Orya Maqbool remanded F.P. Report

LAHORE: A court on Thursday handed over senior columnist Orya Maqbool Jan to the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on a four-day physical remand in a case related to remarks against institutions. The senior journalist was produced in the court after he was arrested by the FIA Cybercrime Wing in an area of

Frontier Post

Woman's ears cuts off F.P. Report

GWADAR: In a horrific incident, a dacoit cut off ears of an elderly woman in the Surbandar area of Gwadar, Balochistan. According to police, the woman was wearing gold earing when the robber attacked her and cut off her ears, taking the earrings with him. The police have arrested the robber and recovered the severed ears, gold earings, and a knife from his possession.

****Continuous Continuous Continuo**

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Inaug

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif presenting a memento to Dr. Anita Zaidi, President, Gender Equality Division, Gates Foundation at the inaugural ceremony of Buna-Raast Connectivity Project Implementation Phase.

Will announce a 5-year economic plan soon: PM

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said that he would unveil a five-year economic revival plan in the coming weeks as broad parameters had already been finalised through months-long deliberations with the stakeholders.

The prime minister, addressing the launching ceremony of the Buna-Raast connectivity project, said the "Home-Grown Economic Program" would envisage measures to boost the country's economy by uplifting agriculture, information technology, and other untapped sectors. "Our program is under discussion and I will announce it very soon. Great work has gone into it. It involves discussions and deliberations with all stakeholders over the last many months. its broad parameters. By we had done in the past. Let boost the country's foreign next week or so, we will us now use this time for exchange and further finalise it. I will go to the actual implementation on people to announce the pro- the ground. Insha Allah, dial relations between years," the prime minister dividends and will find our world. remarked.

lenges of reforms in the hard work and hard work," Federal Board of Revenue he said. and power sector, he told the gathering that he was connectivity project, the personally monitoring the digitisation of FBR and that the government was hopeful of positive outcomes of Buna system to facilitate power sector reforms. millions of overseas "There is no magic band. It Pakistanis in Arab countries is all about hard work, sac- to send remittances through rifice, blood and sweat. Our a swift, affordable, and nation is robust and strong. effective mechanism. The Our people are full of hope prime minister said that make remittances more and energy. Let us put our besides easing the remitwork together. Let us not tance-sending process digi-

Shehbaz directs better airport services, shorter wait times F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif or Thursday instructed that facilities for passengers tourists, and overseas Pakistanis at the country's airport be improved and called for an increase in the number o counters during international flights to reduce long wai imes for passengers.

Chairing a review meeting on aviation sector reforms he prime minister directed that the safety audit for the current calendar year be completed as soon as possible He reminded that during his previous tenure as head or the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) govern ment, an aviation act was enacted to facilitate reforms in the sector, according to a press release issued by Prime Minister Office. He instructed that all policy measure and reforms outlined in the Aviation Act be implement ed. He noted that the aviation sector in Pakistan was moving in the right direction due to these reforms. To promote tourism, the prime minister emphasized the need to provide top-notch facilities for passengers at Skardu International Airport and called for a detailed action plan for the expansion of both Skardu International Airport and Gilgit Airport.

place in the comity of Highlighting the chal- nations through hard work,

Under the Buna-Raast

Zardari directs pension payment

Recently we have finalised waste time on debates as tally, it would also help strengthen the already corgram for the next five you will see we will have Pakistan and the Arab

Calling it a great step forward in promoting financial transactions through modern techniques, he said the project would expand the reach of Pakistan's digital payment infrastructure. "This signihow 21st-century Pakistan is moving ahead by augmenting modern technologies in the people's lives. This is the first crossborder real-time payment system linkage that will affordable and accessible,

to deceased employee's son ADB official, envoy

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has directed the Employees' Old Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) to ensure lifelong payment of pension to Mr Muhammad Shehzad, a person with visual disability who had been denied pension by EOBI following the death of his father.

The President said that the person with disability (PWD) could not be left in a merciless situation by the State, given the fact that his elders were deceased and were receiving pension before their deaths. He regretted that EOBI displayed grave insensitivity by neglecting a PWD and that too at a time when all his predecessors had passed away leaving him without

any support.
Muhammad Shehzad (the complainant), who has been Mohtasib, stating that his father, Mr Muhammad Afzal Zafar, was an Old Age Pensioner of EOBI and died of the complainant had already passed away during the lifetime of his father. He had requested EOBI to grant him a "family pension" for life as a "disabled legal heir" of his late father.

call on President

F.P. Report

SLAMABAD: Country Director of Asian Developmen Bank (ADB) Yong Ye called on President Asif Al Zardari on Thursday and briefed him about the role o the Bank in the socio-economic development o Pakistan. Appreciating the assistance provided by the Asian Development Bank to Pakistan during the floods President Zardari highlighted Pakistan's measures to leal with climate change, saying that Pakistan had planted mangrove forests on millions of acres of land.

He also appreciated the services of ADB to Pakistar n the fields of agriculture, irrigation and education Meanwhile, the outgoing Ambassador of Greece to akistan Konstantinos Moatsos paid a farewell call on resident Asif Ali Zardari. He emphasized the need to further strengthen bilateral relations with Greece. The president also expressed his best wishes for the outgoing Ambassador of Greece.

EOBI, however, rejected his application by placing reliance on Section 22B (3) (i) of the EOB Act, 1976, blind since birth, had filed a which provides that only complaint with the Wafaqi male minors under 18 years of age are eligible for a family pension, whereas Mr Shehzad was 44 years old. The Mohtasib closed further on 20.12.2016. The mother investigation of his comrepresentation before the President of Pakistan.

The President accepted the complainant's representation and emphasised that Federal Policy.

keeping in view the letter and spirit of the Constitution of Pakistan, particularly Articles 9 and 25, a Person with Disability could not be deprived of such a pension, since he deserved to be treated on a much better footing and placed in a more deserving category than any other recipient of pension in plaint, after which, Mr the country presently. He Muhammad Shehzad filed a also endorsed Mohtasib's recommendation EOBI's law in this regard should be reviewed and brought in line with the

Mubarak Sani case

Supreme Court removes controversial paragraphs

removal of the controversial paragraphs in the ruling of Mubarak

urgent application from the Punjab review in the Supreme Court. government, requesting the removal of certain portions from its July 24 verdict in the Mubarak Ahmad Sani case.

A three-member bench, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, took up the matter. The other members were Justice Irfan Saadat Khan and Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan. The bench accepted the Punjab government's application and ordered the removal of paragraphs No 7, 42 and 49-C.

During the hearing, Allama Taqi Usmani assisted the court and requested the removal of two paragraphs from the decision. He asked for paragraphs 7 and 42 to be deleted. The chief justice also noted that the Supreme Court, headed by On Thursday, Court, headed by

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme after the review, and now it's time Court on Thursday ordered the to move forward. JUI chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman said, "Supreme Court should have limited itself to the matter of bail only; The Supreme Court heard an you {CJP} are hearing a second

> The chief justice responded by saying that this is not a second review. Maulana Fazlur Rehman then remarked, "Then this must be a re-evaluation. I am 72 years old, and this is the first time I am standing in court." The chief justice said, "Maulana Sahib! We are not that bad. When my father passed away, your father, Mufti Mahmood, came to our home for condolences." As the people at the rostrum started speaking simultaneously, the chief justice asked Fazlur Rehman to ment and other parties, reportedly guide them. Fazlur Rehman affirmed that "the constitutional replied, "This is your court; your order prevails here.'

annulled the result, the Supreme Court ordered the petitioner's immediate release.

This decision sparked what was described by the government and should be consulted. legal circles as a "malicious and defamatory campaign" against the review of the Mubarak Sani case, chief justice, leading the Supreme parliament and religious scholars Court to issue a public clarification. On July 24, the Supreme Court, after considering the appeals from the Punjab governright to religious freedom is indeed subject to legal, moral, and public al-Khair Muhammad Zubair and

On Thursday, Chief Justice Qazi also assisted the court.

conviction of making mistakes. Our country is an Mubarak Sani who had been Islamic state, which is why we refer charged in 2019 under the Punjab to the Quran and Hadith in judicial Holy Quran (Printing and decisions. After every prayer, I only Recording) (Amendment) Act. The pray that no wrong decision is court observed in its ruling that the made. Please point out any errors or offence for which the defendant objections in the court's decision.' was convicted was not actually Attorney General for Pakistan criminalised until 2021. As a Mansoor Awan requested that they should now focus on moving forward. He suggested that, since the matter is religious, the scholars

> After court's decision in the contacted the federal government, advising them to approach the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court decided to seek assistance from Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Mufti Sher Muhammad, and other scholars present in the court. Abu Jamaat-e-Islami's Fareed Paracha

> > 11 cops

martyred

in attack on

police vans

F.P. Report

RAHIM YAR KHAN: At

least 11 policemen were

martyred and seven others

injured in an attack on

police mobile vehicles by

dacoits of Kacha near

Machka police camp II in

A group of dacoits launched the attack when

one of the vehicles in the

convoy broke down. Some

of the policemen were also

missing after the incident.

The culprits first attacked

the police vehicles with

rocket launchers before

opening fire. Injured

policemen have been shift-

ed to Sheikh Zayed

Hospital in Rahim Yar

Interior Minister Mohsin

Naqvi strongly condemned

the attack by dacoits on

police vehicles in the

. Kacha area of Machka,

Rahim Yar Khan. Naqvi

expressed deep sorrow and

regret over the martyrdom

of 11 police personnel in

the attack. He paid tribute

to the martyred police offi-

cers and prayed for the

swift recovery of the injured officers. He extend-

ed heartfelt condolences

Khan for treatment.

Rahim Yar Khan.

US envoy tells UN: Ğaza truce deal 'now is in sight'

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters): A Gaza ceasefire and hostage release deal "now is in sight," the US envoy to the United Nations told the Council on Security Thursday, urging members to press Palestinian militant group Hamas to accept a bridging proposal agreed to

Months of on-off talks have circled the same issues, but Israel and Hamas have stuck to their demands. US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said a bridging proposal put forward last week by the US, Qatar and Egypt was consistent with a plan outlined by President Joe Biden in May and endorsed by the Security Council in June. has accepted the bridging proposal. Now Hamas must do the same,' she told the council. "As members of this council, we must speak with one voice, and we must use our leverage to press Hamas to accept the bridging proposal.'

Disagreements Israel's future military presence in Gaza and over Palestinian prisoner releases are obstructing a deal. sources familiar with talks told Reuters, stemming from demands Israel has introduced since Hamas accepted Biden's May proposal

"It's a decisive moment for ceasefire talks and for the region, and so every member of this council should continue to send strong messages to other actors in the region to avoid actions that would move us away from finalizing this deal," said Thomas-Greenfield. The conflict in Gaza put the entire Middle East region on edge, triggering months of border clashes between Israel and Lebanon's Iranbacked Hezbollah movement, and threatening a wider escalation drawing in major powers.

Iran has also vowed retaliation over the killing of Hamas leader Ismai Haniyeh in Tehran on July 31, which it blamed on Israel. Israel has neither confirmed nor denied it was behind the killing. "There's very real danger of regional escalation,' Thomas-Greenfield said.

Rally cancelled on orders from PTI founder: KP CM

F.P. Report

SWABI: Chief Minister upon any call from the containers in the wake of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) party. Ali Amin Gandapur has addressed the cancellation of a planned rally, asserting that the event was sched-Objection (NOC). However, the rally was halted based on direc-

tives from the PTI founder. In a statement following emphasized that while the workers remain prepared the NOC being withdrawn, ward situation. the rally was intended to go determination of the PTI would

supporters. processes, asserting that the for

firmed that the founder of Zone and closed the routes PTI is still prepared to act for other cities traffic with

Earlier, the PTI has postponed the public gathering (jalsa) in Islamabad scheduled for Thursday. The prouled to proceed despite the cession has been called off revocation of the No on the directions of PTI Certificate founder Imran Khan.

PTI leader Azam Swati met Imran Khan in Adiala jail and informed him about the current situation and the cancellation, Gandapur protest of another religious party in the city. Azam Swati conveyed the mesand their morale is high, the sage of Imran Khan and decision to stop the rally announced that Imran Khan commissioner has also was made in deference to had instructed to postpone ordered closure of public the PTI founder's wishes. the public gathering to and private schools for the He reiterated that, despite avoid any chaos and unto-

September 8 and it had been heightened.

face of obstacles. He con- Interior has sealed the Red across the Punjab.

public gathering. Heavy contingent of

police has been deployed. Only Margalla Avenue is Ravi Toll Plaza in Lahore is

safety of children amid reli-

administration

open for entrance in the Red Zone. Motorway at Kalar Kahar Interchange is closed for Islamabad and road to Islamabad from

also closed for traffic. Public has been facing discomfort amid long queues of vehicles on roads due to suspension of traffic. The Islamabad deputy

gious parties and PTI pubthe rally was intended to go Barrister Gohar and lic gatherings. Metro bus ahead today, reflecting the Azam Swati announced service in the capital was ongoing readiness and that the public gathering also suspended and security determination of the PTI would be held on of metro bus stations have Gandapur underscored already been notified. Punjab government has the importance of uphold- Earlier, PTI insisted on also imposed Section 144 ing constitutional and legal holding a public rally today across the province. The section would be enforced PTI founder remains com- approval. The Islamabad from August 22 to 24 and mitted to responding to the administration on the direc- any public and political

party's needs, even in the tion of the Ministry of gathering is not allowed

Shooting on school van kills 2 children, injures 5

F.P. Report

ATTOCK: At least two children have been killed and five were injured after gunmen opened fire at a school van in Dheri Kot, Attock, and 12 years old, they attack. added.

They have been shifted to the hospital, said the rescue officials. The children killed in the attack included a nine-year-old and a 10year-old, while the five injured included two eightone one was 12 and one child is four years old.

The two children — both girls named Arwa Fatima and Rameen Shafiq — died on the spot. The rescue officials, who reached the site month and the van driver -

In the wake of the attack, attacked. Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has sought a report from Rawalpindi Commissioner rescue officials told media Aamer Khattak. The chief on Thursday. The ages of minister has also expressed Aamer Khattak. The chief the children injured in the deep sorrow over the death gun attack are between five of the two children in the

CM Maryam also directed relevant authorities to provide the best treatment facilities to the children who have sustained injuries. Attock Deputy Commissioner Rao Ati Raza, in conversation with year-olds, one was seven, media, said that the gun attack on the school van was a result of the driver's

personal enmity.

He added that a forest official and his friend were killed due to this enmity last after the attack, shifted the Afzaal - was attacked to injured children and dead avenge the murder. The DC bodies to the Asfandyar explained that the driver

Bukhari District Hospital was injured in the attack, Attock. but the children were also

According to the DC, two girls -seated in the passenger seat with the driver — were killed in the attack, while the driver himself is injured. He added that the police and administration are busy in search operation for the gunmen who fled the scene after indiscriminately targeting the van. DC said that the report of the incident has been sent to the Rawalpindi commissioner.

and sympathy to the families of the martyrs. Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif also expressed deep sorrow and grief over the martyrdom of police personnel in the

Kacha area.

She paid tribute to the police official martyred in the attack and extended condolences to the grieving families. She has also ordered an operation to recover the missing police officials and instructed that the injured officers should be given the best medical care. CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif has also sought a report from the IG Police.

SALE / RENT OF PLAZA

The said plaza is located at a prime and highly privileged secured location at Mall Road, **Peshawar Cantonment.**

The owner intends to sell or rent it only to international NGOs, UN Organizations, and Airlines preferably for residential purposes. The said plaza is located at a highly privileged and prime location at 10 minutes walk from American Consulate, Peshawar and about 10 minutes drive from Bacha Khan International Airport, Peshawar. The commercial entities like National Bank of Pakistan, First Women Bank, Telenor and Shaukat Khanum Labs are located in the same premises. A famous shopping market (including Pak Bakers, Medicines, Mobiles shops, Hairdressing Shops and Ladies / Gents Tailors) is located wall to wall to said premises. A military security check post, operational 24/7, is located across the road. The property is lawfully owned by a single individual and is granted clearance from the Cantonment Board. The total covered area of the said

premises is about 2903 sft. which is comprised of: Basement (Two Rooms, a Lounge), Ground Floor (Two Rooms, a Lobby, Bathroom and Kitchen), First Floor (Three Rooms, Bathroom and Kitchen)



and Mumty area. Only audio messages (leaving name and company business and contact number) of serious buyers / renters at WhatsApp contact (0323) 9087575, will be entertained, and not from any property dealer(s).



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Greece in Pakistan, Mr Konstantinos Moatsos, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.



Meeting for promotion mangoes cultivation held

F.P. Report

MIRPURKHAS: Chairman District Council Mirpurkhas Mir Anwar Ali Talpur and Divisional Commissioner Mirpurkhas Division Faisal Ahmad Uqaili presided over a meeting at Commissioner Committee Hall to promote the cultivation of mangoes, fruits and vegetables of Mirpurkhas, expand business and create opportunities to export to foreign countries.

The meeting was held in In this regard, on the invitation of Commissioner Mirpurkhas, the Chief Officer of Commercial CMA-CGM, the world's most famous shipping company, Mahasan Muhammad along with his team came to this meeting from Karachi.

Deputy Commissioner Mirpurkhas Dr. Rasheed Masood, Chairman Mango Festival Management Committee Rais Arif Khan Bhargari, Growers Tanveer Gondal, Mansoor Cheema, Coordinator Chairman Mango Management Committee Ghoram Baloch also participated. On this occasion, Chairman District Council Mirpurkhas Mir Anwar Ali Talpur said that it is a good sign for Mirpurkhas that the demand of Mirpurkhas mangoes is increasing in the international markets and Divisional administration is trying not only the mangoes but various fruits and vegetables should be exported, in this regard connections have been made with various shipping companies, airlines and freight logistics companies for example of which is the arrival of a delegation of a shipping company like CMA-CGM in Mirpurkhas on Thursday.

In the meeting, Divisional Commissioner Mirpurkhas Division Faisal Ahmed Uqaili told the delegation of the company to work for the promotion of Mirpurkhas mangoes and fruits business by keeping in mind all aspects so that the farmers get guidance for the consumption of mangoes in local but also export in international markets and demand of Mirpurkhas mangoes, fruits

PHA retrieves state land F.P. Report

LAHORE: The Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) of Lahore has cleared illegal encroachments along the Sattukatla drain to restore the green belt, Director General Muhammad Tahir Wattoo confirmed on Thursday.

The day-long operation, which continued late Thursday night, resulted in the removal of several temporary residential and commercial setups along the drain, which also passes through the upscale neighborhood of Model Town.

During the drive, PHA staff cleared a 1.5-km stretch from Peco Road to Al-Karim Chowk, following several warnings to encroachers to vacate the premises, which they did not heed. Following the clearance, the PHA started horticultural work along the drain, planting a variety of seasonal flowers to enhance the area's aesthetic appeal.

According to Wattoo, the department also plans to plant native trees along the drain, contributing to the increase of Lahore's green cover.

اعلان منتقلي وراثتي اراضي

ہرگاہ کہمیرےوالدمحتر م^{مس}ی امان اللہ خان مرحوم ولدگل محمد مرحوم جو فنانس ﴿ يبار ثمنت سول سيكر ثريث بيثاور میں ملازم تھے اور 15 اپریل 2024 کو وفات یا گئے تھے،ہم ان کے 6 بچے ہیں جن میں 4 بیٹے اور دو بیٹیاں ہیں اور میری والدہ بھی حیات ہیں لہٰذا ابھم جو وراثتی اراضی میرے والد ماجد کے نام پر ہے وارثین کے نام پر منتقل كروانا حاسبته بين _تمام متعلقين نوث فرمالين _

اطلاععام

ر ربد نوٹس مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ خلام کی دلد تھر بوٹس سکند پیرشل جنگل فیل صلع کوبات عال دور قطر جو کہ کوبات KDA کوباب میں ایک عدد يلاك نبر 263، سيكفرنبر C-3، رقبه 10 مرله واقع فير C-2 KDA بینک کوکوئی اعتراض موتو 15 یوم کے اندراندر باؤسٹک آفیسر ADA وماث سے تح بری طور بر بمعد شوت رابط کریں بصورت و بگر ندکورہ بلار

بلی ٹرانسفر کردیا جائے گا اور بعد میں کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ نجانب: ڈائریکٹر اربن ایریا کوهاٹ ڈویلیمنٹ اتھارٹی کوھاٹ



should be increased day by administration will provide day for this the divisional all possible support.

Justice

Karachi intermediate board

SHC seeks undertaking to implement reforms

F.P. Report

KARACHI: A double bench of Sindh High Court (SHC) Salahuddin Panhwar and Justice Omer Siyal on a petition filed with the legal assistance of

Pasban Democratic Party stitutional petition (P-(PDP) for implementing reforms in the Karachi Intermediate Board here Advocate Khurram Lakhani nation firstly faced the prob-Thursday asked the defendants to submit undertaking about the implementation of implemented the recommenthe suggestions of fact find- dations of a fact finding haphazard way all the stucommittee adjourned the case till gross mismanagement in the nation were mentally tor-

release issued today, a con-Karachi in the year 2022-23. dents also saw that examina-

3465/2024) was filed by mitted that the students who the examiner were extraordi-Usaid Ahmed through had appeared in the examiagainst the province of lem of shortage of textbooks Sindh and others to get in market; secondly the and committee formed after dent who were taken exami-

examinations held by the tured due to the mismanage-

The petitioner had subexams were taken in the

tion papers which were set by narily lengthy and out-of-syllabus that could not be covered within the given time.

The petitioner said that after the examination when the result was announced HSC Part-1 Pre-Medical, Pre Engineering, General Science, the stu-According to a press Board of Intermediate ment of the BIEK. The stu- dents were shocked to see the poor result.

PAKISTAN AIRPORTS AUTHORITY يا كستان ايتر يورثس اتفار في

OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A PART OF PAKISTAN AIRPORTS AUTHORITY'S PROFESSIONAL TEAM **SITUATION VACANT NOTICE NO. 03/2024**

Pakistan Airports Authority requires services of qualified individuals to fill the following vacant posts on contract basis for

Post	No. of Seat (s)	Prescribed Qualification	Quota & Pay	Age Limit
Sr. Dy. Director Security (EG-04)	Three (03)	 Graduate (preferably Engineering/ Computers/ Accounts/ Audits) Aviation / Security related courses Any other professional degrees or training / courses related to Aviation Security will be added qualification Minimum 05 years' experience of handling security related issues in aviation would be preferred Intelligence & Security related courses from Military (Army/ Navy/ Airforce) or any other recognized & reputable organization (Police/IB) would be preferred Preferred experience in conducting Security Audits / Inspections Experience of developing the strategies and Aviation Security SOPs for upkeep of the security Experience in Establishment and Implementation of Quality Control Program for Security related issues Preference would be given to candidates with experience of conducting audits & assessments Good understanding of cargo, catering and Flight operations security requirements Strong working knowledge of Aviation security related laws and their implementation would be preferred Sound judgment, analytical, creative thinking and possessing strong managerial abilities High level of integrity, motivation Strong administrative skills such as decision making, planning and organizing abilities. Knowledge of ICAO Standard and recommended practices pertaining to Aviation Security would be preferred 	■ Merit ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 276,378/- per month with 05% annual increment. ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	■ Maximum 48 years of age (Including all age relaxations
Surveyors / Draughtsman (SG-07)	Three (03)	 Minimum Diploma (DAE) Civil with 2nd Division Knowledge / Expertise in operating Total Station & D-GPS equipment and using AutoCAD, Google Earth and GIS Software etc 	■ Merit – 03 ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 107,275/- per month with 05% annual increment ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	■ Maximum 33 years (Including all age relaxations
Civil Supervisor (SG-07)	Four (04)	 Minimum Diploma (DAE) in Civil Technology with at least 2nd Division 05 years experience in Estimation, Supervision of Civil Works with reputable Engineering Organization Understanding of Computer Operations 	■ Merit – 04 ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 107,275/- per month with 05% annual increment ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	Maximum 33 years (Including all age relaxations
Civil Assistant (SG-05)	Ten (10)	■ F.Sc (Pre-Engineering) with minimum 70% marks OR equivalent with preferably 06 months or more experience of Civil Works	■ Merit – 01, ■ BAL – 01, ■ KPK – 01, ■ Punjab – 06, ■ Sindh (R) – 01 ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 84,623/- per month with 05% annual increment ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	Minimum 23 years (age relaxation shall be applicable as per Rules)
Commercial Assistant (SG-05)	Seven- teen (17)	■ Intermediate with minimum 70% marks	■ Merit – 02 ■ BAL – 01 ■ Ex-FATA – 01 ■ KPK – 02 ■ Punjab – 09 ■ Sindh (R) – 02 ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 84,623/- per month with 05% annual increment ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	■ Minimum 23 years (age relaxation shall be applicable as per Rules)
Cargo Assistant (SG-05)	Twenty (20)	■ Intermediate with minimum 70% marks	■ Merit – 02 ■ AJK – 01 ■ BAL – 01 ■ EX-FATA – 01 ■ KPK – 02 ■ Punjab – 11 ■ Sindh (R) – 02 ■ Lump Sum Pay Package shall be offered equivalent to Gross Pay of Rs. 84,623/- per month with 05% annual increment ■ (Negotiable as per policy)	■ Minimum 23 years (age relaxation shall be applicable as per Rules)

Application Procedure:

- Interested candidates are required to fill & submit Online Job Application Form available at www.caapakistan.com.pk within fifteen (15) days from the date of this advertisement.
- Candidates will be required to upload scanned copies of certificate / degree (HEC Verified) of the required qualification only of the concerned post as mentioned above and CNIC while applying for the job.
- In case a candidate does not upload the above documents with the online application form, his/her application will be rejected.
- Domicile holders from all Provinces are eligible to apply for selection against seat reserved for Merit.
- All the interested candidates must read the Terms of Reference (TOR) mentioned in the vacancy notice available at the website before applying for the post.

ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCE **HEADQUARTERS PAKISTAN AIRPORTS AUTHORITY,** TERMINAL-I, JINNAH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KARACHI. TEL: 021-99072067

تحصیل گڑھی کیورہ اطلاع عام

عوام الناس کے فیتی مفاد کے تحفظ کیلئے معزز شہریوں متوقع خریداروں ، برنٹ اورالیکٹرا نک میڈیا کے اداروں کو اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ تخصیل گڑھی کپورہ میں مندرجہ ذیل رہائثی سکیموں لینڈسب ڈویژن کے سیانسر ڈویلیر زنے مجازاتھارٹی کی اجازت/منظوری حاصل کئے بغیر ہی غیر قانونی طور پراپئی سیموں کی اشتہار بازی اور پلاٹوں کی خرید وفروخت شروع کرر کھی ہے۔

	~ ;	باؤسنگ سکیم	تمبرشار	چچ	ہاؤسنگ سکیم	تمبرشار
بل	محتِ رنگ رودٔ نز د مایار منی ^خ	گرین ایکرز ٹاؤن	2	محتِ رنگ روڈ نز د مایار	سبحان سارٹ شی	1
	محتِرنگ روڈ نزد مایار	افسرز ہوم سٹی	4	محتِ رنگ روڈ نز دحمایت مایارروڈ	ون سٹریٹ کالونی	3
	بخشالي روذ نز دچوره تقانه	سرينه ہاؤسنگ سوسائڻي	6	بخشالى روڈنز دچورہ تھانہ	ملك ښارخان كالوني	5

کہ ذکورہ بالا ہاؤسنگ سکیم غیر قانونی ہیں اوراس اشتہار کے ذریعے تمام متوقع خریداروں کوخیر دار کیا جاتا ہے کہ ان میں ہے کسی بھی سکیم کی مخصیل میونیل ایل نشریش گڑھی کیورہ کی طرف سے منظوری کی تقدیق کتے بغیر یہاں پلاٹ شدلاٹ ندخریدیں۔ کیونکہ مشتہری ہوشیار باش کے اصول کے تحت ان کی ذمے داری بنتی ہے اور بعدازاں کسی نفصال کے ذمہ داروہ خود ہونگے مزید پہ کہ مندرجہ بالا ہاؤسنگ سکیمز کے سیانسرز ڈویلیر زکوچھی مطلع کیاجا تا ہے کہ غیر قانونی ہاؤسنگ سکیمز کے بارے میں اشتہارات دینا، بلاٹوں کی خرید وفروثت اور تر قیاتی کام فوری طور پر بند کر دیں۔ بصورت دیگران کےخلاف بخت کارروائی عمل میں لائی جائے گی۔ یا درہے غیر قانونی ہاؤسٹگ/سوسائٹی میں ملوث ، اکان کو 3 (تین)سال قیداور



INF(P)2140/24

ز پر پختی کوسب جیل بشام کیلئے صبح کا ناشته، دو پیروشام کا یکا یکایا کھانا اور دیگرمتفرق اشیاء وادویات وغیرہ برائے مالی سال 25-2024 خیبر، پختونخوار یو نیو اتھارٹی (کیپرارولز کےمطابق) کےساتھ رجشر ڈ شدہ ٹھکیداروں افرموں ہے سربمبر ٹنینڈ رمطلوب میں۔مجوزہ ٹنینڈ رفارم بمعہ فہرست تفصیلی اشیاء دفتر اوقات کار میں دفتر ہذا سے بعوض -/1000 رویے نفتذ کی صورت میں (نا قابل واپسی) 2024-09-05 بوقت 10:00 AM عاصل کئے جاسکتے ہیں۔مقررہ تاریخ اور وقت کے بعد کسی بھی ٹھیکیدار کوٹینڈ رفار منہیں دیا جائیگا۔

سر بمبر ٹینڈر (مکمل شدہ) رجٹر ڈ لفافوں میں 2024-09-05 بوقد M 11:00 AM بج دن تک دفتر بذا پہنے جانے جاہے جس کے بعد کوئی ٹینڈر نہیں لیا جائےگا۔ سربمہر ٹینڈراُسی دن 11 بجے ٹینڈرد ہندگان یا اُن کے مجازنمائندگان کی موجودگی میں کھولے جا 'میں گے۔

2014 كِتحت لگانالازى ہوگاور نەٹىنىڈر فارمىنسوخ كياجائيگا۔

ا) ٹھکیداروں افرموں کوٹینڈر فارم کے ساتھ زرصانت (متعلقہ ٹھکیدار افرم کے نام سے جاری شدہ) قع جوکہ گل تخییند لاگت کے دو (۲) فیصد ہے بصورت بینک ڈرافٹ -/100,000 (ایک لاکھرویے) بنام سپرنٹنڈ نٹ سب جیل بشام جمع کرنالازی ہے۔زرضانت کی عدم موجود گی میں ٹینڈر فارم اورفہرست اشیاء جاری نہیں کئے جا نمینگے۔کال ڈیبازٹٹٹینڈرمنظورتک واپسنہیں کیاجائیگا۔

۲) درخواست کے ساتھ پروفیشل ٹیکس مرفیلیک اورخیر پخونخوار یو نیواتھارٹی کے ساتھ رجٹریشن سرفیلیٹ کی فوٹو کا بیالف کرناضروری ہے۔اورساتھ اورخیش بھی دکھانا ہوگا۔ ۳)متعلقة فرم/ ٹھکیپدارکوحکومت پاکستان کی طرف سے عائد شدہ تمام کیکسر بشمول آغمیکس، بیر وفیشش کیکس، شیب ڈیوٹی وغیرہ مروجہ پالیسی کےمطابق ادا کرنے ہو نگے۔ ٣) برونت سپانی ند کرنے یاغیر معیاری اشیاء کے سپانی کی صورت میں جوزہ اشیاء بازارے مارکیٹ بزخ پڑے بیائے اورزخ میں فرق کی صورت میں اضافی رقم عمیکیدار کے

۵) سپلائی میں کامامی، غیر معیاری اشیاء کی سپلائی یا قواعد وضوابط کی خلاف ورزی کی صورت میں متعلقہ شمیکیدار افرم کو بلیک اسٹ کیا جائیگا اوراس کی زرحہانت بحق سرکاری صنبط کی جائیگی نیزاس پرجر ماند بھی عائد کیا جاسکتا ہے۔

') تمام اشیاه کی سیلائی سبجیل بشام کے گیٹ برکرنی ہوگی۔ ۷) مقرر کردہ کمیٹی کوافقتیار حاصل ہے کہ وہ کسی فرم اٹھیکیدار کے ٹینڈ کر کوجز وی یا کلی طور پروجہ بتا کرمستر دکرے۔ ٨) كال ڈيپازٹ ٹينڈ رکیمنظوري تک واپسنہيں کيا جائيگا۔ ٩) ٹينڈ رکی حتمی منظور جناب انسپکٹر جنرل جيل خانہ جات خيبر پختو تکوادينگے۔ ۱۰) تمام دلچپی تھیکیداروں کو چاہیے کہٹینڈ رفارم حاصل کرنے سے پہلے زیر تیخطی کوتمام رجشریش کمٹیکیٹس (کیبیراءاتف فی آر بیشل ٹیکس نمبر بیلز ٹیکس ،رجشریشن نمبر وغیرہ) مہیا كرنے ضروري بيں۔اس كے ساتھ ساتھ شكيداروں كوخيىر پختو نخوا فوز سفنى ايندُ حلال فوذ اتفار ئى كاطرف سے سرٹيليكيك انڈرسيكشن 15 آف, KPFS&HFA Act

اا) ٹینڈ رمیں حصہ لینے والے کی مالی استحکام کے ثبوت کے طور پر اپنا بینک اشیٹمنٹ لگانا ضروری ہے اوراس اشیٹمنٹ کو بینک مٹیخر سے تصدیق کرنالازمی ہوگا۔ فرم / کمپنی کا تین سال ز(Financial Statement) مالي تفصيلات آ ۋٹ رپورٹ لگا ٹالازمي ہوگا۔ INF(P) 2102/24

سيرنتند نائسب جيل بشام فون نمبر: 0996-400866

NOTICE

DOCUMENTS SUBMISSION NOTICE FOR QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE **POST OF SENIOR SCALE STENOGRAPHER** (BPS-16) & JUNIOR SCALE **STENOGRAPHER (BPS-14)**

It is for the information of all candidates who have qualified Typing and Shorthand Tests conducted by ETEA for the post of Senior Scale Stenographer (BPS-16) & Junior Scale Stenographer (BPS-14) (Advertisement No. INF(P) 761/2022 dated 06-02-2022 and Corrigendum No. INF(P) 930/22 dated 10-03-2022) are hereby directed to submit their documents (duly attested) within fifteen (15) days alongwith an application addressed to Director General LG & RD, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa containing the following information.

Name	Father Name
CNIC	_ Roll No
Domicile	_ Education
Date of Birth	

Send Documents on Address:

DIRECTORATE GENERAL

Local Government & Rural Development, Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Plot No. 20, Sector B-5, Phase-V. Havatabad, Peshawar

Tel# 091-9219584 INF(P)#2146/24



PHC seeks response from DPO Mardan against police interference

Humayun Khan

High Court (PHC) sought a the counsel Javeed Ghani response from district advocate told the court that officer Mardan and station house purchased land from a perofficers of Saro Shah and Takhtbhai police stations in but during this time, a disa plea regarding police pute arose with Zahid Khan interference and encroach- over the same plot. ment on a citizen's land without a court order in court, and during the pro-

bench comprising Justice petitioner. On June 30, stern actions against the Ijaz Anwar and Justice Ijaz 2024, Zahid Khan, along police officers for not Peshawar Sabi heard the case while (DPO) his client Fakhar Alam had son named Rambil Khan, and panic.

Takht Bhai tehsil of ceedings, Zahid Khan, with district, on the help of police officers, encroached on the disputed ment at and beaten up. two-member land, which belongs to the

gent, attempted to encroach and for their illegal interferon the disputed land and ence. He also requested that harassed the petitioner, the parties be restrained fired shots, and spread fear from interfering with his

The police also registered a case against the petitioner (Fakhar Alam) The matter went to and leveled various charges against him. Similarly, on brother was shot for harass-

with a large police continimplementing court orders land and taking any action against him.

Peshawar City

PHC's divisional bench comprising Justice Ijaz

Anwar and Justice Ijaz Sabi issued notices to the DPO July 2, the petitioner's Mardan and SHO Saro Shah and SHO Takht Bhai seeking their response after The counsel argued for of hearing arguments.



PESHAWAR: Dr. Muhammad Bakhtiar Khan, Secretary of Culture, Tourism, Archaeology and Museums giving away shields at the end of the 3-day conference on "Heritage and Hospitality, Prospects of Archaeology and Tourism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa'' in collaboration with University of Peshawar.

KMU adds 13 imminent research professionals as Professors



F.P. Report

PESAWAR: The Khyber Dr Sami Siraj (KMU) appointed 13 new China, professors including: Dr Mehboob PhD Medical Abdul Jalil Khan, FRCGP Education University of from UK in family medi- Glasgow, cine, Dr Brekhna Jamil PhD University of Dundee Haematology University onboarding in Medical Education, Dr of Glasgow, Dr Zilli Huma foriegn qual Physiology from the Anatomy University of Glasgow, Dr University of Glasgow, Dr Withir Mohsin Shah PhD Sadia Fatima PhD nutri- KMU. Physiology from South tion

dental material Malaysia, University Pharamacology Usman Yasar

Yousafzai University

Korea, Dr Nowshad PhD Glasgow, Dr Fayyaz PhD Public Health KMU, and Dr Shaista Rasool PhD from Public health Edinburg.

Prof Dr Zia Ul Haq, Vice Chancellor KMÜ congratulated and welcomed the distinguished assigned the task of certi-Professors. He said that fying the steps and proceforiegn qualified profes- work-from-home policy Ph.D FCPS surgery and PhD in sionals will enhance the for office staff. An internation the Anatomy from the educational standards ship policy was also introwithin and outside the duced, aimed at encourag-

This will also attract as internship.

research funding, improve university national and global ranking. He said that the newly appointed faculty have great responsibilities on their shoulders but is a great opportunity to contribute and give back to the society. Prof Zia said that KMU continues to provide a platform to Pakistani researchers where they can progress the national research agen-

In addition to the above, the 44th meeting of the Khyber Medical University (KMU) Syndicate, the Vice Chancellor briefed on the preparations for the upcoming MDCAT exam, computer-based examinations and the upcoming launch of the state-of-theart KMU Hospital & Research Centre.

committee of such dures for implementing a standards ship policy was also introing students to join KMU

ATC extends interim bail plea of alleged extortionists F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Terrorism Court (ATC) Peshawar has extended the interim bail of renowned religious scholar Mufti Munir Shakir and his son Abdullah Shakir till 31st August in a case related to terrorism and extortion, Thursday.

During the hearing, Mufti Munir Shakir did not appear in court, while his son Abdullah Shakir was present. According to the prosecution, the accused are alleged to have planted explosives outside the house of a person named Misbah-u-Din on 10th July 2024, in the jurisdiction of Bhanamari police station The blast damaged the main gate of the house, shattered windows, and affected a car parked.

Following the incident, the Bhanamari police registered a case against the accused under the Anti-Terrorism Act. During the hearing, the defense lawyer requested an adjournment, which the court granted, postponing the hearing until 31st August.

ATC Peshawar Judge Muhammad Iqbal Khan also restrained the police from arresting the accused after initial arguments while adjourned hearing till 31st August.

Secretary Industries for allocation of land for cold storage

PESHAWAR Industries Secretary Commerce and Technical Education Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Aamir Afaq directed Small Industries Development Board (SIDB) to allocate land for cold storage in the new industrial estate as a common facilitation centre.

He issued these directives during a briefing here at SIDB headquarters on Thursday. Managing Director (MD) SIDB, Habib Ullah Arif gave him a detailed briefing the operation of the board. Besides, Deputy Fayyaz, Mohammad (Finance) Sher, Assistant Director Attiq-ur-Rehman were also present on the occa-

He said that though traditional industries are running successfully in the province, but there is a need to promote industries in the new sectors also.

He said that the purpose of their efforts is to attract investors towards industrialization and provide them the required facilitation. So, to not only usher economic development rather also generate employment opportunities for the people.

During the briefing MD informed SIDB Secretary Industries that construction work on all new projects particularly Industrial Park Peshawar is in full swing and investors have given robust response in making investment and more response is expected when the results of the construction of the new state are revealed.

Tourism, Cultural activities accentuates prosperity: Bakhtiar vides employment opportu- innovation on modern

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The KP Govt organised 3-day conference "Heritage

Hospitality, Prospects of Archaeology and Tourism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" in collaboration University of Peshawar. As

part of this event, a concluding ceremony was held at the Baragali Summer Campus of Peshawar University, that provided a podium to review the vast opportunities in province's culture tourism, as asserted by the delegates of the conference.

Dr. Muhammad Bakhtiar Khan, Secretary of Culture, Tourism, Archaeology and Museums, was chief guest. Vice-Chancellor While Qazi Muhammad Naeem, academicians from various parts of the country and high ups of KP govt participated in the event, sharing their recommendations and suggestions.

Dr. Bakhtiar on this occasion highlighted the importance of tourism and culture in the national eco-

nities to local people while trends and new technolocurrently a significant portion of the population is employed in tourism and cultural sectors, such as hotels, restaurants, tour guides and handicrafts.

He added that the development of tourist sites and the organization of cultural events attract both local and foreign investment, which stabilizes the overall econo-

increases foreign exchange reserves and strengthens the national economy but also enhances local industries through increased sales of local crafts, cuisine and other cultural products, thereby improving the locals standard of living.

Bakhtiar Khan emphasized that Memorandums Understanding (MoUs) with leading universities can bridge the gap between academia and govt departments including the

gies in the Culture and Tourism Additionally, agreements with universities can lead to the establishment of special training programs and educational courses for those working in the tourism sector, improving skills.

The Secretary Tourism and Culture clarified that based on academia's research and analysis, the The Secretary Culture Department of Tourism further stated that the influx can formulate new poliof foreign tourists not only cies that will contribute in the promotion of the tourism industry and the development of the local economy.

During the conference, 21 research papers were read out, 2 panel discussions were held and 7 keynote speakers discussed various aspects on the

The Secretary Tourism congratulated Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Naeem Qazi, delegates and the organizer Dr. Shakeel, appreciating Department of Tourism and their roles in making the nomic growth. He asserted Culture. He said that the conference a success story. that the promotion of universities research cen- He also distributed shields tourism and culture pro- ters can provide us with among the participants.

KP faces industrial crisis despite local energy abundance: Saifullah **F.P. Report** tial threat due to unsustain- exacerbating the dire situ- ronment where dome:

PESHAWAR: Pakhtunkhwa Eminent business leader, at break-even points. former Senator, and former "The current energy Chairman of the All rates are exorbitant," Khan Pakistan Textile Mills stated. "Our industries are urging immediate federal our industries."

able energy costs. Mr. Khyber Salim Khan highlighted (KP), a that the provincial governprovince rich in energy ment appears unresponsive resources, is grappling to the severe challenges with a severe industrial cri-confronting KP's industrial sis due to exorbitant ener- sector. He emphasized that gy costs, with over 75% of the high cost of gas and local textile spinning units electricity is rendering currently non-operational. operations unviable, even

Association (APTMA) & not 'sick' but are being suf-Pakhtunkhwa focated by the high costs Textile Mills Association of utilities. The provincial (KPTMA), Salim Saifullah government seems to be in afloat. concern over the situation, the severe issues faced by

Despite KP's self-sufficiency in gas and the announced plans to disclosed?" Khan questioned. oritize this crisis and take capacity to produce cheap- connect gas supplies to He highlighted that for- decisive steps to prevent er electricity, local indus- captive power producers eign investors are unlikely further economic tries are facing an existen- starting January 2024, to be entired by an envi- social deterioration.

ation. Khan noted that this industries are battling decision, coupled with the severe constraints. Senate Committee's revelion lost to power theft in unemployment agement and neglect.

through global solicita- climate. tions, domestic industries are struggling to stay need for immediate and afloat. "How can we effective measures to revi-Khan, has expressed grave a state of denial regarding expect foreign investors to talize the industrial sector, take interest when domestic businesses are failing, Adding to the crisis, the and 50-60% of industrial political leadership and

The closure of factories

lation of over Rs. 100 bil- has led to widespread Punjab, underscores a retrenchment, contributing broader issue of misman- to a rise in street crimes

and social instability Khan further criticized Khan called for urgent the federal and provincial action from both the federgovernments for their con- al and provincial governtradictory stance: while ments to address the efforts are being made to industrial crisis and attract foreign investment improve the investment

Khan emphasized the protect jobs, and stabilize the economy. He urged the

1200 drop out girls to be provided scholarships

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: As many as 1200 scholarships for girls has been initiated for completion of their matriculation free of cost between the ages of 13 and 18 who have dropped out of education are eligible. Applications can be submitted until September 5th.

This is initiated by VSO and MYR Program in the three districts of Peshawar, Nowshera, and Charsadda, a scholarship scheme has been announced for 1200 girls aged 13-18 who have dropped out of education due to various reasons. Afghan refugee girls are especially eligible for this scholarship, which will allow them to complete their matriculation free of

cost.

In this regard, an agreement has been signed the Multi-Year Resilience Participatory Rural Development Society. Interested girls can submit their applications to avail

from Peshawar, Nowshera, and Charsadda will be given free admission to the matriculation 2-year course through Allama Iqbal Open University's distance learning system.
They can apply until
September 5th.

The purpose of this initiative is to encourage girls and various cultural barri- build a better future.

in maintaining transparency

in the province's economic

Governor Faisal Karim

Kundi in a meeting with a

Ultralight Club and Sports

Flying Club, led by pilot Qazi Tufail, included Qazi

Saijad, Azad Khan, and

During the meeting, Governor Kundi praised the

club for its positive activi-

ties and expressed that the

club's promotion could

attract global attention to the

Naghman

affairs.

Meanwhile,

four-member

Babar Khan.

province.

between the international Program, these girls will volunteer organization also be provided with free VSO, Allama Iqbal Open books. Admission forms University, and the and prospectuses can be obtained free of charge from the regional office of the relevant university. Interested girls can sub-

of the scholarships.

This year, 1200 girls along with the form to the Allama Iqbal University's Peshawar office by September 5th. After scrutinizing all the information and shortlisting, deserving girls will be given scholarships for 2 years to cover their fees.

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage girls in the relevant diswho have dropped out of tricts to pursue education education due to poverty, and motivate them to conlack of access to schools, tinue their education to

Managing Directors (DMDs) Zulfikar Ali Kundi urges transparent Sahibzada and Nauman use of funds Director

PESHAWAR (APP): Accountant General's Office Khyber Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday highlighted the importance of ensuring transparent use of

funds for good governance

in the province.

The Governor said this in a meeting with Nasiruddin Sarwar, the Accountant Khyber General of Pakhtunkhwa here Governor House.

During the meeting, Sarwar briefed Governor on the performance of his office.

The discussions focused on financial matters, emphasizing the correct and transparent use of public funds.

uplift of all sectors.

significant role of

He acknowledged the The audit systems for club's efforts to continue its public sector universities activities despite challengand provincial institutions were also discussed.

ing conditions, noting that such initiatives could pres-Governor Kundi on this ent Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in occasion said that transpara new and positive light to ent use of funds for good the international communigovernance in the province is need of the hour for the

The Governor assured that every effort would be He acknowledged the made to address and resolve the the club's challenges

The delegation briefed the Governor on the club's history, explaining that it was established in 2009 and the operated from the Peshawar University Botanical Garden in Aza Khel until

delegation They mentioned that the club currently has 35 members and 8 to 10 aircraft. Governor Kundi assured the delegation that he would ensure solutions to their problems are found.

Similarly, Prof. Engineer Javed Farooqi, CEO of Professional Education Foundation Karachi, and Education Prof. Mala Khan Haidri Educationist from Punjab called on Governor Faisal Karim Kundi here to discuss issues and potential solutions related to the promotion of education across the

country. During the meeting, Governor Kundi emphasized the need for attention not only to universities in Peshawar but also to those in southern and northern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

moistened smokeless tobacco product also called as study was to investigate the 'moist snuf', has claimed constituents of the most finding of an array of harm- commonly ful substances including naswar brands, he added. nicotine, heavy metals, aflagenic potential.

Less use in Pakistan. The study is conducted

with the support of Industrial

Muhammad Pakhtunkhwa including chemical compounds in Peshawar, Mardan, Hazara, naswar samples. Kohat, DI Khan, Bannu, and

research study on biochemi- each division were collected the highest area% of nicocal composition of Naswar, using a purposive sampling tine was 97 % in the Na type of finely ground, technique.

The objective of the consumed

Smokeless tobacco (ST) toxin constituents with use is a growing public proven toxic and carcino- health concern with an estimated 360 million users On basis of finding con- across the globe of which, tents of Naswar, the study more than 90 % live in the recommended an urgent South Asian region. In need to enact and implement Pakistan with an estimated Tobacco 8% of the population using pounds (benzoic acid, 2-eth-constituent. Control policies to curb its different ST products including Paan, Gutkha, and

Naswar. While Naswar use is Research, Innovation and mostly common among the pound frequently reported Commercialization (ORIC), ethnic Pashtun population Khyber Medical University of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from (1.64–9.78 %), the (KMU) and Pakistan (KP) province, wherein Council of Scientific and around 15 % of the general Research population uses According to a study, in Sharing findings of the Peshawar, the capital city of Supervisor Dr KP, around 60 % of the total Shazad tobacco users consume informed APP that the study naswar. The researchers is conducted in all seven while using GC-MS analy-Khyber sis identified 85 different

A total of 14 most-sold in all samples. Depending group 1 compounds that are ties.

Hexane extract while the lowest area% (26.1 %) was humans. found in the ethanolic

Study finds nicotine, toxic, carcinogenic

substances in Naswar

isolated in naswar samples, ingredients that are consid-23 are classified as haz- ered hazardous for human ardous and harmful to consumption. For example, humans. The majority of the nicotine, a well-known alkahazardous and toxic con- loid in tobacco that is linked stituents were from car- to addiction and health risks boxylic (cotinine, norcotinine, 1,3-Diethylurea) and diseases and cancer was the polyaromatic group of com- most common chemical ylhexyl ester, Benzene, 4-

ethyl-1,2-dimethyl-). Urea, N, N-diethyl- was the major hazardous comin eight samples ranging study divulged.

Of all the organic and heavy detected in naswar samples, five constituents are carcinogenic based on the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classification.

These include chromium, ples raises important quesnickel, tungsten, antimony, tions. It could indicate aduland lead. As per IARC clas- teration of other plant prod-Nicotine was the most sification, nickel and ucts containing ampheta-common constituent present chromium are classified as mines with similar proper-

PESHAWAR (APP): A brands of naswar, two from on the extraction solvent, carcinogenic in humans. Tungsten, antimony, and lead are in group 2A which are probably carcinogenic in In the current study.

naswar samples also exhibit Of all the compounds considerable compositional including cardiovascular

Another interesting finding of this study was the identification of ethylamphetamine carbamate in naswar samples.

Ethylamphetamine carbamate is an amphetamine derivative and is classified as a drug with addiction and metal elements abuse potential. If ingested, it may induce hallucinations, cardiac arrhythmias, blurred vision, and a strong feeling of intoxication.

The presence of amphetamine in these naswar sam-



FC continues relief operation

QUETTA (INP): Frontier Corps Balochistan continues its massive rescue and relief operation in areas of the province which was been adversely affected due to floods caused by monsoon rains. The flashfloods caused heavy damages to properties resulting in dis-placement of the residents of the affected areas. In district Dera Bugti, Suhbatpur, Sui, Dera Allah Yar, and nearby areas, a large number of residents remained stranded and without shelter. The Frontier Corps continues rescue and relief operations in the floodhit areas besides organizing a free medical camp for flood victims, providing them with essential medical care. It also provided tents and ration to the affected families in Sui and Dera Bugti besides distributing free ration packages to needy families, ensuring their access to basic necessi-

Shutter down strike observed F.P. Report

WANA: A large protest rally was held in the border town of Azam Warsak as residents voiced their outrage over ongoing unrest, terrorism, and what they described as indiscriminate nighttime firing. The protest, which saw participation from all sections of the local community, led to a complete shutdown of businesses in the area as demonstrators took to the streets. Prominent leaders from various political factions addressed the rally, including Noor Zaman of the Awami National Party (ANP), Dr. Hussain, Malik Nazar Shah, Khanzada of the Tehreek-e-Pakistan Insaf, Hayat Khan of National Democratic Movement (NDM), and Taj Muhammad Wazir. The speakers condemned hat they termed as institutions attempts to reignite conflict in the region, accusing them of trying to profit from the bloodshed of the Pashtun people. The speakers also highlighted the deep-rooted patriotism of the tribal people. Following the rally, a committee of local elders engaged in negotiations with security forces and police officials to address the community's concerns. The protest reflects growing tensions in Waziristan, where residents have long been caught in the crossfire of larger geopolitical struggles, and it underscores the fragile state of peace in

Gas connections disconnected

the region.

LODHRAN (INP): The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited Pipelines (SNGPL) UFG Control Task Force conducted raids and disconnected eight more connections including two over using gas for commercial purposes without permission, across the region. According to details, two domestic meters were found to be used for commercial purposes. One was located at Hafeez Hospital in Mian Channu and the other in Multan. Both were disconnected, and further departmental action was r e c o m m e n d e d Additionally, three consumers' meters were found to be tampered with including two in Khanewal, and one in Multan. All three meters disconnected. Moreover, three consumers with non-billing meters had their meters confiscated, and departmental action was recommended. These consumers were from Dunyapur and Multan. Further actions included disconnection of illegal extensions for five consumers who were supplying gas to more than one household.

Koki Khel tribe block Arrangement for Governor Pak-Afghan highway



F.P. Report

JAMRUD: The tribesmen of Koki Khel demanded repatriation of Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) of Rajgal, Tirah Valley to their homes in a protest sitin, initiated at Pak-Afghan road at Bugyari checkpost, Jamrud on Thursday.

Because of the protest the Pak-Afghan highway was suspended for all kinds of traffic at the checkpoint. It is to be mentioned here that the Koki Khel tribe wanted repatriation of their IDPs to their home towns in

Bugyari checkpoint and inifavor of their demands.

sion head of the protesthree weeks and jirgas had but to in avail.

IDPs of Rajgal gathered at IDPs other areas, he added The protestors went on that tiated a protest sit-in on the they wanted a peaceful Pak-Afghan main highway solution of the issue and blocking it for traffic in expected the concerned authorities to address their Speaking on the occa- matter on priority basis.

Until acceptance of tors, Naseer Ahmad Koki their demands they will Khel said that they had not resume the Pakbeen agitating for the last Afghan road, they threatened. On the other hand been conducted with high due to blockade export authorities including Chief and import was halted and Minister of Pakhtunkhwa supply of edibles to Landi Kotal, Ali Masjid and Our co-tribesmen IDPs other areas was suspended serving their lives under at Pak-Afghan road and poverty therefore it is their the passengers utilized an Rajgal, Tirah Valley.

Hundreds of Koki Khel
tribesmen from different
walks of life including
right to repatriate them with honor and extend them financial support for their property loss as granted to

Parents asked to administer anti-polio drops to children

Sahibzada Afridi

KOHAT: Deputy Commissioner Kohat Abdul Akram Chitrali has appealed polio drops to their children under 5 years of age for protecting them from permanent disability and also cooperate with the polio teams in this regard.

He made this appeal meeting of the District Eradication Committee in his office today. ADC Kohat Hamid Iqbal, DPO Umar Khan and officers of other relevant departments attended the meeting.

The meeting was briefed in detail on the anti-polio plain of action. It was told the age of 5 years will be still existing in our country, patients, improve the public given polio vaccinations in so elimination of it is our services and cleanliness the 5-day anti-polio cam- top most priority. paign to be held from September 9 to 13, for Commissioner

which 1057 teams have Division syed Motasim been formed.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the author- Kohat ities concerned to ensure Chitrali has under the Chief the parents to administer security of the polio Minister teams to make the cam- Pakhtunkhwa's paign a success in all respects. He also directed District the district administration Hospital and other government Thursday. On this occasion, departments to fully he inspected different cooperate with the health wards, including the emerwhile presiding over the department during the gency, and reviewed the meeting of the District polio campaign and main-stock of medicines, cleanlitain close contact.

Deputy Commissioner ments. said that it is our national responsibility to make the directed the authorities conpolio campaign a success cerned to provide better and everyone should play treatment facilities to the his role in this regard. He patients and ensure timely added that the epidemic of attendance of the medical polio has been eradicated from the entire world, but ther directed to keep the that 213,673 children under unfortunately, its virus is staff behaving well with the

Meanwhile. Kohat the hospital

Deputy Commissioner Abdul Khyber Program "Awami Agenda" visited Headquarters Kohat

Billah Shah along with the

ness and other arrange Commissioner Kohat staff in the hospital. He fur-

conditions so that general

public can be facilitated in

Quality education only guarantee for uplift

LOWER DIR: The additional deputy commissioner Bashir Khan has urged students to focus on getting quality education for a bright future. He said that confidence is created by encouraging children.

"There is no lack of tal-Khel, but they need proper guidance", he said this pants of while addressing 'Da Storey of Sultankhel', a prize distribution

students at Toormang as that these kinds of prochief guest here on grams where students were Thursday. Director Local Government positive Amir Nizam Durrani, Lady among the students and the

Lamp College Director desire to advance one Mehmood Zeb, Village another. without education, the Council Chairman Anwar dream of development ul Haque and others also nations and countries in the could not be realized, self- addressed the function. world had developed Schools' heads, teachers because of quality educaand children of all the tion as it was a key that schools of the area were opened all the closed doors ent in the children of Sultan present in large numbers.

the Additional ceremony and

arranged for position holder Aamir Nizam Durrani said Assistant encouraged, always created

They said that all the of development. The guests Addressing the partici- also distributed shields and event, trophies among position Deputy holder students of grade 9th Commissioner Bashir Khan and 10th who belonged to Assistant Director union council Toormang.

FANSA discusss sanitation services resource allocation

F.P. Report

MARDAN: The Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA) Pakistan chapter held a significant discussion in Mardan, focusing on resource allocation for sanitation services. The event, which took place at a local hotel, was chaired by City Mayor Mr. Himayat Ullah and included participation from elected City Council representatives, local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and the Director of Water and Sanitation Services Company Mardan

The discussion highlighted the pressing need for proper resource allocation to ensure the safe management of sanitation services in the city. In response, the City Council announced an initial allocation of PKR 1 million for sanitation services. While acknowledging that this amount is insufficient to meet all the city's needs, the council emphasized that this allocation represents a crucial first step in addressing the sanitation challenges facing Mardan.

Mayor Himayat Ullah stressed the importance of developing a comprehenbut also ensures these resources are utilized effectively. The mayor mentioned that a draft sanitation policy would be created, and a stakeholder meeting would be organized to finalize the docu-

ment once it is ready. Syed Shah Nasir Khisro, Regional



Co-Convener of FANSA, assured the City Mayor of FANSA's full support in drafting the policy. He praised the City Council's commitment to improving sanitation services, noting that this step sive resource allocation policy that not only identifies diverse funding sources more sustainable environment for the

citizens of Mardan. This discussion marks a significant move towards prioritizing sanitation services in Mardan, demonstrating the local government's dedication to addressing public health and environmental sustainability.

F.P. Report

BUNER: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Buner chapter workers finalized arrangements for the visit of Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi scheduled on Monday, this is announced by Secretary Information.

PPP secretary information Abdul Waris Khan that added Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, PPP Provincial President Muhammad Ali Shah Bacha along with other party leaders are coming to Buner on August 26. The people of Buner will accord warm welcome to their beloved leaders, he shared.

He has said in statement that on Monday, August 26, the governor along with the provincial leadership of the Pakhtunkhwa Party will reach Shalbandi House, the residence of the district president of PPP Buner and former candidate of National Assembly Yusuf Ali Khan, where he will meet the party workers and to address too.

While the district chap-ter president Yusuf Ali Khan on behalf of the party leadership of Buner will inform the Governor and party leadership regarding the issues of Buner, problems and difficulties being faced by peoples for long and the performance of the party as well. PPP is the only political party in the country that speaks to the common people and the governor and party leadership will focus in the issues of local peoples,

Attack on renowned singer flayed F.P. Report

TANK: The poets, singers and social figures have strongly condemned the attack on renowned Pashto singer Atta Khan in Dera Ismail Khan. Atta Khan was driving in his car to Dera Ismail Khan (DIK) when more than a dozen armed persons interrupted his way near Geloti area of DIK on main Indus highway and opened indiscriminate fire at his car. Luckily, Atta Khan managed his unhurt escape from the scene. Local police officials have confirmed the mishap and noted that the incident was being investigated further.

The attack on the internationally renowned singer has led the social circles to strongly criticize the government for deteriorating law and order situation in the region and taking no steps to protect the lives and properties of music artists.

Another singer from the restive South Waziristan Shoukat Aziz said that attack on Atta Khan was an attack on all music artists of the south KP. "The incident is heart wrenching for all music artists and multiplied the worries of musicians in the area" Shoukat Aziz noted. The Pashto literary schol-

ar and poet Munawar Ghamkhwar has said that singers are the ambassadors of peace and Atta Khan has always promoted love and peace through his melodious voice. "Such attacks on our pride singers are actually the attack on our peace and cul-Ghamkhwar maintained. The social activist Nageeb Sherani said that such attacks are aimed at suppressing the voices for social rights and cultural promotion. The social and cultural circles of the region have demanded of the government to take notice of the incident and initiate concrete steps for the security and safety of the music artists. It is worthy to mention that Atta Khan is a multilingual singer from DIK district of KP, who has performed in different Asian and European countries and has been awarded numerous pride of performance awards.

2 shot dead

GHOTKI (INP): Two people were shot dead by unidentified armed men Khanpur railway near crossing in Ghotki on Thursday.

The slain persons were identified as Islam and Bachal Gabool, resident of Soomro Moori area of Khanpur Mehr. Police said the motorcycle riding accused managed to escape after firing while police is chasing them.

SIAL alert to tackle visit to Buner finalized Mpox, takes all measures F.P. Report fied its cleaning and disining the Ministry of Health

are encouraged to use them

frequently. Additionally, all

platforms, including digital

Monkeypox, its symptoms,

take appropriate precau-

Sialkot

hygiene protocols.

informed,

SIALKOT: Sialkot International Airport is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all pas-sengers, staff, and visitors amid the global concerns over the Monkeypox outbreak. In light of recent developments, the airport has implemented a series of stringent precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the virus and maintain a safe environment for everyone. Sialkot International Airport has started health screenings for all incoming passen-

Thermal scanners have been installed at all entry points to monitor body temperature, and medical conduct further assessments if necessary. Passengers exhibiting symptoms consistent with Monkeypox will be promptly isolated and provided with the necessary medical

The airport has intensi- health authorities, includ- ments.

fied its cleaning and disining the Ministry of Health fection routines, with a and the World Health focus on high-touch areas Organization (WHO), to such as check-in counters, stay updated on the latest security checkpoints, restguidelines and recommenrooms, and boarding gates. dations. Hand sanitizing boxes have

This partnership ensures been placed throughout the that Sialkot International terminal, and passengers Airport remains at the forefront of implementing best practices to safeguard airport staff are equipped public health. Passengers with personal protective are advised to stay equipment (PPE) and are informed about travel trained to follow strict advisories and follow the guidance provided by keep passengers health authorities.

Anyone feeling unwell International Airport has or exhibiting symptoms of launched an awareness Monkeypox is urged to postpone travel and seek campaign across various medical advice. Sialkot screens, social media, and International in-flight announcements, remains dedicated to pro-The campaign provides viding a safe and secure teams are on standby to critical information about travel experience for all. The health and safety of our and preventive measures, passengers, staff, and comensuring that passengers munity are our top prioriare well-informed and can ties, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely, adjusting our meas-The airport is closely ures as necessary to collaborating with national respond to any develop-

Dept directed to speed up work on irrigation channel



F.P. Report

LOWER DIR: Taking notice of farmers' complaint, deputy Muhammad. Tayyab Saeed and engineer visited the Balambat Irrigation Channel and repair work.

briefed him about the proj-

ect on this occasion. He said the Balambat Irrigation er so that the work could be Channel was a 76-km long channel that irrigated a total of 11363 acres of land in a letter will be sent to the the Lower Dir district. provincial government to According to the official Rs 40 million has been ear- remaining work. marked for expansion and

kilometer work had been completed.

Muhammad Arif Khan would also be constructed channel could not be com-along with Additional at Odigram. The Deputy pleted during the last two Deputy Commissioner Jan Commissioner checked the years. executive ongoing expansion and engineer irrigation Shahid repair work at Khal, with Additional Deputy Khan, SDO Irrigation Akhagram and Sacha Bela Commissioner (Finance sites. He directed the offi-Nizam Khan on Thursday cials of irrigation depart- Muhammad and SDO comment to expedite the expansion and repair work on the examined the ongoing channel to ease the difficulty of lical farmers. The DC The XEN irrigation also instructed the consultant to increase the number of machinery and manpowcompleted within the required time. He said that

said that 3 km out of 10 plaining that due to closure of the channel they have suffered hard. According to The XEN told that one the farmers, repair and Commissioner kilometer long tunnel extension work on the

> Planning) and munication and works Sajjad Khan visited the Timergara Khwar road and Timergara Jail to Mian Banda road and checked

the ongoing work.
The DC directed the concerned officials that Timergara beautification projects should be implemented as soon as possible. He also directed the SDO, release funds for the C&W to complete the Jail to Mian Banda under con-The local residents and struction road and sprinkle repair of the channel. He farmers have been com- water on the road daily.

NPM hold protest against lack of drainage system

F.P. Report

SHAHDADKOT: National People's Movement (NPM) held protest and sit-in in against the lack of drainage of rainwater in Naseerabad

city.
Addressing the central leader of the Awami Mov-Mughiri, Mohsin Raza Kalhoro, Inamullah and others protested and said that despite the passing of the last five days, the administration has failed to doll. drain the rainwater from the the urban roads is a prob- towns

diseases have various front of the town committee rain water, due to which to New Deru collided with many children are admitted to hospitals, but the management of the town committee has turned a blind eye while the annual budgement, Comrade Zamir et of the town committee is 57 crores despite the city being dirty. A heap has formed and the chairman of the town committee has

been made to sit just like a

Shahdadkot district, 2 peolem. Shahdadkot district, 2 peo-They further said that ple died and 6 others were injured. 4 people were spread among innocent injured, while a high-speed children due to stagnant car traveling from Qambar a tree standing on the road near Bye- Pass, Bahamu Kolhi died on the leg, while Ajit Kumar was seriously injured on the other side due to a money issue near Warah 65-year-old Somer Khan was killed due to an ax attack due to the conflict between the parties, while two people each other, Nazir Soomro and Rehmat Meanwhile, as a result of were seriously injured and city, while passing through road accidents in different were taken to the hospital Qamber for medical treatment.

Police held six alleged culprits, recovered 23 motorcycles

F.P. Report

TOBA TEK SINGH: Police arrested six alleged culprits including gang leader of motorcycle lifting and recovered 23 motorbikes in the premises of Gojra police station,

on Thursday.
On the Orders of conducting operations against the criminal elements. DPO Ibadat Nisar has given the task of tracinvolved

in different areas of the District Toba Tek Singh. Station House officer

Zubair Khalid, police station headed by DSP Gojra Akhtar Ali, formed a team dent of Housing Colony. of police officers who, Moreover, 23 stolen acting on the information of the informer and with ered from their possesthe help of modern tech-District Police Officer nology, arrested 6 accused tion, the accused revealed Toba Tek Singh, police are of the motorcycle theft that they had committed gang, including the ring-

leader, The alleged culprits identified as Shiraz resiin Muzammil resident of progress.

motorcycle theft incidents Shah Alam colony, Amjad resident of Chak No. 297 JB, Babar resident of Saad Town, Qasim resident of Dastgeer Colony and Muhammad Ahmed resi-

motorcycles were recovsion. During the interrogaseveral incidents of motorcycle theft in the police station area of City Gojra. Further interrogaing out and arresting the dent of Sardar colony, tion of the accused is in





KHARTOUM: Cholera patients receiving treatment at a rural isolation centre in Wad al-Hilu in Kassala state, eastern Sudan

Nigerians outraged by president's new plane

plane was bought for President Bola Tinubu at a time when the economy is two weeks after thousands took to the 6 aircraft's already?" streets across the country to protest at rising hunger and the cost of living.

Elected last year to lead Africa's most populous country, Mr Tinubu has introduced several economic fuel subsidies, which have contributed to high inflation, currently over 30%. President Tinubu said the reforms were necessary to cut government spending and stimulate longterm growth. In January, the Nigerian president announced a 60% reduction in the size of official travel delegations, including his own entourage. However, the president departed for France using a newly acquired Airbus A330, which has become the latest addition to the presidential fleet of more than five aircraft. The cost of the plane has not been disclosed, and was buying a new plane for the pres- fuel costs, running into millions of response.

LAGOS (BBC): Many Nigerians ident. "Wait so despite the Tinubu led dollars yearly," the statement read in have reacted with outrage after a new Government telling Nigerians to bear part. The new presidential jet was the economic hardship and wait for a better tomorrow, they were busy payexperiencing its worst crisis in a gening cash for a new private Jet to add eration. The purchase comes less than to the presidential fleet that has over

Another X user @RealOlaudah was even more angry. "Let's tell our-selves the truth. Tinubu's new Airbus presidential aircraft purchase for N150 billion at a time of penury, reforms, including the removal of hunger, and want shows how wicked, selfish, self-indulgent, and insensitive to the plight of the average Nigerian However, really is." @Timi_The_Law says he supports the president's decision as the plane is of its planes. In June, lawmakers recnot personal but belongs to the office of the president. "Tinubu's decision to buy a new plane is the right one. The plane belongs to the office of the president, and future presidents will enjoy it," he posted. It is not known if lawmakers approved the purchase, which was not mentioned in this trillion naira (\$18bn; £14bn) to 35.06 year's budget. In a statement on X, President Tinubu's media aide Bayo nor has the reason for his trip. X user Onanuga said the new plane would @Fdmlearn said it wasn't right that actually save money. "The new plane, reached out to the Senate President Nigerians were being told to undergo bought far below the market price, and the Office of the National economic pain while the government saves Nigeria huge maintenance and Security Adviser but is yet to get a

recently released to the Nigerian government after it was seized by a Chinese firm, Zhangson Investment Co. Limited, which obtained a Paris court order to seize some Nigerian government assets following an investment dispute with Ogun state in south-west Nigeria.

The 15-year-old plane is said to have an elaborate configuration for VIPs and replaces the country's 19year-old Boeing BBJ 737-700. Nigerian officials have previously said that the presidential fleet had a high maintenance cost due to the age ommended the purchase of two new aircraft for the president and his deputy, saying the old ones were not

Last month, lawmakers passed a supplementary budget, which sought to raise the 2024 budget from 28.7 trillion naira. It is not known if the purchase of the new plane was included in this budget. The BBC has

'The honour of my life': Walz accepts VP nomination at DNC WASHINGTON: Tim Walz rights, adding that in his hear him, don't count the stunned silence, a sharp has formally accepted his experience most Americans nomination to be the considered such issues to 78-year-old Clipton told the applicance throughout the stunned silence, a sharp has formally accepted his experience most Americans nomination to be the considered such issues to 78-year-old Clipton told the applicance throughout the stunned silence, a sharp world read week and is week and is world readin Organization (WHO) declared mpox a the region," said IOM determine the strain, health global public health emergency, it said the outbreak on the region, agency, age

Democrats vice presiden- be private matters. "We candidate November's US election, the personal choices that rallying the the party faith- they make," he said of his

ful in Chicago with a mes- Midwestern community. sage of freedom and hope.

life to accept your nomina-selves, we have one rule: tion for vice president of the United States," Walz ness." The crowd, many said, as he took to the stage holding "Coach Walz" banat the end of the third day ners in reference to his of the Democratic National Convention. "What all we're all here tonight for Freedom was the theme of one beautiful, simple reather the third day of the convenemenged as the Democrats' son. We love this country." Walz, the 60-year-old gov- naries such as former ernor of Minnesota, was a President Bill Clinton takrelative unknown until ing the stage, as well as Kamala Harris picked him celebrities from singers as her running mate just Stevie Wonder to John over two weeks ago.

upbringing in a town of just ity Oprah Winfrey. 400 people in Nebraska, his service with the National overwhelmingly one of as a teacher. He stressed the endorsed Harris and Walz, importance of preserving there were also plenty of personal freedoms, taking a swipes at Trump who was the US Capitol to try and she will speak to the conswipe at Republicans who portrayed as vain and self- block Biden's 2020 victory. vention on its final night

in respect our neighbours and "And even if we would not 'It's the honour of my make those choices for our-'Mind your own damn busiyears coaching football, cheered and waved. tion with Democratic lumi-Legend to comedian Mindy Walz talked of his Kaling and media personal-

While the message was have rolled back abortion obsessed. "Next time you The delegates sat in - Aljazeera

the stage. She rallied the assault, vote. "I'm calling on all you "Values and character matter in leadership and in life. Republicans the ballot in 2024." Harris ed to "dump Trump". President Joe from 2017 to 2021.

supporters to be strong and formally accept her nomifight before they stormed nation on Thursday when

crowd. There were deafen- night. Olivia Troye, who ing cheers as Winfrey, who quit her White House later described herself as an national security job under independent, walked onto Trump after the Capitol crowd with a powerful Republican candidate was endorsement of democracy laying the groundwork to and the need to get out the undermine the 2024 election. Geoff Duncan, the independents and all you former lieutenant governor undecideds," Winfrey said. of Georgia, spoke directly to the camera to tell fellow Decency and respect are on from home that they needyou vote for Kamala Harris candidate last month after in 2024, you're not a Biden Democrat. You're a patristepped aside. The conven- ot," he said. Democrat tion has also featured a Nancy Pelosi, who was number of Republicans House speaker at the time who have turned against of the Capitol assault, said: Trump, who was president "Let us not forget who assaulted democracy on The Democrats put the January 6: He did. But let spotlight on January 6, us not forget who saved 2021, with a video that democracy that day: We Guard and his experience optimism as the speakers showed Trump calling on did." Harris, 59, is due to

China's fresh urbanisation push may thwart 'birth-friendly society' goal HONG KONG/BEIJING announced plans to build a rise on factors such as stress China's birth rates are also

> driving young people "to impact on economic growth the most birth-unfriendly than continuing urbanisabig cities, which will lead tion as they could improve to a continued decline in birth rates, they say. "The fertility and exacerbate the population size is always a ageing crisis," said Yi multiplier" in the economy, Fuxian, a demographer at said Samir KC, professor at of the Asian Demographic Institute suppression of fertility rates Shanghai University. To by population density is a have a stable population, biological law." This phe-countries need fertility rates nomenon has been most of 2.1. That means that for evident in east Asia. Japan, every woman like Meng South Korea and Taiwan who only raises one child, urbanised and industri- another would need to have alised at a faster pace than three. Poppy Yu, 21, who most other economies post- works at film production

NZ's White Island volcano erupts

WELLINGTON: White Island volcano in New Zealand has erupted sending a huge plume of ash into the sky and grounding a number of flights. National carrier Air New Zealand said 10 flights were cancelled on Thursday as volcanic ash drifted across flight paths at some domestic airports.

Government scientists warned that Whakaari, as it's known to the country's Indigenous Maori, could continue for "weeks to months" to come. The volcanic island lies about 50km off New Zealand's North Island and 200km from Auckland, the country's largest city. Once a popular tourist destination, it has been off limits since 2019, when a massive eruption of ash and steam killed 22 people who were visiting the island as part of a cruise. Satellite images showed "minor eruptive activity" started earlier in the month, research institute GNS Science said in a monitoring bulletin.

GNS said The believed the latest activity was part of the "typical eruptive cycles" documented on Whakaari. "This activity could continue for some time, weeks to they said. Scientists said some people on New Zealand's main islands might smell volcanic gas or suffer mild irritation to their eyes or throats, although the effect was likely to be minor. New Zealand raised its volcanic alert level earlier this month to three, out of a maximum of five levels. -

Five bodies retrieved

SICILY: Divers searching the wreck of a superyacht that sank off Sicily have found the bodies of five passengers and are searching for one more as questions intensify about why the vessel sank so quickly when a nearby sailremained largely unscathed. Rescue crews unloaded three body bags from rescue vessels that pulled into port at Porticello.

Salvatore Cocina, head of the Sicily civil protection Mike Lynch and his 18-yearold daughter Hannah were among those found inside one of the vessel's cabins between two mattresses, The

Telegraph reported. The Bayesian, a 56-metre 184-foot) British-flagged yacht, went down in a storm as it was moored about a kilometre (a half-mile) offshore. Civil protection officials said they believed the ship was struck by a tornado over the water, known as a waterspout, and sank quickly. Fifteen people escaped in a lifeboat and were rescued by a nearby sailboat. One body was recovered - that of the yacht's Antigua-born chef, Recaldo Thomas. Lynch, 59. was one of the United Kingdom's best-known tech entrepreneurs and had invited friends to join him on the yacht to celebrate his recent acquittal in a fraud trial in the United States.

Besides Lynch and his daughter, the other people unaccounted for after the disaster were Judy and Jonathan Bloomer, a non-executive chair of Morgan Stanley International; and Clifford lawyer Chris Chance Morvillo and his wife, Neda Morvillo. The yacht remains lying sideways on the seabed a, 50 metres (164 feet) underwater - a depth that required special precautions that complicated the recovery work. Divers are only able to stay in the vessel for 8-10 minutes before having to resurface. Investigators from Termini Imerese Public Prosecutor's Office were acquiring evidence for their criminal investigation, which they opened immediately after the tragedy, even though no formal suspects have been publicly identified.

Questions abound about what caused the superyacht, which was built in 2008 by Italian shipyard Perini Navi, to sink so quickly, when the nearby Sir Robert Baden Powell sailboat was largely spared and managed to rescue the 15 survivors. Experts want to know about the position of the keel, which on a large sailboat such as the Bayesian might have been retractable, to is said to have witnessed the allow it to enter shallower death of four other eleports, or if a freak waterphants, including his own spout struck the vessel and calf which was less than a simply pushed it onto its month old. – Aljazeera

against judicial overhaul in Mexico MEXICO CITY (AP): have voiced concerns that which will take office Sept. selecting judges by popular vote would put politically Morgan Stanley down-

Pressure mounts

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is facing mounting pressure against his controversial proposal to overhaul the Mexican judicial system, which would have judges be elected. Judges and magistrates joined a strike begun early this week by federal court employees to oppose the al court buildings, and the proposal, while Morgan rallies grew with judges Stanley and other financial institutions warned that the overhaul could pose serious ered under tents chanting ment that markets were market consequences and risks for potential investors in Mexico.

In a response to rising criticism, President-elect Claudia Sheinbaum joined her political ally López Obrador in defending the proposal. "Investors shouldn't be worried. On the contrary, we will have a better justice system in Mexico," Sheinbaum said. López Obrador, a populist leader whose six-year term ends Sept. 30, has long been at odds with Mexican courts. He contends judges are part of a "mafia" against

him, and says the proposal is meant to clean up corruption. He has gone on winding rants against the judicial system, ignored court orders and publicly sparred with judges whose rulings he has disagreed with. Among the changes sought by the López Obrador it to have judges be elected and

biased judges on the bench and deal a blow to checks and balances. The striking court employees also fear the measure could put their

danger. careers Thousands of employees have camped outside feder-The demonstrators gathand holding protest signs, with Mexicans with court appointments turned away. "It could do damage to

society," said Fernando

Rangel Rami?rez, a federal judge on strike. He said the politicized. There should be enough experience." The the periodic electoral National Association of change of majority and Circuit Magistrates and solidly counterbalanced District Judges said the governments," Citibanamex strike will go on indefinitely, until the president's proposal with "its many imperfections" is blocked. The group said it hopes to redi-"public discussion address the structural causes that have been steadily only federal courts not affected by the strike are allow virtually anyone with a few Justice of the Nation and forums for debate on the years experience as a the Electoral Tribunal, the lawyer to become a judge group said. The only cases concerns about the plan and through popular vote. that will be taken are those said Morgan Stanley and Given major electoral wins considered "urgent." The others might be "misin-by López Obrador's proposal will need to be formed." "Their invest-

1 with Morena and its allies holding a majority.

graded its recommendation for investing in Mexico this week because of the proposal. "We believe replacing the judicial system should increase risk" for investments in Mexico, it said in a report released. Those concerns were and magistrates joining in. echoed by Citibanamex, which warned in a stateunderestimating the "serious implications" of the proposal, given the Morena party's firm control of both the executive and legislative branches of government. "The contours of this judicial branch "is an insti-ruling, which are already tution that historically, and evident, could mean the in its nature, should not be cancellation of liberal democracy, based on the people in it that have rule of law and governed by enough experience." The the periodic electoral specialists said.

Mexico's peso took another small dip in currency trading following the criticism. López Obrador has maintained his sarcastic toward a well-considered tone in the face of increased comprehensive reform to pressure against his proposworking. At the very least, weakening the quality of they are not going to get justice" in Mexico. The criminals out of jail," he said. While Sheinbaum has showed herself to be more subject, she questioned Morena party in June elections, many academics newly elected congress, tected," she said.

Thailand says mpox detected in European

Thailand has detected an found any case of the mpox case in a European Clade 1 or Clade 1b vari-protect those at the highest the Department of Disease Control, announced that the 66-year-old patient arrived in Thailand on August 14 from an African country,

which was not identified. The authorities are treating the case as if it were the Clade 1 variant of mpox, Thongchai told the Reuters news agency, which has caused global concern as it appears to spread more easily. The infected person has been quarantined in a hosdone to determine the Middle Eastern country, The before flying on to for Thailand.

noting that much is already known about the virus and the means to control it. The viral infection causes fever, muscular aches and large boil-like skin lesions. Clade 1b - comparatively a transmissible strain - has Democratic Republic of authorities Congo DRC alone has reported strain. Thongchai said the more than 16,000 cases Thailand has detected assistance to provide Denmark in monkeys kept 800 cases of mpox Clade 2 healthcare to those affect- for research.

man who arrived from ants so far. While the risk and to mitigate the Africa last week and is World Health Organization impact of this outbreak on officials said. Thongchai gency, it said the outbreak Pope. Meanwhile, in Keeratihattayakorn, head of is not another COVID-19, Argentina, health authorities have quarantined a cargo ship in the Parana River over a suspected mpox case on board, the government Ministry of Health only identified the crew member new, more deadly and as an Indian national. He reportedly showed cyst-like driven the recent surge in skin lesions predominantly cases. Outbreaks have on the chest and face and been reported in the has been isolated. Health (DRC), Philippines said that a Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda recently detected mpox pital while more tests are and Uganda since July. case is of the milder Clade 2 variant. Clade 1b causes death in about 3.6 percent man had transited in a and 500 deaths this year. of cases, with children United Nations more at risk, according to which also he did not name, International Organization the WHO. Formerly called Migration (IOM) monkeypox, the virus was appealed for \$18.5m in discovered in 1958 in

Last elephant at South African zoo freed after 40 years

last elephant in South Africa's national zoo has been released back into the wild after 40 years of captivity. The elephant, named Charlie, was captured in 1984 from Zimbabwe's Hwange national park when

he was two years old. He was taken to Boswell Wilkie Circus in South Africa and trained to perform tricks. In the early 2000s he was transferred to laborated with the country's national zoo. In recent years, animal welfare groups have pushed for the elephant to be freed due to concern for his health. EMS Foundation, which South Africa". advocates for the rights of wildlife, announced that after "a nail-biting four-hour trip to freedom" the elephant had arrived at his new home at the Shambala Private Reserve in Limpopo province. It said the "historic event" followed years of negotiation with the South African government, after EMS Foundation and its partners provided scienback into the wild. tific evidence to show that elephants suffer in zoos. At the zoo, Charlie the elephant

at his own pace, Charlie will learn to be the elephant he was always meant to be, and

ing elephant community on CAPE TOWN (AFP): The raised that the elephant was showing signs of distress Shambala," common with animals in captivity. The South African Biodiversity National Institute, which runs the zoo, denied it, saying it was behaviour learnt from years of circus life that would completely unlearned. EMS Foundation said this was "inaccurate". Animal welfare organisation Four Paws, which col-Foundation, said the elephant's "retirement was an important milestone for elephant Charlie but also for better animal welfare in "Together with our partners, we have been working tirelessly to end the loneliness of Charlie to see him thrive in his new species appropriate home," said Josef Pfabigan, Four Paws chief executive. The elephant's new home is a 10,000-hectare reserve with a thriving population of elephants, known to successfully reintegrate animals While there, Charlie will be closely monitored by vet-

erinary and behavioural experts. "Our dream is that In 2019, concerns were and integrate into the exist-

Foundation said. Dr Amir Khalil, a veterinarian who led the transfer of the elephant, told the BBC that despite the residual effects of abuse in captivity, "there is always a chance of recovery". On concerns about how Charlie would cope with the new environment, he said there were already positive signs of settling in and Charlie was "very excited to hear other elephants from far away", with whom he had started to communicate. Dr Khalil said it would take a while to prepare the elephant to be self-sufficient, but "we must not forget that Charlie was born in the wild. He has spent almost two years with his mother living in freedom". He said the elephant was under a rehabilitation and feeding programme, and they planned to release him to an even bigger area in the coming months. "We are convinced, that step by step he will get used to all these new experiences." EMS director Foundation Michele Pickover told the AFP news agency there were also three elephants in the Johannesburg Zoo. "We was always meant to be, and are litigating against that soon, he will meet up Johannesburg over those,"

(Reuters): Mary Meng is so for a Chinese tech company measures long-called for by in Shanghai that she can't imagine having a second child. "The work pressure cation costs. is such that you don't even have any time to spend with your child," said the 37year-old mother of a primary school-aged boy. "How can I think about tak-

have no idea.'

urban residents anywhere. ductivity gains and stronger But given the pace of population decline and ageing in dents typically produce and China, the impact of the buy higher value-added fast-paced, expensive city life on birth rates should be treated with more urgency the fresh urbanisation push by Beijing, demographers overlooks basic demographsay. China is rapidly run-ning out of mothers. The ple have fewer children due number of women of repro- to high housing costs, limitductive age, defined by the ed space, expensive educa-United Nations as 15-to-49, tion, and because they spend is set to drop by more than most of their day at work. two-thirds to under 100 Couple infertility rates in million by the end of the China have also risen from century. At a twice-a- 2% in the 1980s to 18%, decade top political gather- versus around 15% globally have the lowest fertility seven days a week, wants ing last month, China - with doctors blaming the rates

"birth-friendly society" busy and stressed working pledging to implement industrial pollution. population experts, such as lowering childcare and edu-

But, to the despair of the same experts, Beijing also vowed to encourage more people into urban areas. This policy aims to increase housing demand to prop up ing care of two children? I the crisis-hit property sector, and revive flagging eco-That resonates with nomic growth through proconsumption. Urban resigoods and services than their rural counterparts. But

related to urban jobs and

ner, while Shanghai's fertil- standards by providing betity rate in 2023 was 0.6 ver- ter public services or liberthe University of the Asian Wisconsin-Madison. "The Research globally. While none.

very low after decades of a strict one-child policy, not Fertility rates in China's all is lost. At 65%, its rural areas are slightly urbanisation rate is lower higher at 1.54 versus the than the 80-90% rates in national average of 1.3 in Japan or South Korea - and 2020, according to the lat- this could give it room for breakdown from manoeuvre, demographers China's top economic plan- say. Improving rural living sus 1.1 nationally. alising land rights would Authorities are "foolishly" have a more sustainable World War Two. They also company in Beijing six or

The Frontier Post Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late)

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Brutal cost of diplomatic failure

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THE horrific experience of Mohammad Al Qumsan, the Palestinian man who lost his wife, newborn twins and their grandmother this week in an Israeli air strike, is further proof - were it needed - that this brutal war on Gaza's civilian population continues to cross red lines of attacking civilians, with disproportionate numbers of babies and children.

Video purportedly taken at a hospital in the central Gaza city of Deir Al Balah shows Mr Al Qumsan in shock, holding the laminated birth certificates for four-day-old Aysal and Aser. His shock is shared across Gaza, a traumatised society still not inured to a war that has cost over 40,000 lives across Palestine and left more than 92,000 people injured, according to the latest figures from Palestinian authorities.

These are not mere numbers. Instead, they represent shattered families and communities caught in the middle of a vengeful Israeli operation that grinds remorselessly on as unpromising ceasefire talks fail to halt the violence and the most militant voices continue to set the agenda. An example of this could be seen on Tuesday when Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir staged another incendiary intervention by joining more than 1,000 settlers in storming Jerusalem's Al Agsa compound. Israeli families of hostages and those who lost loved ones in the Hamas attacks of October 7 are no safer or better off as a result of these actions.

Although extremist Israelis have repeatedly tried to upset the long-standing agreement with Jordan to administer this highly sensitive religious site, Mr Ben-Gvir's actions were so egregious that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office was forced to issue a statement confirming that the status quo at Al Aqsa "has not and will not change"

The UN and EU condemned Mr Ben-Gvir's provocative visit, as did the White House, with State Department spokesman Vedant Patel saying it could contribute to "greater insecurity in the region". The US is right, but the fact that this statement was accompanied by news that US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had approved the sale of \$20 billion worth of more military aid for Israel amplifies the incoherence of Washington's position.

This incoherence - expressing concern over civilian deaths in Gaza while backing Israel's military operation - has been a consistent feature of the Biden administration's foreign policy approach. There are worrying signs that this would continue under US presidential hopeful Kamala Harris. Despite her condemnation of the civilian deaths in last week's Israeli air strike on Al Tabaeen school in Gaza city, she also insisted that Israel had a right to "go after Hamas". Far from embodying a fresh approach to the war that many in her party and beyond had hoped for, this statement was more of the same.

The loss suffered by Mr Al Qumsan however, is far from more of the same. It is an exceptionally poignant example of the price being paid by non-combatants in a conflict that has been marked by the murder and kidnapping of Palestinian and Israeli civilians, as well as the brutal treatment of Palestinian society as a whole. The US continues to play an outsized role in this tragedy; if it is genuine about its stated support for an immediate ceasefire, its leading lights would do well to bear in mind the loss of Aysal and Aser Al Qumsan as the price of failure.

EVs face tough times as prices cut

ORD, the American automaker major, has announced that it will cut back on its production of electric vehicles (EVs) and will now launch its new electric pickup van in 2027 and not in 2026 as planned. It has decided to stop the production of its three-row SUV. The reason: no pickup in sales of EVs.

People are not willing to pay a higher price for the electric vehicles. Ford will now focus on hybrids, electric-ethanol versions. There is also the fact that Tesla, the pioneer of EVs, is cutting down the price and so have the Chinese EV-makers. It is a

Two trends clearly emerge. Electric vehicles are seen as the future because of the greenhouse gas emissions of fossil fuel-run cars and trucks and the serious threat they pose through climate change. But the economic feasibility of the EVs, making them affordable, remains a challenge. It is felt that most American families are not sure whether the EV is the best bet for a long ride because the battery recharge facilities are not in place in sufficient numbers. Ford is working with Chinese companies on the battery manufacture technology, but it is likely to take time to turn into a stable base.

Ford is not alone In struggling with the economics of EVs The other major American automaker, General Motors (GM) also finds itself facing the same cost and price dilemma. The car makers are hesitating to roll out more EV models because they are not sure of the demand

It will not be very long when governments would be forced to announce policies banning production of vehicles which run or fossil fuels because of the growing climate change crisis, and the automakers will have no choice but to make EVs. But this is no going to be easy. The use of cars, not just in America, has grown hugely across the world, and they cannot be taken off the roads so easily. Realist policy-makers reckon that the transition from the Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) model to the EV is going to be spread over decades, a time-frame of at least half-century. In the meanwhile, hybrids will dominate the market. And it i perhaps the ideal transition model.

Transport is indeed a significant contributor to the carbon emissions. And it would appear that transiting to a greener source would be the best way of cutting down on the carbon footprint. But it is in the transport sector that the transition to electricity will be the most difficult because it depends on the

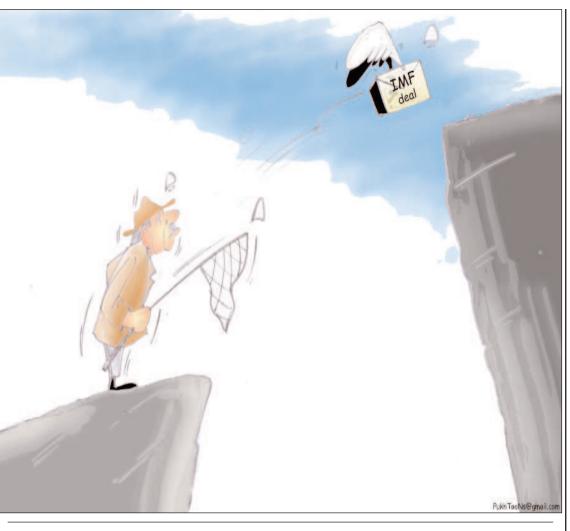
The manufacture of batteries on a huge scale is required to keep the world on wheels as it were, which is a humongous challenge. The quantity of batteries required to be manufactured and the network of battery recharging will be in mind-boggling numbers. Strategists of the future of transport have to do a lot of homework. There is also the challenge of behavioural change because people will have to learn to use public transport more than ever and reduce the private ownership of cars. And these are not easy targets by any stretch of imagination.

It is also recognised that the batteries depend on the rare material, lithium, which only a few countries have in plenty. For example, China and Chile. So, there will be tough competition for access to the rare mineral.

One of the speculations is that the revived race to the moon is the desire and hope to mine the moon for rare minerals. But the prospect of mining on the moon remains a project of a distant future. This does not mean that it is the end of the story for the EVs. It is more likely that EVs will take their place among vehicles using different technologies like ICE.

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Time to recognize that few Israelis want a two-state solution

Kerry Boyd Anderson

Secretary of Antony Blinken is on his they would support that, opposes the establishment ent Palestinian state. ninth trip to the Middle but in 2023 support had of a Palestinian state west East since the Oct. 7 dropped to 25 percent. In of Jordan." The resolution ry of the Oslo Accords Hamas attack on Israel. 2023, in fact, 65 percent also stated: "The estaband various efforts to While his immediate of Israelis said that they lishment of a Palestinian move toward a two-state focus is on achieving a would oppose a state in the heart of the solution, one might reaceasefire between Israel Palestinian state existing Land of Israel will pose sonably question whether focus is on achieving a would and Hamas and pre- next to Israel. Similarly, a an existential danger to there was ever serious venting a broader survey by the Israel the State of Israel and its Israeli support for creatregional escalation, Democracy Blinken and the Biden found that 63 percent of Right-wing parties, There was a time — espeadministration that he Jewish Israelis do not including in the ruling cially between 2007 and represents continue to support the idea of an coalition, sponsored the 2012 — when a majority insist that a two-state independent solution to the Israeli- demilitarized) Palestinian Palestinian conflict is state. possible and desirable. America's differences along politi- hope might provide a to negotiate with the progress cal, ideological and reli- counterweight to right- Palestinians. However, However, for toward a two-state solu- gious lines, as well as the tion continue to hit divide between Jewish Importantly, the center-ported the idea, few of obstacles, including the reality that the idea no Polls have consistently by opposition leader Yair willing to make the com-

port in Israel. Support for a two-state wing politics are more thus avoiding taking a solution. At the same solution among the Israeli likely to support a two-stand on the issue. The time, other leaders, such public has been in decline state approach, while cen- only votes against the res- as Netanyahu, actively for years and it was furtrists are significantly less ollution came from Arabworked to undermine any ther eroded by the Oct. 7 likely to support it and majority parties. When efforts toward peace or a attack. Polling by the Pew right-wing Israelis tend to even Israel's more left- Palestinian state. Research Center found strongly oppose the idea. that, in spring 2023, only 35 percent of Israelis believed that it was possia Palestinian state to a Palestinian state. 'coexist peacefully." In the spring of this year, that number had dropped to 26 percent. Even more their influence and cennotably, this year, only 19 percent of Jewish Israelis said they believed such coexistence was possible, Israeli compared to 49 percent of Palestinian citizens of

Gallup polling from has weakened. 2012 and 2023 — the latafter the Oct. 7 attack asked Israelis:

Palestinian State existed state. alongside an independent

Institute citizens. (though

Such polls have found longer has much sup- found that Israelis who

Among Jewish Israelis, likely ble for an Israeli state and Israelis to remain open to cal support for a two-state state solution and the

These differences are important, but left-wing Israelis have lost much of trist and right-wing viewpoints are more likely to hold sway in current politics. Furthermore, even among left-wing Israelis, support for a two-state approach

Public opinion ter conducted shortly reflected in political leaders' decisions and they port a situation in which to and little support for independent the idea of a Palestinian

In July, the Knesset State of Israel?" In 2012, voted 68 to nine to pass a aspects of his record than trying to wish it 61 percent of Israelis said resolution that "firmly clearly suggest that he away.

resolution. The centrist of Israelis said that they some Western countries that they had worked hard wing leaders, voted for it. while many Israelis supidentify with more left- Party chose not to vote, led to a viable two-state wing parties refuse to vote against such a state- tant to also consider secular Israelis are more ment, it is a clear sign that polling on Palestinian than religious there is no serious politi- attitudes toward a two-

solution left in Israel. Furthermore, currently in power pubviable Palestinian state. Netanyahu, Finance Bezalel Minister Smotrich. National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu all openly oppose a "Would have made it clear that Minister Yoav Gallant is you support or not sup- there is strong opposition more cautious in his pub-

would not support the creation of an independ-Looking over the histo-

ing a Palestinian state. National Unity party led by Benny Gantz, who Israeli leaders believed However, Lapid) and the Labor promises that might have

Of course, it is imporsteps that Palestinian the leaders have or have not Israeli leaders who are taken in pursuit of peace. Nonetheless, Israel has licly reject a two-state always been by far the solution and the idea of a more powerful party in the conflict and thus the Prime Minister Benjamin future of a two-state solution heavily depends on Israeli leaders and Israeli voters.

The reality is that few Israelis today want a twostate solution or believe i is possible. Even fewer Palestinian state. Defense would be willing to spend political capital in a goodfaith effort to achieve it lic statements, but his The Biden administration long-standing support for and other interested par Israeli settlement in the ties should recognize and West Bank and other adapt to that reality rather

We need urgent climate action in conflict zones

Othman Belbeisi

floods across Sudan. Tens of thousands of people displaced by the Sudanese civil war have been affected and tens of thousands the urgent need to address more were displaced by the the effects of climate and floodwaters sweeping their conflict. The topic was homes away. This has added to the suffering of have faced severe short- in Azerbaijan at the upcomages of food, medicines, shelter and other basics since the start of conflict in April 2023.

Meanwhile, in Gaza, high temperatures and the lack of miserable for the nearly 2 million Palestinians dis- over the past decade. placed by war. The hot weather has also facilitated the spread of infectious disments in Sudan and Gaza crises caused by conflicts. mental degradation.

VER the past few important to help them build weeks, an unusually resilience and capacity to wet rainy season adapt, so we can minimise, has caused destructive address and even avert displacement and forced migra-

The recently concluded Aswan Forum, highlighted prominent in discussions in Egypt at COP27, in the UAE the Sudanese people who at COP28, and will be again ing COP29.

Yet so far, support for action is falling short. In the Arab region, six emerging countries – three of which are conflict-affected – access to fresh water and received only 6 percent of sanitation have made life climate finance support provided for the Arab region

Action and financial support could not be more urgent. Around the world, ease. These serious develop- but especially in the MENA region, conflicts are becommake clear how extreme ing more protracted and weather related to climate complex, enmeshed in syschange can exacerbate tems of weak governance, already severe humanitarian inequalities, and environ-

More than a factor of displacement, climate change acts as a threat multiplier that intensifies resource competition, worsens conflicts, deepens social and economic inequalities, and increases vulnerability. That is why climate action must be a part of the strategy for integrated humanitarian, development, and peace interventions across the world, especially in conflict-ridden regions like the Middle East, where climate change is expected to further destabilise already fragile societies.

And these are not the only mate change to produce humanitarian disasters.

At the end of 2023, the United Nations estimated that 117.3 million people were displaced worldwide, with 68.3 million displaced internally. The main cause of displacement is conflict, but climate-change-related disasters, such as storms, floods, droughts and wildfires, also left some 20.3 million people homeless last

More than a factor of displacement, climate change acts as a threat multiplier that intensifies resource competition, worsens conflicts, deepens social and economic inequalities, and increases vulnerability.

must be a part of the strategy nterventions world, especially in conflictridden regions like the Middle East, where climate change is expected to further destabilise already fragile years, droughts, water shortages, and extreme weather events are likely to increase displacement, placing additional pressure on weakened public systems and worsening living conditions for mil-

Recurring droughts contributed to the displacement of almost 140,000 people in Iraq as of March 2024, according to IOM estimates. In Yemen, 240,000 people were newly displaced in 2023, mostly due to floods, on top of the 4.5 million people displaced by the ongoing conflict. Moving faster to reduce the impact of climate change, in line with the Paris communities, it is equally choice, not a necessity.

The consequences of places where war meets cli- those complex conflicts are also growing more dire. Evidence suggests that countries emerging from civil war require an average of 14 years to recover economically and 25 years to rebuild systems and institutions.

Ongoing climate challenges, on top of the growing humanitarian needs in these conflict-affected countries, are only going to make peacebuilding, recovery and development even more challenging.

A more proactive and preventive approach is needed across the international community. We must invest in and prioritise prevention.

We must – equitably – reap the benefits of responsible innovation, using tech-That is why climate action nology, promote peaceful and inclusive societies, profor integrated humanitarian, vide access to justice for all, development, and peace and build effective, accountacross the able institutions to harness the power of peace and

development. We will never truly adapt to all climate change impacts without effective peace and societies. In the coming an end to the long-standing and recurring conflicts that have driven so much displacement, especially in Africa. If the nations of the world are truly serious about meeting Sustainable Development Goals, leaders in the world must step up and help end

the wars.

The intersection of climate change, conflict, and displacement is a complex and growing challenge that requires a coordinated global response. By acting early, investing in resilience, building governmental capacities or structures, and integrating climate action with humanitarian and development Agreement, is essential. But efforts, we can work towards for vulnerable and fragile a future where migration is a

Britain's responsibility is indeed great

examining the various stages of what has resting on the shoulders of the "Great" British Empire is indeed great. This is not a matter of mere rhetoric, but a documented reality. However, before delving deeper into this aspect, it is crucial to pause and reflect on the current situation, considering several events that have captured the attention of observers over the past few weeks.

One such event was a report published on BBC Sunday last regarding the resignation of Mark Smith, a British Foreign Office official, in protest against UK arms sales to Israel. According to the report, Smith stated that his colleagues witness clear, undeniable

T is well-known to also added that senior researcher officials of the Israeli government and army hesitate to twice confront outrage when confronting have expressed an explicbefallen the Palestinian it intent toward genocide Netanyahu's government, the soil of Gaza during people, even before the and that Israeli soldiers directing criticism with the First Intifada in 1988. on holding the current Nakba of 1948, that the have recorded videos an angry tone of repri- Mellor shouted at the generation of officials historical responsibility showing deliberate acts of mand. History will docu- officer, saying that accountable for their

the policies of Benjamin an occupation officer on

which continues to have a significant, direct impact on the region as a whole. The point is not to insist

Recalling Britain's great historical responsibility is not merely about dwelling on the past, which continues to have a significant, direct impact on the region as a whole. The point is not to insist on holding the current generation of officials accountable for their predecessors' actions, but to emphasize the necessity of revisiting Britain's past mistakes in Palestine. This was illustrated in a British document published by journalist Amer Sultan on the BBC on Feb. 25, 2023, which included a conversation from May 1977 between the late Saudi King Khalid and then-British Foreign Secretary David Owen, who acknowledged that mistakes had been made, noting that "the sons cannot forever bear the responsibility for the mistakes of the fathers." To this, King Khalid responded: "I am not holding you responsible for the past, but I hope for its rectification." Indeed, it is not shameful for nations to undertake reviews that correct the mistakes of the past. Many countries around the world have acknowledged their wrongdoings, issued apologies and, in some cases, provided financial compensation to those affected.

In this context, it is recorded similar stances examples of war crimes notable that Foreign by several British offiand violations of interna- Secretary David Lammy, cials in the past, including tional humanitarian law within the first few weeks former Foreign Office in Gaza every day. Smith of taking office, did not minister David Mellor's bility is not merely about a British document pub-

Recalling Britain's great historical responsi-

in his resignation letter burning, destruction and ment such a stance by Israel's treatment of pro- predecessors' actions, but looting civilian property. Lammy, just as it has testers resisting the occu- to emphasize the necessipation of their land was a ty of revisiting Britain's 'slap" to human values. mistakes past Palestine.

This was illustrated in

dwelling on the past, lished by journalist Amer Sultan on the BBC on Feb. 25, 2023, which included a conversation from May 1977 between the late Saudi King Khalid and then-British Foreign Secretary David Owen, who acknowledged that mistakes had been made, noting that "the sons cannot forever bear the responsibility for the mistakes of the fathers." To this, King Khalid responded: "I am not holding you responsible for the past, but I hope for its rectification.

Indeed, it is not shameful for nations to undertake reviews that correct the mistakes of the past. Many countries around the world have acknowledged their wrongdoings, issued apologies and, in some cases, provided financial compensation to those affected. London is required to have the courage to undertake such a review of its past policies in Palestine and take a stronger stance against Israeli extremism. The question remains: When will it act?

- Arab News

Sports industry is a game the region cannot afford to miss

sports is expected to Arabia's commit**growth in the sports econo-** international sporting events my worldwide and espe- and boosting the local sports cially in the Middle East economy. The 2022 FIFA and North Africa. It comes as no surprise that sports was also a stellar showpiece events cause such sheer that significantly boosted the pandemonium. The varied region's sports profile. herculean acts that athletes perform make audiences gasp. Moreover, the shift toward health and wellness and the growing appeal of organized sports events that border on the spectacular are contributing to a heightened enthusiasm for sports worldwide.

According to research published by the Business Research Company, the value of the global sports market reached \$484 billion in 2023 and this is expected to almost double to \$862 billion by 2033. Moreover, the PwC Global Sports Survey conducted in 2023 estimates that the Middle East's sports industry is expected to boom by 8.7 percent by 2026, significantly outpacing the global average of 3.3 percent

for the same period. The MENA UAE, the Abu Dhabi F1 Grand Prix at the Yas Marina Circuit is an enthralling ences. event, while the iconic Dubai World Cup is one of the world's most prestigious horse races. In Saudi Arabia, sports enthusiasts can enjoy need to lay out scouting, year-round action-packed recruitment and training sporting events, including policies so that star athletes diverse sports such as horse are able to reach elite status. racing, golf, motor sports, boxing, tennis and martial arts. Last year, Cristiano tant to establish networks Ronaldo signed up with the with physical education identifying talents at a grass- Considerations include reli-Kingdom's Al-Nassr football coaches at schools and com- roots level to cultivating their able transport links to and

significant ment to becoming a hub for emerging talents. A key take-World Cup hosted by Qatar

al sports competitions can Every part of the sports industry hinges on the exceptional talent of athletes. Therefore, policymakers need to lay out scouting, recruitment and training policies so that star athletes are able to

reach elite status. To bridge this gap at a grassroots level, it is important to establish networks with physical education coaches at schools and community centers to identify emerging talents. A key takeaway is to ensure that scouting networks have sufficient geographical coverage in order to detect talents in rural regions as well as

cities. Sponsoring local and regional sports competitions can provide opportunities for athletes from all areas to compete and showcase their skills in front of scouts and coaches.

Now is the most oppor- provide opportunities for broadcasting tune time for MENA govern- athletes from all areas to regions can draw large audiments to build a greater profile for the sports economy in the region. This entails strategically devising a roadmap for the industry that high potential are also region focuses on star performers in already hosts several world- all sports-related professions, class sporting events. In the as well as tailoring overall sports experiences to new expectations and prefer-

> Every part of the sports industry hinges on the exceptional talent of athletes. Therefore, policymakers

To bridge this gap at a grassroots level, it is imporgeographical coverage in order to detect talents in rural

Sara Al-Mulla

A number of best pracaway is to ensure that scout- tices are worth noting, ing networks have sufficient including an emphasis on personalized support and regions as well as cities. athletes reach their full ences, such as player meet Sponsoring local and region- potential, ongoing athlete and greets, education, mentoring and support, access to financial support, and enrollment in ty of such events is a nontargeted training camps, negotiable aspect of the

Pivotally, regional governments should invest in world-class sports infrastructure in order to elevate the region's global standing and attract local and global audiences. At the same time, toputilized to train high-performing athletes. By simultaneously promoting sports tourism through high-profile global events and building up the excitement through channels, compete and showcase their ences, increase international exposure and create longskills in front of scouts and

sports.

international tours and con-

term economic benefits. The fashioning of unforgettable experiences lies at uploading self-made videos the heart of any sporting event. Fans are very keen on immersing themselves in highly curated experiences. As such, the orchestrators of Sports Talent platform with high-profile sports events books to create unique

providing them with the nec- moments and memories. A new era of travel has and enhance their skills. ushered in legions of sports Elsewhere, the Australian fans who are committed to Sport's attending major sporting Foundations, Talent, Elite events across the world. and Mastery framework out- Organizers should ensure a lines a holistic approach to seamless, hassle-free journey athlete development, from for such travelers. team, making a global state- munity centers to identify prowess to ensure they from venues, special pack- cies.

ages with hotel partners. high-quality amenities and ample food and beverage options. The success of these events also depends on marpersonalized support and keting plans, which could structured guidance to ensure include interactive experibehind-the scenes tours and facility tours. The safety and securi-

overall experience. Sports laws are pivotal instruments that regulate various aspects pertaining to the professional standards, integrity and safety of sports activities. Typically, such laws would include articles on health and safety stannotch facilities can also be dards, arbitration in case of disputes and anti-doping measures. Furthermore, they should detail the basic rights of athletes and employees working in the sports industry, in addition to explaining the procedures for applying for work permits or visas for foreign professional athletes, coaching staff and administrative staff.

For instance, the UAE' Federal Law No. 4 of 2023 Concerning Sports addresses a range of important levers in the sports industry, from talent scouting and development to incorporating physical education within school must sift through their play- and university settings. strengthening inclusive sports for people with disabilities, establishing sports federations for various types of sporting activity and incorporating sports-related companies.

Considering these many dynamics, it is important for regional governments to amplify their sports profiles with carefully crafted poli-

Biden's DNC swan song was a master class in presidential humility

T was bye-bye Biden on Monday night at Democratic Lthe National Convention. US President Joe Biden, rather than being nominated for a second term on Thursday night, was bumped to the first day tions of the convention. Despite the thunderous chants of "Thank you, Joe" that repeatedly broke out during his address, there was an unstable air of wistfulness. It took the return of of the war of independformer president Barack ence from Britain, and fallen American soldiers Obama on the second day of the convention to

old, in with the new.' As Democrats have discovered over the past four weeks, it's exactly what so many of their voters and other Americans have been looking for in a political scene that had felt stagnated and trapped between two familiar figures who are both too old and, in very different ways, unpopular. But the depth of Mr Biden's sacrifice has yet to sink in – no matter how relieved Democrats are that he has stepped aside for his Vice President, Kamala Harris.

exercise in "out with the

Mr Biden delivered the main body of what likely would have been his nomination acceptance remarks. He was careful to strongly endorse Ms Harris and give her credit for being his partner in the administration. But his remarks didn't seem fully up-to-date, apart from a passing repudiation of "all talk Republicans] about how I'm angry at all those people who said I should step down, it's not true." There was, however, a hint of bitterness in his joke about being "too young to be in the Senate because I wasn't 30 yet [when first elected] and too old to stay

as president" [now]. But it was mainly his greatest hits, including a litany of his accomplishments as president and sharp denunciations of Republican nominee, former President Donald Trump. Ever since his disastrous debate performance against Mr Trump, Mr Biden has made it clear that he felt, and evidently still feels, that his undoubted accomplishments against considerable odds, especially in domes-

earned him a second term. There is little doubt that the President is still wrestling with his wrenching and nearly unprecedented agreement to voluntarily surrender his party's presidential nomination and a potential second term. He implicitly framed it as a last act of national service, which it undoubtedly was. And it's understandable that, in a mere month and while continuing as president, he has yet to fully process the depth and historical significance of his own sacri-

Many commentaries have recalled the example of the Roman general Cincinnatus who, according to tradition, having He appears to have been been granted complete certain that the President

power to save Rome from then gave it up to return to his farm. The founders of the American Republic, steeped in classical tradiof Enlightenment, regarded

this as the apex of political and civic virtue. It certainly informed the decision of return his commission to Congress at the conclusion also his choice not to seek smooth over the rough (even though he would edges of what has percertainly have been easily force been a fairly brutal elected again).

Washington are the Mr Biden's magnificent and heroic suppression of his own ambition and ego in the party and national interest. A more apt comparison is the decision of the second president under the US Constitution, John Adams, to accept the will of the people and the out-

matter what in hopes of somehow eventually wina potentially mortal threat, ning. And, indeed, his chances were never all that bad. To Mr Trump, the idea

of putting the interests of others, let alone abstract principles and convictions, above narrow personal interests, is simply unfathomable. This perspective George Washington to also informed his notorious reported remarks, which he has unconvincingly denied, describing as "suckers and losers," a third term as president and marvelling: "I just don't get it. What was in it for them?" That's also why Mr Trump was so taken But neither Cincinnatus with fantasies that Mr Biden would burst into the best historical analogs to convention and somehow try to reclaim his nomination that he aired them in public in both speech and writing.

It isn't just that Mr Trump likely cannot imagbehaving in Mr Biden's civic-virtuous manner. He was projecting his own grandiosity on Mr come of an extraordinarily Biden's humility (no matbitter election won by his ter how reluctant). It was-

Washington was a unique figure in American history, whereas Adams was the first of many subsequent presidents. And it was his decision to accept the will of the voters and voluntarily accept defeat at the

ballot box that set the template for two centuries of the rule of law and primacy of elections as the ultimate arbiters in US politics. This tradition remained unbroken until Mr Trump's set of elaborate schemes to unlawfully overturn the result of the 2020 election that culminated in the vio-

lent insurrection against Congress on January 6, 2021. Mr Biden did not accept an election defeat. But he did accept the evident judgment of most of his colleagues and much of the public that he was too old and in decline to plausibly stand for another presidential term.

archrival Thomas n't just that Mr Trump desthe first time in US history, to a peaceful transfer of

was the first of many subsequent presidents. And it was his decision to accept the will of the voters and voluntarily accept defeat at the ballot box that set

US politics. Congress on January 6, 2021. Mr Biden did not accept an election defeat. mand an audience of this But he did accept the evident judgment of most of his colleagues and much of the public that he was ample opportunity to find too old and in decline to a suitable forum for public

presidential term. One of the reasons that Mr Trump has been so discombobulated by the sudden emergence of Ms Harris as his opponent – even though this seemed likely long before it happened – may be that he simply couldn't imagine any rational person making Mr Biden's sacrifice.

Jefferson and accede, for perately wanted to run against Mr Biden rather than Ms Harris, although he has made that abun-Washington was a dantly clear. It's more that unique figure in American not stepping down is history, whereas Adams exactly what Mr Trump might have done if he somehow found himself in Mr Biden's shoes.

Mr Biden's actual convention speech was essentially underwhelming and the template for two cen- certainly failed to take turies of the rule of law advantage of the grand and primacy of elections historical context his as the ultimate arbiters in extraordinary gesture of selflessness occupies. But This tradition remained if it's too soon for him to unbroken until Mr Trump's seriously and publicly set of elaborate schemes to reflect on all of that, it's tic policy and legislation, unlawfully overturn the surely understandable. He result of the 2020 election still may be coming to that culminated in the vio-terms with the bitterness lent insurrection against of the pill he has forced

himself to swallow. He probably won't comsize again, but with five more months left in the White House, he still has plausibly stand for another reflection on his brave and unprecedented decision.

Both the Democratic Party and the American public are evidently relieved to be moving on from Mr Biden. And the country may be preparing to similarly bid farewell to Mr Trump.

But in the long run, the udgment of history is likely to echo the crowd at the DNC with a resounding "thank you, Joe."

Inspirational spirit

coaches. In this age of tech-

to social media networks to

government introduced the

the aim of identifying 1,500

emerging sports stars and

essary support to develop

Earlier this year, the UAE

show off their talents.

Institute

nology, many athletes with

ROM organization- accepted rules. This comal, aesthetic and petitive nature is accompaperspectives, there is a ethos of respect and camabroad consensus that the raderie among participants, Paris 2024 Olympics were reflecting the ultimate goal a resounding success, of the Games: to bring peobenefiting both French ple together through sport. society and the international community. As 776 BC in Ancient Greece, with the 2008 Beijing the birthplace of European Olympics events of similar scale Games were accompanied and evocative power, the by an Olympic truce, images from these occa- allowing athletes and pilsions will remain in our grims to travel safely to the collective memory and, in Games. The last recorded doing so, create shared celebration of the ancient valiant, and above all, a can encourage a generation or environmental protecpoints of reference for Games occurred in AD more scrupulous and gen- that values cooperation and tion. Then comes the humanity. The momen- 393. tum will continue with When start of the Coubertin

Aristotle (384-322 BC). whom Dante (1265-1321) referred to as "the master 1896, it was also a time of those who know", wrote when the first international in his Nicomachean Ethics: organizations were emerg-"At the Olympic Games, it ing, such as is not the most beautiful or I n t e r n a t i o n a l strongest who are crowned, Telecommunication Union but those who compete." In founded in 1865. These this sense, the Paralympics early structures of internaembody the Olympic spirit tional governance were in its purest form.

Aug 28.

served as a moment of ing significantly to human unity and joy, celebrating progress. athletic prowess while fostering a spirit of cohesion our understanding of the across diverse cultures and Olympic spirit is profound. nations. The Olympics, Beyond his remarkable inherently competitive, work as a social activist, showcase a range of out- it's important to recognize comes with winners and that Coubertin was also an losers, yet they are under- educator deeply interested pinned by principles of fair in the personal growth of play and adherence to individuals

Since their inception in 776 BC in Ancient Greece, and other civilization, the Olympic

end of the 19th century, with the first modern Olympics held in Athens in the both products and drivers The Paris gathering of globalization, contribut-

Coubertin's influence on and

DAVID GOSSET

is often quoted as saying: "The important thing in the win, but to take part; the physical activity. important thing in life is to have fought well." However,

erous humanity".

Despite (1863-1937) Olympics are not a panacea about applying these val- by their revision when they Paralympic Games on revived the Games at the for the world's persistent ues to other aspects of life. no longer align with the issues. Major global challenges such as poverty ethos beyond the realm of eradication and climate sport could have profound 2024 Olympics demonchange remain unresolved, implications. If humanity strated that, even amid and conflicts did not cease can come together for the global However, the spirit of the son that we might also forward. It reminds us that, multilateralism. all problems, they can undoubtedly more complex inspire and guide us toward than athletic contests, they a more unified and cooper- are still fundamentally ative world.

support the United Nations' ics potential, the UN General Assembly designated April

of Sport for Development ple. Competition under and Peace. It is clear that sports performance nied by an overarching advancement of society. He the international community is prepared to leverage sport for a purpose that Olympic Games is not to extends well beyond mere

> The Olympic spirit not triumph, but the strug- should not be an ephemeral gle; the essential thing is experience revisited only not to have conquered but once every four years. Instead, it is crucial to cul-Coubertin, tivate this spirit continuinspired by humanistic val- ously, especially among ues, also believed that "To young people. By fostering spread these principles is to values of unity, respect, rules, whether they pertain build up a stronger, more and fair competition, we to security, trade, finance mutual understanding. This implementation of the is not just about sports but rules, followed Expanding the Olympic distribution of power.

> during the Games. Olympics, it stands to rea- moments of unity and Olympics offers a glimpse strive to apply similar prininto a more hopeful future ciples to other areas of and suggests a pathway global interaction, such as lesson in how cooperation while sports may not solve trade and politics are divides. human endeavors. The Due to its widespread same principles of fair play influence, distinctive popu- and cooperation can be context of sports but in our larity, and positive values, applied to these spheres, sport is well-positioned to suggesting that the dynamgoals for development and Olympics might serve as a on the hope and inspiration peace. To highlight this model for broader international relations.

the 6 as the International Day among nations as an exam-society.

agreed-upon rules actively taking place, pushing companies to deliver better products and servic-The Marrakesh Agreement, which established the World Trade Organization nearly 30 years ago, has been suc-cessful despite various challenges. The primary difficulty lies in the negotiation process needed for all parties to agree on the inevitably

challenges, shared purpose are possible. The spirit of the Games provides a valuable While and respect can bridge

In essence, the Paris

As we look forward to the Los Angeles Olympics and beyond, it is important to remember and nurture this spirit, not just in the collective efforts to address the world's pressing issues. observed in the By doing so, we can build generated by the Olympics to create a more connected Let us consider trade and harmonious global

People-to-people tech ties

WANG XINWEI and ZHAI KUN

HILE deepen- Road cooperation, China and ents cooperation has the Association of been continuously stimu-Southeast

Nations also need to among vocational colupgrade the momen- leges. tum. At present, technology, education and technology-educationtalents are gathering talents new momentum for helped

tion is based on the con- e-commerce industry. tinuous deepening of China-ASEAN people- sively human resources devel- productive China and ASEAN.

Under the Belt and Plan

ing their solid potential of China-Asian lated by the cooperation talent. In fact, cooperation in

China and China-ASEAN cooper- ASEAN work together in foundation for Chinaation. This year is the digital transformation, China-ASEAN Year of green development and **People-to-People** other fields. The share of Exchanges. Promoting new energy vehicles in lished. a new direction of tech- Thailand has exceeded **nology-education-tal-** 10 percent. China-**ents integrated cooper-** Thailand cooperation ation can provide includes both new prostrong support for duction workshops and a closer new vocational and tech-China-ASEAN commu- nical schools. Singapore nity with a shared has created a sound business environment, and The new direction in Chinese companies have terms of technology-edu- actively participated in cation-talents coopera- the development of the

China is comprehento-people exchanges. Chinese modernization With the establishment and accelerating the culof the 10+1 mechanism, tivation of new quality forces. opment has become one ASEAN has also issued a dimensions. of the five key areas of new science and technol-

Initiative, the Connectivity 2025 and ASEAN Digital Master foundation for ASEAN education-tal- Plan 2025, which focus on industrial transformation and fostering digital

> ASEAN Î need to be unlocked, and 2,800 members. the platform for persontion has been estab- and **ASEAN**

State of Southeast Asia: 2024 Survey Report, National released by a Singapore International think tank named the Organizations for the ISEAS-Yusof Institute, shows that led by the Chinese China is still seen as the Academy of Sciences most influential econom- and jointly established ic (59.5 percent) and by 36 national scientific their promoting political strategic (43.9 research institutions, power percent) Southeast Asia, signifi- tional cantly outperforming the including the National ries. Geopolitical factors United States in both Science and Technology are also involved.

between ogy innovation policy respective bilateral interincluding the Master governmental technoloand technological coopligence and infrastrucing upgrading, resources ASEAN gy

mechanisms with nine research, visiting scholar ASEAN countries and programs and training which is creating a negathe cooperation network programs. of technology transfer

has already nel development can be a series of annual activi-China-ASEAN Education Cooperation China and countries Week,

> The Alliance and Science Ishak Belt and Road Regions, Development Agency China has established from Thailand, promotes

Scientific and techno-New spaces for China- covers 10 ASEAN coun- logical innovation builds cooperation tries with more than up cooperation momentum and further consolition cooperation. The advantages. Industrial China-ASEAN education-talents coop-ASEAN technology-education-talents cooperaCollaborative Innovation the difficulty is how to da needs to be classified cooperate more efficient- and reinforced. ly and sustainably to benefit the region. safety guarantee needs to China- have become popular ASEAN are also actively nowadays, the deepenperation choices for Chinese technew pro- nology companies to alliances to jointly proops and invest overseas. The mote innovation.

China- have become popular ASEAN are also actively nowadays, the deepenexploring academic ing of China-ASEAN
technology companies to alliances to jointly protalents integrated coopacademic ing of China-ASEAN more, the local training erative agenda. talents integrated coop- improved. eration also faces some challenges.

Market potential and ents in the digital field. cost advantages make The integrated programs ASEAN attractive for of professional training high-tech enterprises. in frontier science and Technology giants from technology need to be the US have increased further explored. The tion-talents resources tion mechanism for local presence Southeast in universities and interna- However, investment is also need to be strengthorganizations not just about new facto- ened.

other powers are trying education-talents can be and transfer working eration through joint ture projects to hedge the integration and local cul- Competition can be con- ASEAN cooperation.

ASEAN cooperation in

science and technology, tive impact on the China-ASEAN technology-education-talents cooperative agenda. In addition, can be strengthened, as ASEAN countries have In addition to forming dates the basis for educatiheir own development further expanded. The ties such as the Forum on advantage of technology- cooperation supported by technology-education-

> The industry chain be strengthened. What's system can be further

shortage of applied talin support measures for Asia. continuing education

In the future, China-ASEAN integrated coop-The US and some eration in technology-

BRI and dilute China and tivation.

framework of technology-education-talents cooperation should be well as developing highquality cooperation in both hard infrastructure and cloud computing tem. infrastructure. It can give full play to the converging role of high-quality projects of the BRI, promoting integrated develeducation-talents coop-

The stronger industryuniversity chain can be There is a relative constructed, which deep-

al cooperation. ence and technology governance and integrated technology-educashould be optimized. composite talents. While focusing on the Innovation

tinuously developed, First, the top-level apart from developing the high-level China-ASEAN Institute of Modern Craftsmanship. promoted. The plan for The supporting system digital transformation can be strengthened, promoting the compatibility between Chinese enterprises overseas and the local innovation ecosys-Third, a science and

technology talent exchange channel based on local cultivation system should be constructopment of technology- ed. Cooperating with technology transfer and innovation developed on major platforms, training courses for highly skilled personens and solidifies region- nel such as AI and 5G can be held. The poten-Second, regional sci- tial of AI to enable vocational skills training can be tapped, effectively constructing the cultiva-

Both the direct effecprofessional and match- tiveness and carrier role ing issues, the platform of integrated cooperation mechanisms such as in technology-education-ASEAN Plus Three talents should be taken Young Scientists Forum into account to drive China-ASEAN people-to-people and exchanges, which inject Entrepreneurship vitality into China-



SLIC Summit 2024: Unveiling new digital services and showcasing industry leadership

F.P. Report

Insurance Corporation of work. otal occasion marking the ster of Commerce, Jam Senior Management along

official launch of its cut- Kamal Khan and attended esteemed dignitaries, senior ting-edge digital services KARACHI: The State Life and communication frame-

State Life Sulaiman S. Mehdi, CEO of State Life

Business

ence on capital markets is a ing testament to the impact progress, innovation, and ity and growth.

instrumental to the nation's perous future."

by Chairman of the Board government officials, cor- Shoaib Javed Hussain stat- three advanced mobile of Pakistan, bridging dis- continues to elevate the porate partners and industry ed, "Our digital services are applications: technological Pakistan (SLIC) hosted

The event was inauguShoaib Javed Hussain and
SLIC Summit 2024, a pivrated by the Federal Minisenior members State Life's ed the far-reaching contrier the highest standards of policyholders, providing butions of State Life as a transparency, efficiency, seamless access to insurdriving force in Pakistan's and security, ensuring that ance services and real-time insurance sector, particular- our services are accessible policy management. ly through its administra- and beneficial to custion of the social health tomers, partners and stakeprograms running across holders. The SLIC Summit th clients, facilitating effi-

> State Life has had on national development. By Pakistan's economic stabil- integrating digital solutions with our core services, to enhance client manage-In his address, Minister State Life continues to ment and optimize operaof Commerce, Jam Kamal solidify its position as a key tional performance. Khan stated, "State Life's pillar in Pakistan's insurcontinuous innovation and ance and financial sectors, leadership in the insurance driving the country toward and health sectors are a brighter and more pros-

MySLIC

State Life Health Plus -Created for corporate heal-2024 serves as a testament cient claims management he organization's influ- to State Life's long-stand- and streamlined access to commitment to essential health services. SLIC Agent Pro - A com-

prehensive tool empowering State Life's sales force These digital innova-

tions are one step forward towards paving the way for a fully paperless insurance journey, allowing users to wellbeing and the advancement of our markets. The the launch of SLIC manage policies, track premiums, and monitor policy launch of these digital serv- enhanced digital platform, maturity with unprecedentices marks a significant ushering in a new era of ed ease and efficiency. milestone in enhancing convenience and security SLIC's digital infrastrucaccessibility, transparency, for its policyholders. This ture supports real-time ale-

tances and ensuring equitable access to services.

mit was State Life's invo-Ivement in Pakistan's natgrams, which have impr-Panel featured industry leaders and healthcare experts, including, Muhammad Arshad, CEO of the Federal Sehat Sahulat Program, Dr. Ali Razzaque, CEO of Punjab Health Initiative Company (PHIMC), Dr. Riaz Tanoli, CEO of the

Card Program. Panelists explored the pivotal role State Life plays administering these health initiatives, empha-

CEO of State Life, and the introduction of agement across all regions health insurance, State Life quality of life for vulnerable communities across the A key focus of the sum- country.

The summit also showcased a thought-provoking ional social health pro- discussion on Pakistan's capital and financial maroved healthcare access for kets. The Capital Markets millions of Pakistanis. The Panel brought together Social Health Program some of the most influential figures in the industry, including, Fareed Alam, CEO of AKD Securities, Rehmat Ali Hasnie, President of NBP, Farrukh Khan, CEO of the Pakistan Stock Exchange and Shah-Management nawaz Nadir Shah, Head of Investments at State Life.

The panel highlighted Sehat Card Plus Program, the critical role institution-KP and Dr Asad Kakar, al players like State Life CEO Balochistan Health have in promoting the growth, stability, and sustainability of Pakistan's financial landscape.

The discussion underscored State Life's substsizing the profound impact antial contributions to ecoon the lives of common nomic resilience through and efficiency in insurance includes the unveiling of a rts, AI-assisted data analyt-services for all Pakistanis." new and improved website ics, and efficient data man-and facilitating access to capital markets.

SCCI presented proposals to remove hurdles in Pak-Afghan trade

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Chamber of Commerce and hensive proposals for ber' senior vice president and removal of hurdles in mer FPCCI president Ghacross border trade.

In his recommendations, SCCI' presidents Zahid-Fuad Ishaq urged govern- ullah ment and institutions to Muhammad Faizi, Zulfiqar enforce policies and orders Ali Khan, Sherbaz Bilour, after making consultation former senior vice presi-with chambers and the dents Ziaul Haq Sarhadi, business community to Imran Khan Mohmand, avoid any collision between Shahid Hussain, former traders and relevant author- vice presidents Javed Akhities and lead the country' economy on a path of sus- Khalid Sultan Khawaja, tainable growth and stabili- Peshawar Fresh Fruit ty by enhancing mutual Market President Haji Alif trade and export.

Pakhtunkhwa Jamil Nasir ullah, PTA provincial chair- tive steps to resolve issues

Customs Peshawar Mateen Hamza Ibrahim Butt, national economy. Alam, Collector Enforce- Monawar Khurshid, Haji

the chief collector customs

KARACHI: Chairman SLIC Suleman Mehdi and Chief Executive SLIC

Shoaib Javed presenting a shield to Federal Minister of Commerce Jam

Kamal Khan to honor his presence at SLIC Summit 2024.

Sarhad KP on the occasion. Businessman Forum Faiz Industry president Fuad leader former senator Ilyas Ishaq presented compre- Ahmad Bilour, the chamimproving bilateral Pak- Sanaullah Khan, vice presi-Afghan trade and export dent Ejaz Khan Afridi, forzanfar Bilour, former

Shinwari, Faiz tar, Shuja Muhammad and Jan, Pakistan Agricultural Fuad Isahq had given Produce Traders Federation Collector Appraisement tive committee members and export to stabilize the tees at the local level.

Iqbal Khattak accompanied Imtiaz Ahmad Ali, Farooq business community on Customs department to Ahmad, Zahoor Khan, policies and other issues. Aftab Iqbal, Saddar Gul, Rasool, Ishtiaq Ahmad, Secretary General

Muqtasid Ahsan, Secretary Sohail Anjum, transporters, exporters and traders were present in a large number ease in TAD, Transit on the occasion.

intact during enforcement ed completely. of rules and policies.

ness community.

Senior customs officials of the Railways system. emphasized the close coor-

ment Customs Peshawar Ghulam Hussain, Affaf Ali ing highlighted hurdles in uplift of the Honey sector, Ziaul Shams and Additional Khan, Naeeem Qasmi, Pak-Afghan bilateral trade which is a major source of Director (Transit Trade) Mazharul Haq, Atif and transit trade and briefed foreign exchange and Customs Peshawar Dr Tahir Rasheed, Khalid Ayub, about reservations of the export and asked the

the government to revisit priority basis. policies and make them business/trade friendly to improve the economy.

He called for bringing Registration System and Chief Collector Customs suggested duties/tariffs of KP Jamil Nasir in his 212 items should be made address said that steps were equal to Afghanistan and being taken for ease of asked to allow Pakistani doing business. He assured exporters to export these the dignity of the business items so that menace of community should be kept smuggling will be eradicat-

In his recommendations, He stressed the need for Fuad Ishaq demanded makestablishing an atmosphere ing Azakhel Dryport port of trust between the cus-fully functional, re-launch toms department and busi- of cargo trains from Peshawar and functionalization

apprised traders' He these proposals during a President Malik Muh- dination and liaison betw- community reservations meeting upon visit of Chief ammad ALi Sohni, Gur een the Customs, chambers about loose cargo and Collector Customs Khyber Mandi President Ihsan- and traders to make collector bonded carriers.

Fuad Ishaq in the meet- practical measures for

address issues attached The SCCI chief urged with the Honey sector on

> Businessman leader Ilyas Ahmad Bilour also addressed the meeting calling for making policies trade and business friendly to enhance bilateral trade, transit trade and export.

Chief Collector Customs KP Jamil Nasir agreed with proposals of the SCCI president and directed relevant officials on the spot for resolving issues. Jamil Nasir said practical steps were being taken to facilitate cross border trade.

He emphasized reactivation of committees between Customs department and chamber so that issues will be resolved collectively.

He assured actions would be taken in consultation with chamber/trade bodies and will keep the dignity of He proposed the formathe traders/taxpayers intact here at the chamber house. man Ishfaq Ahmad, execu- and enhance bilateral trade tion of evaluation commit- during implementation of rules and policies.

76 more connections disconnected F.P. Report

LAHORE: In the ongoing campaign against gas theft, Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) has successfully conducted a series of raids across Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad, resulting in the disconnection of 76 additional illegal connections and the imposition of fines amounting to Rs 2 million.

In Lahore, the enforcement team disconnected 19 illegal connections and imposed fines totaling Rs 0.68 million.

The Bahawalpur team cut off 24 connections due to compressor usage.

In Faisalabad, 4 connections were disconnected for illegal gas use, and fines of Rs 0.06 million were imposed.

The Sheikhupura team disconnected 2 illegal connections and imposed fines of Rs 1.28 million. Meanwhile, in Multan,

25 connections were cut off for unauthorized gas use, and in Sahiwal, 2 connections were disconnected due to compressor usage.



Ishaq speaking during a meeting upon visit of Chief Collector Customs KP Jamil Nasir at Chamber's House.

N4HK room inaugurated

F.P. Report

LAHORE: Nestlé Pakistan inaugurated the Nestlé for Healthier Kids (N4HK) room at The Trust School Lahore to foster and promote nutrition awareness. The N4HK program is part of Nestle's global nutrition healthy nutrition in the all awareness initiative to country," she added. ensure that children understand the value of nutrition out to 360,000 kids, trained more than 2300 teachers and has developed 17 N4HK Rooms with 11 partners from private and pub-

lic sector. Inaugurating the room, Béatrice chief guest Guillaume-Grabisch, Global Head Human Resources Nestlé S.A. said, 'It is an honor and privilege to be here today to celebrate the achievements of the Nestlé for Healthier Kids (N4HK) program in Pakistan. This initiative goes beyond simply educat-

importance of nutrition and underprivileged sections of physical activity; it is about society with 13 campuses shaping a healthier future in Lahore. for generations to come."

"The N4HK program nutritional awareness ini-outreach across Pakistan is tiative which supports,

ion, Jason Avanceña, CEO healthy nutrition, hydraas they grow older. So far Nestlé Pakistan said, "We the program has reached are delighted to strengthen lifestyle. N4HK has presour partnership with The Trust school who have been one of our oldest partners, having established 3 N4HK rooms and training more than 400 of their teachers and reaching out to more than 10,000 children across

different branches.' Highlighting Nestlé's partnership, Tahir Yousaf CEO The Trust School, said, "We are thankful to Nestlé Pakistan for partnering with us. The Trust School has been providing quality education at subsidized rates or free of cost to

ing children about the meritorious students from N4HK is Nestlé's global

an endorsement of Nestlé's teachers and caregivers on Speaking on the occa- tion program promoting tion, hygiene and active ence in Punjab, the Federal Capital, KP, Sindh and most recently, Gilgit Baltistan. The N4HK program is part of Nestlé's commitment to United Nations Sustainable Development

> Health and Well-Being. Nestlé, with its global headquarters based in Switzerland, has had a longstanding presence in Pakistan for over 35 years, and is committed to be a force for good throughout its value chain by Creating Shared Value

Goal (SDG) 3 of Good

PBA and NADRA committed to boosting digitalization



F.P. Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Banks' Association (PBA) and National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) cohosted an insightful session focused on advancing NADRA's industry to engage with national digitalization efforts and to strengthen cal experts. The discussion support for the banking centered around NADRA's industry. The session was role in enhancing the bankspearheaded by Brigadier ing sector's capabilities, (Retd) Dr Monis Akhlaq, particularly in the verifica-Chief Information Security tion of the existing and Officer (CISO) - NADRA, onboarding of the new Akhlaq said, "NADRA is structure."

of technical experts. The event saw participation from over 25 banks operat-

ing in Pakistan. This collaborative session provided a common platform for the banking

banking customers.

The team also addressed the enhancement of cybersecurity processes and systhreats and ensure complete underscoring NADRA's the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

actively developing new Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and integrating advanced technologies to bolster its national digitalization efforts. These advancements are intended to significantly improve the banking sector's opera-tional efficiency and security, particularly in customer verification and onboarding processes. Commenting on the ini-

tiative, Muneer Kamal CEO & Secretary General PBA said, "The session tems at NADRA. Brigadier underscores the importance (Retd) Akhlaq highlighted of PBA's ongoing collabo-NADRA's ongoing efforts ration with NADRA in mitigate emerging tackling emerging challenges related to customer protection of citizens' data; data protection. We look forward to future collaboracommitment to safeguard- tions with NADRA to ing sensitive information in effectively enhance our cybersecurity efforts, and further strengthen the bank-Brigadier (Retd) Monis ing industry's digital infra-

CEJ, Bank Alfalah announce scholarships



F.P. Report

KARACHI: The Centre for Excellence in Journalism (CEJ) at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi and Bank Alfalah, announced scholarships for the journalism degree program and capacity building of online content creators in financial lit-Through eracy. Memorandum

Agreement (MOA), Bank Alfalah will provide funding for scholarships to five students pursuing the Master of Science in Journalism (MSJ) degree at IBA for the year 2024-25 and workshops for twelve producing well-rounded, content creators on creating awareness about financial literacy.

The program aims to develop a new generation Our alumni are successfully of journalists equipped with positioned in their careers, the skills to investigate and upholding IBA's high stan-

report on financial issues while empowering individuals. Asma

Professor and Dean, School

of Economics and Social Sciences (SESS), IBA said, "Journalism is important for an informed society and strengthening of democracy. The Masters in Journalism at the SESS, IBA Karachi, equips the students with best practices in reporting, investigation, fact-checking, technology and ethics. We are proud of our competent faculty, visiting world-renowned local and international journalists, who guide students in accurate, and engaging content that informs the public and supports a

dards in the professional world.' Capacity building is cru-

Hyder, cial for journalists in Pakistan's financial sector to ensure accurate, responsible, and impactful reporting. With the increasing complexity of financial instruments and markets, journalists need specialized knowledge to effectively understand and convey financial information. The program will sponsor five students pursuing the Master of Science in Journalism (MSJ) degree at IBA, providing them with financial assistance to complete their studies. By enhancing their skills, journalists can contribute to financial literacy, promote transparency, and hold vibrant, democratic society. stakeholders accountable, ultimately fostering a healthier financial ecosys-

EFU Life, EFU General & Bank Alfalah unite to introduce "Alfa Transaction Insurance/Takaful by EFU"



F.P. Report

life insurance and family takaful operator, and EFU General, a premier non-life/general insurance and takaful service provider, have teamed up with Bank Alfalah, one of Pakistan's largest banks with a enhanced protection beyond tradinetwork of over 1000 branches tional across 200 cities, to introduce "Alfa Additionally, this product offers

EFU". This unique product combines the benefits of both general KARACHI: EFU Life, a leading and life insurance/takaful, addressing the pressing need for compre-hensive financial protection.

The introduction of Transaction Insurance/Takaful aims to safeguard financial transactions, providing customer indemnity. Transaction Insurance/Takaful by term life/takaful benefits, ensuring

a customer's death due to any cause. At the launch ceremony, Mr. Mohammed Ali Ahmed, the MD

and CEO of EFU Life, expressed his enthusiasm: "As a prominent insurance provider on the Alfa App, we are thrilled to strengthen our partnership with Bank Alfalah by enabling them to offer top-tier insurance/takaful coverages to customers, including Transactional Insurance/Takaful. This proposition holistically protects Alfa customers through innovative general and life protection available on the Alfa App and underscores EFU Life's commitment to digital transformation, transitioning from traditional manual processes to automated, high-

Digital Officer Bank Alfalah

precision systems.' Syed Salman Rashid, Deputy lifestyles of its customers.

complete financial security by pay- Managing Director of EFU General, ing a defined amount in the event of highlighted the broader impact by quoting, "This initiative extends beyond just the bank and its customers; it builds a bridge between insurance companies and their customers, fostering trust in insurance providers. Financial stability is crucial, especially in today's challengtimes, and Transaction Insurance is a product that will benefit all parties involved. Muhammad Yahya Khan, Chief

> Limited, "emphasized on Bank Alfalah's award winning Alfa App and the fact that new customers can digitally insure their digital transactions; providing peace of mind to them. Bank Alfalah is committed to continually expanding its innovative product suite to bring ease, security and convenience in the





Rizwan, Saud shine with centuries against BD

Shahid Afridi

RAWALPINDI: On the trail Pakistan by 421 runs second day of the first Test in their first innings. match being played in

runs partnership for the wicket. fifth wicket. By the end of the second day Bangladesh and Saud Shakeel extend-

Hassan remained unbeaten 1976, Asif Iqbal and Javed

olayed in On the first day Pakistan Bangladesh's bowlers had liant centuries by However a 98- runs part- 240 runs s Mohammad Rizwan and nership between Saud wicket w Saud Shakeel. Shakeel and Saim Ayub highlight. The two batsmen put brought the total to 114 together a remarkable 240 before Saim lost his

had scored 27 runs without ed their partnership to 240 losing a wicket in their runs. When the total first innings after Pakistan reached 354 Saud Shakeel Rizwan crossed the 150 declared their innings at was dismissed after scor- runs mark for the first time Shakib conceded 100 runs 448 for six wickets. ing 141 runs including in his Test career. Shadman Islam was not nine boundaries in his 261 out on 12 and Zakir ball innings. Earlier in Masood

on 11. Bangladesh still Miandad had set a 281 Mohammad runs partnership against remained unbeaten on 171 day Gaddafi Stadium.

strengthened their position managed to claim three Bangladesh Saud Shakeel enth wicket. thanks largely to the bril- wickets for just 16 runs. and Mohammad Rizwan's 240 runs stand for the fifth innings of 171 runs came wicket was a significant off 239 balls and included

> After Saud's dismissal Salman Ali Agha joined highest score in Test crick-Rizwan and they added 44 et. Shariful Islam and runs together. Salman was Hassan Mehmmod took dismissed for 19 when the two wickets each while score reached 398. During this time Mohammad

declared the giving away 101 runs.

typically abrasive Old Trafford pitch, meaning

clipped along at more

than five an over. Milan

Rathnayake, Sri Lanka's

first-day hero, was picked

that swinging full length

but it was Asitha's return

Root had reached 42

from 56 balls in another

under-stated display of

touch and timing when he

was undone in expert

fashion, climbing into a

wider line from Asitha

while still playing for the inswing that had been the

This ball, however,

held its line and skidded

straight on, and Dinesh

Chandimal scooped up

Brook, however, kept

By tea, Smith was also

straight six off the spin of

New Zealand at Lahore's while Shaheen Afridi contributed 27 runs adding 50 In this match against runs together for the sev-

Rizwan's eleven boundaries and three sixes. This is his Shakib Al Hassan and Mohammadi claimed one wicket apiece. in 27 overs while Naheed Pakistan's captain, Shan Rana went wicketless after



match at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

Brook battles for England as Fernando thrives after rain

Fernando continued Sri now with Ben Duckett on that Root and Brook had Lanka's spirited display strike, Asitha fired the to be on their mettle even in the first Test at ball in a good two feet as their 58-run stand Emirates Old Trafford, fuller, and was this time claiming three key wick- the successful reviewee, ets in an extended after- with the ball shown to be noon session as England both pitching on and hitwere made to fight for the ting leg stump as Duckett off for three fours in an ascendancy after an was turned inside-out on over as he strained for extended rain delay.

By tea, Harry Brook's the line. fighting half-century, in a fifth-wicket stand of 51 over, Asitha served up the prise the most vital wickwith Jamie Smith, had piece de resistance of his et of the day. reduced the deficit to 60, new-ball spell, an excepbut Asitha's interventions, tional wobble-seam delivincluding the prime scalp ery, pitching half a foot of Joe Root for 42, had fuller than the Lawrence helped to make their first- ball, and straightening off innings total of 236 look the pitch to smash into the more competitive than it top of Ollie Pope's off

hours during a rainy England had a bit of a morning in Manchester, rebuild to undertake. the Old Trafford pitch

Although that decision Statham End to push a settling into his work on was successfully over- lifter across his bows 22 not out, with one huge turned, with the ball from his left-arm angle. shown to be skimming over the bails, the infor- ditions, Sri Lanka were ing that he too was find-

Two balls later, and his attempted flick across

And in his very next to the attack that would had appeared at the time. stump. England's captain After sweating under was gone for 6, and at 40 inswing that had been the the covers for several for 2 in the ninth over, feature of his over to that

Joe Root is no stranger was ripe for seam bowl- to skinny top-order scoreing when play finally got lines, of course, and as he underway at 1.15pm, and bedded in for the long the low edge to leave Asitha was primed to haul, it was Lawrence England wobbling at 125 cash in. With his bustling who initiated England's for 4. approach and a commit-counterattack, with a ment to a full length, he brace of forceful whips the foot down in his posed problems from the through the leg-side as familiarly forceful manoutset, under still-dense Asitha strayed in length. ner, driving with heavy cloud cover and with the But, having scored just timing whenever the ball His performance went through the off-side, his working the gaps well, into overdrive from the vulnerability in the chan- with Sri Lanka's field still first ball of his second nel was superbly exploit- veering towards the over, when Dan Lawrence ed by Vishwa Fernando, defensive given England's was pinned on the pad who nicked him off after reputation for boundaryand given out lbw by a change of ends, using hunting. umpire Paul Reiffel. the breeze from the

Despite the damp con- Prabath Jayasuriya show mation was stored away able to find some appreand perfectly progressed ciable reverse-swing off a conditions.

Tina Charles rises to No. 2 in WNBA all-time scoring

NEW YORK (Reuters): Atlanta Dream center Tina Charles sank a tiebreaking 3-pointer early in the fourth quarter Wednesday to become the second-leading scorer in WNBA history.

Charles assisted on two of the Dream's next four baskets and finished with 12 points and 17 rebounds as Atlanta beat the Phoenix Mercury 72-63 in College Park, Ga.

The 35-year-old UConn product ended the night with 7,491 career points, three more than Tina Thompson compiled with Houston Comets (1997-2008), Los Angeles Sparks (2009-11) and Seattle Storm (2012-13).

Charles was selected first overall in the 2010 draft by the Connecticut Sun, for whom she played four seasons. She won Rookie of the Year in 2010 and was selected the WNBA's Most Valuable Player in 2012.

subsequently played for the New York (2014-19),Liberty Washington Mystics (2021), Phoenix Mercury (2022) and Seattle (2022) before sitting out last season. Charles is in her first season with Atlanta.

Charles was part gold-medal-winning U.S. women's teams at the 2012, 2016 and 2020 Olympics.

The only player now ahead of her on the WNBA's career scoring list also was on the floor Wednesday. Phoenix's Diana Taurasi, 42, finished with three points, boosting her total to

"To hear my name in the (same) sentence as Diana is unimaginable, what she's meant to me personally, this league, her impact," Charles said postgame, according to The Athletic. "She's definitely the GOAT. I'm just

thankful.' Al Attles, former Warriors star, coach and GM, dies at 87

Hall of Fame member Al Attles, a physical point guard known as Destroyer" who later became an NBA champion coach and general manager of the Golden State Warriors, died Tuesday at

The team announced Wednesday that Attles passed away at his home in East Bay, Calif., sur-

rounded by family.

"Alvin leaves behind a profound legacy within the game of basketball and the Bay Area community, but especially as a family man and humanitarian,' the Warriors said in a statement. "We mourn his loss alongside his wife, Wilhelmina, son Alvin, and all who knew and loved him."

Attles began his NBA career as a fifth-round of the then-Philadelphia Warriors in 1960. On March 2, 1962, in Hershey, Pa., he had 17 points against the New York Knicks on a night where teammate Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points.

He moved with the franchise to San Francisco later in 1962 and remained a player through the 1970-71 season, finishing with career averages of 8.9 points, 3.5 rebounds and 3.5 assists in 711 games.

Hayden: Pushing Smith up to open in Tests is 'crazy'

against the idea of Steven year. Smith playing as a Test ferent position" "crazy'

positions need to be "protected" in Test cricket.

batting plans.

"Now, you can't argue with Steven Smith, he is averaging 65 [57] in Test-gun in that position, such match cricket.... 32 Test- a coveted player. match hundreds.

pared to a middle-order very much

Smith played as an needs to be protected in in the direction of Steven Former Australia opening opener for the first time in my opinion. It sets up Smith and thus far, batter Matthew Hayden is his Test career earlier this play.

First, during the two opener. Hayden believes home Tests against West Smith should bat where Indies and then in New runs, suggesting moving games. In those eight him to a "completely dif-innings, he was out for 12 is or less on five occasions Hayden, and scored just one half-Australia's most prolific century - the unbeaten 91 opener in Tests before in Brisbane - at an aver-David Warner went past age of 28.50. In comparihim in December 2023, son, he averages 67.07 believes that the top three from No. 3 and 61.50 from No. 4. "I, personally, as I said

"The rationale that at the time, was on record [national selector] George saying that I didn't like for Bailey gave was correct changing," Hayden in so far as that he was added. "I think it's crazy Hayden choosing his best top six to think that you have the batsmen," Hayden said on world's best-in-class batthe sidelines of the CEAT ter in a certain position. cricket rating awards in And then you change to a Mumbai, of Australia's completely different position. For a few reasons, I

coveted player.

"And then it also is not legacy that I'd created

"But, the role of an a great nod to the firstopening batsman com- class set-up, which is new level, strike rates in pared to a middle-order very much in the excess of 80 [70] and batsman is very different. Australian culture, been gave great momentum to And it didn't take long to driving great results the top order, which oth-discover that when you towards key roles, be that erwise is quite a conserget into challenging con- any one of the roles - vative, very good, but Bailey have also recently ditions, like they faced in wicketkeeping, batting, very conservative batting hinted that Australia are the first series outside of spinners, fast bowlers, line-up.
Australia, which was in opening batters.

New Zealand, that opening the batting is very difficult."

So the [batting posimous loss in terms of how those in general downward and three is a category which three is a ca

order, they will have to he has scored most of his Zealand for another two opener Usman Khawaja. in the pipeline, Matt runs, suggesting moving games. In those eight Since Warner's farewell Renshaw is in the him to a "completely dif-innings, he was out for 12" Test at the SCG at the pipeline. start of this year, Smith and Khawaja have opened in all of Australia's four position to an inexperienced batter.

Has that second opening slot been a concern Australia after Warner's departure?

"Yes, it is. It is," Hayden said. "For the first time, it doesn't feel as secure. David Warner gave a

great service to Australian cricket. He gave a service that was extremely comwonderfully petitive, dynamic.

through the 2000s to a

whether they continue If Australia do move with that strategy, time Smith back down the will tell. And we have look for a new partner for Bancroft that are always pipeline.

Bancroft, when you look at his form in England, has been excel-Tests, and moving Smith lent, but that's domestic out of the opening slot cricket. It's not the would mean giving that Border-Gavaskar-type cricket so a bit of a few things to really prove from that engine room in Australian cricket, which has been challenged right with now absence."

Smith himself has said recently that he has "no idea" about his batting position for the India Tests, and that a decision would be made after Australia's white-ball tour of the UK starting September 4, where they play a T20I series against Scotland before three T20Is and five ODIs against England.

'I'm happy anywhere and I'll bat wherever for the team," Smith had said. Both Cummins and likely to go with the same top six as their last four Tests to begin their Border-Gavaskar Trophy

Reds' Elly De La Cruz joins 60-steal, 20-homer club

when he stole third base Masyn Winn went 3-for-since Aug. 2. in the fifth inning 6 with an RBI for the Reds 11, Blue Jays 7 in the fifth inning 6 with an RBI for the Wednesday in the Reds' Cardinals. road victory against the Toronto Blue Jays.

of the season for De La seven hits in 5 1/3 Cruz, who became the innings. He struck out finale of a three-game fifth player since 1901 to five and walked two. have at least 60 steals

game at 6-6.

Three innings later, he hit his 22nd homer of the Guardians 1 year, and he finished 3-

Reds stars on the list: Joe York Morgan (26 homers, 67 Cleveland. steals in 1973; 27 and 60 in 1976) and Eric Davis major-league-leading (27 and 80 in 1986).

Rickey accomplished the feat the third off Cleveland three times: 24 and 80 rookie starter Joey with the 1985 New York Cantillo (0-3) and a solo Yankees; 28 and 87 with shot in the seventh off Eli the 1986 Yankees; and 28 Morgan to give the and 65 with the 1990 Yankees an 8-0 lead. Oakland A's.

the latest to make the list seven scoreless innings was the Atlanta Braves' Ronald Acuna Jr., who for the first time since had 41 homers and 73 May 17-22. The left-hanstolen bases last year.

Cards' slam in 10th ond straight scoreless 4 stuns Brewers

Nolan Arenado hit a St. Louis Cardinals past career start. the visiting Milwaukee Brewers 10-6 on Wednesday.

St. Louis pitcher Kyle Gibson fifth inning as it over-The theft was the 60th allowed two runs on came a six-run deficit to

Joey Ortiz drove in and 20 homers in a sea- three runs and Jackson Chourio went 4-for-5 After stealing the base, with two RBIs and a run De La Cruz, 22, subsefor the Brewers, who saw streak end.

Yankees

Aaron Judge hit two for-4 as the Reds won 11- home runs, Juan Soto homered and drove in He joins two former five runs and host New cruised past

his

innings.

Judge upped homer total to 47 by hit-Henderson ting a two-run drive in Nestor Cortes (7-10) Before De La Cruz, allowed three hits in to win consecutive starts der struck out four and roundup: walked none in his sec-

outing. walk-off grand slam in runs on six hits in four starts the 10th inning to lift the innings in his fourth acquired at the trade

on out five and walked to complete a three-game three. Noel slugged a sweep.

Luken Baker hit a two-homer in the eighth off Cincinnati shortstop Elly run homer, Tommy Pham Tim Mayza, but the De La Cruz made history drove in two runs and Guardians fell to 6-11

> Visiting Cincinnati starting scored five runs in the defeat Toronto in the series.

Cincinnati's Elly De La Cruz stole third base in the fifth, his 60th theft of the season, hit his 22nd homer in the eighth quently scored to tie their six-game winning and finished with three

> He is the fifth player since 1901 to have 60 steals and 20 homers in a season. Spencer Steer stroked a two-run homer for the Reds. Noelvi Marte and Jonathan India added solo shots Cincinnati right-hander Nick Martinez yielded six runs on six hits with three walks and three strikeouts in 4 1/3

Ernie Clement hit a three-run homer, Spencer Horwitz hit a two-run and George blast Springer had a solo shot Toronto. Yariel Rodriguez allowed five runs on six hits and two walks in 4 1/3 innings. He finished with six strikeouts.

Dodgers 8, Mariners

Jack Flaherty won for Cantillo allowed seven the third time in four since being deadline as Los Angeles The left-hander struck defeated visiting Seattle

Zheng and Rybakina among U.S. Open contenders WASHINGTON who's going to win with Errani -- Italy's first-ever back after withdrawing (Reuters): Injuries, any kind of conviction tennis gold -- soothed from the Paris Games due slumps and the lack of a right now.'

tennis force of nature like Serena Williams have left and world No. 7 Qinwen the women's field at the Zheng will look to build wide open.

Flushing Meadows from 2012 to 2014.

Unless looks likely to continue.

"On the women's side, hard court acumen. lyst Chris Evert.

one's getting a little tired and it's been a long year," women's doubles gold showings in New retire a she said. "I can't say medal in Paris with Sara York. Eager to bounce season.

Olympic gold medallist

season's final Grand Slam on her triumph on clay at the Paris Games, where The U.S. Open has not she dispatched top-ranked witnessed a successful Iga Swiatek in straight defence of the women's crown since Williams won three straight titles at native China. quarter-finals Α

appearance in the 2023 defending U.S. Open followed by a champ Coco Gauff can runner-up finish in this notch up her second turn around a recent year's Australian Open Grand Slam title since bumpy streak, that trend are testament to the claiming the Wimbledon Chinese 21-year-old's

player since two-times "I do think that every- major champion Li Na. Jasmine

singles defeat by unseedat the Games.

Paolini is eager to finally break through for a Grand Slam singles title at Flushing Meadows after runner-up finishes at Wimbledon and Roland Garros this year. Kazakh

Rybakina is looking to crown in 2022.

Paolini's of 32 in five previous announcing that she will

some of the sting of her to illness and crashing out of her first Cincinnati ed Romanian Ana Bogdan Open match, Rybakina hopes to regain momen-But the fifth-ranked tum from a quarter-finals showing at Roland Garros in June followed by a Wimbledon semi-finals appearance.

Gauff headlines a strong slate of American women, with five ranked Elena in the top 15 in the world for the first time in two decades.

Fresh from a runner-up showing in Cincinnati, sixth-ranked But the U.S. Open's Pegula is looking to it is very open," said six-time U.S. Open champion would stamp her card as vexed the big-serving while Danielle Collins, the best Chinese singles world No. 4, and ranked 11th in the world, Rybakina has advanced will be playing in her no further than the round final Grand Slam after New retire at the end of this





In brief

NHMP foils smuggling bid

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Motorway Police foiled a bid to smuggle imported liquor and recovered 157 bottles from a vehicle on Thursday. The Islamabad Motorway Police found a suspected and unattended vehicle on a link road. During search of the vehicle, 157 bottles of imported liquor were recovered. The vehicle along with recovered liquor was handed over to Noon police station which after registering a case into the incident started search for the

ANF seizes 61 kg drugs

RAWALPINDI (INP) The Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) seized 61 kilogram drugs and arrested six drug peddlers in separate actions in different cities across country. A spokesman of ANF Headquarters said on Thursday that operations against drug peddlers were conduct-Islamabad, in Rawalpindi, Karachi and Quetta. He said that during six operations conducted in the said cities, six drug pushers were apprehended with 61 kg drugs including 46.6 kg hashish, 14.4 kg opium, 210 gram Ice (crystal meth) and 200 intoxicant Separate cases against detainees were registered under Drug Act and further investigations were in progress.

Power shutdown

ISLAMABAD (APP) Islamabad Company (IESCO) on Thursday issued a power suspension programme for Friday for various areas of its region due to necessary mainteand routine nance development work According to IESCO Spokesperson, power supply of different feeders and grid stations would remain suspended for the period From 06:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Rawalpindi Circle, Kurry Road, Shalimar City, Top City, Mumtaz City, F-17/1, F-17/2, Nogzi Chakaral Feeders, Rawalpindi Circle, Japan Road, Car Chowk, RA Bazar, Chungi No-22, Tench Bhatta, Kayani Road Feeders, Attock Circle, Garhi Afghana, Pind Pran, Valley, Gulshan Sangjani, Sehat, Shahullah Feeders Paswal Chakwal Circle, Al Qadir Mills, Sackral feeders and surroundng areas.

Hot weather forecast

ISLAMABAD (APP) Pakistan Meteorologi cal Department (PMD) has forecast mainly hot and humid weather for most parts of the country during the next 24 hours. However, rainwind/thundershower is likely at isolated places in Gilgit Baltistan, Kashmir, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Southeast Sindh, Northeast/South Punjab and Northeast Balochistan. According to the synoptic situation, weak monsoon currents from Arabian Sea were penetrating upper and central parts of the country. A westerly wave was likely to affect upper parts. During the last 24 hours, hot and humid weather remained in most parts of the coun-However, rainwind/thundershower occurred in South East Balochistan, Kashmir, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Northeast/ south Punjab. The rainrecorded was Balochistan: Khuzdar 18mm, Kashmir: Kotli 08, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: Kalam 03, Mirkhani 02, Punjab: Bahawalnagar 06, Rawal (Shamsabad), Toba Tek Singh, Jhelum and Okara 01mm. The highest maximum temperatures recorded were . Dalbandin 41C, Nokundi, Tarbat, Dadu, Sibbi and Bahawalnagar 40C.

Aurangzeb invites Dubai Islamic Bank

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb here on Thursday invited the Dubai Islamic Bank to the press release added. enhance its investment in the country; reaffirming the government's dedication to maintaining a stable macroeconomic environment and

facilitate foreign investment. The minister was talking to the Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO), Dr. Adnan Chilwan during a virtual meeting to discuss Pakistan's economic trajectory and explore potential avenues for increased investment in the country.

ensuring that all necessary

measures were in place to

The meeting was attended by Minister of State, Ali Parvez Malik, Secretary of Finance, and other senior ernment such as broadening both parties to fostering officers from the Finance the tax base, enhancing the Division, according to a ease of doing business, the lopment and further deep-press release issued by the digitalization of the Federal ening financial ties between

Authority (RDA) on the &

an operation sealed illegal

commercial properties in

According to a RDA spokesman, the RDA

Enforcement Squad con-

ducted a targeted operation

against unauthorized com-

mercial buildings in Bahria Town Phase-VIII, and sealed the Amlairz Prem-

ium Hyper Market Plaza

and Triple-A Heights constructed on Plot No. 11 on

Building Control, Building

Inspectors and other offi-

cials took part in the opera-

tion and sealed the illegal

commercial properties as

the property owners identi-

fied as Azeem Shahid, Abid

Shahid and Fawad Bashir

violated the approved building plans and maps.

Regulations 2021 by con-

cial buildings without

obtaining the necessary

approvals or No Objection

Certificates (NOCs), the

spokesman said.

Director,

Lake View Road.

Assistant

Bahria Town Phase-VIII.

expressed gratitude for restructuring in state-Dubai Islamic Bank's con- owned enterprises (SOEs) tinuous engagement with and privatization. Pakistan's financial sector,

banking, and expressed Dubai Islamic Bank. optimism about future col-Islamic Bank.

Aurangzeb provided an in-depth overview of ic scenario, emphasizing SME development. the progress made in stabiinvestment.

He highlighted key initiatives taken by the gov- the shared commitment of digitalization of the Federal ening financial ties between Board of Revenue (FBR), Pakistan and the UAE.

RDA seals illegal

commercial properties

Building

commercial activities.

motorcycles

lifting cases.

Punjab Development of accomplices and facilita-

Cities Act 1976 and the tors of the accused would

structing illegal commer- desk to facilitate citizens

RDA Building and Zoning also be sent behind bars.

Rawalpindi Development had directed the Land Use

directives of DG Kinza (LU&BC) Wing to take

Murtaza while conducting strict action against enc-

He informed that the DG

Police have arrested two

other items from their pos-

session, said a Police spoke-

net two bike lifters namely

Muhammad Hussain and

Younas and recovered eight

other items from their pos-

Despite prior notices while further investigation receive interest-free loans issued by the RDA, the is underway. Superinte- of up to Rs 1.5 m from the

owners continued to flout ndent of Police, Saddar, Punjab government to build

regulations, breaching the Nabeel Khokhar said the homes," he added.

tate the citizens.

He informed that a

sman here on Thursday.

Control

roachments, unauthorized launched the 'Apni Chhat constructions, and illegal Apna Ghar' housing

lifters with eight stolen ment plans and a simplified

bike lifters and street crimi-nals and recovered eight addressing the housing stolen motorcycles and needs of low-income fami-

stolen motorcycles and to a low-income family

session. The accused are Rs 60,000, and be a govern-

record holder criminals and ment employee without

A case has been regis- land in urban areas and 1-10

tered against the accused marlas in rural areas would

while further investigation receive interest-free loans

remained jail birds in bike existing home ownership.

Dhamial team managed to houses, he added.

Police arrest two bike houses at accessible install-

On the occasion, Dr. Adnan Chilwan expressed He highlighted the gov- appreciation for Pakistan's ernment's commitment to economic policies and inistrengthening economic tiatives and emphasized that ties with international part- Pakistan remains a strateginers, particularly in Islamic cally important market for

He reiterated the bank's laborations with Dubai interest in playing a larger role in the country's financial growth, particularly in sectors such as Islamic Pakistan's current econom- banking, infrastructure and

The discussion underlizing the economy and fos-scored the importance of tering a conducive environ-ment for business and cooperation between Pakistan and Dubai Islamic Bank.

The meeting reflected sustainable economic deve-

Rawalpindi spokesman,

Punjab government on the

directives of Chief Minister

Punjab Maryam Nawaz had

scheme, designed to offer

He informed that the

lies. Under the initiative,

low-income people includ-

would be able to own their

ing workers and laborers

To benefit from the pro-

gram, the applicant must be

a resident of Punjab, belong

with an income of less than

"Owners of 1-5 marlas of

The loan would be paid

back over a period of sever

application process.

laundering ISLAMABAD (APP): The

Investigation Agency (FIA) organized a 3-day training event including a joint workshop on financial intelligence for hawala and a zonal conference on anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism with the assistance of FCDO's UPSCALE Programme.

Unit (FMU).

ceremonies were addressed by Additional Director Federal AML/CFT and Justice, British High Commission Mr. Joseph

The workshop and the conference focused on the capacity building of the officers in investigating money laundering, particularly about hawala/hundi, and the implementation of FATF standards.

The chief guests lauded Pakistan's commitment to implementing FATF stan- Pothohar, Aneeq Anwar, six er rates, prompting imme- consumers from unfair dards and underscored the traders were arrested for diate action from the practices in the market. sustainability of efforts.



The workshop was also participated by officers of Întelligence & Investigation-Inland Revenue (FBR) and Financial Monitoring

The opening and closing General Investigation Agency (FIA) Jan Muhammad, Director General Authority, Dr. Ehsan Sadiq, Director General Financial Monitoring Unit (FMU) Ms. Lubna Farooq Malik and Counsellor for Security

years. There would be no This initiative by Federal Investigation Agency PHATA sets up help need to pay for the first three months, the spoke-(FIA) reaffirms their mis-Punjab Housing and sman said, adding, Those sion to continue investigat-Town Planning Agency who take the loans would ing of financial and cross-(PHATA) Rawalpindi has have to pay a maximum border crimes including money laundering and set up a help desk to facili- monthly installment of Rs financing of terrorism.

Rule violations:

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a virtual

Excise deptt moves to cancel registrations

ISLAMABAD (APP): and number plates. Commissioner Deputy (DC) of the Excise & Taxation Islamabad, has chaired a meeting and decided to take number firm steps to tighten vehicle registration rules, aiming to curb practices that inconvenience the public and breach regulations.

meeting with Group CEO of Dubai Islamic Bank Dr. Adnan Chilwan.

According to the spokesman of the ICT department, the meeting was attended by the Director of Excise and other key officials to discuss significant changes to vehicle registration policies.

The primary focus was on ensuring compliance with new regulations concerning vehicle registration lighted that only specific

One of the key decisions

made was the immediate Department, cancellation of registrations for vehicles using fancy plates. Director General (DG) of Excise emphasized that any vehicle found with a fancy number plate would have its registration revoked. Another critical point

addressed in the meeting was the misuse of large lights on vehicles, which pose a safety risk to other road users. The DG Excise stated

that vehicles with such lights would also face registration cancellation.

government institutions are allowed to install rotating lights on vehicles. Any private vehicle found with such lights will have the registration canceled, and the lights will be confiscated.

Additionally, modifications to a car's windows, such as unauthorized tinting, were discussed. The meeting concluded that these changes would also result in the cancellation of the vehicle's registration.

The meeting resolved that re-registration fees would be charged according to a newly established schedule, as stated by the district administration, ens-The department high- uring that all procedures align with updated guidelines.

Six vendors arrested in ICT for price gouging

ISLAMABAD Islamabad's district administration has launched a crackdown on vendors vendors had failed to disovercharging customers in play the official rate list,

six violators. not adhering to the official authorities. price list in the vegetable market. The accused shopkeepers were found charg-

During the inspection, it

was discovered that many

price list to avoid legal con- framework.

ner has appealed to the public to report any vendor who fails to display the rate list local markets and arrested which is a mandatory or charges more than the requirement. The absence official prices. This action is In a recent operation led of this price list led to cuspart of a broader effort to by Assistant Commissioner tomers being charged high-regulate prices and protect

The public is encourage Assistant Commissioner to remain vigilant and Anwar emphasized that all report any violations to shopkeepers must promi- ensure that all transactions ing customers more than nently display the official are fair and within the legal

NCGSA to host Pak's first-ever workshop on Space Law, Policy

National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA), in collaboration with the Institute of inaugural Workshop on sity 'Space Law and Policy' on Asia September 03-04.

According to NCGSA, this groundbreaking event will be the first of its kind in the country, focusing on the critical and emerging domains of space law and policy.

With the increasing relevance of space activities in global geopolitics and national security, this workshop aims to equip participants with the knowledge needed to navigate the complex legal and regulatory frameworks governing

renowned organizations protection. including Access Partne-Space Technology (IST), tory Board (PSARB); Security is set to host Pakistan's National Defence Univer- Security, Asia-Pacific (APSCO), China; and the policy discussions. National Center for Cyber

Pakistan, will share their forward for Pakistan in the expertise and insights dur- global space community, and research in space sciing the two-day event. agenda include Internati- National Space Policy.

onal Space Treaties and Agreements, Space Gover- to actively engage in and nance and Regulatory contribute to internation-Frameworks, Space Policy of Pakistan, fostering a vibrant

Resource persons from debris and environmental

The workshop will also of rship, Singapore; Pakistan address the increasingly Space Activities Regula- critical issues of Space and Cyber (NDU), Pakistan; intersecting challenges that Space lie at the forefront of con-Cooperation Organization temporary space law and

This landmark event repaligning with the objectives ence and technology. The key topics on the of the newly approved

It positions the country

scores the National Center GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA)'s dedication to advancing Pakistan's capabilities in Security, reflecting the space activities and governance. Mandated by the Education Higher Commission, National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA) (NCCS), resents a significant step plays a pivotal role in fostering academic excellence

By aligning with the objectives of the National Space Policy, National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA) is National al space law and policy, not only shaping the future of Pakistan's space endeav-Space Diplomacy, Liability exchange of ideas and ors but also positioning the and Insurance in Space setting the stage for nation as an active partici-Activities, and Space future developments in pant in the global discourse Sustainability focusing on this essential field. on space law and policy.

PAC holds Jashn-e-Azadi Mushaira

the rates prescribed by the

RAWALPINDI Punjab Arts Council (PAĆ) organized Jashn-e-Azadi Mushaira in collaboration Bazm-e-Ahbab-e-Qalam Pakistan to celebrate Independence Day.

The event was presided over by the distinguished writer, poet, researcher, and critic Professor Dr. Abdul Aziz Sahir while Professor Shakir Kundan was the guest of honor.

The special guest was Professor Obaid Bazgh Amar.

On this occasion, an honorary shield was presented to Ali Asghar Samar, the founder and president of Bazm-e-Ahbab-e-Qalam Pakistan, in recognition of his more than fifty years of literary services.

The founder and presi dent of Bazm-e-Ahbab-e-Qalam Pakistan expressed his gratitude to all the guests at the end.

Indus River continues to flow

ISLAMABAD (INP): The adjoining (FFC) has said that Indus "Medium Flood" in Guddu-Sukkur reach while maintaining "Low Flood" in Tarbela-Taunsa reach as well as at Kotri Barrage.

report on Thursday, similarly, River Kabul is also experiencing "Low Flood" rivers of IRS (Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi & Sutlej) are discharging normal flows.

Tarbela reservoir is maintaining its Maximum Conservation Level (MCL) of 1550 feet since August 19, 2024 whereas Mangla Reservoir is at an elevation of 1215.25 feet (26.75 feet below its MCL: 1242.00 feet).

According to Flood Division Forecasting \((FFD), Lahore, yesterday's North Bay of Bengal and

Federal Flood Commission remained stationary there while another River continues to flow in Pressure Area is presently positioned over Central Uttar Pradesh (India). Trough of Westerly Wave previously over Northeast Afghanistan has now shift-According to daily FFC ed to Northern Pakistan with Seasonal Low over Balochistan. Western Presently, light moist curat Nowshera while other rents from the Arabian Sea were penetrating into upper parts of Pakistan up to 3000 feet at the reporting time.

For the ensuing 24 hours, FFD, Lahore has predicted isolated thunderstorm rain of Moderate Intensity over Islamabad, Punjab (Rawalpindi, Sargodha, Gujranwala, Lahore & D.G.Khan Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan (Zhob and Kalat Divisions) including Low Pressure Area over upper catchments of all

Constant protests, traffic chaos undermine idealized vision of life

Islamabad, once revered as web of daily strife. For its residents, the idealized vision of life in the capital has become an increasingly elusive dream.

The city, previously a now marred by ceaseless about my children's safety, political protests, religious especially when they travel ever-present specter of commuting chaos. What was once seen as a haven has transformed into a battleground where daily existence is overshadowed its citizens an ongoing struggle.

Doctor Alina Nasir, a 42-

Kashmir ten years ago for residents stuck for hours. shares, her frustration pal- to think of Islamabad as a caught in a protest.' symbol of tranquility, is pable. "Every day, I worry place where I could grow

The city's infrastructure, once designed to accommo- a school teacher who also stressful. by unrest, making life for date its growing popula- relocated to Islamabad tion, now buckles under the strain of frequent demon-

wracking ordeal.'

venient; it's dangerous.'

flung

(APP): Islamabad from Azad testers stage rallies, leaving reality is far from ideal. neighborhoods, roadwork peace, is now entangled in a employment opportunities, ing quality of life, where kids," says Mrs. Riffat, her city into a traffic nightful life here, but it's been businessman, echoes they'll be able to get to cles. And unfortunately, I anything but that," she Alina's sentiments. "I used school safely or if they'll be am residing near Faizabad,

old peacefully. Now, I'm are the frequent VIP movenot sure if I can even get to ments, ongoing road construggles

from Rawalpindi's far-stantly living in a pressure vibrancy of public life has flung village Kallar cooker," complains Anis been overshadowed by the strations and political Sayedan to provide their ur Rehman, a 47-year-old year-old medical practition- unrest. The roads are often children with better educa- IT professional. "VIP con- religious discord. to clogged with traffic as pro- tional opportunities, the voys speed through our

"We moved here hoping for is a never-ending saga, and the epicentre of all the Adding insult to injury political and religious demonstrations.

demonstrations, and the to and from school. The work on time. The protests struction projects, and extends beyond daily comever-present specter of political rallies and road- that break out with little high-profile cricket match- mutes and safety concerns. blocks are constant, making notice create havoc on our es. These events often lead The constant disruptions the daily commute a nerve- streets. It's not just incon- to road closures, making are eroding the sense of of community and well-being For families like Jaffrys, Islamabad's residents more that once characterized Islamabad. Social gather-"It feels like we're con- ings are now rare, and the been overshadowed by the grim reality of political and

Doctor Maryam, a local

a sanctuary of serenity and its reputed calm and better This has led to a deteriorat- a safer environment for our cricket matches turn the malaise. "The persistent tent. While city officials stress and uncertainty are now finds herself grappling every journey feels like a with a relentless cycle of stress. "I imagined a peaceAli Raza, a 45-year-old face the anxiety of whether become a series of obstaized image of Islamabad as a peaceful capital is crumbling, and with it, the psychological well-being of its residents is suffering." And it must be a matter of con-The impact of this unrest cern for the relevant authorities, she forcefully stressed.

Islamabad's transformation from a symbol of calm to a center of turmoil reflects broader socio-political changes in Pakistan. The city, envisioned in the 1960s as a serene administrative capital, now grappolitical instability.

insight into this growing issues have been inconsisoccasionally plans to improve traffic management and enhance security, the effectiveness of these measures often falls short, leaving residents to steer the chaos largely on their own. The daily trials of its res-

idents— from navigating the maze of traffic caused by protests to ensuring their children's safety—paint a picture of a city struggling under the weight of its own idealization.

As Islamabad faces this ongoing challenge, it begs the question: can a city truly reclaim its peace, or ples with the pressures of is it destined to be perpetrapid urbanization and ually trapped in its own contradictions?

IE seeks Qatar cooperation

KABUL (BNA): The Acting Minister of Information and Culture of Afghanistan Mullah Khairullah Khairkhwa, discussed potential areas of cooperation with the Adviser of the Embassy of Qatar, Murdif Al Qashuti. Mullah Khairullah Khairkhwa welcomed the Qatari official and expressed the Islamic Emirate's desire for Qatar to cooperate in organizing exhibitions showcasing Afghanistan's rich his-

The Frontier Post Safar 17 1446 — Friday, August 23, 2024

Kabul hosts exhibition

KABUL (Khaama Press): In line with the ongoing national and international exhibitions in the country, a national exhibition showcasing the economic progress of Afghanistan was inaugurated on Thursday in Kabul. The exhibition, which opened on Thursday at the International Exhibition Center of Afghanistan, was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the private

Asia is comparable to a living body composed of soil and water. The heart that beats inside the body is Afghanistan. The destruction of Afghanistan would be the destruction of Asia. And in its progress and prosperity lies the well-being of Asia. - Allama Iqbal

Law on propagation of virtue, prevention of vice approved

ndzada, supreme leader of and avoiding violation of any other punishment the Islamic Emirate of privacy except in cases Afghanistan (IEA), has allowed by Sharia. approved a law on propaga-

Virtue and Prevention of infidels or assisting them. Vice and duties and powers

The law calls for Muhttion of virtue and preven- asibs to prevent vices such tion of vice, the Ministry of Justice announced.

The law has four chapThe law has four chapters and 35 articles, and dealing with drugs, Barakatullah Rasouli, a spokesman for the Ministry of Justice, said on X.

He said that the law regulates the affairs of the Ministry of the cutting beard or trimming it smaller than a handful, cutting hair against Sharia, Ministry of Propagation of and making friends with

According to the law, if a of Muhtasibs (inspectors). person commits a vice, they also necessary due
The law calls for advis-shall be advised, warned, moral corruption.

Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhu- revelation of private sins hour up to three days, or deemed suitable by the Muhtasib.

Muhtasibs are also required to advise against publishing pictures of living creatures with stories.

They are also required to prevent preparing and watching of pictures and videos of living creatures on computers, mobile phones and other devices.

The law states that it is necessary for women to cover their entire body and that covering of face is

Public Health Ministry holds joint meeting

monkeypox prevention, control discussed



KABUL (BNA): The coun- international organizations, try's Ministry of Public including Mr. Edwin Sinesa Health held a joint meeting Slodder, the WHO Represto discuss necessary meas- entative for Afghanistan, Dr. ures for preventing and controlling the outbreak of Representative, and officials

by key representatives from tance of controlling infec- Health in this endeavor.

tious diseases, mainly monkeypox, which poses a sig nificant threat to public health in Afghanistan.

The Minister also underscored the need for continmonkeypox in the country. from the International ued cooperation from the The meeting, chaired by Organization for Migration. participating organizations

UN urges need for 18,000 midwives in Afghanistan

KABUL (Khaama Press): United Population Fund (UNFPA) ters supported by UNFPA, regarding the high mater- has increased sixfold this nal mortality rate in year. Over the past three improve overall healthcare Afghanistan, stating that years, the organization has outcomes in the country. the country urgently needs assisted in treating more 18,000 midwives.

The organization has in remote areas. warned that failing to address this urgent need in healthcare for 18,000 midwives in maternal mortality rates. Afghanistan being highlighted as "urgent.

a Press): According to the report, skilled Nations the number of health cen- Afghani issued a warning which was active in 2021, than five million Afghans

Despite the increase in facilities, Afghanistan endangers Afghanistan's health sysmany lives. Globally, tem suffers from signifi-UNFPA estimates that cant deficiencies, with a 900,000 skilled (trained) shortage of skilled midmidwives are needed, with wives being a serious conthe immediate requirement cern contributing to high

Afghanistan's health system, asserting that their inclusion will help prevent maternal deaths and

Meanwhile, addressing the shortage of midwives in Afghanistan is crucial for improving maternal health and reducing mortality rates.

The international community's support and immediate action are essential to ensure that this pressing need is met and to enhance the country's The UN emphasizes the overall health infrastruc-urgency of recruiting ture.

UAE accepts credentials of IE's new **Ambassador**

KABUL (BNA): The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has announced the United Arab Emirates has accepted the credentials of the Islamic Emirate's Ambassador.

According to a press release from the Ministry, Badruddin Mawlawi Haqqani, the Islamic Emirate's Ambassador, presented his credentials to Saif Abdullah Al-Shamsi, the Assistant Minister for Protocol at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

during a formal ceremony. Mawlawi Badruddin Haqqani described the relations between Afghanistan and the UAE as historical and expressed gratitude and satisfaction for the ongoing cooperation and assistance provided by the UAE.

Additionally, Saif Abdullah Al-Shamsi also expressed hope that the relationship between the UAE and Afghanistan would be further strengthened with the appointment of the new ambassador.

According to the press release, the new Islamic Emirate's Ambassador will soon present his credentials in a formal ceremony to the Emir of the United Arab Emirates.

KM unveils **220m AFN** commercial market

KABUL (BNA): A new commercial market, primarily focused on textile sales. has been completed in Kabul and officially inaugurated by various officials. Constructed by the

Kabul Municipality, this market is located in the Mandawi area of the city's First District.

During the inauguration, Deputy Urban Services of Mawlawi Noor Jalal Jalali, During the meeting, the Acting Minister of Acting Minister empha-maintain their support for awi Mohammad Khalid Public Health, was attended sized the critical impor- the Ministry of Public Sajistani, emphasized that nis market holds significant value for economic growth and job creation. reiterated Municipality's support for private sector investment to ensure secure and sustainable development.

Private sector representatives also attended the event, praising the construction of such commercial buildings as beneficial and valuable for economic growth and investment.

The market is equipped with urban and solar electricity, a fire protection system, a mosque, restrooms and other facilities.

The contracting company will collect rent from entrepreneurs and shopkeepers for three years, and the government rent of the shops will be handed over to the Kabul Municipality. Spanning 4,200 square meters, this market includes five blocks, three floors, a basement, and 474 shops.

EU Chargé d'Affaires concludes mission

— new appointee announced

(BNA): Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced the conclusion of the mission of the European Union's Chargé d'Affaires for Afghanistan, Ms. Raffaella Iodice.

According to a press release, Ms. Iodice held a farewell meeting with Sher Mohammad Stanikzai, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Deputy

During the meeting, Ms. lodice expressed her gratitude for the support and cooperation received from the Ministry throughout her two-year tenure. announced the end of her European Union Chargé travel to Doha to participate d'Affaires in Kabul.

The press release further embassies noted that the EU Chargé Afghanistan, followed by a the progress made in assured Iodice of continued d'Affaires emphasized the comprehensive meeting Afghanistan's economic continued cooperation with European Union offisector.



in a detailed meeting with

appreciation for the Islamic Emirate's participation and regarding conveyed satisfaction with

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the country expressed appreciation for the European Union's assistance in various fields and cooperation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Tehran and Kabul reach agreement on anti-drug measures

Iranian delegation, after in the field of drug control. concluding their visit to Zarei added: "The exchAfghanistan, has announced an agreement between ing the fight against drug attention to the issue of contribute to the security of exchange of information to experiences in this area, the combat drug trafficking.

Iranian media, citing services for combating dru-Mohammad Zarei, Deputy gs, and the establishment of trol Headquarters, reported mation exchange are the

Tehran and Kabul for the trafficking, the transfer of provision of educational

Head of Iran's Drug Con- joint committees for inforthat the latest agreements most recent agreements between Kabul and Tehran reached with the interim

tary affairs expert, said: drugs and eradicate it." The Deputy Head of Iran's Drug Control Hqrs emphasized that a serious

and targeted fight against drugs will be carried out. cal experts praise the joint

Meanwhile, some politifight against drugs, adding include the sharing of experiment. Afghan government. That this cooperation will riences, provision of educational services, and the forrequested these measures." that this cooperation will have a positive impact on the relations between the

Sayyed Moqadam Amin, both countries and help build trust between them.

The Ministry of Interior of the Islamic Emirate said that although no formal agreement has been made with Iran on this matter, they had previously assured that all forms of cultivation, production, and trafficking of drugs from Afghanistan would be prevented.

Kazakhstan accepts IEA diplomat as Charge d'Affaires

Kazakhstan this week accredited Muhammad Ur Rehman Rahmani as Afghanistan's Charge d'Affaires.
Accepting Rahmani's
credentials was Kazakh-

stan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alibek Bakayev. Speaking at the event,

Bakayev stated that Kazakhstan accredited Rahmani as Charge d'Affaires based on the goal of both countries to expand trade, economic and humanitarian cooperation.

Active involvement of Afghanistan into regional relations creates additional conditions for restoring the dation of social stability by improv-Afghan people, as well as problems. maintaining peace and security in the region, Bakayev said.



international country's economy and efforts to provide assistance to Afghanistan and resolve ing the situation of the its complex humanitarian

He also said Kazakhstan Centre for Sustainable advocates for the consoli- Development for Central

He stated that to this end, Kazakhstan has proposed to establish the UN Regional

Turkmenistan, another important country Central Asia, also accepted the Islamic Emirate's diplomat as Charge d'Affaires in Ashgabat last month.

countries have taken the relations lead in expanding relations Afghanistan.

with the Islamic Emirate government.

President The Kazakhstan announced in June that he removed the Islamic Emirate from the list of terrorist groups in Russia and Central Asia order to develop economic

Six killed, five injured in explosion in Nangarhar

DARA NOOR, Nangarhar (Khaama Press): In an explosion targeting a police ranger vehicle in the Dara Noor district of Nangarhar, at least six students from a religious school were killed, while another student and four Taliban members were

mand in Nangarhar stated that these students and their teachers were traveling to the Dara Noor district for educational purposes. According to a statement released by the

A spokesperson for the Taliban police com-

Taliban, the explosion occurred at 12:30 PM on Thursday on the route of the Taliban ranger in the village of Shimal.

The statement reports that four students were killed instantly, and two others, all minors, succumbed to their injuries on the way. The Taliban police spokesperson in

Nangarhar reported that five students and one teacher from the religious school were killed in the explosion. Abdul Basir Zabli mentioned that all the vic-

tims were residents of Nooristan and were traveling to Dara Noor for educational purposes. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the explosion, and detailed information about the nature of the incident remains unclear.

The increasing frequency of such attacks reflects a broader pattern of violence. ISIS, as a major adversary of the Taliban, has escalated its campaign of bombings and targeted assaults against the Taliban, contributing to the instabili-

ty in the region. The lack of clarity about the perpetrators highlights the ongoing challenges in ensuring safety

and security in volatile areas. Efforts to address these threats must be intensified to protect innocent lives and mitigate fur ther violence.

Devastating floods in several provinces claim lives

KABUL (TOLOnews): As a result of information, around 100 houses have recent floods in several provinces of the country, at least ten people have lost their lives and eight others have been injured.

These floods have hit parts of the provinces of Logar, Laghman, Panjshir, Ghazni, Maidan Wardak, Nangarhar, and

Officials said that in addition to the human casualties, these floods have also some provinces. According to preliminary

been partially or completely destroyed. Ministry of Disaster Management, said Jalalabad city was affected by rain and regarding the recent floods: "Ten of our floods." compatriots have lost their lives in these floods, and eight people have been financial losses to the residents of these injured across the country. More than one provinces.

hundred homes have been partially or completely destroyed, and our compatricaused significant financial losses in ots' agricultural products have also been

Saifullah Khalid, head of Disaster Management Department in Nangarhar, Janan Saiq, the spokesperson of the said: "Last night, the seventh district of

> The floods have caused significant "The flood destroyed our bean field;

we had planted beans on a plot of one jerib of land," Sher Mohammad, a resident of Logar, said. The land we had was ruined by the

flood. We had planted potatoes in this land," Mir Noman, another resident of Logar, said. Saeedullah Badr, the head of Natural

Disaster Management in Logar, said: 'The floods have destroyed people's crops and also damaged several houses.' Former President Hamid Karzai has called for aid and assistance to those

affected by floods, expressing hope that the relevant agencies will address their challenges. "Along with expressing sympathy

with the affected people, I hope that dear compatriots, especially aid organizations and national traders, will rush to the aid of the victims and pay attention to meeting their needs," the former president said.

Afghanistan is one of the countries affected by climate change, with natural disasters causing significant financial and human losses to its citizens every year.

Afghan refugees in Iran complain of mistreatment

KABUL (TOLOnews): Several Afghan refugees in Iran claim that the country's security forces not only mistreat them but also forcibly take their money

These refugees have asked the interim government to provide job opportunities in Afghanistan.

Mustafa, a deported refugee from Iran, said: 'Last Saturday they arrested us, we arrived here today. We were severely oppressed, beaten, and treated in a way that no one would even treat animals. If the Islamic Emirate provides job opportunities for us, we would not be unfortunate to have to work in neighboring countries.

Hamid, another deportee, said: "In one camp, they bring in 500 refugees. They provide food twice a day, which is just beans. All the restrooms are broken, and another issue is that we paid money through a card once, and they even gave us a receipt. But half an hour later, when our group was full, they came and demanded

Meanwhile, local officials in Nimroz said that in the past two months, at least 130,000 Afghan refugees have voluntarily or forcibly returned from Iran to Afghanistan.

Mohammad Ehsan Visal, the financial director of the Directorate of Refugees and Returnees in Nimroz, said: "Two to two and a half thousand refugees return to the country daily, and in the past two months, 120,000 to 130,000 refugees have returned. At the Silk Road Bridge, the Islamic Emirate and charitable organizations jointly provide financial assistance to our compatriots.

We sought to obtain the views of the Iranian Consulate in Kandahar on this matter but were unsuccessful.

In the past, Afghan refugees have repeatedly complained about the mistreatment by Iranian



RAWALPINDI: General Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff in a group photo with a delegation of 44 students from Harvard Business School (HBS) Trek-2024 at General Headquarters.

Ukrainian forces tried to strike Kursk nuclear plant, says Putin

Vladimir Putin says Ukrainian forces have tried to attack the Kursk Nuclear Power Station in an overnight raid. The Russian leader did not offer evidence for the claim but said on Thursday that Moscow has informed the United Nations nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), about the incident.

Ukraine has not responded to Russia's allegations. "The enemy tried to strike the nuclear power plant at night. The IAEA has been informed," Putin said in a televised government meeting. Putin made the claim as Ukrainian forces continued weeks after launching an ambitious cross-border attack, which has become an embarrassing headache for Moscow. While the strategic aims of Ukraine's Kursk incursion remain

Russia, Zelenskyy said Ukraine's military had taken control of another Russian village and captured more Russian territory have also offered a morale in the war, analysts said.

the Kursk nuclear plant, prompting a capture of Russian soldiers who in July. India has avoided condemn-call for restraint on both sides from could be exchanged for Ukrainian ing Russia's invasion and is the Rafael Grossi, the IAEA director general, on August 9. Acting Kursk

Russian President Governor Alexei Smirnov told Putin the plant, home to four Soviet-era nuclear reactors, remains "stable".

It is not the first time Ukraine and Russia have traded accusations of reckless attacks on nuclear plants since Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Russian forces temporarily seized the abandoned Chornobyl power plant in northern Ukraine in 2022, a move that was criticised as "very, very dangerous" by the IAEA at the time. Russian troops also control Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant and have accused Ukraine of launching "dangerous" drone strikes in the area to fight inside Russia more than two around Europe's largest nuclear power station. Kyiv has denied the allegations as "fake".

Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has visited the border areas in the Sumy region from uncertain, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Thursday said the attack is part of an effort to bring the war to an end on terms amenable to Thursday that he had met Oleksandr Syrskii, commander-in-chief of the During a visit to the northern army, receiving reports on the "oper-Sumy region, where his forces ational situation across all active launched their surprise offensive into combat zones", in a video posted on social media platform X.

The Ukrainian army's surprise incursion into Kursk on August 6 saw prisoners of war. The raids into it take control of dozens of settlements, forcing tens of thousands of much-needed boost for Ukrainian civilians to flee and taking hundreds morale in the war, analysts said.

Russian and Ukrainian forces have fought about 30km (18 miles) from of prisoners captive. Zelenskyy said Ukraine had "replenished the exchange fund", a reference to the prisoners of war held by Moscow.

Ukrainian officials have said the weapons. — Aljazeera

goals of the offensive included creating a "buffer zone" on Russian territory, seeking an end to the war on "fair" terms and stretching Russian forces. In his statement on Thursday, the president said there had been a decrease in shelling and civilian casualties in Sumy since the Kursk operation. However, Ukrainian troops are still struggling in the eastern Donbas

been making steady gains.

Zelenskyy said he discussed the "toughest front-line areas" with his army chief, in particular the strategic Donetsk hubs of Toretsk and Pokrovsk, where Moscow's forces have concentrated their offensive for months and where fierce fighting continues. Russian President Vladimir Putin has said Moscow will deliver a "worthy response" to the Kursk incursion, which he has described as a major provocation.

region, where the Russian army has

Putin was meeting on Thursday with senior officials about the situation in the border areas. Acting Kursk Governor Alexei Smirnov said 133,190 people had left or been evacuated from the region. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Kyiv on Friday to meet Zelenskyy, and said he will be discussing ending the war with Russia.

"India believes that war cannot be a solution to any conflict. We support dialogue and diplomacy," Modi said during a joint media conference with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk in Warsaw on Thursday. Modi met Putin world's largest buyer of Russian

HBS students meets COAS F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: A delegation of 44 students from Harvard Business School (HBS) Trek-2024, representing 9 different countries, met General Syed the General Headquarters on Thursday. The interactive session provided a platform to share perspectives on Pakistan's pivotal role in promoting regional peace and stability, its unwavering efforts against terrorism, and its commitment to upholding democratic val-

COAS General Syed Asim Munir emphasized the significance of education, critical thinking, and innovation in addressing contemporary security challenges. He highlighted Pakistan's vast potential and encouraged the attendees to form their own opinions based on personal experiences. The COAS also cautioned against the perils of misinformation and fake news in the digital age, urging the students to navigate this landscape with discernment. The Harvard students expressed their gratitude to the COAS for facilitating a constructive and enlighteninteraction. This engagement follows the COAS's earlier interaction with students from various universities at the General Headquarters on 20 August, underscoring his commitment to nurturing and inspiring the nation's youth.

JI chief for power relief to country

F.P. Report

LAHORE: Hafiz Naeem has said that Punjab government could not diffuse the problem with two months relief in electricity bills. Talking to media in Lahore, the Jamaat Islami chief said, "They are trying to make the people fool with this charity." "You have to give relief to whole have to give relief to whole Pakistan," JI Ameer said.

He demanded permanent relief to people in electricity bills. JI chief also demanded forensic audit of the IPPs. He said that August 28 will see an istan Telecommunication sion in the tax net. "There is corruption in the FBR," he further said.

Hafiz Naeem said that promised relief amount has been lower than the capacity payment to the IPPs of the people close to the Sharif family. JI leader said that in our and the PTI's alliance, the PTI would have more benefit, but they made U-turn. "Alliances could not run long with confusion," Naeem said. He also demanded judicial probe of the May 09 incidents. "I am saying from the very first day that the government must go to home," he said.

Court seeks answers in disappearance F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: The Lahore High Court Rawalpindi Bench, led by Justice Raza Qureshi, conducted a hearing on the petition concerning the disappearance of former Deputy Superintendent Adiala Jail, Muhammad Akram.

During the session, the Additional Attorney General asserted that the missing officer is not in the custody of agencies. An affidavit of ignorance was also submitted by the CPO, denying any knowledge of the Deputy Superintendent's

whereabouts.

The Ministry of Defence presented a written statement, while senior officials from the IB, Police, and other agencies submitted affidavits, unanimously declaring that Muhammad Akram is not in the custody of any provincial or federal authority.

In a decisive move, the court ordered the CPO to personally record the statement of the current Party's nomination as their Superintendent of Adiala Jail and delve deeper into the matter. The FIR related to the case has already been registered, but the court is now questioning the necessity of further hearings. The proceedings were adjourned until August 27, with the court seeking additional arguments from the peti-

PHC declares KP govt decision null and void

Humayun Khan

PESHAWAR: A divisional bench of Peshawar High Court (PHC) comprising of Justice Ijaz Anwar and Justice Ijaz Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS), at government to reinitiate the appointment process for Vice-Chancellors of 19 public universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as null and void, on Thursday.

During the hearing, Advocate General Shah Faisal Ottomankhel, Deputy Attorney General Sana Ullah, and lawyers for the petitioners, including Amer Javeed, Mubashir Manzoor, Tariq Afridi, and Saifullah Mohib Kakakhel advocates, appeared before the court.

Chancellors in various universities of the province have been vacant for over a year. The previous provincial government had initiated the appointment process, which was completed by the caretaker government. However, the current provincial government has restarted the appointment process, which the petitioners have challenged in court.

During the hearing, the lawyers argued that the appointment process for Vice-Chancellors had already been completed and the government wanted to restart it. They pointed out that the provincial cabinet had approved the formation of a new search committee, but instead of forming a committee, they had re-advertised the posts. The lawyers argued that the entire appointment process had been completed and only the governor's approval was pending. They also mentioned that the provincial government had taken the same stance in the Supreme Court, stating that the appointment process was complete and would be finalized soon. Justice Ijaz Anwar inquired about the

first advertisement for the appointment process, to which it was replied that it was published during the previous elected government, and the process had started, which was later approved by the caretaker government. However, the current government wants to restart the entire process.

The counsel Amer Javed advocate argued that firstly, a search committee needs to be formed, and then an advertisement can be published. He pointed out that the academic search committee consists of and 5 from within the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He argued that the governthe two external members and appoint all hearing the arguments.

members from within the province. Advocate General argued that the care-

taker government did not take permission from the Election Commission to appoint members of the academic search committee. The committee was incomplete, and five members had resigned before the interviews and shortlisting of candidates. PHC after hearing the arguments, declared the decision to restart the appointment process for Vice-Chancellors as null and

Meanwhile, similar PHC bench dismissed a writ petition against the appointment of a Pro-Vice Chancellor at Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan and ordered the provincial government and parties to The petitioners, including Dr. continue the process of appointing a Pro-Aurangzeb, argued that the posts of Vice-Vice Chancellor.

A two-member bench comprising Justice Ijaz Anwar and Justice Ijaz Khan Sabi heard the writ petition filed by Professor Zahoor ul Haq, who argued that the post of Pro-Vice Chancellor should be filled by a senior professor. According to the rules, one of the three senior-most professors should be appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor. The petitioner was top on the list, being the most senior professor.

The Advocate General, Shah Faisal Atmanzai, stated that when the process for Pro-Vice Chancellor began, the government said that if a Dean is not available, a professor can be appointed. The Vice Chancellor's job is administrative, which a Dean can handle well.

Justice Ijaz Anwar asked, "If a professor has been a Dean and is also senior, then why can't they be appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor?" He added, "Your explanation suggests that you don't want to appoint anyone from the professors or lecturers,

but only want to appoint a Dean."

The university's lawyer, Mansoor Tariq, explained that a Dean is the head of a faculty, and Abdul Wali Khan University has five faculties. Currently, there are three Deans in the university. The most qualified member is appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor.

Justice Ijaz Anwar pointed out that the petitioner had also been a Dean and was senior, to which the university's lawyer replied that the petitioner should have been appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor when they were a Dean. He added that three names would be sent to the govern-7 members, 2 from outside the province ment, including the petitioner's name, and whoever the government appoints would become the Pro-Vice Chancellor. The ment wants to amend the law to remove court dismissed the writ petition after

PTA reveals reason behind internet slowdown in country

F.P. Report

extremely successful Authority (PTA) on protest strike. "The 'Tajir Thursday gave another jus-Dost Scheme' has been a scheme to destroy traders," he said. He said Jamaat Islami also wants expan
Initistaly gave allotter just of said and the said structure of the country internet disruptions across ice due to faults near when Pakistan Tehreek-e-the country, blaming the said that operators were resountry. He also said that seven international submarine cables connecting Pakistan internationally".

The statement came amid strong criticism from netizens and information technology (IT) sector, attributing the prevailing internet slowdown and limited connectivity to the purported testing of an internet firewall to rein in social media, which is equipped with filters to block unwanted content from

reaching a wider audience. According to an official statement issued by the

ty today, the AAE-1 cable following has experienced a 250G outage due to rerouting between Iran and Qatar. imise the impact on internet users in Pakistan'.

'The concerned teams is monitoring the situation till internet speeds are normalised in the country," the statement concluded. A day earlier, PTA Chairman Maj Gen (retd) Hafeezur Rehman admitted that upgradation of the National Firewall System (NFS) or (WMS) was under way for controlling or removing

telecommunication authori- contents from social media, received from executives or courts.

He said the PC-1 for the "Similarly, SMW 4 cable NFS upgradation was routing traffic on other social media messaging available cables to 'min- service X, formerly Twitter, was banned for not complying with the directives issued by the interior minare fixing the fault and PTA istry, as there was a defined mechanism to slap a ban or remove content on social media under the law of the land. Under the Web Management System, it is the mandate of PTA to comply with the orders of the executive or superior courts and cited examples that they Web Management System removed contents related to pornography or blasphemy, the PTA chief said.



SWABI: Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur talking

Kamala Harris' roots reflect changing US demographics

CHICAGO (Reuters): The races. America has long president, and it's beautidaughter of a Jamaican father and Indian mother, both immigrants, Kamala Harris reflects the United States' changing demographics. When she steps onto the stage Thursday evening in Chicago to accept the Democratic presidential candidate, she will represent the country's fastest growing racial cate-

Šome Americans now identify as multiracial, or 13% of the country, according to the US Census Bureau. That is

been a self-styled "melting pot" of people who trace their origins around the world, but in practice some states legally segregated citizens by race until the civil rights laws of the 1960s and laws prohibiting interracial marriage were not overturned until 1967. Social change since,

though, has been rapid. Barack Obama was elected as the country's first Black president in 2008, and Harris would be the first Black woman and South Asian if elected in November. "We're living in

ful," said Svante Myrick, president of People for the American Way, an advocacy group, whose father was Black and his mother white.

America's future will look even more diverse. The vast majority of multiracial people are younger than 44 and a third are still children. The trend has been met by confusion, upset and worse from some of the US's shrinking white majority. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump drew groans at a gathering of Black journalists last month when he up from 2% in 2000 when a situation 50 years later the census first allowed people to select multiple at our second mixed-race falsely portrayed Harris as pivoting from Indian to Black.

'Structural reforms' under IMF committed'

ISLAMABAD (INP): Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb on Thursday said that the government remained "very committed" to the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s structural reforms amid uncertainty regarding the IMF's \$7 billion bailout schedule.

Speculation arose when the country's name did not show up in the IMF executive board's schedule for August 28. Previously, the finance minister had anticipated IMF board approval by the last week of August, contingent on confirmation of about \$12bn in debt rollovers from China, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. However, aside from a \$1bn rollover by the UAE, the remaining \$11bn in debt extensions

have yet to materialise. The IMF's executive board is now expected to approve Pakistan's \$7 billion bailout programme in September, while the finance minister has said that the government was in "constant contact with the IMF". "The fund will help bring further permanence to this macroeconomic stability and under that, we remain very committed, he said at the inaugural ceremony of the Buna-Raast Connectivity Project

On the remittances side the finance minister said that the informal market still captured a "sizable share of the remittances' and that they "must do more", remembering the administrative measures that were taken previously curb illegal channels in September.

'Addressing this challenge is a pre-priority for reducing economic leakages," he said, adding that "digitalisation is not an end in itself its a means to an end — it brings transparency, it brings client friendliness and it certainly helps reduce leakages in the system." Leakages, he said, were not just in the context of remittances but also in the tax and power system. "We call it leakages but all of this is ultimately about corruption and people processed technology," he said.

opportunities to youth

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Thursday stressed the need to provide maximum opportunities to the youth by correcting the priorities in the fields of information technology(IT), agriculture, education, and sports

Addressing the National Youth Convention here he said Pakistan was a lucky country as its 60% population consisted of youth below 30 years of age who could change the destiny of the nation. "There is a need to correct the direction and economy of the country, bring IT revolution, and promote quality education to the new generation", the minister said.

He urged the young generation to understand the vision behind the creation of a separate state for Muslims in the subcontinent. He remarked that Indian atrocities in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and on Indian Muslims across the border had vindicated the stance of Muslims for an independent state. He said that Kashmiris were still struggling to nation. become part of Pakistan with great resolve, resilience, and determination despite the brutality and oppression of Indian rulers.

He told the participants of youth

Tarar for providing Quaid-e-Azam was support- tion and hard work of Arshad

tributed to the creation of this country, and the youth will change the destiny of this country", the information minister remarked. He said that Muslim migration from Makkah to Madinah and lesson for everyone. He said that about 12,00,000 people Muslims were attacked and passengers butchered merci-

He said countless women and girls were raped and holy blood of tens of thoufoundations of Pakistan which was created on the 27th of Ramazan. He said that Allah Almighty had created Pakistan on the holiest country would prosper, develop, and survive till eternity. He said now it was work hard to make Pakistan a strong, modern, developed

mined and hardworking creation of hope and providnation and Arshad Nadeem's ing opportunities to the success is a beacon and a youth so that their talent

ed by a large number of Nadeem, the minister said he youths in the Pakistan made the first javelin by Movement. "The youth conbreaking a tree branch in his village near Mian Channu. He said overcoming all

hardships Arshad Nadeem brought the entire nation together by winning the gold medal as the entire nation celebrated his historic victofrom India to Pakistan had a ry in a befitting way. He said under the Prime Minister's Laptop scheme, free-of-cost sacrificed their lives during laptops were given on merit migration to Pakistan in to students of educational 1947 as trains carrying institutions. He said that laptops given to youth under the PM scheme played an national economy stable dur-

important role in keeping the ing Covid 19. Similarly, he molested during the process said that the PML-N govern-of migration. He said the ment launched the Danish School system in Punjab for sands of martyrs was in the deserving students in the most backward areas and this step paid dividends. Making long and alluring

speeches was easier than doing something practical night of Laila Tul Qadr and for the welfare of the people he had the belief that this of the country, he opined. He said that unfortunately in this digital age, controversies and sensational things attract the the responsibility and duty attention of the users and of the new generation to constructive achievements fail to get proper coverage He stressed the need to fight the tendency of despair and "Pakistanis are a deter- despondency through the source of inspiration for could be utilized in a better

", he maintained. manner for nation building the convention that the Referring to the determina- process.

PNS Hunain visits Jeddah F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The newly commissioned Navy Ship HUNAIN, during maiden voyage from Romania to Pakistan, visited Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and participated in bilateral exercise with Ship of Royal Saudi Naval Forces.

Upon arrival at Jeddah port, the ship was received by senior officials of Royal Naval Forces (RSNF) and officials of Pakistan Embassy. During stay at port, Commanding Officer PNS HUNAIN called on RSNF Navy Western Fleet Commander Saood Al Jayyad and rehearsed Commander King Faisal Maritime



Amri. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest and bilateral cooperation the navies. between both the navies

were discussed. conducted Passage Exercise with HMS AL flourish and strengthen Rear Admiral Mansoor Bin RIYADH of RSNF and existing brotherly relations Drills

Saleh Bin Abdullah Al- exercise was to provide an opportunity to enhance interoperability between

Visit of PNS HUNAIN to Saudi Arabia and partici-Later, PNS HUNAIN pation in bilateral exercise provided an opportunity to various Joint and defence collaboration and between the two countries.

tioner's side.