candidate Calin Georgescu casts his vote on the day of the parliamentary election, in Mogosoaia, Romania.

French govt faces collapse after opposition says will vote no-confidence

Monitoring Desk PARIS: The French govern- would get better, but they ment is all but certain to col- were even worse.' lapse later this week after against Prime Minister Michel Barnier.

Their move came after Barnier said he would try to ram a social security bill through parliament without a vote as a lastminute concession was not enough to win support for to topple Barnier, the the bill from the far-right National Rally (RN).

RN leader Marine Le Pen said her party would motion but would also vote for any similar bill by other parties. "The French have

Monitoring Desk

DHAKA: Bangladesh has

halved the power it buys

from neighbouring India's

Adani Power, citing lower

winter demand, government

officials told Reuters on

Monday, amid disagree-

ments over dues running

into hundreds of millions of

founder has been accused

by US authorities of be-

ing involved in a bribery

scheme in India, charges

which he has denied,

halved supply to Bangladesh on October 31

over payment delays as

the country battles a for-

S u b s e q u e n t l y, Bangladesh told Adani to

eign exchange shortage.

Adani,

whose

Mathilde Panot, of the

far-right and left-wing par- hard-left France Unbowed, ties said they will vote for said: "Faced with this umpa no-confidence motion teenth denial of democracy, we will censure the government ... We are living in political chaos because of Michel Barnier's government and Emmanuel Macron's presidency.

Should all RN lawmakers vote with the left government will not survive. The opposition now has 24 hours to put forward a no-confidence table its own no-confidence motion. The vote could take place as early as Wednesday.

No French governhad enough," she said. ment has been forced out "Maybe they thought with by such a vote since 1962.

the power for now, officials

said, although it will keep

paying its old dues.
"We were shocked

and angry when they cut our supply," said Mohammed Rezaul Karim,

chairperson of the state-run

Bangladesh Power Devel-

opment Board (BPDB).

under ousted Prime Minis-

ter Sheikh Hasina, from a

\$2 billion power plant in

India's eastern state of

Jharkhand that has two

units, each with a capacity

of about 800 megawatts

(MW)

units of the plant."

Bangladesh halves power

buying from India's Adani

amid payment dispute

Vanuatu urges top court to recognise climate change harms

Monitoring Desk THE HAGUE: Vanuatu on Monday urged the United Nations' top court to recognise the harm caused by climate change in its judgment on the legal obligation of countries to fight it and address the consequences of them contributing to global warming.

Vanuatu, one of the small island states that has spearheaded the effort to get the World Court to give a so-called advisory opinion, was the first of more than 100 states and international organisations to give its views during two weeks of proceedings.

"We find ourselves on the front lines of a crisis we did not create, a crisis that threatens our very exist-

Winter demand is now down, so we have told them In a speech delivered there is no need to run both late on Sunday, Deby said the pact no longer aligned Adani has been supwith Chad's security or plying power under a 25 geopolitical needs. year contract signed in 2017

Chad's Deby says military pact with France was outdated **Monitoring Desk**

CHAD: Chad's President Mahamat Deby said the decision to terminate the country's military pact with France was taken because it had become outdated, in his first public remarks since the surprise announcement last week.

Chad has struggled

with a jihadist insurgency for over a decade, and back ing by French and US troops has failed to bring stability. "This rupture is part of our will to build a Chadian army that is more



Firefighters work at the site of an apartment building hit by a Russian drone

strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Ternopil.

after the landfall of cyclone Fengal, in Tiruvannamalai. Biden pardons son Hunter in final weeks of US presidency Monitoring Desk scrutiny over the indepen-

President Joe Biden on Sunday issued an official pardon for his son Hunter, who was facing sentencing for two criminal cases, despite assurances that he would not intervene in his

legal troubles. 'No reasonable person who looks at the facts of Hunter's cases can reach any other conclusion than Hunter was singled out only because he is my son — and that is wrong," the president

US dence of the US judicial system — especially at a time when incoming president Donald Trump has moved to appoint loyalists to the FBI and Justice Department himself. The younger Biden was convicted earlier this year of lying about his drug use when he bought a gun — a felony — and has also pleaded guilty in a separate tax evasion trial, but had not faced

sentencing. Joe Biden, who is in the final weeks of his presisaid in a statement. The move is sure to bring about fresh dency before Trump takes office on January 20.

Uber launches boat hailing service on Kashmir's scenic Dal Lake

Monitoring Desk SRINAGAR:

launched a water transport hailing service on scenic Dal Lake in India's Kashmir region on Monday, offering rides on boats popular with tourists. Users of the service can book trips on the lake's traditional wooden Shikara boats if they make reservations at least 12 hours and up to 15 days in ad-

vance, Uber officials said. The ride-hailing app already offers water transport services in London and some other cities but this is its first in India. Around 4,000 Shikaras, often ornately decorated and canopied, operate on Dal Lake and are popular among lo-

Uber will match customers with Shikara operators but will not charge a fee on rides booked through its app. All of the boat ticket paid by passengers would go to the Shikara operator, it said. "Uber Shikara is our humble attempt to blend technology and tradition to give a seamless experience to travellers for their Shikara ride," said Prabhjeet Singh, president,

cals as well as tourists.

Uber India and South Asia. Shikara operators were divided on Uber's entry to their sector, with some saying it would boost their business now that tourists can book rides well

New Zealand suspends poultry exports after first case of H7 bird flu

Monitoring Desk SYDNEY: New Zealand said on Monday that it had suspended all poultry exports after detecting a highly pathogenic variant of avian influenza at a poultry farm on the South Island. Tests confirmed the H7N6 subtype of bird flu at a rural chicken farm in the Otago region, Biosecurity New Zealand said in a statement. It is different to the H5N1 strain that has spread globally and raised fears of human transmission. "Until we've cleaned up the situation on this farm, and assuming no other issues pop anywhere else.

Rescue personnel remove debris after landslide triggered by heavy rains Philippine groups seek impeachment of **Vice President** Duterte

Monitoring Desk MANILA: Philippine civil society and religious leaders asked Congress on Monday to impeach Vice President Sara Duterte over a list of complaints that include graft, incompetence and amassing ill-gotten wealth while in office. The daughter of firebrand former President Rodrigo Duterte has been embroiled in a row with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr and is the subject of an inquiry into her spending by the House of Representatives.

Ahsan Iqbal discusses legal matters to fix responsibility for NJHPP tunnel collapse

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Monday chaired a meeting on the Neelum Hydropower Project (NJHPP) to finalize and present recommendations for immediate remedial measures aimed at the early rehabilitation and operationalization of the project. The minister also discussed legal issues with the Secretary for Law and Justice and the Attorney General for Pakistan to establish a strong legal basis against those responsible for the collapse of the tunnel, a news release said.

Additionally, the minister emphasized the internal accountability process concerning poor project management by WAPDA.

During the meeting, officials briefed the minister on the project's technical issues, stating that while some problems had been identified, accountability was still under investiga-

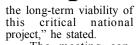
Ahsan Iqbal expressed

ISLAMABAD (APP): had hindered timely investigations and accountability. "From the outset, an accountability mechanism should have been in place to monitor progress and assign responsibilities, especially for a project of this scale," he remarked

The minister directed that both approaches to the investigation be pursued, including engaging an international consultant and speeding up the completion of ongoing work, adding that all mega projects like Diamer-Bhasha Dam must be free of poor project man-He stressed the need

for an independent valida-tion of NESPAK's work by international experts to avoid similar recurring issues in the future, and stated that the reform of NESPAK must be undertaken as a priority.

Referring to the Neelum Jhelum project's history, Ahsan Iqbal criticized the decision to launch the project without ensuring its financial closure in 2007. "The project was serious concerns over the rushed, without proper delay, highlighting that it planning, compromising



cluded with directives to expedite the investigation process and improve the

The minister suggested involving international experts as part of the investigative team led by Shahid Khan to ensure transparency and account-

He recommended that

the consultant and contractor be given an opportunity to respond to the findings, ensuring that no party could claim they were not given the opportunity to clarify their position. "The public has the right to know who is responsible for the delays and financial losses of such a significant project," the minister emchasized. The meeting was attended by the Attorney General for Pakistan, Secretary for Law and Justice, Secretary for Planning and Development, Secretary for Water Resources, former Federal Secretary Shahid Khan, Member of Infra



ANKARA: Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkiye Dr. Yousaf Junaid in a group photograph with Turkish dignitaries at an event organized by Pakistan Embassy to celebrate 77 years of Pakistan Turkiye Diplomatic Relations.

Security forces, police deployed after ceasefire in restive Kurram areas

PESHAWAR (APP): Following a renewed ceasefire between rival groups in much positive and encour-Kurram district, the personnel of security forces and police have been deand unrest had resulted in ployed in restive areas to significant loss of lives and maintain peace.

Deputy sioner Kurram, Javed The closure of main roads, Mehsud said on Monday, including the Peshawarpolice and security forces Parachinar central highway have been deployed, and and the Pak-Afghan efforts to extend the Kharlachi border.

ceasefire to the other areas are ongoing. He said it is a aging development adding created immense hardships for the local population

Country's registered voter count exceeds 132 million, says ECP

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has disclosed that over 132.2 million voters have been registered across the country, with 53.74% male voters and 46.26% female

Breaking down the numbers further, the ECP's latest statistics stated that 71.1 million voters are male.

ISLAMABAD (APP): while 61.2 million are fe-

significant numbers across key provinces. Punjab has the largest voter base, with 75.3 million voters, including 41.2 million men and 35.1 million women.

In Sindh, the total electorate is 27.7 million, with 14.9 million men and 12.7



QUETTA: Director General NAB Balochistan Noman Aslam presenting souvenir to Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafqaat during concluding ceremony of Sports Gala 2024 held in connection with International Anti-Corruption Day

Samad Gorgage says Health facilities to people among priorities of govt

QUETTA (APP): Parliamentary Secretary for Sciter by the facilities provided to the public in the hospital. mentary Secretary for Science and Information Technology Sardarzada Samad Khan Gorgage said that providing health facilities to the people is among the priorities of the govern-

He said that in this regard, any kind of negligence would not be tolerated.

He said this while talking to the media during a surprise visit to Bolan Medical Hospital.

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leaders Sardar Akram Bangulzai, Alauddin Kakar and others were

present on the occasion. During the visit to the tendent Dr. Sultan Lehri briefed him in detail about

Parliamentary Secretary Samad Khan expressed satisfaction over the facili-ties provided to the patients in the hospital.

He said that the pro-

vincial government is utilizing all available resources to provide free medical treatment to the public in government hospitals.

The government has introduced Balochistan Health Card for the poor people which is being fully utilized by the poor and deserving people", he said.

He said that to meet the shortage of doctors in hospitals, the government hospital, Bolan Medical has decided to appoint Hospital (BMC) Superinmore doctors on contract has decided to appoint basis which would provide convenience to the public.

The meeting con-



Iranian, Azerbaijan ministers meet Romina in Riyadh

ISLAMABAD (APP): Iranian Minister for Agriculture Gholamreza Nouri Ghezeljeh called on Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam and discussed various issues of bilateral interest. During the meeting

held on Monday in Riyadh, capital city of Saudi Arabaia, Iranian minister proposed different initiatives to work on with Pakistan. PM's coordinator assured him to discuss this with her government and would convey to Iranian government regarding the initiatives. PM's coordinator apprised the Iranian agriculture minister about various initiatives launched by the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in agriculture, water, irrigation and energy sector for achieving food, climate, water, agricultural related sustainable development goals. Meanwhile, Azerbaijan's Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources. Mukhtar Babayev also held meeting with the PM's coordinator and discussed matters of bilateral interest in boosting climate resilience of both the countries.

Rohana Kakar transferred: Mansoor Qazi posted as DC Hub

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Deputy Commissioner Hub, Ms. Rohana Gul Kakar has been transferred and directed to report in the Services and General Administration Department (S&GAD).

This was announced in an official notification issued here the other day. According to the noti-

fication, Mansoor Ahmed Qazi, serving as Additional Secretary Home Department, has been transferred and posted as the Deputy Commissioner Hub.

Police arrest absconder

SOHBATPUR (APP): A team of Shaheed Malik Muhammed Ali Police Station here on Monday arrested an absconder.

On the direction of GP, Balochistan, the police under supervision of DSP, Circle, Abid Ali Bugti arrested the outlaw, Sabzal who was wanted in three

different cases. The police have started further investiga-



chairs a high-level meeting to expedite immediate solutions for the Neelum

NA body lauds NHMP for ensuring commuters road safety

ISLAMABAD The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Communications on Monday lauded the National Highways and Motorways Police (NHMP) for ensuring road safety and excellence on country's roads aiming to facilitate and assistance the commuters.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of MNA Aijaz Hussain Jakhrani to discuss agenda such as NHMP, Pakistan Post, the National Transport Research Center, enemy property cell and any other item with the permission of the chair, said a

Inspector General (IG) NHMP apprised the committee that the National Highways and commuters received assis-

Islamabad High Court

(IHC) has been informed

expenses in respect of the

delegation which is going to

US in connection with Dr

told that application has

been moved by Foreign

court Monday that Prime Minister (PM) has ap-

proved the expenses in re-

spect of the delegation

which is going to US.

The court was further

Aafia Siddigui case.

ministry for visas.

that government will incur

(NHMP) oversees traffic regulation, safety, and security across 4,736 km of motorways and national highways, including key routes like M-1, M-2, M-5 N-5, and N-25. Established in 1997, NHMP enforces laws under the National Highway Safety Ordinance (NHSO) 2000, focusing on commuter assistance, traffic management, and Axle Load Control. With 9,098 officers currently serving out of 15,607 sanctioned positions, NHMP issued 13.3 million tickets and collected Rs 15.4 billion in fines from

January to November 2024. Under the Axle Load Control Regime, fines rose by 133 percent to Rs 4.26 billion. Over 1.6 million

the case for hearing.

amicus curiae Zaina Janjua

affairs said foreign ministry

has sent application in con-

nection with visas of delega-

tion. It will be approved

within a week. Representa-

AAG said in the court

appeared in the court.

IHC informed

ISLAMABAD (Online): Monday. Justice Sardar Islamabad High Court Ejaz Ishaq Khan took up

The petition regarding tive of foreign ministry said

release and return of Dr in a statement that we are

came up for hearing in IHC help to Dr Fouzia Siddiqui.

QUETTA: Provincial Food Minister Haji Noor

Muhammad Dummar listening problems of people.

Chairman PAC concerned

about non provision of

tance during this period. NHMP's Drivers Licensing Authority (DLA), following international standards, has issued over 144,000 licenses since 2014. Modern initiatives

like e-ticketing, cashless systems and vehicle tracking were transforming operations to ensure safer and more efficient travel for all road users. The committee members appreciated the work of Motorways Police.

The Pakistan Post, advancing connectivity and financial inclusion, the Director General (DG), briefed the committee that Pakistan Post Office Department (PPOD), with over 10,000 branches nationwide, continues to be a cornerstone of communication and financial inclusion.

Govt will incur expenses of delegation visit to US in Dr Aafia Siddiqui case

Imran Shafiq counsel for Dr Fouzia Siddiqui and PM has accorded approval to the expenses in respect of the delegation going to US in regard to Dr Aafia Additional Attorney
General (AAG) told the tive of ministry of foreign Siddiqui case. Representa-

The court urged the petitioner to approach the concerned provincial courts if there is any objection to the jail rules. In a separate development earlier prisoners in Punjab jails de-manded same facilities as those provided to Imran Khan, who is currently incarcerated in Adiala jail.

In a letter written to Punjab advocate general, IG prisons stated that the prisoners have requested the same privileges as Imran Khan, including six meetings with his lawyers in a day.

Police committed to serving people: SSP

ficials should prioritize zen will not be tolerated.

not in the court of law. The Khosa highlighted that amount must be paid to the police are working efficiently to maintain law and order, with a focus on redressing the oppressed and preventing anyone from taking the law into their own hands. The SSP also acknowledged the challenges posed by vacant police personnel posts, which number in the hundreds. He expressed optimism that filling these positions would help address the shortage of police personnel. To restore public confidence, the police will implement environmentally friendly measures to ensure public safety. This proactive approach demonstrates the Nasirabad

SC declares plea seeking same facilities for all inmates inadmissible

ISLAMABAD (INP): Supreme Court (SC) constitutional bench declared the plea seeking same facilities for all inmates inadmissible. As per details, the constitutional bench headed by Justice Aminuddin, com-prising Justice Jamal Mandokhel disposed off the plea, stating that its not the Supreme Court's responsibility to review the facilities provided to in-

DERA MURAD JAMALI (APP): Senior Superinten-dent of Police (SSP) Nasirabad Captain ® Fahad Khan Khosa has reaffirmed the police department's commitment to serving the people of Nasirabad dis-

According to SSP of-fice, Khosa emphasized that police officers and ofproviding protection and legal assistance to the public and injustice to any citi-

police's dedication.

AJK President calls for EU's effective role to help resolve lingering Kashmir dispute

Azad Jammu and Kashmir(AJK) President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that the European Union can play an effective role in resolving the lingering Kashmir dispute peacefully.

While speaking to Chaudhry Naseer Ahmed, Honorary Presidential Advisor for the European Union, at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis on Monday. Terming settlement of

the long pending disputes as a key to durable peace in South Asia, Barrister Chaudhry said that it was high time that the Kashmiris living in Europe should gear up their efforts to sensitize global community about the early resolution of the Kashmir issue, which he said, was the root cause of tension and abuse of human rights in the re-

"It was quite encour-

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Parliament keeps raising its voice from time to time on the ongoing human rights violations in occupied Kashmir", he said.

The European Parliament had also presented the Emma Nicholson report on the human rights situation in occupied Kashmir, expressing EU countries' grave concern over the widespread human rights violations in the region including enforced disappearances and discovery of unnamed mass graves", the

president added. President directed the Honorary Presidential Advisor for Europe Chaudhry Naseer Ahmed to play his proactive role to highlight the Kashmir issue and the ongoing atrocities in occupied Kashmir in the EU and the European Parliament.

Honorary Presidential Advisor for the European Union Chaudhry Naseer Ahmed, on the occasion, invited the President to visit aging that the European Brussels, which he accepted



Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh, talking to the media persons.

Maintaining law & order is top priority of Govt: DC Ziarat

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Sanjawi area of Ziarat dis-Commissioner (DC) Ziarat Zakaullah Durrani on Monday said that maintaining law and order is the top priority of the government and vigorous steps were being taken in this regard.

He said that development is linked to law and order situation and the district of Ziarat would provide a peaceful and calm

environment to the people.

trict Sanjawi. Strict decisions were taken in the meeting to maintain law and order situ-

In the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Ziarat Zakaullah Durrani strictly directed that the officers should visit all schools and hospitals and the administrators of schools and hospitals should be alert and present He expressed these the watchmen on duty at views while chairing a meet- all times and take all necesing regarding improving law sary steps to avoid any

and order situation in unusual situation. 3-day training program with digital agriculture census launched in Harnai

OUETTA (APP): Additional General Deputy Commissioner (AGDC) Harnai Arbab Saeed Ali Kasi formally inaugurated the three-day training pro-gram for the seventh and first digital agricultural census. Additional General Deputy Commissioner Harnai, Deputy District Education Officer Mushtaq Ahmed Tareen, Census District Coordinator Muhammad Imran Yousafzai Quetta and Census District Coordinator

that the agricultural census is crucial for national development and effective planning. Therefore, all the participants should fully understand the technical aspects and usefulness of agricultural census and fulfill their responsibilities in the best possible way. In the meeting, it was further emphasized that all the participants should utilize their capabilities to achieve Harnai Ghulam Jelani the desired results and Tareen participated in the make this process a success.

program. During the inau-

guration ceremony, the of-

ficers involved emphasized



Gholamreza Nouri Ghezeljeh along with Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam after meeting.

District Heads of line departments meet: DC Chaman directs all officers, staff to ensure

attendance at their duty places **Independent Report** QUETTA: The Deputy

Commissioner Chaman, Habib Ahmed Bangulzai has directed to all district officers and staff to ensure their attendance at their respective duty places and serve the general public to their best.

The Deputy Commissioner Chaman was chairing meeting of the district heads of line departments in his office on Monday.

All the district officers and other representatives of the departments were in attendance, and briefed about performance and ongoing development projects besides the problems and hardships faced by

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed performance of the officers and discussed the same with the concerned. He issued directives

to resolve the issues imme-He also directed them

to discharge their responsibilities in befitting manner and not leave any stone unturned in provision of all possible facilities to the people. He stressed that all officers should consider them public servants.

He warned that stern action would be taken against those committing negligence and carelessness

compensation to land affectees **Independent Report** Zamarak Khan Achakzai QUETTA: The Chairman observed that the people are Public Accounts Commitin trouble due to non receipt tee (PAC) Asghar Ali of amount of their land, and expressed displeasure over cern over non-participation not resolving their issues. of Deputy Commissioners The committee stressed the need to distrib-

Tareen has expressed conas well as non evacuation of the public lands and non provision of compensation amount to the affectees. The Chairman PAC

directed to write official letter to Chief Secretary for taking stern action against the concerned Deputy Commissioners on their absence from the committee's meeting. He said that the

Deputy Commissioners were provided opportunity to participate in the PAC's meeting twice, but they failed to do so. The Chairman PAC

was chairing meeting of the

committee here on Mon-

The committee comprising Minister for Fi-Mir Shoaib Nausherwani and members of provincial assembly,

them within six months, it was stressed further. The meeting was attended by the senior Member Board of Revenue, Qambar Dashti, Secretary Board of Revenue. Nasrullah Tareen, Auditor

ute the compensation

amount among owners of

the land, whose cases are

General Balochistan, Shuja Ali, Additional Secretary PAC, Siraj Lehri, Additional Secretary Law, Saeed Iqbal, Chief Accounts Officer, Syed Idrees Agha, Deputy Commissioner Lasbela, Humaira Baloch, Deputy Commissioner Awaran Ayesha Zehri, Additional DC, Killa Abdullah, Nasar Ahmed Langove and other concerned ADCs and As-



Mushtaq distributing best performance certificate from Prime Minister among faculty and students under PM Green Youth Movement Program.