

### Governor refuses to sign

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi, on Sunday refused to approve the appointment of a sixth Advisor to the provincial cabinet. In remarks on the summary, the Governor cited Article 130, Clause (11) of the Constitution, which permits the Chief Minister to appoint no more than five advisors. Consequently, the Governor has declined to sign the summary.



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# Shehbaz vows to make Pakistan polio-free

### Calls for ensuring education for all

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday launched a special anti-polio campaign to ensure complete eradication of polio from the country.

The prime minister has initiated the polio campaign across 115 districts of the country, during which 30 million children under the age of five will be vaccinated against this debilitating disease.

From September 9 to 15, some 286,000 polio workers will go door-to-door to administer polio drops to the children.

"We are grateful to the partners and friendly international organizations cooperating with the government in the fight against polio," the prime minister said.

He expressed optimism that the federal government, in collaboration with provincial governments and partners, will succeed in completely eradicating polio from the country.

"Our efforts to eliminate polio from Pakistan will certainly bear fruit, Insha'Allah," said the prime minister.

The prime minister also paid tribute to the efforts of federal and provincial officials, polio workers, and security personnel in the fight against polio.

He urged parents to ensure that their children under five receive the polio vaccine to protect

them from lifelong disability.

On this occasion, the prime minister personally administered polio drops to children.

The ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister's Coordinator for Health, Dr. Mukhtar Bharath; the Prime Minister's Special Representative for Polio Eradication, Ayesha Raza Farooq; representatives from the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the Gates Foundation, and the United Nations; along with other senior officials.

**PM calls for promoting literacy, ensuring education for all**

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday called upon the nation to support the government's efforts in promoting literacy and ensuring education for all, emphasizing the importance of building a bright future for the children and the country.

"Literacy is a fundamental human and constitutional right that guarantee the future of our country," the prime minister said in a message on the occasion of International Literacy Day.

He said literacy was not merely the ability to read and write, it was a gateway to empowerment, economic opportunities, and active participation in society.

"Today, we reaffirm

our commitment to advancing the education agenda, striving for a more informed and sustainable nation", he said adding "Education is the backbone of our society. For this purpose, we have declared an educational emergency across the country, launched an enrollment campaign for students, and initiated mid-day meals for children in schools."

To reduce the dropout rate and encourage every child to complete their education, the prime minister pointed out that the government had introduced scholarships and other incentives.

In this rapidly emerging world, developing literacy and skills in line with technology is inevitable; the prime minister said adding that the government was implementing a comprehensive plan to integrate technology into the educational system, ensuring that the youth were equipped with the necessary skills to thrive in the digital economy.

He said private sector and civil society organizations were equal partners in the government's efforts.

"By establishing effective partnerships, we can link education with employment and self-employment opportunities, creating a stronger and more inclusive workforce," he added.

## President honors Naval heroes of 1965 war

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday paying tribute to the Pakistan Navy on 'Navy Day', praised its role in the country's defense, the bravery of officers and personnel, and their sacrifices.

In a message on Navy Day, the president highlighted that the Pakistan Navy, during the 1965 war, proved its capabilities by conducting successful operations against the enemy.

The Pakistan Navy has full capability to deal with both traditional and non-traditional maritime challenges facing the country, the president added.

He emphasized that a strong navy was the guarantor of Pakistan's security and prosperity.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to further modernize and strengthen the Pakistan Navy, the president said the Pakistan Navy played a key role in national defense and promoting regional peace.

"The Pakistan Navy is always ready to defend Pakistan's maritime interests and territorial waters."

He said the nation was proud of the bravery, dedication, and patriotism of the Pakistan Navy and its personnel, adding that the sacrifices of the heroes of the Pakistan Navy serve as a guiding light for the nation.

## Tarar visits Naval Headquarters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Sunday visited the Naval Headquarters on the occasion of Pakistan Navy Day.

The minister laid a floral wreath at the Martyrs' Memorial, paying tribute to the sacrifices of Navy personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Addressing on the occasion, Tarar expressed pride in being present at the memorial and praised the eternal services rendered by the Pakistan Navy for the country's defense.

He highlighted the significance of Operation Dwaraka, launched on September 7, 1965, and commended the bravery of Navy personnel who targeted enemy positions during the operation.

Attaullah Tarar also remembered Lieutenant Aftab Ahmed Shaheed and other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation.

He emphasized the importance of unity in the face of terrorism and expressed confidence that the nation's morale would remain high.

In addition to honouring the martyrs, Tarar discussed the significance of the Blue Economy in the current era.

He highlighted Pakistan's focus on exploring this sector through joint ventures with multiple countries, including China, and Middle East to secure the country's economic revival. The minister reaffirmed the Navy's role in ensuring the security of Pakistan's seas and contributing to the country's economic revolution through the Blue Economy. Later, he offered Fateha and prayed for the departed soul of martyred.

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Sunday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the death of former PTV News Director Current Affairs Athar Waqar Azeem.

In a condolence message, the minister in his heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the family of the deceased said, he was deeply saddened to hear the news of Athar Waqar Azeem's death. Athar Waqar Azeem's services to Pakistan Television will always be remembered, he maintained.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif administering anti-polio drops to a child to inaugurate the anti-polio campaign.

# Shooting at Jordan border crossing kills 3 Israelis

ALLENBY CROSSING, West Bank (AP): Three Israelis were shot and killed Sunday at the border crossing between the West Bank and Jordan, Israeli officials said, in what appeared to be an attack linked to the 11-month-old war in Gaza.

The military said the gunman approached the Allenby Bridge Crossing from the Jordanian side in a truck and opened fire at Israeli security forces, who killed him in a shootout. Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said the three killed were all men in their 50s.

Jordan is investigating the shooting, its state-run Petra News Agency reported. The Western-allied Arab country made peace with Israel in 1994 but is deeply critical of its policies toward the Palestinians. Jordan has a large Palestinian population and has seen mass protests against Israel over the war in Gaza.

The Allenby crossing over the Jordan River, also known as the King Hussein

Bridge, is mainly used by Palestinians and international tourists, as well as for cargo shipments. The crossing has seen few security incidents over the years, but in 2014 Israeli security guards shot and killed a Jordanian judge who they said had attacked them.

Authorities in Israel and Jordan said the crossing was closed until further notice. Israel later announced the closure of both of its land crossings with Jordan, near Beit Shean in the north and Eilat in the south.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu condemned the attack and linked it to Israel's larger conflict with Iran and allied militant groups, including Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon.

The Israeli-occupied West Bank has seen a surge of violence since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack out of Gaza triggered the war there.

Israel has launched near-daily military arrest raids into dense Palestinian resi-

dential areas, and there has been a rise in Israeli settler violence and Palestinian attacks on Israelis.

Also on Sunday, loved ones mourned Ayseur Ezgi Eygi, an American-Turkish woman who was shot dead on Friday in the West Bank. She had been demonstrating against Israeli settlements there. The White House has said it was "deeply disturbed" and called on Israel to investigate, while her family seeks an independent investigation.

In Gaza, meanwhile, an Israeli airstrike early Sunday killed five people, including two women, two children and a senior official in the Civil Defense — first responders who operate under the Hamas-run government.

The Civil Defense said the strike targeted the home of its deputy director for northern Gaza, Mohammed Morsi, in the urban Jabaliya refugee camp.

There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military. The army says it

tries to avoid harming civilians and only targets militants.

Gaza's Health Ministry says over 40,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza since the war began. It does not differentiate between fighters and civilians in its count. The war has caused vast destruction and displaced around 90% of Gaza's population of 2.3 million, often multiple times.

Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, in their Oct. 7 attack. They abducted another 250 and are still holding around 100 after releasing most of the rest in exchange for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel during a weeklong cease-fire last November. Around a third of the remaining hostages inside Gaza are believed to be dead.

The United States, Qatar and Egypt have spent months trying to broker a cease-fire and the return of the hostages, but the negotiations have repeatedly bogged down.

# Air Chief calls on Turkish President during visit to Turkiye

### F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: During a recent visit to Turkiye, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force called on Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Upon his arrival, the Air Chief was received by the Turkish President at the Presidential Complex in Ankara. The meeting underscored a mutual commitment to enhance defence collaboration between the two nations.

During the meeting, Chief of the Air Staff emphasized the shared values and aspirations that form the foundation of the deep-rooted brotherhood between Pakistan and Turkiye. He also expressed his unwavering commitment to enhance the existing bilateral ties in

Military-to-Military and Air Force-to-Air Force cooperation with Turkiye, especially in the field of defence production and joint development of Next Generation Aerospace technology. The Air Chief reiterated his resolve to further deepen the strong bond of brotherhood that unites the two nations in the face of shared challenges and expressed his desire to explore future avenues of collaboration in the defence and aviation sectors.

President Erdogan praised Pakistan Air Force's progress in niche technologies such as Cyber, Space, Artificial Intelligence and Electronic Warfare, which aligns with the current PAF leadership's focus on development of Multi-Domain Capabilities. President

Erdogan acknowledged the strides attained by Pakistan's Aerospace industry in the domains of design, research and software development capabilities over the past couple of years and urged for a more significant workshop in the software integration, design and development of Next Generation Fighter program codenamed KAAAN.

He emphasized the importance of sharing niche & disruptive technologies developed in

Pakistan in order to bolster multi-domain capabilities of both countries. The Turkish President also expressed his desire that the existing Joint Working Group for Aerospace industry collaboration transitions from quarterly to monthly follow-ups, with a revitalized National Level

Framework set to be signed soon.

Earlier, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu also held separate meetings with Turkish Air Force Commander General Ziya Cemal Kadioglu, Chief of Turkish General Staff General Metin Gurak and Minister of National Defence of Turkiye General Yasar Guler, further solidifying the defence ties between the two nations.

The historic visit of Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force to Turkiye not only strengthens the existing ties between the two brotherly countries but also signifies the enduring commitment of both nations to work collaboratively towards a more secure and prosperous region.



# Masses rejected PTI's call for public rally: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Sunday that contrary to tall claims of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leadership, the people of Pakistan had rejected its rally.

In a special media talk regarding the PTI rally near Sangjani, he said traffic remained normal in Islamabad and the Punjab province.

"Millions of people who were supposed to bring a revolution today, nobody knows where they have gone. Have they gone to some other country or another place ?", he remarked.

He stated that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf had to resort to fake videos

to give the impression of huge rally and uploaded false and fake posts on social media to cover up their attendance.

He said that the PTI was spreading lies and propaganda on social media by sharing old videos of rallies from Kashmir and even Indian Punjab farmers' foot-ages.

He made it clear that the PTI leadership could not escape accountability by such tactics. He said PTI founder chairman will have to face trial for corrupt practices.

The PTI leadership will be held accountable for Tosha Khana fraud, £190 million embezzlement scam, which was biggest corruption case in Pakistan's history.

He remarked that the PTI's leadership both in Punjab and Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa had completely failed to bring convoys to the public rally. Taking a jibe at the PTI he said:"Tabdeeli Ka Jazba, Tabdeeli ka Janoon, Inna Lillahi wa Anna Ilay Rajiyyun."

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Sunday that at one point, stones were pelted at police by rowdy participants of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf public rally. Using his X account, the minister said that was the reason that the PML-N leadership was of the view that the PTI did not believe in peaceful protest or assembly.

He stated that such incident occurred at only one place and now peace had been restored.

### 2024 Presidential race

# Harris, Trump tied in final stretch: NYT poll

NEW YORK (APP): Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and his Democratic rival Vice President Kamala Harris are neck and neck in a major new national poll, with less than two months to go before the presidential Election Day.

The poll, from The New York Times and Siena College, has Trump at 48 percent to 47 percent for Harris among likely voters, within the poll's margin of error. The results are similar to a survey from the pair from July, right after President Joe Biden dropped his reelection bid.

While the Trump campaign endured a relatively rocky stretch in the weeks after Democratic President Joe Biden dropped out of the race in July, the most recent polling indicates the core of his support base remains solid.

Ms. Harris faces a challenge with voters who hold her responsible for the Biden administration's

handling of some issues, it was pointed out. About half of voters, largely Republicans, said Harris bore at least some blame for rising prices and problems during the US withdrawal from Afghanistan. And nearly two-thirds of voters, from across the political spectrum, said she bore at least some blame for problems at southwestern border concerning the illegal migration of people from Mexico into the United States.

The new poll comes ahead of Ms. Harris and Trump's ABC News debate on Tuesday night, the only scheduled debate so far between the two candidates. And that debate could be even more crucial for the vice president: According to the poll, 28 percent of likely voters said they feel like they need to learn more about Ms. Harris, compared to 9 percent who said they need to know more about Trump.

Additionally, 47 percent of likely voters viewed Ms. Harris as too liberal, while 32 percent of likely voters saw Trump as too conservative. The NYT/Siena survey is one of the few high-quality, national polls that did not show the vice president receiving at least a small bump following her quickly capturing the nomination and her endorsement at the party's nominating convention last month in Chicago.

As the Times notes, this is the first time Trump has had at least a nominal lead in a "major nonpartisan national survey" in about the last month.

In The New York Times' own polling averages, Ms. Harris has a slight lead over Trump, 49 percent to 47 percent.

The Times' survey has played an outsized role in American politics in recent years, often driving fundraising and news coverage more than any other individual national survey.

### At least 48 killed in Nigeria

MAIDUGURI (Reuters): At least 48 people were killed on Sunday in a fuel tanker truck explosion following a collision with another vehicle in north-central Nigeria, the state's disaster management agency said. The State Emergency Management Agency in north-central Niger state said the fuel truck collided with a truck carrying travellers and cattle. Several other vehicles were also caught up in the accident, it said.



# Rallies won't bring PTI's founder out of jail: Azma Bukhari

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has said holding rallies will not bring the PTI founder out of jail. Talking to the media at DGPR on Sunday, she said: "We are not afraid of rallies but of actions of the PTI members." She said it was not a jalsa in Islamabad but a concert, held with the resources of the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa government. People were brought to the jalsa in Rescue-1122 vehicles. She said that it was unfortunate for KP to have had rulers like the PTI founder Imran Khan. The people of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa were dejected in the name of 'Naya Pakistan', she added.

They were brought from KP to attend the rally, and God knows how much money was paid to participants. She said that everyone who was involved in the events of May 9, or those who instructed for it would have to answer for it. May 9 is an event similar to the fall of Dhaka, and it could never be forgotten, she said and added that during the PTI government, 40 cases were tried in military courts. If the GHQ attack case could be tried in military courts, why Imran Khan case could not be tried in military court for ordering for May-9 attack? The Punjab information minister said that Imran Khan had opposed the NAB amendments, but now his

application had been filed for relief under the same law. She said that the situation in Dera Ghazi Khan was far from ideal. Usman Buzdar, who belongs to DG Khan, could not deliver. She said Maryam Nawaz was setting records of service throughout Punjab. She visited DG Khan and launched Pakistan's first nutrition program for schoolchildren. The programme has been launched for the benefit of people in underprivileged areas of Punjab, she added. In response to a question regarding Maulana Fazlur Rehman's criticism of the government, Azma remarked that he was a senior figure and they would not react to his statements.

# FIA smashes int'l network involved in human smuggling

LAHORE (APP): A major breakthrough was achieved in the fight against human smuggling, as an international network involved in this heinous crime has been busted by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Lahore, on a tip-off from intelligence agencies. On the special instructions of Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, FIA Lahore Circle has arrested an international network involved in human smuggling on the information provided by intelligence agencies. This network was involved in robbing people by giving them false promises of employment abroad and has so far robbed crores of rupees from innocent people. The group was expert in making fake documents, including passports, visas,

and other essential papers required for international travel. The human smuggling group had its own printing press, where fake documents of various countries were being prepared. Individuals seeking political asylum in different countries were also taking assistance from this group. During the investigation, the network's connection with international Donkey groups has also been revealed, and it has been found that Indian and Afghan nationals were involved in these criminal activities. During the investigation, an Indian conspiracy to defame Pakistan was also exposed. The crackdown on this networks will strengthen the international confidence in Pakistani institutions. The scope of the investiga-

tion has been expanded, and further arrests are expected. After the investigation, strict legal action will be taken against the accused. These arrests saved several Pakistanis from losing their hard earned money and respect. The arrest of this massive network is a major victory for law enforcement agencies in the fight against human trafficking. Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi appreciated the intelligence agencies and FIA Lahore for this successful operation. He said that this operation is an important milestone in Pakistan's crackdown against human smuggling. He emphasized that such operations will be continued to curb human tray and the mafia involved in human smuggling will be dealt with an iron hand.

# Governor Sindh pays tribute to martyrs of Pakistan Navy

KARACHI (PPI): Pakistan Navy celebrated Navy Day by honouring the families of Shuhada in a simple yet impressive ceremony at Karachi. Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori was the Chief Guest of the ceremony held at Pakistan Navy unit PNS Bahadur. While addressing, Governor Sindh highlighted that the entire nation pays tribute to the unwavering determination and dedication of Ghazis and Shuhada of Pakistan Navy. The Navy demonstrated extraordinary bravery during the 1965 war and the timeless tales of courage shown by its sailors continue to resonate worldwide. Speaking on the bravery of the martyrs, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori said their sacrifices cannot be adequately honoured through words. He added that the debt owed to the martyrs can never be repaid, and saluted the mothers who sent their sons to embrace martyrdom. He also expressed his admiration for Vice Admiral Ahmad Tasnim, who was awarded the Tamgha-e-Shujaat twice for his outstanding services, describing him as a proud son of the nation. Earlier, Commander Karachi Rear Admiral

Muhammad Saleem thanked Governor Sindh on joining the noble families of martyrs on this important occasion. He assured that Pakistan Navy is a combat ready multi-dimensional force fully committed to safeguard every inch of our maritime frontiers and resources. Later, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori met with the families of the Navy's martyrs, paying tribute to their immense sacrifices. He remarked that the entire nation is indebted to the martyrs and their families. **Rice exports reaching \$4bn mark, tells Sindh governor:** Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori has hailed the achievement of rice exports reaching \$4 billion in the current fiscal year as a significant success. He credited the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) for playing a pivotal role in this accomplishment, establishing a solid foundation between farmers, traders, and exporters. Tessori expressed these views while addressing the Export Awards Ceremony organized by the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan at the Governor House. The event was attended by REAP Chairman Chela Ram Kewlani, Export

Recognition Committee Convener Abdul Rahim, Senior Vice Chairman Haseeb Ali Khan, Vice Chairman Habib-ur-Rehman, and other notable figures. He congratulated the association on completing 25 years since its establishment and appreciated the annual Export Awards as a commendable initiative to encourage rice exporters. Tessori extended his congratulations to the award recipients, acknowledging the association's beneficial role in boosting economic growth and foreign exchange. He further announced his intention to discuss the industry's issues with the Ministry of Commerce and recommend granting the rice sector the status of an industry to the Prime Minister. In addition, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori declared that a dedicated cell would be established at the Governor House to address the association's concerns on a priority basis. He also mentioned his recommendation for Abdul Rahim Janoo to receive the Sitara-e-Imtiaz for his outstanding services. During the ceremony, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori presented awards to individuals for their exemplary contributions to the rice export sector.

# Police personnel directed to boost security ahead of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal events

LAHORE (INP): Lahore Police Chief Bilal Siddique Kamyana presided over a crucial meeting at the Capital City Police Headquarters, focusing on the performance of the City Police, particularly in the Presidents and Iqbal Town Divisions. The meeting reviewed progress in law and order, crime control, and public service delivery. The CCPO directed that additional police personnel be deployed for the security of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal rallies, processions, and gatherings. He stressed the need for continuous communication between police officers and event organizers to ensure smooth and secure celebrations. Kamyana also emphasized the need for expedited processing of police personnel's

employment matters and instructed Superintendents of Police (SPs) to regularly hold hearings for internal issues while maintaining the dignity of the staff. Further, the CCPO called for an accelerated crackdown on drug dealers, urging that intelligence-based operations be used to combat drug trafficking effectively. He highlighted the importance of using Automatic Vehicle Location Systems (AVLS) to prevent motorcycle theft and leveraging the Punjab Safe Cities Authority network to prevent crime. Kamyana urged the use of modern technology and human intelligence to apprehend fugitives and emphasized the importance of addressing citizen com-

plaints, ensuring timely registration of FIRs, and conducting merit-based investigations. He reaffirmed the Lahore Police's commitment to protecting all citizens, including women, children, and vulnerable groups, and urged officers to perform their duties with dedication and focus. The meeting was attended by key officials including DIG Investigation Zeshan Asghar, DIG Operations Muhammad Faisal Kamran, SSP Investigation Anoush Masood Chaudhry, SSP Operations Tasawar Iqbal, as well as SPs, ASPs, circle officers, SHOs, and other in-charges from the Presidents and Iqbal Town Divisions.

# Milad-i-Mustafa at Governor's House

LAHORE (APP): Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan organized a Milad-i-Mustafa in connection with Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) at the Governor's House. Well-known Naat Khwans Shahbaz Qamar Faridi, Ahmed Ali Hakim and others recited naats while the speakers shed light on the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and his teachings for the welfare and guidance of humanity. Addressing the ceremony, Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that the holy life of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is the best example for us. He said that he has been organizing a Mehfil-e-Milad since 2007 in his constituency and it was his duty to organize a Milad in the Governor's House. He said all the staff of the Governor's House had worked hard to organize it. He said that the nation was grateful to former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto as he was the one who had signed the law of finality of Prophethood. The Governor said that the end of Prophethood is a part of our faith and all Muslims consider love of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as the basis of religion and the way of salvation and faith. At the end of the Mahfil Milad Mustafa, Umrah tickets were distributed among 13 lucky people by draw. People belonging to all walks of life participated in a large number. The Governor's House was decorated with lights. A special prayer was offered for the development and prosperity of the country and get rid of problems faced by the Muslim Ummah.

# LESCO official suspended

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) has suspended an official for negligence in his duty. According to the company's spokesperson here Sunday, Assistant Lineman Syed Akmal Rasool posted in Kala Khatai Road Sub-Division has been suspended for misconduct and dereliction of duty. LESCO Chief Engineer Shahid Haider says that the black sheep are tarnishing the company's reput and vowed to continue with strict action against such elements.

# Spanish ambassador visits PHA's historic art gallery

LAHORE (APP): The Spanish Ambassador to Pakistan, José de Ory, on Sunday, visited The Barracks, an art gallery located in the Nasser Bagh and established by the Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA), to view its latest exhibition. The gallery, housed in a historically significant bunker once used by the Civil Defence Department, is currently showcasing the exhibition Water, Plants, and Other Ecologies. According to a PHA spokesperson, the exhibition, designed by renowned visual artist Hamra Abbas and curated by contemporary artist Imran Qureshi, takes a multidisciplinary approach to explore the relationship between ecology and nature. During his visit, Ambassador de Ory was shown two large garden-themed works, intricate montages of images from various locations in Pakistan, documented by Abbas over the years. The artist explained that these pieces play on the concept of paradise as a garden in Islamic tradition, and are made from natural stones such as marble, lapis lazuli, jasper, and granite, sourced locally and internationally. Another highlight of the exhibition is River Studies, based on Abbas's documentation of glacial river waters in Hunza. The exhibition also includes Porters, a series of miniature paintings featuring ultramarine blue—a pigment made from lapis lazuli, traditionally used in Italian



KARACHI: A vendor displaying decorations items at Jhanda Gali in connection with Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW), will be celebrated.

# Innovative steps being taken for education: CM

LAHORE (APP): Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said on Sunday that her government will take all possible measures to enrol all out of school children in the province. CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif in her message on International Literacy Day said, "We pledge to impart education to everyone on the eve of International Literacy Day. The religion of Islam lays emphasis on acquiring knowledge and the Holy Quran also preaches to attain knowledge. Resources needed for the basic education of ignored segments of society are being provided." The Chief Minister added, "Literacy improves quality of life and provides immense opportunities of progress. We cannot think of a bright future without attaining a 100 percent literacy rate. The Punjab government is taking historical and innovative steps for the provision of ease in access to education." The CM added, "4 lakh students of three districts are being provided packets of milk under

the 'Chief Minister School Nutrition Program'. The Punjab government is providing laptops to the students for providing them assistance in their education and research." The Chief Minister said, "We will provide scholarships to the students of Punjab in the national and international universities. The Punjab government will provide buses to the students especially female students so as to provide comfort in their transportation in every tehsil. Children are being enrolled under the enrolment campaign." **Environmental surveillance launched by using drone, satellite technology:** On the direction of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, environmental surveillance has been launched in Punjab with the help of an integrated system with drones and latest satellite technology. A crackdown has been launched by conducting raids on violation of environmental laws and smoke emissions through a drone and satellite monitoring system. Factories have traced

through a drone for causing smoke emissions and not adhering to the mandated environmental laws. An Environment Protection Department team along with the district administration conducted a raid on two factories located on Sheikhupura road, Gujranwala. The raiding team by demolishing kilns causing environmental pollution sealed both factories. Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb commended the Environment Protection department and district administration on taking a swift action. She said, "On the direction of CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif, we will further take forward the preemptive environment campaign briskly." The Senior Minister said, "We will have to eliminate the factors causing smog as smog takes away lives of 2.5 lakhs people every year." She appealed that every citizen of Punjab should provide a sincere help in the government's campaign for the elimination of smog which snatches away 2.5 lakh precious lives every year.

# 3,000 Centers for non-formal education will be established in sindh

KARACHI (PPI) Representatives from global and local institutions working for the advancement of education, social figures, scholars, and others emphasized that efforts to increase education and literacy in Sindh should prioritize providing basic education in children's mother tongue. Furthermore, steps to promote multilingual education should be strengthened so that future generations can enhance communication and learn from one another. These thoughts were expressed by the speakers during an event held at Karachi's Marriott Hotel in connection with World Literacy Day. Sindh's Minister for Education and Mineral Development, Syed Sardar Ali Shah, participated as the chief guest. The event, organized by the Directorate of Literacy and Non-Formal Education, was titled "Promoting Multilingual Education: Literacy for Mutual Understanding and Peace." In addition to representatives from global organizations working in education, the event was attended by Sindh School Education Secretary Zahid Ali Abbasi, social activist Shehzad Roy, Javed Jabbar, JICA Chief Advisor Javed Gill, MD of Sindh Education Foundation Qazi Kabir, Director of Non-Formal Education Abdul Jabbar Mari, head of the Thar Education Alliance Partab

Shivani, JICA's Prem Sagar, educators, teachers, and students. In his address as the chief guest, the Sindh Education Minister said that there is a need to further activate the non-formal education mechanism to ensure out-of-school children in Sindh not only complete their education but also gain skills. In this regard, 100 non-formal education centers are being established in each district. In the first phase, these 3,000 centers will provide both education and vocational training to children who have dropped out of school. He further said that the majority of out-of-school children come from families where economic needs take precedence over education. Unfortunately, due to the lack of population control, families focus more on economic benefits than on education. As a result, these children are exploited, a cycle that continues from generation to generation. The provincial minister stated that accurate statistics are not being compiled by the federal government. According to him, there are over 10 million children enrolled in government, private, public-private partnership schools, and registered religious seminaries, while over 4 million children are out of school. The non-formal education system will be used to help these children complete their education. Sardar Shah added that only 2%

of the GDP is being spent on education. If the funds currently given to IPPs (Independent Power Producers) were allocated to education, many challenges could be addressed. However, our priorities are unfortunately different. Sindh School Education Secretary emphasized the need to recognize a child's right to be educated in their mother tongue. In economically strong countries, education is provided in the native language. We need to move beyond the complex surrounding English and focus on teaching children through activity-based learning methods. A curriculum for mid-tech education has already been prepared in Sindh. With the growth of classes, the curriculum in Sindh is taught in Urdu, Sindhi, and English. Social activist Shehzad Roy stated that teaching licenses have been introduced in Sindh, and teaching is now recognized as a complete profession. This initiative will bear fruit in the future. Sindh has pioneered several initiatives, including the hiring of music teachers. Creativity can emerge from anywhere, and it is our responsibility to provide opportunities to the youth in the future. Javed Jabbar remarked that it is essential to explain what is being taught to children. Many people may not be literate but can still use mobile phones.

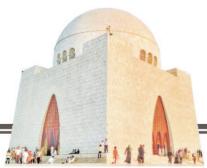
# Corrupt bureaucracy-contractor nexus responsible for poor civic infrastructure: Altaf Shakoor

KARACHI (PPI): Notoriously corrupt nexus of bureaucracy and private contractor companies are responsible for the poor civic infrastructure in Karachi that crumbles with every rain in the megacity, said Pasban Democratic Party (PDP) Altaf Shakoor here Sunday. He said the provincial government of Sindh and Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) release billions of rupees every year for the civic infrastructure projects like roads, streets and drainage but the lion's share of this money goes into the pocket of a bunch of corrupt contractors, as well as, the ministers and government officers who give them contracts on the basis of commission and kickbacks. He said a hidden 'corrupt system' works inside the Sindh government and each and every government contract is given after getting a nod from this 'system'. He said if a forensic audit of the civic infrastructure contracts of the past two decades is conducted it would be clearly known that only a particular bunch of contractors get the lucrative government contracts as they pay commission and kickbacks to the related ministers, secretaries and senior officers. These corrupt contractors also arrange rallies for their patrons and run their election campaigns. He said these contractors use sub-standard material in the construction of roads, streets, drains, bridges, flyovers

and other civic infrastructure projects despite they are already given contracts on over-priced quotations. He said every year this corrupt system of the Sindh government pockets billions of rupees from the hard-earned taxpayers' money. He said this a mega fraud that is being conducted in a systematic way by a political government in the province of Sindh. He said though such 'systems' also run in other provinces but they are minions when compared to the mighty 'system' of Sindh province. Altaf Shakoor said this is even a bigger scam than the capacity payments scam of the IPPs, but it is still hidden from the sharp eye of media, civil society and secret agencies of the state. He demanded from the concerned quarters to take notice of this brutal waste of the government funds as this is the matter of the internal secretary of the country as it is hollowing the economic foundations of the nation and country. He said on one hand the international lenders and IPPs loot our budget and on the other hand this bureaucracy-contractor nexus plunders our taxpayers money. He said in the recent rains almost all roads and streets of the megacity went broken even those that were recently constructed and repaired. He said though the government, mostly through same corrupt contractors, has initiated a so-called patchwork to

repair these potholed roads and streets but again the quality of this patchwork is very poor and after the coming rains they would surely need another round of patchwork and it would further bleed our budget. He asked if there is a department, agency of any 'institution' to take notice of this broad daylight robbery of our precious naional resources. He demanded from the chief of army staff General Syed Asim Munir to take a personal notice of this loot and plunder that is devouring our economy. He also demanded from the PPP chairperson Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to take notice of this alleged corrupt 'system' working inside the provisional government of his party in Sindh that is giving a bad name to his party and its founding father Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was a people-friendly visionary leader of our country and who would take a great interest in providing basic facilities to the people. He asked from Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to get established a high-powered commission for the forensic audit of the government civic infrastructure contracts to fix the responsibility for the poor civic infrastructure in Karachi and sack the corrupt officials and blacklist the corrupt contractors and not to give party tickets to the corrupt ministers that are involved in this mega scam.





# Rice exports reaching \$4b mark, tells Sindh governor



KARACHI (PPI) Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori has hailed the achievement of rice exports reaching \$4 billion in the current fiscal year as a significant success.

He credited the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) for playing a pivotal role in this accomplishment, establishing a solid foundation between farmers, traders, and exporters. Tessori expressed these views while addressing the Export Awards Ceremony organized by the

Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan at the Governor House.

The event was attended by REAP Chairman Chela Ram Kewlani, Export Recognition Committee Convener Abdul Rahim, Senior Vice Chairman Haseeb Ali Khan, Vice Chairman Habib-ur-Rehman, and other notable figures. He congratulated the association on completing 25 years since its establishment and appreciated the annual Export Awards as a commendable initiative to

encourage rice exporters.

Tessori extended his congratulations to the award recipients, acknowledging the association's beneficial role in boosting economic growth and foreign exchange. He further announced his intention to discuss the industry's issues with the Ministry of Commerce and recommend granting the rice sector the status of an industry to the Prime Minister. In addition, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori declared that a

dedicated cell would be established at the Governor House to address the association's concerns on a priority basis.

He also mentioned his recommendation for Abdul Rahim Janoo to receive the Sitara-e-Imtiaz for his outstanding services. During the ceremony, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori presented awards to individuals for their exemplary contributions to the rice export sector.

**APP adds:** Sindh Governor

Mohammad Kamran Khan Tessori has emphasized that September 8 signifies an unwavering commitment to maritime defence.

Addressing a ceremony on Navy Day, he said that the Pakistan Navy defeated enemies Navy many times.

Tessori said that the entire nation paid tribute to the courage and dedication of the Pakistan Navy. He said that the Pakistan Navy displayed exceptional bravery in the 1965 war.



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DP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI									DTE AHQ, ISLAMABAD (CER)		051-9505117	PAF BASE KALLAR KAHAR (LOG)		0543-588308-2271			
S. NO	IT No.	NSN / PT No / Noun	Line Item	U/I / Qty	CAT	Opening Date	Time Period for Performance of Contract	Closing + Opening Time	Crests / Souvenirs, Misc items, only separately Quotes Technical / Financial acceptable, Detail of Items / Specification may be obtained from Cer Sub Dte AHQ, Islamabad during working hours. For queries Tel No 051-9505117 may be contacted					ANTI-CORROSION TREATMENT OF COMMUNICATION TOWER, Scop of work is as under:- i. Rust Removing, ii Epoxy Coating (Andrew), iii.Installation of Hazard Light, (Including Power Cable +PVC Pipe), Details / specifications / samples may please be checked from Log Sqn, PAF Base Kallar Kahar. 0543-588308-2281 Official Cell No 0323-9419713, Technical & Commercial quotation must be submitted separately (Single stage two envelope) (As Req), Items will be accepted after inspection			
01	415213/P-41	Overhaul of IL-78 Aircraft	01	EA-01	FE	08-10-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs									
02	415214/P-41	Procurement of DMBR Items and Repair of LRUs of WL-II (UAS)	111	Various	FE	08-10-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs									
03	436893/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of SRUs/Spares Packages MBSDR for HZ-7	16	EA-Var	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 12 Months after signing of the contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs									
04	436895/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of Baseband Development Lab Kit	01	EA-03	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
05	436900/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of TDL MCOC Hardware	06	EA-Var	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 03 Months after signing of the contract	1130 Hrs 1200 Hrs									
06	436948/P-43	Procurement of Coaxial Dipole Antenna for UHF Plain Radio	01	EA-50	Pak Rs	25-09-24	Within 04 to 06 Months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs									
07	436949/P-43	Procurement of Hand Set and Omni Directional Antenna	02	EA-Var	Pak Rs	25-09-24	Within 04 to 06 Months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
08	448386/P-44	B-6 Level Modification (Armoring) of Single Cabin 4X4	01	EA-38	Pak Rs	25-09-24	As per IT documents	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs									
09	448394/P-44	Micronic Filters (1st & 2nd stage) for A/C Refuellers	04	Various	FE	10-10-24	As per IT documents	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs									
10	459749/P-45	CAP/PAD for IL-78 A/C	02	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
11	459750/P-45	CAP/PAD China	03	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
12	459751/P-45	CAP/PAD Sweden for SAAB-2000 A/C	01	EA-02	FE	10-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
13	459753/P-45	Signals Flares for MI-171 and PF-20 for JF-17 A/C	05	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
14	459754/P-45	REK Spares	10	Various	FE	10-10-24	06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs									
<b>Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1 &amp; 2 ADP-41 (051-9281361), For S. No 3 to 7 ADP-43 (051-9527715), For S. No 8 &amp; 9 ADP-44 051-9281364), For S. No 10 to 14 ADP-45 (051-9281365)</b>																	
1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. www.paf.gov.pk under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisements' (for Tender Invitation documents).																	
2. Its documents can be obtained in soft copy via request letter through e-mail address to (pa05@paf.gov.pk)																	
3. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. www.ppra.org.pk																	
<b>PAF BASE, SHAHBAZ (LOG)</b>			<b>0722-670454</b>			<b>AHQs (U) ISLAMABAD (LOG)</b>			<b>051-9505556</b>								
(Air Filter Cartridge) Gas Turbine Combustion filter in polyester (self-cleaning) F8/F9 polyester, D=327X=L635 mm, Air Cond 1.5 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 2 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 1 TON Rev / Non Rev, AMER TEX-R50-G4 (Pneumatic Valve), Technical & Commercial quotations must be packed separately and sealed properly. Specs may be obtained from Log Sqn at 0323-9439712; 0309-8925565 & Office No 0722-670454 Ext 2257						LOCAL REPAIR OF FIREWALL (USG6370 AC HOST), SMART EAR BUD, LINK INTERFACE MODULE, IDIRECT X5 SATELLITE ROUTER <b>ENGINE OIL:- OIL TYPE:-</b> Mineral Based, Semi Synthetic and Fully Synthetic. <b>GRADE / VISCOSITY:-</b> 5W30, 10W30, 15W40, 20W50 for Petrol and Heavy Duty Diesel engines. Note: - Separate Quotes are required for Petrol and Diesel engine oil. <b>PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:-</b> All oils must meet or exceed API Ck-4/CI-4/CH-4 Standards. Compliance with ACEA E9/E7 or equivalent. <b>CERTIFICATIONS:-</b> API and ACEA compliance and ISO 9001 or equivalent quality control certificates. <b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT:-</b> Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) required of each grade. Non-refundable samples of 1 Liter Packing of each grade is also required. <b>MILEAGE:-</b> Mileage of every oil must be mentioned against each. <b>(NOTE:-</b> Separate Quotation (Technical And Financial) For Each Line Item Is Required) (As Req), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqn on Phone No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email : Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk											
<b>PAF BASE, RISALPUR (LOG)</b>			<b>0324-3189565</b>			<b>PAF BASE PESHAWAR (LOG)</b>			<b>091-9503867</b>								
AC Split 1.5 Ton (Rev) Invertor, HP Compressor Assy L/R, Promixer CMS-1000 (10 Port), Epoxy Paint Treatment of Warehouse (Estimated Area 15000 sq), Batteries (Acid & Maintenance Free) - 12V 2.5 Amp to 220 Amp, Tyres & Tubes (All Types vehicles), Paints & Dopes, MT Spares & Filters (All Types), MT Lubes (All Types / Grade), Tonners (All Types), Air Conditioners & Refrigerant Gas, Wood / Chip Board, Hiring of Mechanical Transports, Cleaning Material Items (All types), Packing & Storage Material (All types), Stationary Items (All types), Uniform Accoutrements (Combat Dress 2022 & Blue), Miscellaneous Items (IT Equipment, Networking Equipment & Common Use Items), <b>Note:-</b> Quotations are required for 01 Year (Valid 30 June, 2025) close framework agreement as per PPRA rule 16A. Sample of items must be provided with quotations. Quotation will not be considered without sample. EDD should be clearly mentioned on quotation as days / weeks of months. Each bid shall comprise one single envelope containing financial proposal, submission of quotation contrary to PPRA Rule 22 will be rejected. The firm must be GST registered and quoted price must be without GST. The Procuring agency reserve the power to increase or decrease the number and quantity of items. Date of opening must be marked on envelope in bold letters (As Req), For Specifications / scope of work any other query please contact No Ext - 3885 Mobile No 0324-3189565						Engine Oil SAE (15W40), Engine Oil SAE (20W50), Engine Oil SAE (10W40), Engine Oil SAE (10W30), Gear Oil (SAE 90), Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, All type of Tyres, Hiring of 40, 20 and 27 feet Low Flatbed / Flatbed from PAF Base Peshawar to PAF Nur Khan and PAF Base Peshawar Saidu Shareef (As Req), <b>Note:-</b> Commercial and Technical quotations must be submitted as per single stage two envelope procedure. Detail scope of work and specification can be obtained from Officer in-charge Log Sqn PAF Base, Peshawar Tel: 091-9503867, Mobile: 03239411712											
<b>NO 110 ALD PAF BASE LAHORE</b>			<b>042-99507221-7221</b>			<b>PAF BASE MINHAS (LOG)</b>			<b>057-9533887</b>								
Cloth Shafon for Dopatta L/Off (As Required) (MR), Liners Assy All Sizes (As Required) (Ea), Further details / complete specifications, may be collected from No 110 ALD, PAF (Tele No. 0323-9428714, 042-99507221)						Local Purchase of all types of Batteries, maintenance free batteries, dry batteries / Lead acid batteries, all types of Tyres. all types of Filters (Air/Oil) all, All types of Packing & Storage material, All types of Rags colored (general and 1 x 1), All types of Cleaning material items, All types of Stationery items, All types of DO / PPC Paper, All types of Engine Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear Oil, Transmission Oil, Brake oil, Greases/Lubricants, Including Oil Eng (AP1:CE, SAE 15W-40), OIL Eng (AP1:ILSAC, SAE 10W-40), Oil Gear AP1:GL-4, SAE 75W-90, Grease GP, Oil Steering (AFT) Dexron-11, Oil Eng (AP1:CC,SAE 20W-50), Oil Eng (SAE 10W-40), All types of Air Conditioners Inverters (1.5 / 2) Ton Reversible/Non-Reversible, All types of Paints, All types of PCs / Maintenance Terminal (Laptops), All types of Printers & PPC Machine, Paper Shredders (Heavy/Light duty), All types of Cameras, All sizes of LCD / LED (40", 32", 44", 55", 60") and Hiring of civil Transport from PAF Base Minhas to all Cities of Pakistan and all Cities of Pakistan to PAF Base Minhas (As Req), Note Specs/Scope of work may be obtained from Log Sqn Minhas, Tel: 057-9533887 / 0323-9414715											
<b>PAF BASE SAMUNGLI (LOG)</b>			<b>081-9503867</b>														
Thermal Power Sensor (As Req), <b>Note:</b> As per PPRA Rule-36(b) single stage two envelope quotation (Technical & Commercial) is required via TCS / Post Office only. Validity of Quotations should be 03 Months. Quotations in detail with minimum EDD be provided, Specs / details can be collected from Samungli Log Sqn (081-9503867, 0312-7163844, 0334-9128670)																	
<b>PAF BASE MALIR (LOG)</b>			<b>021-99533889</b>														
Engine Oil 5W-50, Pulse Generator HP 8112A, Spectrum Analyzer (Ea As Req), Note: For detail specification, please Contact Log Sqn on Telephone No. 021-99533889 & Mobile No. 0300-3930495																	
									<b>PAF COLLEGE SARGODHA (LOG)</b>			<b>048-3729702</b>		<b>PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)</b>		<b>835-3870</b>	
									LP of Uniform accoutrements (All Types) paints and dopes, (All Types) Cleaning Material (All Items) Tonner for Printers and PPC Machines (All Type), Stationery Items (All Types), Packing and Storage Material (All Types), MT Spare, Batteries, Filters, Tyres / Tubes (All Types), Qty as required bases for all type items. <b>Note:-</b> Quotations of above-mentioned items are required for complete FY Years 2024-25 against close framework agreements. Detailed specifications for LP list of common user items and sample along with tender documents (Draft Agreements) can be obtained from Logistics Squadron (LP Section) of PAF College, Sargodha. For more information, please contact Tel No 048-3729702/0321-2818776								
									LR of Car (Mercedez / Benz) Complete Steering system (Repairing) & Radiator (New), LR of BMW X5X Drive Train 35i JEEP Heavy, LP of UPS 04 KVA or equivalent, LP of DO Paper A4 100 GSM (Paper One), LP of Seal Poly Carbon, LP of Brake Oil, LP of Diesel Engine Oil CF-4, CI-4 & CH-4 (15W40), LP of Diesel Engine Oil SAE CD (20W50), LP of Petrol Engine Oil SN SAE (10W40), LP of Gear Oil 85W140, LP of Grease GP Monza, LP of Hydraulic Oil SAE-68, LP of Coolant Radiator, LP of Oil Steering, LP of all type of tyres, LP of Petrol (95-97 RON) HOBG, Note:- Quotation submitted as per PPRA Rule (36B), For Further Information, Contact on Under mentioned Numbers. Landline No: - 835-3870 / Contact No: - 0323-9435715								
									<b>NO 103 ALC PAF BASE NUR KHAN</b>			<b>051-952-7081</b>					
									MIL-PRF-23699G GRADE STD Turbine Oil 500 (QR As Req), For any query or additional information, please contact Tele (051-952-7081-82)								
									<b>NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL</b>			<b>021-99547067</b>					
									Transportation of PAF stores / vehicles from No 101 ALC, PAF Karachi, to Chander (Near Hafizabad), (a) 20 Ft & 40 Ft Trucks, Trailer (Approx. weight up to 10 Ton & 25 Ton respectively). {With container (Height 9 Ft 6 Inch) and without container}, (b) 20 Ft & 40 Ft Flat Bed Trucks, Trailer (Approx weight up to 10 Ton & 25 Ton respectively), (c) 24 Ft & 40 Ft Low Bed Trailers (Approx weight up to 20 Ton & 30 Ton respectively), Detail of PAF stores and destination will be informed on "as and when required" basis by No 101 ALC, Faisal, Telephone No.: 021-99547087, Cell No.: 0333-9228705								
									<b>PAF BASE MUSHAF (SARGODHA) (LOG)</b>			<b>048-5552277</b>					
									Local Purchase of Environmental Hut (Specifications: Main Frame # Iron angle 2.5 Inch, Fiber body, Glass black color, Jack Groove, Solid Tyre, Iron Stairs, Door Aluminium & glass, Complete Electric Wiring), Local Purchase of Fluid Transmission (717), Local Purchase of Griphoist Trifur (TU Series) (Ea As Req), <b>Note:</b> Detailed Specifications can be obtained from Log Sqn Mushaf (Sargodha) on telephone 048-555-2278								
									<b>PAF BASE NUR KHAN (LOG)</b>			<b>051-952-3875</b>					
									Engine Oil SAE 0W40, Engine Oil 5W-50, Spiral Wrapping Band 15MM, SPIRAL Wrapping Band 12MM, 6S12P Battery, Solmat 90 (SOL-90), HARD/D 12TB EMC Storage Aray, Power Supply Unit 550 WAT, Anti-Corrosion Treatment Of PAFCOM Tower (Height 100FT), Battery Dry 12V 9AH, Hiring of Truck for Shifting Of Barrel (Army Depot) Muzafarabad To PAF DETT, PIR CHINASI (EA As Req), Note: Technical & Commercial quotations must be packed separately & sealed properly. Technical Specifications for LP item can be obtained from Logistics Squadron (Mobile: 03239415715), For further information please contact on phone No (051) 952-3875								
									<b>PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)</b>			<b>03239431714</b>					
									Power Supply QPX600DP Output 80V DC 50Amp, Adhesive RTV3145 Grey Cat (P38259), Canvas Cover, Coverall Eng Off/Men, Oil Gear/Dif/Str SAE 90, Pro Powered Amplifier EV CPS-2 (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714								
									<b>NO 105 AED PAF BASE MALIR</b>			<b>TEL EXT 7323</b>					





# Innovative steps being taken for education: CM Punjab



LAHORE (APP): Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said on Sunday that her government will take all possible measures to enrol all out of school children in the province. CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif in her message on International Literacy Day said, "We pledge to impart education to everyone on the eve of International Literacy Day. The religion of Islam lays emphasis on acquiring knowledge and the Holy Quran also preaches to attain knowl-

edge. Resources needed for the basic education of ignored segments of society are being provided." The Chief Minister added, "Literacy improves quality of life and provides immense opportunities of progress. We cannot think of a bright future without attaining a 100 percent literacy rate. The Punjab government is taking historical and innovative steps for the provision of ease in access to education." The CM added, "4 lakh students of

three districts are being provided packets of milk under the 'Chief Minister School Nutrition Program'. The Punjab government is providing laptops to the students for providing their assistance in their education and research." The Chief Minister said, "We will provide scholarships to the students of Punjab in the national and international universities. The Punjab government will provide buses to the students especially female students so as to provide comfort in their trans-

portation in every tehsil. Children are being enrolled under the enrolment campaign." Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister while returning to Lahore from DG Khan stopped at a tea dhaba (a roadside tea house). Chief Minister on her way back from the inauguration ceremony of children's nutrition program in Dera Ghazi Khan stopped at a roadside dhaba and sat on a cot there. Maryam Nawaz also spoke to citizens in a frank manner. Tea was served to

the Chief Minister, while the citizens showed electricity bills to Maryam Nawaz and thanked her for the reduction of Rs14 per unit, saying that may Allah bless her. "You have taken the blessings of the poor by reducing the electricity bills," they said. Talking to the citizens on this occasion, she said that Nawaz Sharif is worried about electricity bills, adding that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and she were trying to give them relief.



## PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

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OP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI									DTE AHQ, ISLAMABAD (CER)		051-9505117		PAF BASE KALLAR KAHAR (LOG)		0543-588308-2271			
S. NO	IT No.	NSN / PT No / Noun	Line Item	U/I Qty	CAT	Opening Date	Time Period for Performance of Contract	Closing + Opening Time	Crests / Souvenirs, Misc items, only separately Quotes Technical / Financial acceptable, Detail of Items / Specification may be obtained from Cer Sub Dte AHQ, Islamabad during working hours. For queries Tel No 051-9505117 may be contacted			ANTI-CORROSION TREATMENT OF COMMUNICATION TOWER, Scop of work is as under:- i. Rust Removing, ii Epoxy Coating (Andrew), iii.Installation of Hazard Light, (Including Power Cable +PVC Pipe), Details / specifications / samples may please be checked from Log Sqn, PAF Base Kallar Kahar. 0543-588308-2281 Official Cell No 0323-9419713, Technical & Commercial quotation must be submitted separately (Single stage two envelope) (As Req), Items will be accepted after inspection						
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13	459753/P-45	Signals Flares for MI-171 and PF-20 for JF-17 A/C	05	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs										
14	459754/P-45	REK Spares	10	Various	FE	10-10-24	06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs										
<b>Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1 &amp; 2 ADP-41 (051-9281361), For S. No 3 to 7 ADP-43 (051-9527715), For S. No 8 &amp; 9 ADP-44 051-9281364), For S. No 10 to 14 ADP-45 (051-9281365)</b>									<b>PAF COLLEGE SARGODHA (LOG)</b>		<b>048-3729702</b>							
1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. www.paf.gov.pk under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisements' (for Tender Invitation documents).									LP of Uniform accoutrements (All Types) paints and dopes, (All Types) Cleaning Material (All Items) Tonner for Printers and PPC Machines (All Type), Stationery Items (All Types), Packing and Storage Material (All Types), MT Spare, Batteries, Filters, Tyres / Tubes (All Types), Qty as required bases for all type items. <b>Note:-</b> Quotations of above-mentioned items are required for complete FY Years 2024-25 against close framework agreements. Detailed specifications for LP list of common user items and sample along with tender documents (Draft Agreements) can be obtained from Logistics Squadron (LP Section) of PAF College, Sargodha. For more information, please contact Tel No 048-3729702/0321-2818776									
2. Its documents can be obtained in soft copy via request letter through e-mail address to (pa05@paf.gov.pk)									<b>PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)</b>		<b>835-3870</b>							
3. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. www.ppra.org.pk.									LR of Car (Mercedez / Benz) Complete Steering system (Repairing) & Radiator (New), LR of BMW X5X Drive Train 35i JEEP Heavy, LP of UPS 04 KVA or equivalent, LP of DO Paper A4 100 GSM (Paper One), LP of Seal Poly Carbon, LP of Brake Oil, LP of Diesel Engine Oil CF4, CI4 & CH4 (15W40), LP of Diesel Engine Oil SAE CD (20W50), LP of Petrol Engine Oil SN SAE (10W40), LP of Gear Oil 85W140, LP of Grease GP Monza, LP of Hydraulic Oil SAE-68, LP of Coolant Radiator, LP of Oil Steering, LP of all type of tyres, LP of Petrol (95-97 RON) HOBG, Note:- Quotation submitted as per PPRA Rule (36B), For Further Information, Contact on Under mentioned Numbers. Landline No:- 835-3870 / Contact No:- 0323-9435715									
									<b>NO 103 ALC PAF BASE NUR KHAN</b>		<b>051-952-7081</b>							
									MIL-PRF-23699G GRADE STD Turbine Oil 500 (QR As Req), For any query or additional information, please contact Tele (051-952-7081-82)									
									<b>NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL</b>		<b>021-99547067</b>							
									Transportation of PAF stores / vehicles from No 101 ALC, PAF Karachi, to Chander (Near Hafizabad), (a) 20 Ft & 40 Ft Trucks, Trailer (Approx. weight up to 10 Ton & 25 Ton respectively). (With container (Height 9 Ft 6 Inch) and without container), (b) 20 Ft & 40 Ft Flat Bed Trucks, Trailer (Approx weight up to 10 Ton & 25 Ton respectively), (c) 24 Ft & 40 Ft Low Bed Trailers (Approx weight up to 20 Ton & 30 Ton respectively), Detail of PAF stores and destination will be informed on "as and when required" basis by No 101 ALC, Faisal, Telephone No.: 021-99547087, Cell No.: 0333-9228705									
									<b>PAF BASE MUSHAF (SARGODHA) (LOG)</b>		<b>048-5552277</b>							
									Local Purchase of Environmental Hut (Specifications: Main Frame # Iron angle 2.5 Inch, Fiber body, Glass black color, Jack Groove, Solid Tyre, Iron Stairs, Door Aluminium & glass, Complete Electric Wiring), Local Purchase of Fluid Transmission (717), Local Purchase of Griphoist Trifur (TU Series) (Ea As Req), <b>Note:</b> Detailed Specifications can be obtained from Log Sqn Mushaf (Sargodha) on telephone 048-555-2278									
<b>PAF BASE, SHAHBAZ (LOG)</b>									<b>0722-670454</b>		<b>AHQs (U) ISLAMABAD (LOG)</b>		<b>051-9505556</b>					
(Air Filter Cartridge) Gas Turbine Combustion filter in polyester (self-cleaning) F8/F9 polyester, D=327X=L635 mm, Air Cond 1.5 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 2 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 1 TON Rev / Non Rev, AMER TEX-R50-G4 (Pneumatic Valve), Technical & Commercial quotations must be packed separately and sealed properly. Specs may be obtained from Log Sqn at 0323-9439712; 0309-8925565 & Office No 0722-670454 Ext 2257									LOCAL REPAIR OF FIREWALL (USG6370 AC HOST), SMART EAR BUD, LINK INTERFACE MODULE, IDIRECT X5 SATELLITE ROUTER <b>ENGINE OIL:- OIL TYPE:-</b> Mineral Based, Semi Synthetic and Fully Synthetic. <b>GRADE / VISCOSITY:-</b> 5W30, 10W30, 15W40, 20W50 for Petrol and Heavy Duty Diesel engines. Note: - Separate Quotes are required for Petrol and Diesel engine oil. <b>PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:-</b> All oils must meet or exceed API Ck-4/CI-4/CH-4 Standards. Compliance with ACEA E9/E7 or equivalent. <b>CERTIFICATIONS:-</b> API and ACEA compliance and ISO 9001 or equivalent quality control certificates. <b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT:-</b> Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) required of each grade. Non-refundable samples of 1 Liter Packing of each grade is also required. <b>MILEAGE:-</b> Mileage of every oil must be mentioned against each. <b>(NOTE:-</b> Separate Quotation (Technical And Financial) For Each Line Item Is Required) (As Req), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqn on Phone No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email : Lsaq05@PAF.gov.Pk									
<b>PAF BASE, RISALPUR (LOG)</b>									<b>0324-3189565</b>		<b>PAF BASE PESHAWAR (LOG)</b>		<b>091-9503867</b>					
AC Split 1.5 Ton (Rev) Invertor, HP Compressor Assy L/R, Promixer CMS-1000 (10 Port), Epoxy Paint Treatment of Warehouse (Estimated Area 15000 sq), Batteries (Acid & Maintenance Free) - 12V 2.5 Amp to 220 Amp, Tyres & Tubes (All Types vehicles), Paints & Dopes, MT Spares & Filters (All Types), MT Lubes (All Types / Grade), Tonners (All Types), Air Conditioners & Refrigerant Gas, Wood / Chip Board, Hiring of Mechanical Transports, Cleaning Material Items (All types), Packing & Storage Material (All types), Stationary Items (All types), Uniform Accoutrements (Combat Dress 2022 & Blue), Miscellaneous Items (IT Equipment, Networking Equipment & Common Use Items), <b>Note:-</b> Quotations are required for 01 Year (Valid 30 June, 2025) close framework agreement as per PPRA rule 16A. Sample of items must be provided with quotations. Quotation will not be considered without sample. EDD should be clearly mentioned on quotation as days / weeks of months. Each bid shall comprise one single envelope containing financial proposal, submission of quotation contrary to PPRA Rule 22 will be rejected. The firm must be GST registered and quoted price must be without GST. The Procuring agency reserve the power to increase or decrease the number and quantity of items. Date of opening must be marked on envelope in bold letters (As Req), For Specifications / scope of work any other query please contact No Ext - 3885 Mobile No 0324-3189565									Engine Oil SAE (15W40), Engine Oil SAE (20W50), Engine Oil SAE (10W40), Engine Oil SAE (10W30), Gear Oil (SAE 90), Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, All type of Tyres, Hiring of 40, 20 and 27 feet Low Flatbed / Flatbed from PAF Base Peshawar to PAF Nur Khan and PAF Base Peshawar Saidu Shareef (As Req), <b>Note:-</b> Commercial and Technical quotations must be submitted as per single stage two envelope procedure. Detail scope of work and specification can be obtained from Officer in-charge Log Sqn PAF Base, Peshawar Tel: 091-9503867, Mobile: 03239411712									
<b>NO 110 ALD PAF BASE LAHORE</b>									<b>042-99507221-7221</b>		<b>PAF BASE MINHAS (LOG)</b>		<b>057-9533887</b>					
Cloth Shafon for Dopatta L/Off (As Required) (MR), Liners Assy All Sizes (As Required) (Ea), Further details / complete specifications, may be collected from No 110 ALD, PAF (Tele No. 0323-9428714, 042-99507221)									Local Purchase of all types of Batteries, maintenance free batteries, dry batteries / Lead acid batteries, all types of Tyres. all types of Filters (Air/Oil) all, All types of Packing & Storage material, All types of Rags colored (general and 1 x 1), All types of Cleaning material items, All types of Stationery items, All types of DO / PPC Paper, All types of Engine Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear Oil, Transmission Oil, Brake oil, Greases/Lubricants, Including Oil Eng (AP1:CE, SAE 15W40), OIL Eng (AP1:ILSAC, SAE 10W-40), Oil Gear AP1:GL-4, SAE 75W-90, Grease GP, Oil Steering (AFT) Dexron-11, Oil Eng (AP1:CC,SAE 20W-50), Oil Eng (SAE 10W-40), All types of Air Conditioners Inverters (1.5 / 2) Ton Reversible/Non-Reversible, All types of Paints, All types of PCs / Maintenance Terminal (Laptops), All types of Printers & PPC Machine, Paper Shredders (Heavy/Light duty), All types of Cameras, All sizes of LCD / LED (40", 32", 44", 55", 60") and Hiring of civil Transport from PAF Base Minhas to all Cities of Pakistan and all Cities of Pakistan to PAF Base Minhas (As Req), Note Specs/Scope of work may be obtained from Log Sqn Minhas, Tel: 057-9533887 / 0323-9414715									
<b>PAF BASE SAMUNGLI (LOG)</b>									<b>081-9503867</b>		<b>PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)</b>		<b>03239431714</b>					
Thermal Power Sensor (As Req), <b>Note:</b> As per PPRA Rule-36(b) single stage two envelope quotation (Technical & Commercial) is required via TCS / Post Office only. Validity of Quotations should be 03 Months. Quotations in detail with minimum EDD be provided, Specs / details can be collected from Samungli Log Sqn (081-9503867, 0312-7163844, 0334-9128670)									Power Supply QPX600DP Output 80V DC 50Amp, Adhesive RTV3145 Grey Cat (P38259), Canvas Cover, Coverall Eng Off/Men, Oil Gear/Dif/Str SAE 90, Pro Powered Amplifier EV CPS-2 (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714									
<b>PAF BASE MALIR (LOG)</b>									<b>021-99533889</b>		<b>NO 105 AED PAF BASE MALIR</b>		<b>TEL EXT 7323</b>					
Engine Oil 5W-50, Pulse Generator HP 8112A, Spectrum Analyzer (Ea As Req), Note: For detail specification, please Contact Log Sqn on Telephone No. 021-99533889 & Mobile No. 0300-3930495									Spray Booths, Airborne Particle Counter, Sand Conveyor (Ea As Req) <b>Note :</b> Quotations must be inclusive of all taxes, Tel Ext. 7323									
									<b>TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-</b>									
									1. General terms and conditions are mentioned in tender form (F-528A). Forms and tender notices complete details can be downloaded from PAF website " <b>www.paf.gov.pk</b> " or can be obtained from respective Bases/ Log Sqns on working days.									
									2. The firm must be GST and professional Tax registered having NTN.									
									3. Last date of submission of tenders: <b>24 SEPTEMBER, 2024 (1000 hrs)</b> .									
									4. Tenders will be opened on the same day at 1100 hours.									
									5. No advance payment will be made and payment will be subject to acceptance of the items by user activity.									
									6. Officers Commanding of the mentioned Bases/ Units reserve the right to reject any part or the entire tender on technical grounds.									
									7. Quotations must be valid for 90 days.									
									8. Sales Tax as applicable must be mentioned separately.									
									9. Guarantee / Warranty term / period should also be mentioned.									
									10. The agreement will be governed by official secret act. 1923.									

http://www.paf.gov.pk





# ‘PMYP committed to advancing literacy agenda’



ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth

Programme (PMYP), Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Sunday said that the PMYP was committed to advancing the literacy agenda across Pakistan.

Talking to the media in connection with International Literacy Day, he said that the PMYP office was making efforts to provide quality education through comprehensive skills development initiatives, ensuring lifelong learning opportunities for every citizen according to vision of

the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

“I would like to emphasize the profound impact of literacy in empowering individuals and contributing to a more informed and prosperous society. Literacy is not just the ability to read and write; it is a fundamental human right that opens doors to economic opportunities, active societal participation, and personal growth,” he added.

The Chairman PMYP further said

that as part of the “Education Emergency” initiative, the government was focusing on enrolling approximately 26 million out-of-school children, to transform Pakistan into a global leader in education.

This ambitious endeavor includes strategies such as providing free meals, scholarships, and various incentives to reduce dropout rates and encourage students to complete their education, he remarked.

“We are also dedicated to integrat-

ing technology into our education system. By promoting technology-friendly literacy and skills development, we aim to equip our youth with the necessary competencies to excel in the digital economy. This initiative underscores our commitment to modernizing education and preparing young Pakistanis for future success,” he said.

Furthermore, the government recognized the crucial role of collaboration with the private sector and civil

society, Mashhood said and added that through strategic partnerships, “We seek to connect education with employment and self-employment opportunities, fostering a more inclusive and dynamic workforce.”

As we observe International Literacy Day, “I urge all stakeholders to unite in our mission to advance literacy and education. Together, we can build a brighter, more equitable future for our children and nation,” he added.



## PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

### OPEN TENDER NOTICES

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED BY THE FOLLOWING BASES / UNITS FOR THE SUPPLY / PURCHASE / REPAIR / OVERHAULING OF MENTIONED ITEMS.

OP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI									DTE AHQ, ISLAMABAD (CER)		051-9505117		PAF BASE KALLAR KAHAR (LOG)		0543-588308-2271	
S. NO	IT No.	NSN / PT No / Noun	Line Item	U/I Qty	CAT	Opening Date	Time Period for Performance of Contract	Closing + Opening Time	Crests / Souvenirs, Misc items, only separately Quotes Technical / Financial acceptable, Detail of Items / Specification may be obtained from Cer Sub Dte AHQ, Islamabad during working hours. For queries Tel No 051-9505117 may be contacted			ANTI-CORROSION TREATMENT OF COMMUNICATION TOWER, Scop of work is as under:- i. Rust Removing, ii Epoxy Coating (Andrew), iii.Installation of Hazard Light, (Including Power Cable +PVC Pipe), Details / specifications / samples may please be checked from Log Sqn, PAF Base Kallar Kahar. 0543-588308-2281 Official Cell No 0323-9419713, Technical & Commercial quotation must be submitted separately (Single stage two envelope) (As Req), Items will be accepted after inspection				
01	415213/P-41	Overhaul of IL-78 Aircraft	01	EA-01	FE	08-10-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
02	415214/P-41	Procurement of DMBR Items and Repair of LRUs of WL-II (UAS)	111	Various	FE	08-10-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
03	436893/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of SRUs/Spares Packages MBSDR for HZ-7	16	EA-Var	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 12 Months after signing of the contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs								
04	436895/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of Baseband Development Lab Kit	01	EA-03	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 06 Months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
05	436900/P-43 (Re-Tender)	Procurement of TDL MCOC Hardware	06	EA-Var	Pak Rs	24-09-24	Within 03 Months after signing of the contract	1130 Hrs 1200 Hrs								
06	436948/P-43	Procurement of Coaxial Dipole Antenna for UHF Plain Radio	01	EA-50	Pak Rs	25-09-24	Within 04 to 06 Months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs								
07	436949/P-43	Procurement of Hand Set and Omni Directional Antenna	02	EA-Var	Pak Rs	25-09-24	Within 04 to 06 Months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
08	448386/P-44	B-6 Level Modification (Armoring) of Single Cabin 4X4	01	EA-38	Pak Rs	25-09-24	As per IT documents	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
09	448394/P-44	Micronic Filters (1st & 2nd stage) for A/C Refuellers	04	Various	FE	10-10-24	As per IT documents	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
10	459749/P-45	CAP/PAD for IL-78 A/C	02	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
11	459750/P-45	CAP/PAD China	03	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
12	459751/P-45	CAP/PAD Sweden for SAAB-2000 A/C	01	EA-02	FE	10-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
13	459753/P-45	Signals Flares for MI-171 and PF-20 for JF-17 A/C	05	Various	FE	09-10-24	10-12 months after signing of the contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
14	459754/P-45	REK Spares	10	Various	FE	10-10-24	06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								

**Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1 & 2 ADP-41 (051-9281361), For S. No 3 to 7 ADP-43 (051-9527715), For S. No 8 & 9 ADP-44 051-9281364), For S. No 10 to 14 ADP-45 (051-9281365)**

1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. [www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk) under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisements' (for Tender Invitation documents).

2. Its documents can be obtained in soft copy via request letter through e-mail address to ([pa05@paf.gov.pk](mailto:pa05@paf.gov.pk))

3. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. [www.ppra.org.pk](http://www.ppra.org.pk).

PAF BASE, SHAHBAZ (LOG)	0722-670454	AHQs (U) ISLAMABAD (LOG)	051-9505556
(Air Filter Cartridge) Gas Turbine Combustion filter in polyester (self-cleaning) F8/F9 polyester, D=327X=L635 mm, Air Cond 1.5 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 2 TON Rev / Non Rev, Air Cond 1 TON Rev / Non Rev, AMER TEX-R50-G4 (Pneumatic Valve), Technical & Commercial quotations must be packed separately and sealed properly. Specs may be obtained from Log Sqn at 0323-9439712; 0309-8925565 & Office No 0722-670454 Ext 2257		LOCAL REPAIR OF FIREWALL (USG6370 AC HOST), SMART EAR BUD, LINK INTERFACE MODULE, IDIRECT X5 SATELLITE ROUTER ENGINE OIL:- OIL TYPE:- Mineral Based, Semi Synthetic and Fully Synthetic. GRADE / VISCOSITY:- 5W30, 10W30, 15W40, 20W50 for Petrol and Heavy Duty Diesel engines. Note: - Separate Quotes are required for Petrol and Diesel engine oil. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:- All oils must meet or exceed API Ck-4/CI-4/CH-4 Standards. Compliance with ACEA E9/E7 or equivalent. CERTIFICATIONS:- API and ACEA compliance and ISO 9001 or equivalent quality control certificates. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT:- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) required of each grade. Non-refundable samples of 1 Liter Packing of each grade is also required. MILEAGE:- Mileage of every oil must be mentioned against each. (NOTE:- Separate Quotation (Technical And Financial) For Each Line Item Is Required) (As Req), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqn on Phone No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email : <a href="mailto:Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk">Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk</a>	
PAF BASE, RISALPUR (LOG)	0324-3189565	PAF BASE PESHAWAR (LOG)	091-9503867
AC Split 1.5 Ton (Rev) Invertor, HP Compressor Assy L/R, Promixer CMS-1000 (10 Port), Epoxy Paint Treatment of Warehouse (Estimated Area 15000 sq), Batteries (Acid & Maintenance Free) - 12V 2.5 Amp to 220 Amp, Tyres & Tubes (All Types vehicles), Paints & Dopes, MT Spares & Filters (All Types), MT Lubes (All Types / Grade), Tonners (All Types), Air Conditioners & Refrigerant Gas, Wood / Chip Board, Hiring of Mechanical Transports, Cleaning Material Items (All types), Packing & Storage Material (All types), Stationary Items (All types), Uniform Accoutrements (Combat Dress 2022 & Blue), Miscellaneous Items (IT Equipment, Networking Equipment & Common Use Items), <b>Note:-</b> Quotations are required for 01 Year (Valid 30 June, 2025) close framework agreement as per PPRA rule 16A. Sample of items must be provided with quotations. Quotation will not be considered without sample. EDD should be clearly mentioned on quotation as days / weeks of months. Each bid shall comprise one single envelope containing financial proposal, submission of quotation contrary to PPRA Rule 22 will be rejected. The firm must be GST registered and quoted price must be without GST. The Procuring agency reserve the power to increase or decrease the number and quantity of items. Date of opening must be marked on envelope in bold letters (As Req). For Specifications / scope of work any other query please contact No Ext - 3885 Mobile No 0324-3189565		Engine Oil SAE (15W40), Engine Oil SAE (20W50), Engine Oil SAE (10W40), Engine Oil SAE (10W30), Gear Oil (SAE 90), Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, Aeroshell 100, Oil Tellus Sheet 69 (Hyd Oil), Oil Brake Dot-3, Transmission Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear/ STR Dexron-111, All type of Tyres, Hiring of 40, 20 and 27 feet Low Flatbed / Flatbed from PAF Base Peshawar to PAF Nur Khan and PAF Base Peshawar Saidu Shareef (As Req). <b>Note:-</b> Commercial and Technical quotations must be submitted as per single stage two envelope procedure. Detail scope of work and specification can be obtained from Officer in-charge Log Sqn PAF Base, Peshawar Tel: 091-9503867, Mobile: 03239411712	
PAF BASE, SAMUNGLI (LOG)	081-9503867	PAF BASE MINHAS (LOG)	057-9533887
Thermal Power Sensor (As Req), <b>Note:</b> As per PPRA Rule-36(b) single stage two envelope quotation (Technical & Commercial) is required via TCS / Post Office only. Validity of Quotations should be 03 Months. Quotations in detail with minimum EDD should be provided, Specs / details can be collected from Samungli Log Sqn (081-9503867, 0312-7163844, 0334-9128670)		Local Purchase of all types of Batteries, maintenance free batteries, dry batteries / Lead acid batteries, all types of Tyres. all types of Filters (Air/Oil) all, All types of Packing & Storage material, All types of Rags colored (general and 1 x 1), All types of Cleaning material items, All types of Stationery items, All types of DO / PPC Paper, All types of Engine Oil, Hydraulic Oil, Gear Oil, Transmission Oil, Brake oil, Greases/Lubricants, Including Oil Eng (AP1:CE, SAE 15W-40), OIL Eng (AP1:ILSAC, SAE 10W-40), Oil Gear AP1:GL-4, SAE 75W-90, Grease GP, Oil Steering (AFT) Dexron-11, Oil Eng (AP1:CC,SAE 20W-50), Oil Eng (SAE 10W-40), All types of Air Conditioners Inverters (1.5 / 2) Ton Reversible,All/Non-Reversible, All types of Paints, All types of PCs / Maintenance Terminal (Laptops), All types of Printers & PPC Machine, Paper Shredders (Heavy/Light duty), All types of Cameras, All sizes of LCD / LED (40", 32", 44", 55", 60") and Hiring of civil Transport from PAF Base Minhas to All Cities of Pakistan and all Cities of Pakistan to PAF Base Minhas (As Req), Note Specs/Scope of work may be obtained from Log Sqn Minhas, Tel: 057-9533887 / 0323-9414715	
PAF BASE MALIR (LOG)	021-99533889		
Engine Oil 5W-50, Pulse Generator HP 8112A, Spectrum Analyzer (Ea As Req), Note: For detail specification, please Contact Log Sqn on Telephone No. 021-99533889 & Mobile No. 0300-3930495			

PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)	03239431714	NO 105 AED PAF BASE MALIR	TEL EXT 7323
Power Supply QPX600DP Output 80V DC 50Amp, Adhesive RTV3145 Grey Cat (P38259), Canvas Cover, Coverall Eng Off/Men, Oil Gear/Dif/Str SAE 90, Pro Powered Amplifier EV CPS-2 (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714		Spray Boots, Airborne Particle Counter, Sand Conveyor (Ea As Req) <b>Note:</b> : Quotations must be inclusive of all taxes, Tel Ext. 7323	

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-**

- General terms and conditions are mentioned in tender form (F-528A). Forms and tender notices complete details can be downloaded from PAF website "[www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk)" or can be obtained from respective Bases/ Log Sqns on working days.
- The firm must be GST and professional Tax registered having NTN.
- Last date of submission of tenders: **24 SEPTEMBER, 2024 (1000 hrs).**
- Tenders will be opened on the same day at 1100 hours.
- No advance payment will be made and payment will be subject to acceptance of the items by user activity.
- Officers Commanding of the mentioned Bases/ Units reserve the right to reject any part or the entire tender on technical grounds.
- Quotations must be valid for 90 days.
- Sales Tax as applicable must be mentioned separately.
- Guarantee / Warranty term / period should also be mentioned.
- The agreement will be governed by official secret act. 1923.

PAF AIRMEN ACADEMY KORANGI CREEK (LOG)	021-99553863
Water Scooter (Jet SKI) Local Repair (As Req), Fluid Trans (5.3GL=1BT=20 LTR) Local Purchase, Oil PIN NOCLE Local Purchase, Grease 22 Local Purchase, Grease 07 Local Purchase (LR As Req), School Bags Local Purchase (Ea As Req), RG223 Input Coaxial Cable (LMR-400 20 METERS) Local Purchase (Ea As Req), <b>Note 1:</b> As Per PPRA rules, 2004 (revised 2021) Quotations are required for closed framework agreement (1 year upto 30 June, 2025). Quotations should be valid for one year as per PPRA rule one stage two envelopes (Technical and Commercial) separately, Specifications mentioned above can be obtained from Logistics Squadron, PAF Airmen Academy, Korangi Creek, or on Mobile No 0321-9147887	



# BRT faces Rs.3.2 billion annual losses

PESHAWAR (APP): The ongoing shortage of buses within Peshawar’s Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system exacerbated the difficulties faced by passengers, particularly those with disabilities and women, as they navigate the city’s public transport network that are facing about Rs 3.2 annual losses.

The scrapping of private transport options and long delayed in completion of BRT’s commercial malls at Dabgari and Hayatabad has further intensified these massive challenges, leading to a noticeable strain on the BRT system’s capacity.

Among those passengers struggling is Khurshid Khan, a 43-year-old government employee who mostly relied on the BRT for his daily commute from Chamkani to Hayatabad — a journey spanning approximately 27 kilometers.

As a person with a disability, Khurshid Khan has encountered significant discomfort and difficulty during his travel due to a lack of adequate seating facilities.

The reserved seats for individuals with disabilities are often occupied by other passengers, forcing him to stand for nearly one and a half hours during his commute.

“I experience severe pain in my back and legs while standing for such a long duration,” Khan said.

“It is disheartening to see the seats designated for people like me being taken by others. The overcrowding on the BRT buses, especially during peak hours, has become a daily struggle, often leading to uncomfortable confrontations between general passengers and those with disabilities.”

The situation has been compounded by the BRT’s financial woes, including substantial losses due to subsidies and delays in the development of commercial plazas, which had further strained the system’s resources.

The limited number of buses and shortage of busses have led to frequent overcrowding, with many passengers left standing and struggling to find a seat, exacerbating the difficulties for those who are already vulnerable including girl students.

In the mornings and evenings, when the passenger rush is at its peak, the issue becomes even more pronounced. The limited availability of dedicated seating for persons with disabilities, coupled with the overcrowded conditions, has resulted in a regular exchange of heated words between passengers and individuals with disabilities and students of professional colleges besides government employees immense.

Sadaf Kamal, Spokeswoman of Trans Peshawar said the occupation of reserved seats of women and special persons by general passengers was a big challenge, adding special bars were erected in BRT buses to address this issue.

She claimed that about 350,000 passengers were travelling daily in BRT and providing seats to all commuters was difficult. Keeping in view of passengers’ load, she said the buses were increased to 244 in main corridor and feeder routes.

To a question about huge financial losses suffering by BRT, Sadaf said that BRT was facing about Rs3.2 billion annual losses mainly due to granting of subsidy to passengers.

She said that an average Rs 23 revenue was being received per passenger against Rs80 expenditure between Chamkani-Hayatabad route, adding Trans Peshawar pays about Rs 700 million as sales tax on services besides upto Rs400 million to Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and approximately Rs 400 million electricity charges per year.

Trans Peshawar also generate Rs 20 million revenue from advertisement after signing an agreement with a popular advertisement agency, she said, adding about Rs1.5 billion are being returned back to the government kitty under these heads.

Sadaf claimed at national and international level, almost all such mass transit projects went into losses due to massive subsidies granted by the respective governments to facilitate poor passengers and general public at large.

Ikhtair Wali Khan, PML-N KP spokesperson said that Rs 3.2 billion annual losses by BRT was a major burden on the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government’s exchequer that was already facing huge foreign loans burdens.

“The poor feasibility of BRT’s corridor have plunged Peshawar into traffic jams especially at morning and evening, creating great problems for thousands of government employees, students, general public, labourers and passengers coming to provincial capital from different districts for jobs on daily basis.”

The PMLN leader claimed that the long delay and slow paced work at BRT’s commercial malls at Chamkani, Dabgari Gardens and Hayatabad Peshawar were causing huge financial losses to the provincial exchequer.

With completion of these large malls sprawling on several acres with facilities of spaces for offices, business and car parking could generate about Rs700 million as revenue.

Besides vehicular and noise pollution, he said that black smoke being emitted by dozens of bricks kiln and marble factories at Peshawar have further aggravated problems for Peshawarties exposed to various environmental and pollution hazards.

Ikhtair Wali said that one of the reasons of the BRT losses was unavailability of fueling and charging facilities of its buses especially at Hayatabad Mall. “These buses have to return at late night or early morning to main Chamkani Mall for fuelling and charging of batteries, which create negative effects on its revenue.”

Sadaf said that 503 smoke emitting wagons and busses were scrapped after launching of BRT at Peshawar and compensation were paid to the owners besides jobs to its drivers and conductors.

Due to BRT, she said the number of women passengers were increased from two percent to 30 percents besides positive social, educational and economic effects in lives of Peshawarties.

There are also plans of launching of similar projects at Abbotabad, Swat and DI Khan for which huge investment would be required. She said its services were extended to Nasirbagh Road to link Regi Model Town with BRT main corridor and plan to extend it to Pabbi tehsil of Nowshera are under active consideration.

BRT’s services have been recognized both at national and international level and received five international awards including Institute for transport development and policy as gold standard award, sustainable transport award in 2022-24, prize for cities and best smart ticketing program, she said.

The current state of the BRT highlighted the pressing need for addressing the issue of huge financial losses, increasing capacity and better management of the transport system to address the needs of all commuters.



PESHAWAR: Sahibzada Adnan Qadri, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Hajj, Auqaf, and Religious Affairs, talking to a delegation of Ulema.

## Qadri urges public to actively take part in anti-polio drive

### F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Sahibzada Adnan Qadri, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Hajj, Auqaf, and Religious Affairs, has urged the public, especially religious scholars, to actively participate in the ongoing polio campaign to protect their children from this crippling disease and help eradicate it from the country.

He further announced that the campaign will run from September 9 to September 13 in 27 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, while in the remaining districts, the campaign will be conducted from September 23 to September 27. During this campaign, more than 6.425 million children will be vaccinated against polio. A total of 35,000 teams will participate, going door-to-door to administer the polio drops to children.

To ensure the security of these polio teams, 50,000 police officers will be deployed.

The minister once again appealed to the public to ensure their children receive polio drops on time to protect them from this dangerous disease.

## Sepoy Subhan – Shining bright amidst galaxy of martyrs

PESHAWAR (APP): In the face of grave danger, the true character of a person is revealed. Some may hesitate, others may flee, but there are those rare souls who confront peril head-on, embodying the highest virtues of bravery and selflessness.

Sepoy Subhan Majeed was one such individual—a 22-year-old soldier from Muzaffarabad whose courage and sacrifice have etched his name in the annals of Pakistan’s history.

Born and raised in the serene valleys of Muzaffarabad, Subhan Majeed was known for his unwavering dedication to his family, his community and most importantly, his nation. From a young age, he displayed a strong sense of duty and a passion for serving his country that led him to join Pakistan Army.

His peers and superiors quickly recognized his potential, describing him as a disciplined and hard-working soldier, always ready to go above and beyond the call of duty.

Despite his youth, Sepoy Majeed understood the heavy responsibilities that came with wearing the uniform. He was fully aware of the threats facing Pakistan, particularly from those who sought to disrupt the peace and security of nation. His commitment to his country was absolute and he was determined to protect it, no matter whatever the cost.

The dawn of that tragic day (July 17, 2024) at Bannu Cantonment began like any other for Sepoy Majeed and his comrades. However, the peace was shattered when terrorists launched a sudden and vicious attack on the cantonment, aiming to create chaos and inflict as much damage as possible. Amid the explosions and gunfire, Majeed found himself at the forefront of confrontation.

According to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), attempt to enter the cantonment was effectively thwarted by security forces personnel in a swift reaction after the terrorists rammed an explosive-laden vehicle into perimeter wall of the cantonment. The suicide blast led to collapse of a portion of the wall and damaged adjoining infrastructure, also resulting in the martyrdom of eight soldiers.

As the attack unfolded, a grenade was hurled by one of the terrorists, landing dangerously close to Majeed’s fellow soldiers. In that split second, when most would have been taken aback, Sepoy Majeed’s instincts kicked in.

Fully aware of the impending danger to his comrades, he made the ultimate decision and without a moment’s hesitation, he threw himself onto the grenade, absorbing full force of the explosion.

This selfless act of valor saved the lives of his fellow soldiers. His body shielded them from the deadly blast, but the cost was his own life. Sepoy Subhan Majeed’s sacrifice in that moment was not just an act of bravery—it was embodiment of the spirit of Pakistan Army, where safety and well-being of the nation and its people come above all.

Sepoy Subhan Majeed’s martyrdom is a stark reminder of the heavy price that is often paid by those serving in the armed forces. His actions on that fateful day in Bannu are a testament to his unyielding courage and his unwavering commitment to his comrades and his country. In sacrificing his life, he has ensured that his name will live on as a symbol of the highest ideals of military service.

His story resonates deeply not only in his hometown of Muzaffarabad but across the entire nation. The people of Pakistan mourn his loss, but they also celebrate his life—a life that was marked by dedication, honor and an extraordinary act of heroism.

Sepoy Subhan Majeed’s sacrifice will never be forgotten. With his sacrifice another mother lost her beloved son like thousands others whose dear ones had also rendered unmatched sacrifices.

The nation owes a debt of gratitude to such young soldiers, whose actions have safeguarded the lives of many and upheld the dignity of Pakistan Army. Story of Subhan shaheed and many others would be told for generations to come, inspiring future soldiers and citizens alike to serve their country with the same level of devotion and bravery. (Mat Allah Almighty rest their souls in peace and grant them Jannah).

As the sons of soil continue rendering sacrifices, some disgruntled elements are trying to malign armed forces to fulfill their nefarious designs in line with enemy’s despicable agenda. Oblivious to the sentiments of nationalism and the pangs that families of such soldiers suffer, these anti-state elements have their own axe to grind on the behalf of their foreign masters.

These few fail to understand that as far as daring sons like Subhan Majeed are present in the ranks of our security forces their every bid would be thwarted. This is also a message for insane elements in the rank and file of propagators that whatever their agenda might be, ultimately they will have to eat dust.

In honoring Sepoy Subhan Majeed, we not only pay tribute to his memory but also reaffirm our commitment to the values he stood for. His life, though tragically cut short, was a beacon of light in the darkest of times, and his legacy will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of all Pakistanis.

## AD&SJ acquits alleged murderer

### F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Additional District and Session Judge (AD&SJ) Lubna Zaman has acquitted alleged murderer named Saif-ul-Islam on lack evidence in land dispute.

According to prosecution, accused Saif-ul-Islam along with two other culprits including son of the deceased on 22nd March 2023 in the premises of Par Hoti police station over the land dispute and charged them under the relevant section of law.

The counsel Wali Khan Afridi advocate argued that as per First Information Report all the accused had indiscriminately opened firing on the deceased while the evidences claiming that late Nadir Khan death due to firing of weapon.

Moreover, one accused is still absconder while two alleged culprits are under the trial in the offense, however, higher judiciary had setup principles in this regard, the lawyer added.

The counsel argued that the accused wasn’t present at the time offense as disclosed by CDR report. However, the counsel for complainant argued that the evidences are available on the record.

AD&SJ Lubna acquitted the accused over lack of evidences after conclusion of arguments.

## GM Wapda Norths calls on Governor

PESHAWAR (APP): General Manager WAPDA North, Shafiq Khan Bettani called on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi here at Governor House.

GM Bettani briefed Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, on the progress and strategic planning for the Chashma Lift Canal project.

Bettani informed the Governor that a special directorate has been established in the Chashma Right Bank Canal Colony Dera Ismail Khan to oversee the project.

Governor Kundi expressed his pleasure at the development and emphasized the project’s significance not only for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but for Pakistan’s overall development and prosperity.

He highlighted that the completion of the Chashma Lift Canal will irrigate thousands of acres of land, bring a green revolution to the region, and contribute significantly to alleviating the country’s food shortages.

The Governor said that the project will help reduce unemployment across the province and initiate a new era of related developmental activities.

He extended his gratitude to Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and the federal government for allocating 19 billion rupees to the project in the budget.

He also acknowledged the contributions of Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, who played a crucial role in facilitating the project.

Kundi assured that construction work on the Chashma Lift Canal would begin within the year. The meeting also covered other developmental projects related to WAPDA in the province.

## Comprehensive preparations underway for Rahmat-ul-Alamin Conference

### F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Secretary for Hajj, Auqaf, and Religious Affairs, Adil Siddiq, has stated that comprehensive preparations are being made to ensure the successful organization of the Rahmat-ul-Alamin Conference.

He emphasized the critical role of the media in promoting Islamic teachings. He expressed these views during a meeting held in his office to review the arrangements for the conference.

The meeting was attended by officials and representatives from the Department of Information and Public Relations, the police, district administration, and other relevant institutions. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the arrangements for organizing the Rahmat-ul-Alamin Conference at divisional and district headquarters. A thorough review of the tasks assigned to various departments was also conducted. Additionally, strategies for widespread promotion through print and electronic media, in collaboration with the Department of Information and Public Relations, were discussed.

The police department briefed the meeting on security measures, and other institutions presented their suggestions and plans for the event.

Secretary Adil Siddiq highlighted that the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was a mercy for all mankind, and he stressed that no negligence or shortcomings would be tolerated in the organization of the Rahmat-ul-Alamin Conference.



PESHAWAR: Students of a local university enjoying an Open Mic event. — INP Photo





## In brief

### Two brothers shot dead

KALAT (INP): Unidentified armed men gunned down two real brothers over unknown dispute here on Sunday and escaped the scene. According to details, the incident took place in Zawa Sheesha Daghar area of Kalat where unknown gunmen sprayed bullets at to brothers. As a result of firing, Muhammad Ismail and Muhammad Abbas were killed on the spot and assailants fled the scene. Police reached the scene and shifted the bodies to hospital. A case was registered into the incident and investigations were kicked off.

### Youth shot dead by cousins

MIAN CHANNU (INP): A youth was shot dead by his three cousins over domestic disputes here on Sunday and culprits fled the scene. According to the details, the incident took place in village Tulamba of Mian Channu where first cousins exchanged hot words over domestic issues. After verbal clash, culprits Hassan Nawaz, Asif Nawaz and Kashif Nawaz gunned down their cousin and fled the scene. The body was shifted to hospital for postmortem and police after registering a case against the culprits started raids for their arrest.

### Eight family members faint

KHAIRPUR (INP): Eight family members including women and children fainted after consuming toxic food and were hospitalized. According to details, a family hailing from village Babarlu of Khairpur consumed chickpeas and bread in dinner. Due to consuming the food which turned poisonous due to unknown reasons, condition of eight people including women and children deteriorated. The affected were shifted to Civil Hospital Khairpur where medics washed their stomachs and started treatment.

### Anti-polio drive from today

HYDERABAD (INP): The District Health Office with the support of the district administration will start a 7-day polio immunization drive in Hyderabad today from September 9. A health official informed that an urgent polio campaign had been planned for the district after a polio positive case surfaced in Hyderabad last month. He said the provincial government had strictly directed the authorities to address the problem of refusal cases. The official appealed to the parents to cooperate with the health teams which would be visiting door-to-door to inoculate children under 5 years of age.

### Three gunned down

LAKKI MARWAT (INP): Three people, including two head constable brothers, were killed, and three others injured in two separate terror incidents in Wana and Lakki Marwat. In the first incident, an explosion occurred in Kadikoy Bazaar, a village near Wana in Lower Waziristan district, leaving one person, identified as Shamsuddin, son of Malik Jameel, killed, and three others injured. The explosion targeted a vehicle, which was completely destroyed. The injured individuals were immediately transported to the hospital for medical attention. In a separate attack, terrorists opened fire in Abba Khel, Lucky Marwat, killing Head Constables Safiullah and Naveedullah.



**SUKKUR:** A view of boat parked in front of Lansdowne Bridge and Ayub Bridge at Left Bank of Indus River near Rohri.

## Muqam condoles with family of martyred head constable

SWAT (APP): Federal Minister for SAFRON and Gilgit Baltistan and Kashmir Affairs Engr Amir Muqam here Sunday visited the residence of head constable Rehman Ullah who was martyred at blast at Navay Kali Mingora and expressed his sympathy and condolences with his

family besides offering Fateha at Miandam.

He also expressed condolences with the bereaved family on behalf of the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

The minister also provided financial assistance from own to the bereaved

family. PMLN President Swat Qaymoos Khan and Former Provincial Minister Muhammad Ali Shah besides elders of the area were present.

Earlier, the Engr Amir Muqam was warmly received by the people at Miandam.

## Body of drowned boy recovered

F.P. Report

LOWER DIR: The body of an 11-year-old boy identified as Zakreya s/o Dilawar Khan, a resident of Wara Banda, was recovered from the Panjkora River at Zulam spot after two days of hectic efforts here on Sunday.

The Rescue 1122 divers, volunteers of the Al-Khidmat Foundation, civil defense and locals continued the search for the second consecutive day.

The boy was drowned in the river while taking a bath in the Mian Banda area the other day. The body was shifted to the district headquarters hospital Timergara and then handed over to the family.

The district administration has imposed section 144 on bathing and collecting firewood from the river, yet dozens of youths seemed violating the order daily.

The residents on Sunday demanded the district administration to strictly implement its orders. Talking to local journalists, a social worker, Ibrash Pasha said that so far 22 youths, most of them teenagers, had drowned in the Panjkora river during the last two months.

**S T A T U T E S** APPROVED: According to a press release issued by the University of Malakand (UoM), the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has approved the new statutes (laws) of the varsity. In a press release issued by the UoM's PRO here on Sunday, the higher education department issued a letter to the varsity's registrar regarding the approval of the new statutes.

The varsity's syndicate and senate, according to the release, had already approved the new statutes as per the HEC directives. The statutes were then sent to the KP Governor for his final approval.

The UoM vice chancellor Prof Dr Rashid Ahmad congratulated the varsity's staff, professors and students and vowed that the new statutes would further enhance quality of education.

# PPP render great sacrifices for democracy: Khuhro

HYDERABAD (APP): The President of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Sindh and Member of Sindh Assembly Nisar Ahmed Khuhro has said that the PPP was the country's largest democratic party, having made significant sacrifices for democracy.

He maintained that party workers have endured imprisonment, lashes and even bullets, their contributions and sacrifices must be acknowledged. Khuhro expressed these views while addressing a public gathering in Tando Allahyar.

He said that the party was established by Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and well managed by Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, we have learned politics from her. He said that shaheed Benazir Bhutto always considered Tandoalayahar as second Lyari, for this we

should make the party stronger in Tando Allahyar.

He also praised the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, saying that the young PPP leader has the full potential to steer the country through tough times. The PPP leader mentioned that the party has democratically elected district presidents and office-bearers, ensuring that they address the issues of the public. He urged the party representatives to maintain close contact with the people and be present in their joys and sorrows.

On this occasion, Member of Sindh Assembly Imdad Pitafi addressed the gathering and said that we were grateful to the Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari who trusted our family and gave us the district chairmanship of the party. He pledged to work alongside

other office-bearers and the public to serve the people. The newly elected president of PPP Tando Allahyar Zaheer Pitafi thanked the workers and senior leaders for placing their trust in him. He assured the public that any issue faced by them in any institution would be resolved on a priority basis. Members of the Sindh Assembly Dr. Sikandar Shoro, Ali Hassan Hingorjo and other party leaders also addressed the gathering.

Earlier, Nisar Khuhro, Ali Hassan Hingorjo, Imdad Pitafi, Dr. Sikandar Shoro and the newly elected President of PPP Tando Allahyar Zaheer Pitafi, led a rally of party workers and leaders in vehicles to Tando Allahyar, where they were warmly welcomed. The rally then proceeded to the venue and joined the public gathering



**THARPARKAR:** A family enjoying the nature during visit to the tourist spot in Nagarparkar. Rains have enriched Karoonjhar hills with lush green patches and have revived natural water course in the area, which is part of Thraparkar desert region.

## Governor appraises AIOU management

QUETTA (APP): Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail on Sunday lauded the efforts of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) on creating opportunities for modern education and skills for overseas Pakistanis also which is ensuring that knowledge knows no borders.

Addressing the convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University Quetta Chapter, he said that Allama Iqbal Open University is a major source of imparting higher education in the country which simultaneously enlightens the minds of students from urban and rural areas of the country.

Jaffar Khan Mandokhail highlighted the uniqueness of AIOU providing education to students of any age, class and from all over the country. He expressed these views while addressing the participants of the

convocation held at Noori Naseer Khan Cultural Complex on Sunday.

During the convocation, the graduates including 27 females were conferred with degrees and gold medals, which is an important milestone in their educational journey.

Many distinguished guests, including Professor of Allama Iqbal Open University Dr. Nasir Mahmood, Dean of Faculties, a large number of parents, teachers and graduating graduates attended the convocation.

Addressing the participants of the convocation, Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail said that AIOU is considered to be one of the most prominent universities in the world due to its distance education system. He added it is gratifying that Allama Iqbal Open University paves the way for a bright future by harnessing modern digital

information technology to produce skilled manpower as per modern market demands.

Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan extended his heartfelt congratulations to all the new graduates of Allama Iqbal Open University and their parents. He said that a prestigious convocation is a testament to your success, dedication and perseverance.

He said that consistent with great wisdom and prudence which emphasizes on seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave.

While congratulating AIOU on the successful convocation, he appreciated the conscious efforts of the Vice Chancellor and his entire team and said that he has high expectations from AIOU to continue the chain of imparting education and skills and stay up-to-date with the ever-changing world.

## Vehicle snatched from councillor at gunpoint

JACOBABAD (INP): Armed men snatched vehicle from a councillor here on Sunday. The community held protest demonstration by blocking the National Highway.

According to details, unidentified culprits snatched Alto car from Councillor Qalandar Bux Kehar in Mochi Wah area

of Jacobabad and sped the scene.

Members of the Kehar community blocked the National Highway by burning tyres and held protest demonstration against the incident.

Long queues of vehicles were witnessed on both sides of the road due to blockage.

The protestors expressed serious concerns over the surge in crimes in the area and criticized police for its slackness to arrest the criminals.

They demanded of the authorities to ensure early recovery of the snatched vehicle and measures to provide security to public lives and properties.



**MULTAN:** A heavy loaded trailer met an accident and crossed over the road divider creating a hurdle in the smooth flow of traffic near Bahawalpur bypass Chowk.

## Mighty-K2: An arduous challenge for climbers

GILGIT-BALTISTAN (APP): Located on Pakistan-China border, K2 stands tall at 8,611 meters (28,251 feet) as the second-highest mountain in the world and a jewel in Pakistan's crown making it prominent among nations with mountain ranges.

Its sheer size, rugged terrain and unpredictable weather distinguish it from other peaks of the world making a formidable challenge for even the most experienced climbers.

First discovered in 1856 by the Great Trigonometric Survey of British India, led by Thomas Montgomery, the mountain was initially named "Montgomery's Peak" but later renamed as K2, with "K" standing for Karakoram and "2" indicating it as the second highest peak in the range.

As climbing season kicks off, hundreds of local and foreign

climbers make their way to Gilgit-Baltistan to climb eight-thousand peaks, including K2 with many facing severe weather and sometimes unfortunate accidents that also claim their lives.

According to Gilgit-Baltistan Tourism Department, over 1,700 permits had been issued to foreign tourists till July 02 to climb peaks in the region with 175 permits issued to scale K2.

K2 is a majestic mountain that commands respect and awe. But, its rugged terrain and unpredictable weather make it a challenge for climbers. However, with proper preparation and experience, K2 can be a rewarding and life-changing experience for those who dare to conquer it.

"As the second-highest mountain on Earth, K2 boasts a notorious reputation as the 'Savage Mountain.'

Its fatality rate is

around 23 deaths per 100 successful summits. Its death zone is particularly perilous, and its unpredictable weather, constant rock fall and difficult climbing sections contribute to its high mortality rate," remarked a senior Journalist Imtiaz Ali Taj.

He said after an increase in successful attempts, as of August 2023, an estimated more than 800 people have summited K2, with more than 100 deaths during attempted climbs.

"Climbing K2 is a serious undertaking that requires extensive mountaineering experience, physical endurance and mental toughness," Imtiaz stated. "The climb typically takes around 60 to 90 days, depending on the route and weather conditions. Climbers must navigate treacherous terrain including steep rock faces, icy slopes and exposed

ridges."

The K2 was referred to as The Savage Mountain since 1953, when American climber and physicist George Bell, who would have nearly perished in a six-men fall on the mountain.

There are several routes to summit K2, each with its own unique challenges and risks. The most popular route is the Abruzzi Spur, also known as the Southeast Ridge. Other notable routes include the North Ridge, West Ridge, and South Face.

Guided or not, K2's upper slopes are one of the least hospitable places on earth. And for anyone who wants to escape the crowds, the mountain is also host to nearly a dozen existing but rarely attempted routes, many of which climb from the mountain's frighteningly remote Chinese side.

"K2 is a beast of

mountains. It's unforgiving and demands respect. I've climbed it twice and both times it has been a humbling experience. The terrain is treacherous and the weather is unpredictable. But the sense of accomplishment when you reach the summit is unparalleled," narrated Kacho khursheed, a renowned climber from Balistan region.

K2 is also known for its unpredictable and extreme weather conditions. Climbers must contend with frequent snowstorms, avalanches and temperatures as low as -60°C (-76°F). The weather can change quickly, making it essential for climbers to be prepared and flexible.

No matter whatever the comments globally and locally, K2 offers great adventure opportunities despite its harsh and unpredictable weather in winter and earns distinction for Pakistan.

Local people also see it as a gift of Nature for them as besides making them prominent across the world, K2 also brings in revenue for them. But, the same time they are worried about its beauty and environment.

"K2 is our pride and joy. It's a source of inspiration for our community. We have seen many climbers coming and going and it is amazing to see how they push themselves to conquer this mountain," said Muhammad Iqbal a local resident of Gojal Hunza.

"The stunning natural beauty of K2 also contributes to Pakistan's global reputation as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts, further boosting tourism," Iqbal stated.

"But we also worry about environmental impact and want to see sustainable tourism practices for climbers and our community."

"The economic benefits of K2 are substantial as it attracts adventurers and tourists from around the world, generating revenue through trekking and climbing fees and jobs for local people," Iqbal stated.

"K2 is a mighty and glamorous peak. It's strong and powerful and we must respect it," say the local people as they feel that increased traffic from guiding companies has heightened some of the ethical concerns that often accompany high-altitude climbing and labor especially when under-equipped and under-trained porters face accidents.

Therefore, it is urgently required to ensure safer expeditions as well as preservation of natural beauty and ecosystem of the area right from base camp to the top for our future generations to enjoy its beauty and wonders.





## NATO member Romania says a Russian drone violated its airspace

KYIV, Ukraine (AP): A Russian drone violated Romania's airspace during nighttime attacks on neighboring Ukraine, the NATO member reported Sunday, urging Moscow to stop what it described as an escalation.

The incident occurred as Russia carried out attacks on "civilian targets and port infrastructure" across the Danube River in Ukraine, Romania's Ministry of National Defense said.

Romania deployed F-16 warplanes to monitor its airspace, and NATO allies were kept informed, the ministry said. Romanian emergency authorities also issued text alerts to residents of two eastern regions. Preliminary data indicates there may be an "impact zone" in an uninhabited area near the Romanian village of Periprava, the ministry said. It added that an investigation is underway.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Romania has confirmed drone fragments on its territory on several occasions and as recently as July this year.

The Romanian Defense Ministry strongly condemned the Russian attacks on Ukraine, calling

them "unjustified and in serious contradiction with the norms of international law."

Mircea Geoana, NATO's outgoing deputy secretary-general and Romania's former top diplomat, said the military alliance also condemned Russia's violation of Romanian airspace. "While we have no information indicating an intentional attack by Russia against Allies, these acts are irresponsible and potentially dangerous," he wrote on X.

### Civilians reported killed in Ukraine

In Ukraine, two civilians died and four more suffered wounds in a nighttime Russian airstrike on the northern city of Sumy, the regional military administration reported. Two children were among those wounded, the administration said. In the Kharkiv region in the east, overnight shelling killed two elderly women, according to local Gov. Oleh Syniehubov.

During the night, Ukrainian air defenses shot down one of four cruise missiles and 15 of 23 Iranian-made Shahed drones launched by Russia, Ukraine's air force reported. It added that none of the cruise missiles had hit

targets.

Later on Sunday, three women were killed after Russian forces shelled a village in the eastern Donetsk region, Gov. Vadym Filashkin reported on the Telegram messaging app. Elsewhere in the province, rescue teams pulled the bodies of two men from the rubble of a hotel destroyed on Saturday evening in a Russian airstrike, according to Ukraine's state emergency service.

That same day, the death toll rose to 58 from the massive Russian missile strike that on Tuesday blasted a military academy and nearby hospital in the eastern city of Poltava, regional Gov. Filip Proin reported. More than 320 others were wounded.

Since it launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in early 2022, the Russian military has repeatedly used missiles to smash civilian targets, sometimes killing scores of people in a single attack.

Poltava is about 350 kilometers (200 miles) southeast of Kyiv, on the main highway and rail route between Kyiv and Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv, which is close to the Russian border. The attack happened as

Ukrainian forces sought to carve out their holdings in Russia's Kursk border region after a surprise incursion that began Aug. 6, as the Russian army hacks its way deeper into eastern Ukraine.

Russian forces continued their monthlong grinding push towards the city of Pokrovsk, and also ramped up attacks near the town of Kurakhove farther south, Ukraine's General Staff reported.

Russia's Defense Ministry said Sunday its troops had taken Novohrodivka, a small town some 19 kilometers (11 miles) southeast of Pokrovsk. An update published Saturday evening by DeepState, a Ukrainian battlefield analysis site, said Russian forces had "advanced" in Novohrodivka and captured Nevelske, a village in the southeast of the Pokrovsk district.

Pokrovsk, which had a prewar population of about 60,000, is one of Ukraine's main defensive strongholds and a key logistics hub in the Donetsk region. Its capture would compromise Ukraine's defense and supply routes, and would bring Russia closer to its stated aim of capturing the entire Donetsk region.



**BELALP, SWITZERLAND:** A Catholic priest leads an outdoor mass as sheep stand sorted in pens according to their owners in a stone enclosure dating back to the Middle Ages called a Färricha at the conclusion of the annual "Schäful" sheep drive on September 8, 2024 in Belalp, Switzerland.

## Algeria declares President Tebboune election winner

ALGIERS (Reuters): Algerian authorities declared President Abdelmadjid Tebboune the overwhelming winner of Saturday's election on Sunday, but a rival candidate alleged irregularities in the count and fewer than half of registered voters cast ballots.

Official preliminary results gave Tebboune 95% of the vote, enough to avoid a second round run-off, with Abdelaali Hassani Cherif getting 3% and Youcef Aouchiche 2%. Turnout was 48%.

Tebboune, backed by the military, was facing only nominal opposition from Hassani Cherif, a moderate Islamist, and Aouchiche, a moderate secularist, both running with the blessing of Algeria's powerful establishment.

Hassani Cherif's campaign said polling station officials had been pressured to inflate results and alleged failures to deliver vote-sorting records to candidates' representatives, as well as instances of proxy group voting. "This is a farce," said Hassani Cherif's spokesperson Ahmed Sadok, adding that the candidate had won far more votes than had been announced, citing the campaign's own tallies from regions. Reuters could not immediately verify those tallies or reach Tebboune's or Aouchiche's campaign for comment.

However, electoral commission head Mohammed Charfi said when announcing the results that the body had worked to ensure transparency and fair competition among all candidates.

Tebboune's re-election means Algeria will likely keep on with a governing programme that has resumed lavish social spending based on increased energy revenues after he came into office in 2019

following a period of lower oil prices.

He has promised to raise unemployment benefits, pensions and public housing programmes, all of which he increased during his first term as president.

"As long as Tebboune continues to raise wages and pensions and maintain subsidies he will be the best in my eyes," said Ali, a cafe customer in the Ouled Fayet district of Algiers, asking not to write his family name.

First elected during the mass "hirak" (movement) protests that forced his veteran predecessor Abdulaziz Bouteflika from power after 20 years, Tebboune has backed a tough approach from the security forces, which have jailed prominent dissidents.

His election in 2019 reflected the anti-establishment mood in Algeria that year, with turnout of 40%, far below previous votes.

The protests, which brought hundreds of thousands of people onto the streets every week for more than a year demanding an end to corruption and the ousting of the ruling elite, were finally curtailed by the COVID pandemic.

"Turnout is very low. It shows that the vast majority is like me," said another Ouled Fayet resident, Slimane, 24, who also asked not to give his family name. He did not vote because he does not trust politicians, he said.

### UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 boosted European demand for Algerian gas and pushed energy prices back up, increasing Algerian state revenue after years of burning through foreign exchange reserves and leading to new hydrocarbons projects.

While using much of the money for social handouts, Tebboune's government has also pushed economic reforms aimed at strengthening the private sector to create jobs.

However, while unemployment is down from its highs of around 14% during the pandemic, it remained above 12% last year and inflation is also high.

The economic difficulties faced by ordinary Algerians may have contributed to the low turnout on Saturday.

"Turnout at 48% versus 40% in 2019 clearly shows that the gap between rulers and the people is still to be filled," said political analyst Farid Ferrari.

In foreign policy, Tebboune's record is patchy.

Despite Algeria's key role in Europe as a gas provider, arch regional rival Morocco has succeeded in winning over Spanish and French acceptance of its sovereignty over Western Sahara, where Algiers backs the Polisario separatists. Morocco has won over some African and Arab states too.

Meanwhile, Algeria's push for membership of the BRICS group when it expanded in January was thwarted, with the bloc instead inviting Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates to join. Algeria instead joined the BRICS development bank last month.

Its efforts to bring greater stability in Africa's Sahel region also ran adrift, with an attempt to mediate between rival forces in Niger following a coup last year failing to deliver progress.

However, Algeria remains a major military power in the region and seems unlikely to shift from its traditional stance balancing ties between Western powers and Russia.

## Presidential candidate González flees Venezuela for asylum in Spain

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP): Former Venezuelan presidential candidate Edmundo González arrived in Spain on Sunday after fleeing into exile in as part of a negotiated deal with Nicolas Maduro's government that dealt a major blow to millions who placed their hopes in his opposition campaign.

The surprise departure of the man considered by Venezuela's opposition and several foreign governments to be the legitimate winner of July 28 presidential election was announced late Saturday by Venezuelan officials who just a few days ago ordered his arrest.

González landed Sunday at a military airport near Madrid, accompanied by his wife and Spanish officials, Spain's foreign ministry said.

Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado tried to put a positive spin on his departure, assuring Venezuelans the 75-year-old retired diplomat would be back on Jan. 10 for a swearing-in ceremony marking the start of the next presidential term.

"His life was in danger, and the increasing threats, summons, arrest warrants and even attempts at blackmail and coercion to which he has been subjected, demonstrate that the regime has no scruples," Machado said on X. "Let this be very clear to everyone: Edmundo will fight from outside alongside our diaspora."

### Despair in Caracas

But on the streets of Caracas on Sunday the mood was one of despair at the loss of someone who, against the odds, reignited a movement to end more than two decades of single party rule.

"What little hope we had left, it went with him," said Laura Vargas, as she scrolled through the news on her cellphone while sitting on a park bench.

González joins the swelling ranks of opposition stalwarts who once fought Maduro only to throw in the towel and seek asylum abroad in the face of a brutal crackdown. In Spain, he joins at least four former presidential hopefuls who were imprisoned or faced arrest for defying Maduro's rule.

Ever since the vote, he and Machado have been in hiding as security forces rounded up more than 2,000 people, many of them young Venezuelans who spontaneously took to the streets to protest Maduro's alleged theft of the election. Venezuelan officials have yet to comment. Vice President Delcy Rodríguez said in a statement late Saturday that the government decided to grant González safe passage out of the country to help restore "the country's political peace and tranquility."

Spain's center-left government said the decision to leave Venezuela was González's alone, and he departed on a plane sent by the country's air force. González originally sought refuge in the Dutch ambassador's residence in Caracas, the Netherlands' government said Sunday, and later transferred to Spain's diplomatic mission as the terms of his exit were negotiated in secret.

Spanish Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares told Spanish broadcaster RTVE that his government will grant González political asylum

as he requested.

"Of course, I told him we were pleased that he is well and on his way to Spain, and I reiterated the commitment of our government to the political rights of all Venezuelans," Albares said while en route to China for a state visit with Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez.

The European Union's foreign affairs chief, Josep Borrell, a former Spanish foreign minister, described González's departure as "a sad day for democracy in Venezuela."

Referring to González as the apparent winner of the presidential elections, Borrell in a statement said the "EU will maintain its support of the Venezuelan people in their democratic aspirations."

Last-minute stand-in offered hope to millions. González was a last-minute stand-in after Machado was banned from running. Previously unknown to most Venezuelans, he nonetheless rapidly galvanized the hopes of millions of Venezuelans desperate for change after a decade-long economic free fall.

While Maduro was declared the winner of the July vote, most Western governments, including Spain, have yet to recognize his victory and are instead demanding that authorities publish a breakdown of votes. Meanwhile, tally sheets collected by opposition volunteers from over two-thirds of the electronic voting machines indicate that González won by a more than 2-to-1 margin.

The tally sheets have long been considered the ultimate proof of election results in Venezuela. In previous presidential

elections, the National Electoral Council published online the results of each of the more than 30,000 voting machines, but the Maduro-controlled panel did not release any data this time, blaming an alleged cyber-attack mounted by opponents from North Macedonia.

Attorney General Tarek William Saab, a staunch Maduro ally, sought González's arrest after he failed to appear three times in connection with a criminal investigation into what it considers an act of electoral sabotage.

Saab told reporters that the voting records the opposition shared online were forged and an attempt to undermine the National Electoral Council.

Experts from the United Nations and the Carter Center, which observed the election at the invitation of Maduro's government, determined the results announced by electoral authorities lacked credibility. In a statement critical of the election, the U.N. experts stopped short of validating the opposition's claim to victory, but they said the voting records it published online appear to exhibit all of the original security features.

Spain offers refuge for fleeing Venezuelans

Spain has been a major point of exodus for Venezuelans, particularly those leading opposition to Maduro's regime. They include Leopoldo López, who fled to Spain to reunite with his family in 2020, and Antonio Ledezma, who left in 2017.

Some 44,000 Venezuelans immigrated to Spain in the first six months of this year.

violence is the worst the Rohingya have faced since the 2017 Myanmar military-led campaign, which the United Nations described as having genocidal intent.

Bangladesh's de facto foreign minister, Mohammad Touhid Hossain, told Reuters last month that Bangladesh cannot accept more Rohingya refugees and called on India and other countries to take in more of those fleeing violence.

He also urged the international community to apply more pressure on the Arakan Army to cease its attacks on the Rohingya in Rakhine state.

## Bangladesh calls for faster resettlement process for Rohingya

DHAKA (Reuters): The head of Bangladesh's interim government, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus, on Sunday called for a fast-tracked third-country resettlement of Rohingya Muslims living in the south Asian country, as a new wave of refugees flee escalating violence in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

About 8,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled across the border to Bangladesh in recent months as fighting intensifies between Myanmar's ruling junta and the Arakan Army, a powerful ethnic militia drawn from the country's

Buddhist majority.

The new arrivals add to the more than one million Rohingya refugees already living in overcrowded camps in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district, most of whom fled a military-led crackdown in Myanmar in 2017.

The Rohingya refugees have little hope of returning to their homeland, where they are largely denied citizenship and other basic rights.

The call to expedite resettlement efforts was made during a meeting with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in which Yunus, Chief

Adviser to the interim government, said the "resettlement process should be easy, regular, and smooth."

Abdusattor Esoev, head of the IOM in Bangladesh, said the resettlement of Rohingya to third countries resumed in 2022 after a gap of 12 years, but has only gathered pace this year, a statement from the Chief Adviser's office said.

Washington has reaffirmed its commitment to resettle thousands of Rohingya in the United States, but the process has not yet been accelerated, the statement said. The recent surge in

## Protesters rally in France against Barnier's appointment as PM

PARIS (AP): Thousands of protesters took to the streets across France on Saturday, responding to a call from a far-left party leader who criticized as a "power grab" the president's appointment of a conservative new prime minister, Michel Barnier.

The protests directly challenged President Emmanuel Macron's decision to bypass a prime minister from the far-left bloc following a deeply dividing —and divided— legislative election result in July. Authorities did not record a huge turnout nationwide. The left, particularly the France Unbowed party, views Barnier's conservative background as rejecting the electorate's will, further intensifying the EU's second economy's already charged political atmosphere. Saturday's demonstrators denounced Barnier's appointment as denying democracy, echoing France Unbowed leader Jean-Luc Melenchon's fiery rhetoric from recent days.

In Paris, protesters gathered at Place de la Bastille and tensions ran high as police prepared for potential clashes. Some carried placards reading "Where is my vote?"

At the head of the Parisian procession, Melenchon spoke passionately, declaring that "the French people are in rebellion. They have entered into revolution."

"There will be no pause, no truce. I call you to a long-term battle," he added.

In the southwestern city of Montauban, a rally speaker told the crowd that

"the people have been ignored." Other protests took place in some 150 locations nationwide.

While Barnier was meeting with healthcare workers at Paris' Necker Hospital for his first official visit as prime minister, opponents say the unrest in the streets is shaping his government's future.

Barnier, who is working to assemble his Cabinet, expressed a commitment to listening to public concerns, particularly about France's public services.

Jordan Bardella, leader of the far-right National Rally (RN), warned that Barnier was "under surveillance" by his party as well. Bardella, speaking at the Champagne fair, called for the prime minister to include his party's priorities in his agenda, particularly regarding national security and immigration.

Barnier, 73, is the oldest of the 26 prime ministers that have served modern

France's Fifth Republic. He replaces the youngest, Gabriel Attal, who was 34 when he was appointed just eight months ago.

Attal was forced to resign after Macron's centrist government performed poorly in the July snap legislative elections. Macron called the election in the hopes of securing a clear mandate, but it instead produced a hung parliament, leaving the president without a legislative majority and plunging his administration into turmoil.

Attal was also France's first openly gay prime minister. French media and some of Macron's opponents, who immediately criticized Barnier's appointment, quickly dug up that, when serving in parliament in 1981, the new prime minister had been among 155 lawmakers who voted against a law that decriminalized homosexuality. Though Barnier brings five decades of political experience, his

appointment offers no guarantee of resolving the crisis. His challenge is immense: He must form a government that can navigate a fractured National Assembly, where the political spectrum is deeply divided between the far left, far right, and Macron's weakened centrist bloc. The outcome of the snap poll, far from providing clarity, has only served to destabilize both the country and Macron's grip on power. The president's decision to turn to Barnier, a seasoned political operator with deep ties to the European Union, is seen as an attempt to bring stability to French politics. And Barnier, who gained prominence as the EU's chief Brexit negotiator, has faced daunting tasks before.

Critics say Macron, elected on the promise of a break from the old political order, now finds himself battling the instability he once promised to overcome.





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## Trump and Harris battle for Black voters

**V**IVIAN Childs, a staunch supporter of Donald Trump, schooled a roomful of Republicans on how to win over Black voters in the battleground state of Georgia. Focus on Trump's economic policies, on illegal immigration and inflation, the Black Baptist minister told the gathered group of volunteers and campaign staff at the former president's newly opened office in the rural city of Valdosta last month, according to Reuters.

Tell voters what Trump has done for them and that he will bring the change America needs, she exhorted. "We are the party of hope," she said. "We are the party of truth." There was a mood of urgency at the office, a grand building with white pillars and porches. By Trump's own admission, Georgia has become a must-win state, one he thought he had locked up until Kamala Harris became his Democratic rival in July. Her late entry ignited a burst of popular enthusiasm, and opinion polls in Georgia show the candidates neck and neck, a huge turnaround from early July when polls showed Trump leading Democratic President Joe Biden by as many as six percentage points. In particular, an intense battle is being waged for the Black voters who make up a third of the state's population, the biggest proportion of Black voters in any of the seven battleground states that will decide the Nov. 5 presidential election. Trump's goal of pulling in more Black support has not only been complicated by Harris' entry, but by Republican-backed voting restrictions that activists say are aimed at putting up barriers to people of color - something the party denies. Childs, part of the national "Black Americans for Trump" coalition of advocates, conceded the nomination of Harris initially changed the race in Georgia. "There was a lot of excitement, absolutely," she told Reuters. "She's Black and a woman."

She insisted that excitement was fading. "We have got to stop dividing our country based on how we look," she added. "I'm telling people to talk to Black people the same way they talk to white people: look at President Trump's resume, his policies, what he's done for all Americans." Reuters spoke to three dozen campaign officials, party chairs, local activist groups and allies working on behalf of Trump and Harris to get a sense of each candidate's operation in the closely fought state that Trump lost to Biden by fewer than 12,000 votes in the 2020 election. A senior Trump campaign official, who requested anonymity to discuss confidential matters, said the team saw particular promise in attracting young Black men who he said have become disaffected with Democrats over high prices and see greater economic opportunities under the former president. In churches and county fairs, on doorsteps and social media, and across the airwaves, both campaigns are courting Black people, a voting bloc that has traditionally leaned heavily Democratic but where Trump has been making gains, according to opinion polls. "It has gotten really intense in Georgia," said Essence Johnson, a Black woman who chairs the Democratic Party in Cobb County, a sprawling region outside of Atlanta. Indeed, at the Pig and Peaches barbecue festival in Cobb County, battle lines were drawn.

The Democratic stall courted voters of color with literature on student loan forgiveness, help for historically Black universities and lowering drug prices. The Republican stall, a hundred yards away, was replete with Spanish-language leaflets and literature focused on inflation, abortion, economic opportunity and faith.

"A lot of African Americans, Asians and Hispanics have these shared values," said Salleigh Grubbs, the Republican county chair, who has been organizing events at schools in the more racially diverse southern part of the county, holding house parties and door knocking in predominately Black neighbourhoods.

Cobb County illustrates the demographic changes that have transformed Georgia from a reliably Republican state into a battleground. Once a predominately white, Republican county, it's now 30% Black, 14% Hispanic and 6% Asian, an area that helped Biden win Georgia in 2020.

Johnson, the Cobb County Democratic chair, said Harris' entry in the race had shifted things dramatically. "It's a reflection in the mirror for a lot of us," she said of Harris, Reuters added.

A Black men's forum held just before Biden ended his reelection bid on July 21 drew 14 attendees, she said, but 125 people showed up for another held just after Harris entered the race. Sixty people marked a good crowd at county party meetings when Biden was the candidate; 235 people attended once Harris became the nominee.

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## How to make sense of Netanyahu's shenanigans

Dr. Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg

**A** report by the well-connected Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth this week confirmed earlier reports that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has derailed ceasefire deals by introducing unreasonable last-minute demands, designed to be rejected by Hamas so he can continue the war. Many people, including in Israel, have always suspected Netanyahu of deliberately derailing the talks and the document cited by the Israeli paper has confirmed that suspicion. Several news outlets have reported on Netanyahu's moving of the goal posts, but this is the first time an Israeli document has been obtained to confirm that.

According to the paper, among the new demands was that Israeli forces continue to occupy the Egypt-Gaza border area, known as the Philadelphia Corridor, and maintain a 1.4-km perimeter in Gaza along the Israeli border, while the original May 27 proposal offered an eventual full withdrawal from Gaza. Netanyahu's policies have long puzzled and angered his friends and adversaries alike. He has crossed every red line possible, committed countless war crimes and crimes against humanity, isolating Israel and putting at risk long-time partnerships with the US and Europe. Many Israelis, including the families of those held by Hamas, have been livid at the prime minister's sacrificing of their sons and daughters for the pursuit of his misguided policies of purposefully prolonging the war and torpedoing deals for his political benefit.

CNN cited an Israeli source familiar with the talks as saying that Netanyahu's demands were to blame for the recent deaths of six hostages, three of whose names were included for release on the lists exchanged in the ongoing talks. "Two months ago, when he (Netanyahu) put the obstacles, he said no to the deal. The hostages died because he insisted," the source told CNN. The Hostages and Missing Families Forum said at the weekend that the finding of the bodies was "a direct result of Netanyahu's thwarting of the deals."

This week, in response to these widespread accusations, Netanyahu was back in his element, with a "chest-thumping, bombastic speech," according to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz. He again rejected calls for leaving the Philadelphia Corridor, essentially ending hopes of a deal.

Some have questioned Bibi's cognitive capabilities, saying that he is acting irrationally after the shock of the Oct. 7 attack knocked him off balance. Israeli politicians have accused him of endangering the country's future, even its very existence. But while there have been widespread protests in Israel and calls for his resignation over the past two years, it appears that he still enjoys enough support to stay in power.

Some analysts have suggested that Netanyahu has a Masada complex, meaning that he prefers mass suicide over compromise, or a Samson complex, meaning he is willing to destroy himself along with his adversaries.

However, those who are familiar with Netanyahu's political career see some consistency in his actions

watched how he purposely riled UN officials and his adversaries and alienated his friends.

This tendency continued after he left his UN post and returned to Israel. Driven by blind political ambitions, he vociferously opposed peace with the Palestinians, including the Oslo Accords, which included unprecedented

**Political scientists would likely view Netanyahu's approach as "offensive realism," which means that the motive for a state and its leaders is maximizing power. The German-American scholar Hans Morgenthau argued that an "animus dominandi" (desire for power) motivates humans and states alike. In applying this theory to international relations, American political scientist Kenneth Waltz believed that the international system provides a greater opportunity to maximize power than national politics because there is no ultimate authority in international politics comparable to a domestic government that can adjudicate disputes. John Mearsheimer, one of the most prominent living political scientists, has long studied Israel's politics and written extensively on its considerable influence in the US. While he has been critical of Israel and Netanyahu's policies in Gaza and the West Bank, his theories in fact provide logical explanations for Netanyahu's pursuit of what appear to be illogical ends. Mearsheimer is credited with coining and developing the theory of offensive realism, according to which some states and leaders seek to exploit the international system because it lacks central authority to apply the rules of international law, leaving it to great powers to persuade, pressure and coerce smaller states. This fact removes constraints on a leader's desire to maximize power. To apply these theories to Netanyahu's behavior, we see that he is maximizing his power within Israel. He has now served longer than any other prime minister, including the country's founding father David Ben-Gurion.**

from the beginning. When he was Israel's UN representative between 1984 and 1988, for example, he charted a new maximalist, uncompromising approach. Previously, Israeli diplomats sought to gloss over the country's excesses and portray Israel as seeking peace and reconciliation, even when facts on the ground indicated otherwise. I was working at the UN at the time and

concessions by the Palestinian leadership. He incessantly agitated against then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was finally assassinated by an extremist inspired by Netanyahu's bellicose rhetoric. Rabin's family has never forgiven Netanyahu for his incitement.

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To apply these theories to Netanyahu's behavior, we see that he is maximizing his power within Israel. He has now served longer than any other prime minister, including the country's founding father David Ben-Gurion. He has a loyal following, some of whom call him the "king" of Israel, securing him enough support to stay in power. He is defying the country's security and military establishment and trying to do away with judicial authority and independence.

In the current international system, which is characterized by geopolitical polarization, it is easier for a power-hungry political leader to survive and maximize his benefits. The US and other allies of Israel have continued to support Netanyahu despite their criticism of his policies in Gaza. They provide him with the arms he is using to subjugate Gaza and the West Bank in defiance of international law. They also shield him from UN sanctions. Netanyahu is able to pursue his policies only because of that support.

The US is able to disabuse Netanyahu of his notion of entitlement to unlimited support by conditioning that support to implementing America's own policies and preferences. It can start by insisting that Netanyahu accepts President Joe Biden's Gaza plan, which he announced on May 31 and was adopted by UN Security Council Resolution 2735. Free of electoral pressures, the White House could pursue this approach in the remaining months of the Biden administration.

## Israel-Palestine peace hopes threatened by polarization

Alistair Burt

**I**t did not take long for the UK's new Labour government to be hit with the dilemmas, and backlash, surrounding any decision on Middle East policy. Its announcement this week that it was to suspend 30 out of 350 current weapons export licenses to Israel, due to fears that UK law would be breached as there was a "clear risk" that the weapons may be used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of humanitarian law, met with a furious reaction both domestically and abroad. Foreign Secretary David Lammy's statement to Parliament was compounded by terrible timing, being made against the emotional background of the funerals of the six Israeli hostages murdered just days before.

The UK government's action, and the response, has thrown a spotlight on the tortuous path Western democratic states now have to follow. Polarization is

Muslim voters in heartland areas. Unprecedentedly, five new MPs, campaigning on Gaza in opposition to the Labour Party's position, were elected in areas with a large Muslim population. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Keir Starmer, as Labour leader, had fought a battle against antisemitism within his party and largely successfully restored relationships with the Jewish community, winning seats in constituencies with sizable Jewish populations. He now has to balance the two.

Foreign policy rarely features as an issue for most voters in the UK — apart from Brexit. But for key communities, an issue such as Gaza is overwhelming, producing bitterly divisive demonstrations and counterprotests, along with deep public unease and fear on the streets. The longer the Gaza crisis goes on, the more Western democratic politics, from swing US states to the cities of

**Neither extreme is justified by the government's position. Few focused on the heart of the issue: namely, how the government should perform its duty under UK law to examine arms exports in the light of international and domestic law, for which ministers are accountable to the courts. The law is not about who is involved in a conflict, or why. The foreign secretary made clear the UK's support for Israel under external threat, expressed horror over Hamas' murder of the hostages and called for the ceasefire that is necessary to end the suffering for all. The statement could have been made by any minister in recent times in similar circumstances, and the former governments of Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown all imposed such restrictions on arms to Israel. But two new factors are affecting the equation. Firstly, the Labour Party's sweeping electoral victory came against a background of it losing support among Muslim voters in heartland areas. Unprecedentedly, five new MPs, campaigning on Gaza in opposition to the Labour Party's position, were elected in areas with a large Muslim population.**

almost complete — there is little or no balanced common ground, making it difficult to express empathy for all victims, whether those of Oct. 7, their families and those affected, or those in Gaza and the West Bank. Sympathy for Israel is met with rage that genocide is being supported, while condemnation of Israeli actions must, it is claimed, bolster Hamas and terror.

Such has been the come-back on the arms decision. Senior Jewish organizations said the message sent was the wrong one at the wrong time and former Prime Minister Boris Johnson accused the government of "abandoning Israel." In contrast, Amnesty International UK and lawmakers such as Zarah Sultan denounced the suspension as inadequate and said that all arms sales to Israel should be banned.

Neither extreme is justified by the government's position. Few focused on the heart of the issue: namely, how the government should perform its duty under UK law to examine arms exports in the light of international and domestic law, for which ministers are accountable to the courts. The law is not about who is involved in a conflict, or why. The foreign secretary made clear the UK's support for Israel under external threat, expressed horror over Hamas' murder of the hostages and called for the ceasefire that is necessary to end the suffering for all. The statement could have been made by any minister in recent times in similar circumstances, and the former governments of Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown all imposed such restrictions on arms to Israel.

But two new factors are affecting the equation. Firstly, the Labour Party's sweeping electoral victory came against a background of it losing support among

Europe, are going to be affected.

The second factor is that the polarization of the issue is being heightened from the usual baseline of Israel-Palestine rhetoric by the deliberate actions of the protagonists, who seem determined to avoid a ceasefire and continue the conflict for their own purposes, regardless of the catastrophe engulfing those who are suffering. You cannot execute innocent hostages, tortured and abused for months, and expect any right-thinking person to sympathize with your cause. You also cannot assassinate the leading negotiator of your opponents and expect to be taken seriously when you say you are looking for a mediated settlement.

The risk is increasing that the absence of an ability to take a balanced view of the conflict and the wider issues adds to the chance of war continuing until a trigger point is miscalculated or new facts on the ground are created that are impossible to negotiate away. Every child orphaned in Gaza is a new recruit for a movement dedicated to Israel's eradication, while every hostage slaughtered adds to a settler's or minister's conviction that only an Israeli West Bank and a reoccupied Gaza offer a guarantee of security — despite all the evidence that neither of these positions will produce anything but generational grief.

We are where we are partly due to the intransigence of the political leaderships in Israel and Palestine over the years and partly due to the failure of the international negotiation processes of the past. The tide of Gaza is steadily engulfing us all and we are seeing the options for peace being stolen.

It is an axiom of diplomacy that you cannot want peace more than those involved. But in fact, yes, you can.









# Five-member committee of Sarhad Business Alliance finalized candidates' names

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The important five-member committee of the Sarhad Business Alliance, under the leadership of former Governor and Patron-in-Chief Haji Ghulam Ali, has finalized the names of candidates for the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry elections. Among the candidates, two women have also been selected, and it was agreed to intensify the election campaign.

The committee's meeting was held under the chairmanship of Haji Ghulam Ali, during which a detailed review of the candidate selection process was conducted. The meeting was attended by SBA Chairman and former Provincial Minister Syed Zahir Ali Shah, Malik Mehr Elahi, Muhammad Ishaq, while Malik Sajjad represented Sharafat Ali Mubarak.

In the meeting, it was decided to finalize the names of candidates from both the Associate and

Corporate groups for the 2024-26 elections of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The committee praised all candidates, stating that since its inception, the Sarhad Business Alliance has played a significant role as the vanguard of Peshawar's business community, and every member of the group is an integral part of it. Each candidate possesses a strong personality with a clear vision.

While finalizing the names, the committee selected ten candidates from both the Associate and Corporate groups, including two female members. The committee also emphasized ensuring that every sector receives representation in the chamber elections. The selected candidates are expected to not only solve the business community's problems but also restore the reputation of the Sarhad Chamber and make it the province's leading chamber.

The committee further clarified that those who are

not selected for the election will remain valuable assets to the group and will be adjusted in key chamber committees and various government boards after the group's success. After extensive deliberation, the committee unanimously finalized ten candidates from the Associate group and ten from the Corporate group.

From the Associates group, the following candidates were selected: Shah Rukh Khan, Aashiq Muhammad, Riaz Hussain, Ikramullah, Bakht Mir Durani, Arshad Mahmood, Ghulam Bilal Javid, Sher Zaman, Muhammad Akram, Shehzad Arif, Adnan Jaleel, and Haris Khalid. However, there were objections raised against two of the candidates, and a decision on this matter will be taken later.

From the Corporate group, the following candidates were selected: Dr. Yousaf Sarwar Mohmand, Mohsin Sajjad, Imtiaz Khan, Luqman Shah, Manzoor Elahi, Dr. Mohib

Afridi, Atif Shahzad, Farhat Qayyum Piracha, Mamoor Khan, and Abidullah Yousafzai. These candidates have been entrusted with significant responsibilities for the future of the Sarhad Chamber and to serve the business community, focusing on resolving their issues.

The Sarhad Business Alliance and the esteemed members of the Sarhad Chamber will run a vigorous campaign for the success of these nominated candidates.

The committee members praised the candidates for their spirit of service and expressed good wishes for their future. The committee also stated that all candidates have entered the field with full enthusiasm and commitment to protect the rights of the business community and contribute to the chamber's progress. They appreciated their determination and prayed for their success in addressing issues and restoring the chamber's dignity after the elections.



PESHAWAR: Members of Sarhad Business Alliance committee finalizing names of candidates for SCCI's elections during a meeting.

## SNGPL intensifies gas theft crackdown

F.P. Report

LAHORE: SNGPL's ongoing campaign against gas theft continues to gain momentum, with 55 additional illegal connections disconnected across Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad.

The crackdown has resulted in the imposition of fines amounting to Rs1.2 million.

In Lahore, three illegal gas connections were severed, along with 14 more due to compressor misuse.

Faisalabad saw the disconnection of one illegal connection, alongside a fine of Rs0.02 million.

The Sheikhpura team imposed a penalty of Rs0.29 million for gas theft.

In Multan, 10 illegal connections were severed, and two more were disconnected for compressor misuse. The team in Sahiwal cut two illegal connections.

In Rawalpindi, two connections were terminated for illegal use, and four more for compressor misuse.

In Peshawar and Karak, four connections were disconnected, and fines of Rs0.276 million were imposed for theft. The Mardan team took action against 10 illegal connections, imposing fines of Rs0.4 million.

In Gujranwala, two illegal connections were cut off, one for compressor misuse, and a total fine of Rs0.27 million was lodged.

# More industrial groups, bodies announce support for PPP Alliance

F.P. Report

LAHORE: More industrial groups and trade bodies have announced their support for the PIAF Pioneer Progressive Alliance (PPPA) for the upcoming LCCI elections, expressing full confidence of the leadership of Mian Anjum Nisar, rejecting all other so-called groups altogether.

In a large gathering, organized by PPP Alliance and attended by a large number of business representatives from across the city and the members of the PIAF posed their confidence for the Anjum Nisar group, assuring him of full support in the upcoming election of the LCCI.

The delegations of Shah Alam Ainak Board, Cardboard Association and Montgomery Road Traders Association called on patron-in-chief PIAF Mian

Anjum Nisar, Chairman PIAF Fahimur Rehman Sehgal and other PIAF members. Hundreds of members of Lahore Chamber, executive committee members of PIAF and market presidents of adjacent areas participated in the meeting.

Speaking to the delegation, Mian Najam Nisar and Fahimur Rehman Saigol said that the service of traders from the platform of PIAF has been going on for the past 52 years and the presence of a large number of traders and industrialists in every event is the proof in this regard. It shows that PIAF is not just a show but a name of service to the business community and the voters of Lahore Chamber make the Alliance successful.

In this power show, in addition to dozens of association officials, PIAF

Patron-in-Chief Mian Anjum Nisar, Chairman PIAF Fahimur Rahman, Mian Muhammad Ali, Abuzar Shad, Vice Chairman PIAF Nasrullah Mughal, Vice Chairman Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Senior Vice President Lahore Chamber Zafar Mehmood Chaudhry, Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt and others participated.

PIAF Fahimur Rahman Saigol, addressing the meeting, said that PIAF has an excellent record of 22 years of service to the business community because PIAF brings qualified and working people to Lahore to advocate for the business community.

He advocated for the policy rate to be reduced to a single-digit figure to alleviate the financial burden on the business community and stimulate economic activity.

# SLIC stands on strong footing with 2024 half-yearly results

F.P. Report

KARACHI: The State Life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan (SLIC) closed its half yearly results (January - June 2024), reporting a Gross Profit of PKR +18 Billion showing an 80% growth compared to the same period last year. Mr. Shoaib Javed Hussain, CEO of SLIC said, "State Life continues to be the leader and driver of innovation in the insurance industry. More so, our strategic focus is increasingly on contributing to the financial stability and growth of Pakistan's financial ecosystem."

The results were announced in SLIC's Annual Bhurban Convention where the determined efforts of its officers, staff area managers and field force were recognized and celebrated by the senior leadership. Mr. Hussain reiterated, "the key strategic pillar to our strategy is the ethos of fulfilling our promise to our policyholders. I extend my gratitude to our policyholders and business partners or



their continued trust in State Life."

Business Highlights (January - June 2024)

Earnings:

Gross Premium Income: +PKR 165.24 Billion collected, increased by +18% compared to the same period in 2023

Investment Income: +PKR 152.08 Billion, increased by +59% compared to the same period in 2023

Payouts:

Claims: +PKR 102.80 Billion in claims paid to policyholders

Growth:

Assets: +PKR 2.11

Trillion showing an increase by +23% compared to the same period in 2023

Life Fund: +PKR 1.79 Trillion, indicating +18% growth compared to the same period in 2023

Shareholder Profit

Gross profit: +PKR 18 Billion showing an 80% growth compared to the same period last year

Net profit: +PKR 11.01 Billion marking an increase of 85% compared to the same period of last year

Outlook for 2024

With the launch of the new Platinum Plus individual life policy, sales

momentum gained in June is expected to continue into the second half of the year, with new business sales anticipated to exceed growth objectives. The structural drivers of growth in Corporate Health, Group, Takaful and Bancassurance businesses remain strong, supported by ongoing demand for protection, long-term savings, and retirement solutions. SLIC is confident in achieving its 2024 financial and strategic goals, driven by dynamic business strategies and a commitment to technology and customer-centric services.

# Training session of FBR for Faculty of International Islamic University held

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The Tax Education Section of FBR conducted a training session at the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) which was attended by over one hundred faculty members.

Led by Secretary Tax Education, Mr. Muhammad Alam Zeib Khan, the FBR team included Inland Revenue Second Secretary Angel David, Coordinator Zia Farooqui and Income Tax Inspector Muhammad Salman. Upon their arrival at the university, the team was warmly welcomed by Additional Director/In-charge of Professional Training, Ms. Nausheen Syed. The training took place

in the auditorium of Fatima Al-Zahra Block at Female Campus, where Vice President (Administration and Finance) of the university, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar, was also in attendance.

In his opening remarks, Inland Revenue Second Secretary Angel David emphasized the critical importance of tax return filing, stating that it is essential for the country's development and prosperity.

During the session, the FBR team provided a detailed walkthrough of the tax return filing process. The faculty members actively participated, posing several questions, all of which were addressed comprehensively by the team.



This training is part of the ongoing initiatives by the Tax Education Section

of FBR, which regularly conducts training sessions and seminars on tax sub-

mission and return filing in various educational institutions across the country.

Rahmat Diwan

Rahmat Diwan's "Successful Mission" offers an engaging and thorough exploration of Abdul Jabbar Naemi's influential tenure as provincial governor across four Afghan provinces from 2005 to 2018. This detailed account not only highlights Naemi's significant achievements and challenges but also provides a comprehensive look at his role in shaping Afghan political and infrastructural landscapes during a pivotal period.

The book opens with a focus on Naemi's notable role in the Constitution Loya Jirga and his crucial involvement in Hamid Karzai's presidential campaign. Diwan vividly describes Naemi's strategic visit to Pakistan to support Karzai's electoral campaign, a pivotal moment that played a role in Karzai's eventual victory and presidency. The narrative also covers the subsequent controversial aspects of vote manipulation associated with this campaign, offering a nuanced view of the political maneuvering of the time.

In Maidan Wardak, Diwan highlights Naemi's efforts to address regional challenges and improve infrastructure. The construction of new provincial authority buildings, major projects like the Chak dam, and Naemi's focus on

resisting unnecessary foreign engagement are detailed extensively. The book also covers Naemi's regional visits, including trips to various districts and interactions with local and international figures, which underscore his commitment to developing Maidan Wardak as a viable alternative to Kabul.

The Khost chapter details Naemi's achievements in public awareness, intellectual development, and infrastructure. Notable initiatives include bridge construction, flood rescue operations, and efforts to promote Khost to a second-grade province.

Diwan highlights Naemi's diplomatic efforts, such as his visits to the UAE and interactions with national and international dignitaries, as well as his focus on community engagement through events like Eid festivals and cricket matches.

In Laghman, the book covers Naemi's emphasis on critical projects such as dam construction, historical site renovation, and educational system improvements. Diwan also examines the challenges Naemi faced, including dealing with opposition and implementing measures to ensure regional stability.

The Kunduz section illustrates Naemi's approach to addressing significant challenges and improving infrastructure.

The book details his work on projects like the Alchin bridge and circular road, providing a comprehensive look at his contributions to Kunduz's development.

Additionally, Diwan sheds light on Naemi's relentless efforts in combating terrorism and suicide bomb attacks during his tenure. Naemi's proactive strategies and risk management in the face of these severe threats played a crucial role in maintaining a semblance of security and stability across the provinces. His work often involved collaborating with national and international security forces to thwart potential attacks and minimize their impact on the local populations.

Overall, "Successful Mission" is a well-researched and compelling account of Abdul Jabbar Naemi's governance and contributions. Rahmat Diwan's detailed portrayal of Naemi's diplomatic and administrative efforts, combined with his struggle against terrorism, offers valuable insights into the complexities of provincial governance and development in Afghanistan during a crucial period. This book is an essential read for anyone interested in understanding the intricate dynamics of Afghan political evolution.

(The writing is a book reviews written on Afghan Governor achievements)

# Power theft to become rampant due to unaffordable tariff: BMP

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) has condemned the constant increase in power tariffs on the pretext of fuel adjustment, as it has increased the production cost and added to the already high cost of trade and industry.

Seeking comparable energy tariffs for domestic industries in order to capture the global market, FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar stated that due to high electricity rates, power theft will become rampant as the tariff was unaffordable to consumers.

In a meeting held here

on Sunday, he forwarded several recommendations so that the small industry could deal with the challenges posed by the present economic crisis, saying mere statements would not work unless solid measures are taken by the government, including a sizable reduction in fuel prices, bringing down key policy rate to single digit, regionally competitive energy rates and substantial cut in duties and taxes.

It is unfortunate that the State Bank has several times introduced a financing scheme for Small and Medium Enterprises, enabling them to get loans without collateral but it was never implemented in its true spirit.

The scheme was

launched to improve the SMEs' access to finances in collaboration with the government and aimed at enabling businesses that cannot offer security or collateral to access bank finance.

The BMP and PIAF meeting was held here to deliberate the government economic policies and called for concrete steps to keep industrial wheels running, especially for SMEs, saving the livelihood of millions of workers associated with the small and medium industries.

The BMP Chairman urged the central bank to announce a soft loan with a minimum markup rate, especially for SMEs to bail out their struggling businesses.

The Businessmen Panel called for significant cuts in import duties and waiver of sales tax, income tax, and additional income taxes, which are still being charged in this time of grave crisis.

Mian Anjum Nisar asked the government to take concrete steps to keep the industrial wheels running especially for SMEs, to save the livelihood of millions of workers associated with the small industries.

He said that to save the economy from the impacts of the slow growth, the government should announce special incentives for a cash-strapped small and medium industry, which represents more than 90% of around 3.2 million

business enterprises in Pakistan, contributing 40% to GDP, employing more than 80% of non-agricultural workforce, and generating 25% of export earnings.

The BMP Chairman Anjum Nisar stated that providing affordable electricity would assist in lowering production costs, thereby benefiting the public. He stated that rising imports and a widening trade deficit posed a serious threat to economic growth and must be addressed urgently.

He said that with continuous hike in cost of production in the country, what the Pakistan's economy really needs is persistent and sound economic management, asking the authorities for undertaking economic

reforms and improving the regulatory environment for better Ease of Doing Business level to boost foreign investment so that financial stability can be achieved in the long-run.

The BMP chief urged the power ministry to identify system constraints and communicate targets to all concerned departments in order to launch a wartime effort to upgrade the transmission system.

The FPCCI former president said that we should keep our focus on support for cash flow management for the SME sector and the government may prioritize its incentive preferences under the growth and importance for the economy. He suggested that the authorities should reduce

sales tax to at least 10% to improve demand generation, besides announcing interest-free loans to pay employees' salaries.

Mian Anjum Nisar alleged all previous governments for extensive borrowing of forex during last five years to meet local expenditure, which had increased the burden of foreign debt of Pakistan substantially, instead of making serious efforts to enhance the ranking of Ease of Doing Business Index of Pakistan, as it is must to attract foreign as well as local investment and high economic growth.

He stressed the need for reducing cost of doing business, besides evolving a new price control mechanism, as huge taxation, ris-

ing oil prices and constant jump in electricity and gas tariffs have lifted the inflation to decades high level.

The BMP chief warned the authorities that high inflation can hurt economic growth and a careful policy is required to keep it in control. He said that the pace of inflation is skyrocketing at a time when the economic activity is slowing down.

As the oil prices have been increased and power tariff has gone up further, the chairman stated that the government has dropped a fuel bomb on the businessmen after it suffered an electric shock to meet the conditions of IMF for the revival of the stalled loan program- a recipe to shake the trade and industry.





## Shehbaz wins Open Marathon race in Bahawalpur

B A H A W A L P U R (Monitoring Desk): 25-year-old Mohammad Shehbaz has won the Open Marathon race in Bahawalpur.

The winner of the race, Muhammad Shahbaz, covered a distance of 7.12 km in 29 minutes and 25 seconds. Muhammad Sajjad completed the prescribed distance in 26 minutes and 1 second and secured the second position.

Shahid Yasin reached his destination in third place in 26 minutes and 31 seconds. The racers thanked the administration for conducting an open race because participating in an open marathon shows their talent.

## Roglic wins 'crazy' record-equalling fourth Vuelta

MADRID (AFP): Primož Roglic won the Vuelta a Espana for a record-equalling fourth time on Sunday, the perfect pick-me-up after crashing out of the Tour de France.

The Slovenian wrapped up his fifth-career Grand Tour when he finished second in the closing time-trial on the streets of Madrid won by Stefan Kung. "It's crazy - already four, I just want to enjoy it" he said before hugging his wife Lora and children. Australia's Ben O'Connor finished runner-up overall with Spain's Enric Mas completing the podium.



With the sun setting on the streets of the Spanish capital Roglic, 34, drew level with Spaniard Roberto Heras for number of wins in the season's third and closing Grand Tour.

Roglic finished the race 2min 36sec up on O'Connor, with Mas (Movistar) third at 3:13.

After 81 hours, 49 minutes and 18 seconds in the saddle an exhausted but happy Roglic said: "This is nice! The more you go to an end, you just want to finish it off. "There's a lot of sacrificing, not only by me, but also my family, everyone around me. We all live for it. I just feel happy I can do it.

"I really appreciate all the support from the people around me." Roglic, riding for Red Bull-Bora-hansgrohe team, had to fight for the red jersey after a gruelling race that began three weeks ago in Portugal and featured some of the toughest climbs the sport has to offer.

He won stage four to take the overall lead but then O'Connor (Decathlon AG2R La Mondiale team) burst to the top of the general classification by almost five minutes.

Roglic slowly chipped away at the Australian's massive cushion with a bunch of strong mountain place finishes. He reclaimed the leader's red jersey after his third win on stage 19.

This Vuelta triumph went a long way to making up for the disappointment of his Tour de France-ending crash before stage 13.

His success completed Slovenia's domination of the 2024 Grand Tours, with his countryman Tadej Pogacar winning the Giro d'Italia and Tour de France. "Incredible" observed Roglic of his country's success.

'Big celebration' While he may not have won, O'Connor was jubilant over his breakthrough first ever Grand Tour podium. "I wasn't expecting this, I expected to be good but not second overall. This calls for a pretty big celebration!" said the 28-year-old Aussie, who wore the red jersey for 13 stages.

Kung took the final day honours for his first Grand Tour stage win at the last throw of the dice in his 12th appearance in either the Giro, Tour or Vuelta.

"It's been a long time in the making" the Swiss time trial expert said. "It's always nice if you win with more than half a minute," added Kung, who completed the 24km 21st stage 31sec faster than Roglic. "It shows that you were the best, there was no coincidence."

## Ronaldo strikes late to seal Portugal win over Scotland

LISBON (AFP): Cristiano Ronaldo's late strike sealed Portugal's 2-1 win over Scotland as the 901st goal of the striker's extraordinary career completed a stirring fightback in Sunday's Nations League clash.

Ronaldo had reached 900 career goals with his 131st international strike in Thursday's victory over Croatia. The 39-year-old showed no signs of being sated by that incredible mile-

team-mate Scott McTominay gave Scotland a surprise early lead.

For Portugal boss Roberto Martinez, victory over Scotland could mean some awkward silences at his next family gathering.

Martinez met his wife Beth while playing for Scottish club Motherwell in 2001 and joked before the match he would be delighted to upset his father-in-law by beating Scotland.

ly against Gibraltar in June. "When you bring quality players from the bench like Roberto can do you always know there's a risk," Clarke said. "I'm really disappointed for my players because I think they deserved to get something from the game.

"But with the amount of balls that go into the box, you know one of them can go in the back of the net and that's what happened to us." Ronaldo late show



stone as he came off the bench to lift Portugal to their second successive win in Nations League Group A1.

The Estadio da Luz in Lisbon rose in unison to chant the relentless Al-Nassr forward's name after he struck with two minutes to play. On his 30th birthday, Manchester United midfielder Bruno Fernandes fired Portugal's second half equaliser after his former Old Trafford

He did exactly that, leaving Scotland still waiting for their first win over Portugal. Beaten 3-2 by Poland at Hampden Park on Thursday, Scotland have won just once in 14 matches, a barren sequence that included their lacklustre failure to make it out of the group stage at Euro 2024.

Steve Clarke's men have lost six of their nine matches in 2024, with their only victory coming in a friend-

Scotland took a shock lead in the seventh minute when Kenny McLean's superb cross picked out McTominay, who made a perfectly-timed run to plant his stooping header past Diogo Costa from six yards. McTominay, who recently moved from United to Napoli, has 10 goals in his last 12 competitive appearances for Scotland.

Rafael Leao threatened

## All-rounder Moeen Ali retires from int'l cricket

LONDON (Agencies): England all-rounder Moeen Ali has retired from international cricket at age 37, having represented the country in all formats of the game since 2014.

Ali, the first Muslim and Asian-origin cricketer to captain England in T20 internationals (T20Is), announced his decision in an interview with former captain Nasser Hussain which was published in the Daily Mail on Sunday.

"I'm 37 years old and didn't get picked for this month's Australia series," Ali said.

"I have played a lot of cricket for England. It's time for the next generation, which was also explained to me. It felt the

time was right. I've done my part."

The Birmingham-born left-handed batter and right-arm spinner has played in 68 Tests, 138 one-day internationals (ODIs) and 92 T20Is for England since 2014, with his last international appearance in June.

Ali has scored five centuries in Tests and three in ODIs, also taking 366 wickets across all three formats. He was in the squad when England won the 50-over ICC Cricket World Cup in 2019 and the ICC T20 World Cup in 2022.

The reticent player said he was proud of his international career.

"When you first play for England, you don't

know how many games you are going to play. So to play nearly 300 ... I know they were the best days of my life," Ali said.

He holds the England record for the fastest half-century in T20Is having reached fifty in 16 balls against South Africa in 2022.

"I could hold on and try to play for England again, but I know in reality I won't," he added.

"Even retiring, I don't feel it's because I'm not good enough ... but I get how things are, and the team needs to evolve into another cycle. It's about being real to myself.

Ali said he planned to keep playing in franchise cricket and take up coaching in the future.

## Pant returns to India Test squad for Bangladesh series

NEW DELHI (Agencies): Rishabh Pant was on Sunday named in India's squad for the upcoming first Test against Bangladesh, his return to the five-day international format after a horrific car crash in December 2022.

The 26-year-old wicket-keeper-batsman has impressed since his return to elite cricket last year and has kept up form across formats including in the team's T20 World Cup triumph in June.

He will be among a 16-member squad, led by Rohit Sharma, for a two-Test series against the visiting Bangladesh team starting September 19 in Chennai.

Virat Kohli also returns to the Test team after he missed the five matches against England at home due to the birth of his second child.

Pant had termed his comeback to the game "nothing short of a miracle" after the crash, when his Mercedes rammed into a barrier, flipped and caught fire near New Delhi.

Left with a damaged ligament in his right knee, a hurt wrist and ankle, and abrasions to his back, Pant fought back after an intensive rehabilitation programme to lead Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League this year.

Dhruv Jurel remains the second gloveman in the team, while senior batsman KL Rahul returns after he went out injured following the first England Test at home early this year.

Fast bowler Mohammed Shami remains out recovering from injury, with the pace attack led by Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj.

Left-arm seamer Yash Dayal has received his maiden Test call-up, while up and coming Akash Deep retains his place.

The spin department includes Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel.

The two teams will play the second Test in Kanpur beginning September 27. The Tests will be followed by three T20 internationals.

India's squad for the 1st Test of the Bangladesh Test series: Rohit Sharma (capt), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Siraj, Akash Deep, Jasprit Bumrah, Yash Dayal.

## Sinner storms past Fritz to win first US Open title



NEW YORK (Agencies): World number one Jannik Sinner stormed past Taylor Fritz to win the US Open and secure a second Grand Slam title of the year.

Italy's Sinner, who won his first major title at the Australian Open in January, held off a late charge from American 12th seed Fritz to win 6-3 6-4 7-5.

It comes just 19 days after it was revealed he had been cleared of any wrongdoing after twice testing positive for a banned substance in March.

The 23-year-old held his arms aloft and looked up to the sky as he became the first player since Guillermo Vilas in 1977 to win his first two Grand Slam titles in the same season.

He is also the first Italian man to win the singles title at Flushing Meadows.

Sinner said the title "meant so much because the last period of my career was not easy" before he became tearful and dedicated the victory to his aunt.

"My aunt is not feeling well health-wise and I don't know how much longer I have her in my life," he said.

"It's nice I can still share these moments with her. She is an important person in my life and still is.

"If there was a wish I could make, I would wish good health on everyone but unfortunately it's not possible." Fritz, meanwhile, was unable to become the first American male Grand Slam singles champion in 21 years.

Andy Roddick, who was watching from the stands, remains the last American man to lift a major singles trophy, having won the US

Open in 2003.

"I know we have been waiting for a champion for a long time so I'm sorry I couldn't get it done this time," said Fritz.

Sinner puts aside failed test controversy

When Sinner won his maiden Grand Slam title in Melbourne earlier this year he was forced to produce an extraordinary comeback from two sets down to beat Russia's Daniil Medvedev in the final.

It was more straightforward in New York as he rarely looked troubled by Fritz, who struggled to build any momentum.

However, Sinner's build-up to this year's tournament at Flushing Meadows was far from normal.

Just six days before the main draw got under way, it was announced he had twice tested positive for low levels of a metabolite of clostebol - a steroid that can be used to build muscle mass - in March.

Sinner was ruled to bear no fault or negligence for the positive tests by the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA), which found he had been inadvertently contaminated by his physiotherapist.

He subsequently parted ways with the physio and his fitness trainer - but questions continued about whether Sinner's case had been handled differently to those of other players because of his world number one status.

But he has seemingly been able to put the controversy behind him, manoeuvring his way through tough tests against Britain's Jack Draper and 2021 champion Medvedev.

He and Spain's Carlos Alcaraz, the French Open and Wimbledon champion, have split the Grand Slam spoils between them this year.

It marks a new era of tennis as 24-time major winner Novak Djokovic, who was knocked out in the third round, ends the year without a Grand Slam title for the first time since 2017.

Sinner sees off Fritz in straightforward win

Cheered on by a home crowd packed with celebrities and sporting stars, Fritz got off to a shaky start when he dropped serve in the first game.

The 26-year-old recovered well to win three games in a row, but he continued to falter on serve and Sinner capitalised to take the opener and subdue the expectant mood on Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Refusing to dwell on the first set, Fritz improved and made the second a closer affair, losing just two points in four service games.

However, Sinner then underlined his status as world number one, upping the ante when it mattered most to strike the crucial blow as Fritz served to stay in the set at 5-4 down.

Having failed to make the most of three break point opportunities early in the third set, Fritz brought the crowd to life with two brilliant winners to break for a 4-3 lead and keep alive his hopes.

But Sinner soon quashed those dreams, breaking back as Fritz attempted to serve for the set and doing the same two games later to wrap up the win after two hours and 16 minutes.

## Smith heroics for England remind Collingwood of Gilchrist



LONDON (AFP): Jamie Smith's dashing 67 in the third Test against Sri Lanka at the Oval on Sunday sparked memories of Australia great Adam Gilchrist for England assistant coach Paul Collingwood on what was an otherwise chastening day for the home side.

England, already 2-0 up in this three-match series, suffered a dramatic top-order collapse as they slumped to 82-7 on the third day. Wicketkeeper Smith's outstanding 50-ball display, including 10 fours and a six, on his Surrey home ground helped them recover to 156 all out in their second innings.

That left Sri Lanka chasing 219 to win their first Test match in England in a decade and at stumps they were well on their way at 94-1, with Pathum Nissanka 53 not out -- the opener's second half-century of the match. Had it not been for the 24-year-old Smith, who has now scored three fifties and a hundred in six Tests, since making his England debut in July, Sri Lanka might already be

on the brink of victory.

Former England all-rounder Collingwood played against Gilchrist, an outstanding wicketkeeper-batsman renowned for his dynamic run-scoring down the order. He now sees some of the same qualities in rising star Smith.

"He (Smith) is certainly an entertainer," Collingwood told reporters after stumps. "You go back to the days of Adam Gilchrist when he came in at seven for Australia. "He (Smith) is going to put a lot of teams under pressure when you have the skills and the power he has. "It sucks the life out of the opposition when someone has the ability to do something like that. He's certainly shown some great skills in his short Test career."

'Not one of our better days' But there was no denying Sri Lanka were on top at the close. "It certainly hasn't been one of our better days of Test cricket this year," said Collingwood. "It's pretty easy to make the excuse and say it's complacency but there's plenty of fun and desire in there. "We

wanted a clean sweep. The lads are very proud of playing for England, so there's certainly been no complacency coming into this match. The guys in the dressing room will hold their hands up."

Collingwood, however, insisted all was not lost for England. "We still have an opportunity to go and win the match," he said. "There's enough in the pitch to get nine wickets but we need a lot of things to go our way."

Meanwhile Sri Lanka fast-bowling coach Aaqib Javed lauded the tourists' quicks, with Lahiru Kumara taking 4-21 on Sunday and Vishwa Fernando's haul of 3-40 including the prize scalp of Joe Root, lbw for 12 to the left-armers' excellent inswinging yorker.

"If you look at the whole series, our bowlers had already done reasonably well," said former Pakistan paceman Javed. "This game we went for the extra seamer and that paid off...We wanted to do well away from home and the fast bowlers have stood out."





## CTP vows to eliminate encroachment to maintain traffic flow

RAWALPINDI (APP): City Traffic Police (CTP) Rawalpindi vowed to eliminate encroachment in bid to maintain traffic flow. Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Benish Fatima, during a meeting at the Traffic Headquarters in Race Course, emphasized that creating hurdles in the smooth flow of traffic will not be tolerated. CTO Benish Fatima issued strict orders to officers and traffic wardens, instructing them to crack down on wrong parking and encroachments without any discrimination.

She stressed that vehicles causing traffic jams due to illegal parking should be immediately removed, and the drivers must impose fine according to traffic rules. CTO Benish Fatima also directed circle in-charges to take action against illegal encroachments in their areas to ensure smooth traffic flow.

Additionally, the CTO announced to conduct surprise inspections across various city roads. She warned that if any illegal parking or encroachments are found causing traffic disruptions, strict disciplinary action will be taken against the responsible officers. She made it clear that wrong parking and road blockages are unacceptable, as they cause significant inconvenience to citizens.

## IESCO notifies power shutdown programme

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) on Sunday issued a power suspension programme for Monday for various areas of its region due to necessary maintenance and routine development work. According to IESCO Spokesperson, the power supply of different feeders and grid stations would remain suspended for the period from 07:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Islamabad Circle, H-8/2, NECOP, PC, TDCP, MCM, Gharial, Kohala, Sunny Bank, Rehara, CM Pak Zong, Isolation Hospital Feeders, Rawalpindi Cantt Circle, Dhamial I-, Lalkriti, UC Lakhan, Shah Jiwan, Gulshan-e-Saeed, Mehboob Shaheed, Shah Jiwan, Gulshan-e-Shahid T Wani, Jhangi, EME Complex, Sector 4, Shams Colony, Muslim Town, G-15, Katarian, Holy Family, F Block, Bani, Misriyal Road Feeders, Jhelum Circle, Puran, Khokhar, Fatehpur, Sarai Alamgir, Mohalla Shaheedan, Galiana, Kantrila, Bhai Khan, Kalia, Pind Fateh Khan, Ajmal Shaheed, F-7 Kachari, Abbaspora, Pakhwal, F-9 Chak Daulat, Chakwal Feeders and surrounding areas.

## IRSA releases 222,900 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Sunday released 222,900 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 243,800 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1550.00 feet (maximum conservation level) and was 152.00 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 132,300 cusecs and 131,800 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1227.45 feet, which was 179.45 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 28,800 cusecs and 8,000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 162,000, 131,700, 185,100 and 137,000 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 31,500 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 22,200 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala.



ISLAMABAD: A replica of butterfly installed at Kashmir Chowk in connection of beautification of the city. —APP Photo

## Naqvi pays tribute to great sacrifices, unparalleled services of Pakistan Navy

ISLAMABAD (APP): In his special message on National Navy Day, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi paid glowing tribute to the great sacrifices and unparalleled services of the officers and personnel of the Pakistan Navy.

He added that September 8 is another glorious and memorable day in the defence history of Pakistan. He said that the valiant personnel of the Pakistan Navy destroyed the enemy's naval power in the 1965 war.

The Interior Minister said that September 8 has a history of sacrifices, immortal passions, and extraordinary achievements, as on this naval forces of Pakistan also repulsed the enemy like the army and air force.

He stated that the heroes of the Pakistan Navy defeated the enemy and defended the maritime borders, adding that the officers and personnel of the Pakistan Navy, who protect the maritime borders, are our pride.

Mohsin Naqvi highlighted that the indelible role of the Pakistan Navy in the 1965 war will always be remembered in history with golden letters. He emphasized that the Pakistan Navy is always ready to face all kind of challenges. He reiterated that "Navy Day" is a day to pay tribute to the valiant soldiers of the Pakistan Navy. He underscored that the Pakistan Navy is determined to keep the spirit of September 8, 1965, alive.

## PMYP committed to advancing literacy agenda: Rana Mashhood

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP), Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Sunday said that the PMYP was committed to advancing the literacy agenda across Pakistan. Talking to the media in connection with International Literacy Day, he said that the PMYP office was making efforts to provide quality education through comprehensive skills development initiatives, ensuring lifelong learning opportunities for every citizen according to vision of the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

"I would like to emphasize the profound impact of literacy in empowering individuals and contributing to a more informed and prosperous society. Literacy is not just the ability to read and write; it is a fundamental human right that opens doors to economic opportunities, active societal participation, and personal growth," he added.

The Chairman PMYP further said that as part of the "Education Emergency" initiative, the government was focusing on enrolling approximately 26 million out-of-school children, to transform Pakistan into a global leader in education.

This ambitious endeavour includes strategies such as providing free meals, scholarships, and various incentives to reduce dropout rates and encourage students to complete their education, he remarked.

"We are also dedicated to integrating technology into our education system. By promoting technology-friendly literacy and skills development, we aim to equip our youth with the necessary competencies to excel in the digital economy. This initiative underscores our commitment to modernizing education and preparing young Pakistanis for future success", he said.

Furthermore, the government recognized the crucial role of collaboration with the private sector and civil society, Mashhood said and added that through strategic partnerships, "We seek to connect education with employment and self-employment opportunities, fostering a more inclusive and dynamic workforce."

As we observe International Literacy Day, "I urge all stakeholders to unite in our mission to advance literacy and education. Together, we can build a brighter, more equitable future for our children and nation," he added.

## Transgender community welcomes initiative of launching first-ever transgender school

ISLAMABAD (APP): Transgender community from different parts of the country have welcomed the government's initiative of launching the first-ever transgender school in the Lodhran district which will provide educational facility to this neglected segment of society enabling them to create space for them in society.

The transgender community has received the fruit of their long-standing struggle for their identity and rights with provision of Computerized National Identity Cards (CNICs), the right to contest in the election, first-ever special ward in the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and now a proper education facility.

These few initiatives by the government have boosted the morals of Transgender community who were earlier sources of fun for the people and compelled to just adopt a single profession of dancing and singing at weddings to meet their both ends.

A transgender and ex-candidate for the general election 2018, Nadeem Kashish said that despite many initiatives and legislative frameworks, the most maltreated

community of transgender individuals are still at poles a part in society to get their fundamental rights of education.

She said, "First ever step of establishing a school for transgender by the government will create more opportunities for our community to come forward and play their due role in national development."

She said that most of the transgender discontinue their education due to discriminatory behavior of the society so this step will further encourage them to prove their abilities.

She said, "Though it was a big challenge to set up a separate educational institution for transgender but the government has come up to the expectations of Transgender in and we are heading toward bringing improvement in our lives with provision of due rights".

She said that there is a dire need of empowering transgender community by taking multiple initiatives in education and health sectors and also needed to create awareness among the masses to treat them well.

Another transgender, Alizeh said that the government's recent initia-

tives have brought a ray of hope for our community to chase our dreams without any social barriers. She said that it was the first time in history that their voice was heard on government level otherwise in their whole life they will continue to face biased attitudes from society.

She further said that education is the first step for human beings to get civilized and the government's effort for us is appreciable.

A social activist, Robina said, "sincere efforts of incumbent government for transgender are applauded by people in country-wide with an expectation to have further steps for their due rights. She said that having a respectable livelihood is the right of every person so this neglected segment also has right to live with dignity.

She suggested that like an education initiative, authorities concerned also pay heed to their reserve job quota in the public sector so that with education they would be able to get prestigious jobs. "We hope from the present government for more initiatives for the transgender community to bring them in the social fabric", she said.

## Senator Irfan Siddiqui calls for unity to address economic challenges

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Irfan Siddiqui of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Sunday emphasized the need for collective efforts to address Pakistan's economic challenges and extended an invitation to all stakeholders to contribute suggestions for achieving economic stability.

Talking to a private news channel, he also made it clear that his party leadership will not compromise on the incident that occurred on May 9, indicating a firm stance on the matter.

Senator Irfan Siddiqui's statement also conveyed a strong message regarding the incident on May 9, asserting that the PML-N leadership will not waver in their stance. Senator Siddiqui is signalling that any discussions or negotiations will not come at the cost of compromising on this issue.

The senator also clarified that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's claims about PML-N holding or offering talks are misleading and untrue.

He emphasized that no specific agenda has been

discussed or raised with any party, contradicting PTI's assertions.

Senator Irfan Siddiqui has voiced concerns regarding the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) alleged involvement in the May 9 incident, questioning the actions of those responsible and calling for a thorough investigation to ensure accountability.

He has also stressed that the country's economy requires political stability and has invited all stakeholders to contribute suggestions for achieving economic stability.

## Ayaz pays tribute to Pakistan Navy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, on Sunday paid homage to the officers and soldiers of the Pakistan Navy for their outstanding defense of the nation's maritime borders during the 1965 India-Pakistan war.

In his message on Navy Day, he expressed pride in the Navy's capabilities, acknowledging the crucial role of the Navy, Air

Force, and Army in making Pakistan's defense impenetrable.

Sadiq praised the Pakistan Navy for successfully defending the country's waters, despite limited resources, and inflicting significant damage on the Indian naval forces. "The Pakistan Navy has always safeguarded our seas," he said, highlighting the Navy's heroic efforts in destroying key enemy installations dur-

ing the 1965 conflict.

He affirmed that the Navy remains ever-ready to protect the nation's waters and that the sacrifices of Pakistan's brave armed forces will always be remembered.

The Speaker expressed pride in the Navy's dedication to defending the nation, stating that any threat to the country will be met with a decisive response.

## RDA accelerates operation against illegal construction, encroachments

RAWALPINDI (APP): Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) has accelerated its ongoing operation against illegal construction and encroachments, said RDA spokesman here on Sunday.

He informed that the authority taking a significant step to curb illegal construction and enhancing the monitoring of private housing schemes had appointed two new superintendents and four surveyors. The appointments are part of the RDA's ongoing efforts to ensure strict compliance with building regulations and to protect the urban environment.

The newly appointed officials would play a critical role for field surveillance, ensuring that all construction activities within the RDA's jurisdiction adhere to approved plans and legal requirements. The two new superintendents, known for their extensive experience in urban development, would lead the teams responsible for overseeing field operations.

Their expertise would be crucial in identifying and taking immediate action

against unauthorised construction activities, the spokesman said.

He said that the four surveyors, equipped with modern tools and techniques, were conducting regular inspections of private housing schemes and their task would be to ensure that these schemes comply with the RDA's regulations, helping to prevent any illegal expansions or alterations that could compromise the city's infrastructure and planning.

The spokesman said, by enhancing the field surveillance capabilities, the Authority aims to provide a safer and more regulated environment for the residents of our city.

He informed that RDA had urged all the developers and residents to cooperate with RDA officials and ensure that all construction activities are conducted within the legal framework.

The Authority would continue to take all necessary measures to prevent illegal construction practices, he added. The spokesman further informed that the enforcement squad

of RDA taking action in accordance with the law was also removing encroachments from different areas. In an operation, encroachments were removed from Dhanyal, Kalyal Road, Girja Road and other areas, he informed.

He said, RDA had taken solid steps to clear encroachments from city areas on the special directives of the Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif. A special enforcement squad was formed which was conducting raids and removing encroachments in different areas, the spokesperson informed.

On the special instructions of the Director General, RDA, Kinza Murtaza, the Enforcement Squad members were provided new uniform, equipment and machinery.

The DG had directed the authorities concerned to take strict action against encroachments in all city areas including the banks of nullahs. RDA had urged the citizens to remove encroachments on their own to avoid legal action, he added.

## Police taking strict action against unfit PSVs

RAWALPINDI (APP): Rawalpindi district police on the directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Syed Khalid Hamdani are taking strict action against unfit Public Service Vehicles (PSVs).

According to a police spokesman, Police under special campaign launched in Rawalpindi district issued challan slips to 2786 PSVs and impounded 346 during 13 days.

He informed that during a special campaign launched against unfit vehicles, police challaned over 2786 and imposed fines amounting to over Rs 2.9 million on the rules

violators.

He said that Police were taking action in accordance with the law against unfit PSVs, checking route permits and licenses of the drivers.

Legal action was taken against 185 drivers for driving vehicles without licenses, he added.

The licenses of 23 drivers found guilty of negligence were cancelled, he said adding, 26 cases were also registered against drivers and the owners of public service vehicles.

All possible steps were being taken to ensure safe travel on PSVs, he added.

He said that the travelling time of the vehicles was also being checked. Legal action would be ensured against those who endanger lives of the citizens, he said.

The spokesman said that action would also be taken against the PSVs owners and bus terminal managers found guilty of negligence.

The special squad of City Traffic Police is also ensuring checking of vehicles at bus terminals, he informed.

A special campaign was also launched for awareness of the citizens and drivers, he added.

## Secretary confident of Punjab govt' s success in smog fight, fresh air for residents soon

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a recent statement, Punjab Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, Raja Jahangir Anwar Sunday assured that the government under CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif's leadership is taking wise and stringent steps to combat smog and improve the air quality index in the province soon.

This proactive stance is expected to yield positive results, ensuring a better quality of life for the province's inhabitants, he said while talking to PTV news channel. Raja Jahangir Anwar also disclosed that the Ministry of

Environment, in collaboration with SPARCO will conduct its 4th comprehensive study on air quality.

This research aims to assess the current state of air quality in the province, identify pollution sources, and inform data-driven policy decisions, he added. Punjab Secretary announced a stringent crackdown on petrol pumps selling low-quality oil, stating that all such outlets will be shut down. Additionally, he revealed that regular inspections of all vehicles are being conducted across the province with the

aid of Safe City cameras, he added.

The use of Safe City cameras for vehicle inspections demonstrates the government's commitment to leveraging technology in its environmental efforts, he mentioned. This innovative approach enables authorities to efficiently identify and address pollution sources, promoting a cleaner environment for the citizens of Punjab, he said.

By engaging private workshops, the government seeks to leverage their expertise and resources to enhance the inspec-

tion process, he said, adding, this public-private partnership demonstrates a collective commitment to addressing environmental concerns and promoting a healthier environment for the citizens of Punjab.

Through this collaboration, private workshops will also play a vital role in inspecting vehicles and identifying those that require emissions-related repairs. This joint effort will help ensure that all vehicles on the road comply with environmental regulations, contributing to a significant reduction in air pollution, he highlighted.

Responding to a query, he explained that the government's strategy encompasses a range of measures, including regulating dumping sites, adopting a whole-of-government approach, expanding green areas and plantations, establishing monitoring stations, controlling construction work, and conducting regular vehicle inspections. This integrated approach will help identify and address the root causes of smog, promoting a sustainable environment for the citizens of Punjab, he added.

By engaging the community and leveraging expertise, the

government aims to raise awareness, drive behavioral change, and foster a collective commitment to environmental sustainability, he said. Through this comprehensive drive, Punjab is poised to make significant strides in mitigating smog and creating a healthier ecosystem, he added. Punjab Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, Raja Jahangir Anwar, announced that 25 to 30 multinational companies are collaborating with the government to discourage the use of plastic bags and promote sustainable practices.



Norway donates \$1.8 million

KABUL (Ariana News): United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Aid in Afghanistan (OCHA) announced Sunday that Norway has donated 1.8 million to the country for aid purposes. OCHA posted a message on X on Sunday that the money was donated to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund. Expressing gratitude for the Norwegian aid, OCHA said that Oslo has contributed 189 million Krone to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund in the last 10 years.

Minister held meeting

KABUL (BNA): Acting Minister of Industry and Commerce, Nooruddin Azizi, held a meeting with executives from major Iranian pharmaceutical companies. The discussions centered around the importation of high-quality medications and strategies to combat the rising threat of substandard and counterfeit drugs. According to the Ministry's media office, the meeting highlighted the Iranian representatives' commitment to establishing local branches in Afghanistan.

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

## Afghanistan-Kyrgyzstan trade reaches \$14 million

KABUL (TOLONews): The Ministry of Industry and Commerce reports that in the first eight months of the current year, trade between Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan amounted to \$14 million.

According to Akhundzada Abdul Salam Jawad, the spokesperson of the ministry, \$6 million of this total was in exports to Kyrgyzstan.

At the same time, the Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan, in a meeting with the Chargé d'Affaires of the Islamic Emirate's Embassy in

Bishkek, emphasized the importance of expanding commercial and economic relations with Afghanistan, enhancing transportation links, and jointly developing mineral reserves.

The spokesperson of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce added: "Afghanistan's trade with Kyrgyzstan during the first eight months of 2024 was valued at \$14 million, with \$6 million in exports and \$8 million in imports."

The Embassy of the Islamic Emirate in Ashgabat

also reported on a meeting between the Chargé d'Affaires of the Islamic Emirate's Embassy and the Counselor of the Uzbek Embassy in Turkmenistan.

According to the press release, during this meeting, both parties discussed political, economic, and trade cooperation, transport relations, humanitarian aid, regional cooperation and interactions, and the implementation of regional and infrastructure projects.

Abdul Nasir Reshtia, an expert on economic affairs,

said: "Kyrgyzstan is an ideal market for Afghanistan, especially for agricultural products and industrial goods. If we can establish connections through new ports or new routes, it would be beneficial."

Based on information from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the majority of Afghanistan's exports to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan consist of mineral water, carpets, non-alcoholic beverages, dried fruits, fruit juices, apricots, and sesame seeds.

## UNAMA marks World Literacy Day

KABUL (Ariana News): Marking World Literacy Day on Sunday, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Afghanistan (UNAMA) said in a post on X that literacy has the potential to promote mutual understanding, social cohesion and peace.

"Let's use its power for a more inclusive world & join our mission to making literacy accessible for everyone everywhere!" the post read.

In a separate statement, UNAMA said: "Literacy is a fundamental human right for all. It opens the door to the enjoyment of other human rights, greater freedoms, and global citizenship."

"Literacy is a foundation for people to acquire broader knowledge, skills, values, attitudes, and behaviors to foster a culture of lasting peace based on respect for equality and non-discrimination, the rule of law, solidarity, justice, diversity, and tolerance and to build harmonious relations with oneself, other people and the planet."

For high school girls in Afghanistan, this day was yet another sad one for them as they are barred from going to school or university.

Some experts have said denying education to 50% of the population will result in a greater degree of illiteracy in the country

On the other hand, some experts believe that taking away the right to education for girls will lead to a "backward" society and a higher degree of illiteracy.

Other experts have also suggested that the young generation should not be denied an education.

## Shahidi calls for more Test matches

KABUL (Ariana News): Afghanistan's skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi said Sunday the team needs to play more Tests and have just "one good home venue" in India in order to improve in the red-ball format.

Addressing the media on the eve of Afghanistan's one-off Test against New Zealand, Shahidi said nine games in six years is not enough.

"If we get a lot more chances with the good teams, we will improve."

"I think if we get more chances on a regular basis, we will improve a lot because if we see as a team and as a country, we are brave people and we always accept challenges," he said.

"I think it will be very good for us as a side. If you look at our past, we get one Test match and we start preparing for that ten days before. So it's not easy to come to red-ball cricket."

"Playing matches will make us even better on judging the ball and playing good cricket in red-ball format, compared to playing in the nets. So if we play three-four games back to back I think it will be better," he said.

Ranked 12th in the ICC Test rankings, Afghanistan are a force in the white-ball formats, ranked ninth in ODIs and tenth in T20Is.

Apart from hoping to play Test cricket more frequently going forward, Shahidi said he also wants "one good home venue" in India instead of the team having to travel from place to place to host teams.

For this Test, which starts on Monday, Afghanistan will host New Zealand in Greater Noida, near Delhi. Since becoming a Full Member, their other home Tests have been in Dehradun, Lucknow and Abu Dhabi.

But Shahidi believes that sticking to only one home venue will make them stronger.

He pointed out that while India is considered home, the other nations they have played have had more games in India than Afghanistan has.

"So hopefully we will get one good venue here in India and we stick with that. If we stick with one venue, it will be more effective for us," he said.

## Promoting national unity:

# Ministry reports major advances



KABUL (BNA): As part of the program to highlight annual achievements, officials from the Ministry of Borders and Tribal Affairs shared the ministry's key activities and accomplishments over the past year with the media today.

During a meeting held at the Government Media and Information Center, the Deputy Minister of Border Affairs, Mawlawi Mohammad Ismail Ghaznawi, stated that under the theme "Stability of the Islamic System, National Unity, and Integration," the ministry has organized 34 large-scale public gatherings, involving thousands of religious scholars, tribal leaders, and community elders, along with three extraordinary zonal gatherings based on the decree of the esteemed Supreme Leader.

These gatherings were aimed at strengthening the Islamic system, promoting national unity, and eliminating discrimination with

in the country.

Speakers and participants emphasized the importance of cooperation to reinforce national unity, fight against discrimination, and defend the country and the stability of the Islamic system.

Mawlawi Ghaznawi added that with the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, the level of ethnic conflicts in the country has significantly decreased. As a result of the ministry's efforts, 304 gatherings and 525 meetings were held over the past year to resolve disputes and hostility among different ethnic groups, turning them into friendships.

Notable examples include the resolution of a 50-year conflict in Kushk Rabat Sangi district of Herat, a 20-year conflict in Abkamari district of Badghis, a 24-year conflict between Kuchi and Hazara communities in Ghazni, and a 40-year conflict in the Abshar district of Panjshir.

According to ministry officials, last year, 699 students graduated from ministry-affiliated schools, and 1,632 new students were enrolled. Currently, 7,104 students are studying in these schools. Additionally, a new school named "Pamiri" has been established in Faizabad, Badakhshan, to accommodate Pamiri students, with the recruitment of teachers and staff currently underway.

Furthermore, the ministry operates 100 mobile and 11 fixed clinics for the healthcare of nomads, along with 60 veterinary clinics for treating their livestock, providing continuous health services.

It is worth mentioning that, in addition to its other responsibilities, the Ministry of Borders and Tribal Affairs has consistently collected timely information on violations along the country's official borders, including zero points, border lines, and the Durand Line.

## Launch of strategic economic projects:

# Afghanistan and Turkmenistan gear up



KABUL (BNA): The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the convening of the first preparatory meeting for the inauguration of the TAPI (Turkmenistan - Afghanistan - Pakistan-India pipeline), Fiber Optic, TAP (Turkmenistan - Afghanistan - Pakistan power transmission), and railway projects between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan. The meeting aims to finalize arrangements for these significant regional initiatives.

The meeting was held

under the directive of the Prime Minister's Office and chaired by the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Attended by representatives from various security agencies and the Ministries of Mines and Petroleum, Public Works, Information and Culture, and Telecommunications and Information Technology, as well as the spokesman for the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and a representative from Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat.

During the session, the

chairman of the commission and officials from participating entities presented comprehensive reports on the readiness of various sub-committees and made strategic decisions to ensure the successful execution of the inauguration ceremonies.

The projects are expected to be launched in a formal ceremony in the coming days, marking a significant milestone in the strengthening of economic ties between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan.

## Healthcare woes: Patients left waiting for better facilities

BAMIYAN (TOLONews): Officials at the Bamiyan Provincial Hospital state that the increasing number of patients, the shortage of specialized doctors, and the lack of medical facilities have slowed down the treatment process at this hospital.

According to them, on average, up to one thousand patients from six neighboring provinces visit this hospital daily.

Basiruddin Maroof, the Chief Physician of Bamiyan Provincial Hospital, said: "The Bamiyan Provincial Hospital has 105 beds, and last month, we admitted 1,600 inpatients and attended to more than 29,000 outpatients."

The director of Bamiyan Provincial Hospital mentioned that despite considerable efforts to treat patients, there are no services for ophthalmology, ENT (ear, nose, and throat),

neurosurgery, and orthopedics at this hospital.

He added that most patients requiring these services are forced to transfer their patients to hospitals in Kabul, incurring additional costs.

Khairullah Ahmadi, Director of Bamiyan Provincial Hospital, stated: "The necessary services that should currently be available at the provincial hospital include ENT, orthopedics, and neurosurgery, but now patients requiring these services are referred to hospitals in Kabul."

Agha Hussain, a resident of Bamiyan, said: "When someone faces a bone fracture, they come to the Bamiyan Provincial Hospital, but due to a lack of facilities, they are transferred to Kabul."

Meanwhile, the Bamiyan Public Health

Directorate has discussed upgrading the 105-bed Bamiyan Provincial Hospital to a regional hospital with the Ministry of Public Health.

Jafar Zaki, Head of Bamiyan Public Health, stated: "I have spoken several times with the Aga Khan officials and the Ministry of Public Health to convert the Bamiyan Provincial Hospital into a regional hospital, which could also address the problems of patients from neighboring provinces."

According to statistics, nearly 30,000 patients from various provinces visited Bamiyan Provincial Hospital last month alone. The shortage of healthcare centers in remote areas, poor economic conditions, and the difficult terrain of the central provinces have exacerbated the challenges faced by patients.

## Shortage of school buildings, resources impacts education



GHOR (TOLONews): The Directorate of Education in Ghor said that over seventy percent of the schools in this province lack buildings and educational facilities.

According to this directorate, most students in Ghor study in the open air.

Hafizullah Mahfooz Ghor, the head of the Ghor Education Directorate, said: "There are 830 active schools across Ghor,

covering thirteen administrative units. Out of the 830 schools, 225 have buildings, while 605 others do not." Some students in Ghor said that the lack of buildings and educational facilities has negatively affected their education.

"We had tents, desks, and chairs, but the floods took them all away. Now we study in the open air, in both hot and cold weather,"

said Gulalai, a student.

"We request the government and organizations to build shelters and buildings for us. We study in hot and polluted weather, with 500 to 600 students," said Lutfullah, another student.

"We can't study in the open air; the noise of cars and motorcycles distracts us," said Mirwais, a student.

Some teachers said the problem is not just the lack

of school buildings but also the absence of educational materials such as books, pens, and notebooks, which has posed a serious challenge to education in Ghor.

"We have 350 students, and the lack of buildings and facilities has prevented us from teaching regularly and properly," said Abdul Wahid Samadi, a teacher.

"When we have no teaching materials and no shelter, where do we go if it snows or rains? Where can we hide behind a rock to teach students?" said Yar Mohammad Khaksar, another teacher.

"At this school, we teach on the ground, in the open air, in both hot and cold weather, and in the rain, but teaching is very difficult. Teaching in the open air is not effective at all," said Mohammad Aman Sekandari, another teacher.

According to available information, there is a shortage of more than two thousand professional teachers in Ghor schools, and currently, over 176,000 male and female students are engaged in learning.

## Karzai calls for removal of barriers to polio vaccination in Afghanistan

KABUL (Khaama Press): Former Afghan President Hamid Karzai has expressed concern over the rising cases of polio in the country and urged the Taliban administration to create better conditions for implementing vaccination campaigns throughout the nation.

He reiterated his call for reopening schools and universities to girls in Afghanistan through a message posted on X. He

emphasized the need for educational institutions to be accessible to girls to address the country's challenges related to poverty, disease, and need.

The former president has identified low levels of literacy and awareness as major factors contributing to health problems in the country. He has urged the Taliban government to reopen schools and universities to girls as a critical step towards over-

coming these issues.

Recently, the World Health Organization has expressed concern about the increase in polio cases in Afghanistan, reporting 18 new cases in 2024. According to the organization, most of these cases have been in Kandahar and Helmand provinces, where in some areas, people are obstructing vaccination efforts.

Afghanistan and Pakistan remain two countries

in the world where polio has not been eradicated.

Addressing the polio outbreak in Afghanistan requires immediate and coordinated efforts, including improving access to education for girls and ensuring effective vaccination campaigns. The involvement of national and international stakeholders is crucial to overcome these health challenges and work towards eradicating polio.

## Afghanistan Embassy in London set to close: British Foreign Office

KABUL (Khaama Press): According to the report, the Afghanistan embassy in London will close. The British Foreign Office officially informed Zalmai Rasul, the former ambassador to London, of this decision.

Reports indicate that Rasul was summoned to the British Foreign Office and was asked to close the Afghanistan embassy within 20 days.

The Taliban, after months of efforts to compel the Afghanistan embassy in London to cooperate with its foreign ministry, has announced that the consular services of the embassy are no longer valid.

It appears that this move by the Taliban has influenced the British government's decision to close the embassy.

The British Foreign

Office has stated that the embassy's affairs will not be handed over to the Taliban representatives and will be closed. The embassy staff has been given 90 days to either leave the UK or remain in the country.

The UK has one of the largest Afghan migrant populations in Europe. Closing the embassy will make it harder for these

migrants to access consular services, such as obtaining power of attorney for property matters.

The closure of the Afghanistan embassy in London underscores the complexities of international diplomacy and its impact on Afghan migrants. It highlights challenges in accessing essential consular services amid shifting political dynamics.

## Afghan karate athletes in Iran win 11 medals at Asian Championship

KABUL (TOLONews): residing in Iran secured bronze medals for Afghan karate athletes eleven gold, silver, and Afghanistan in the first



round of the Asian "Sokyokushin" Karate Championship.

Officials from the Karate Federation said that the first round of the Asian "Sokyokushin" Karate Championship was hosted by Iran in the city of Isfahan from September 5-8.

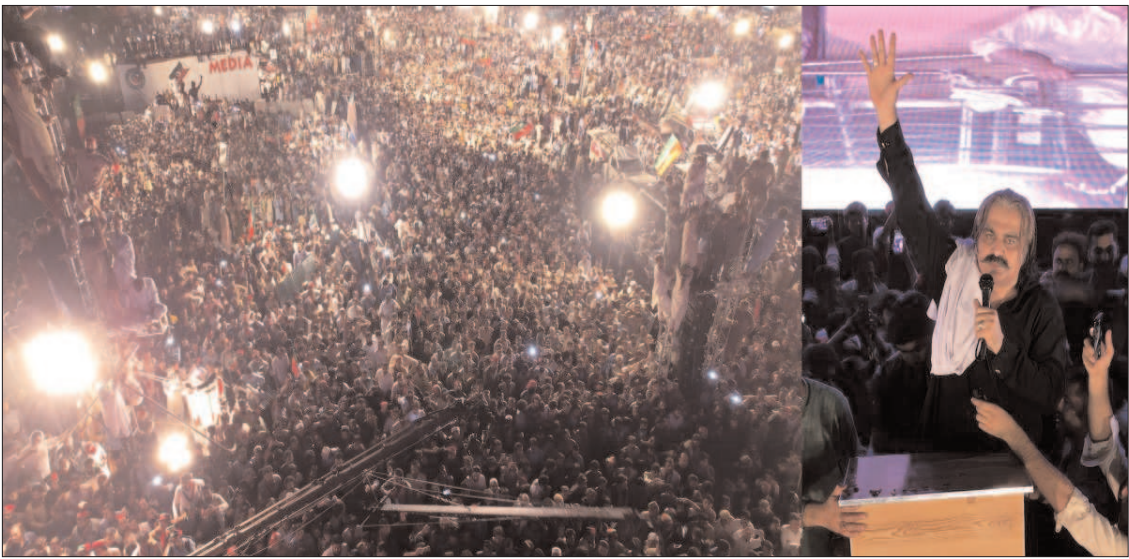
In the end, the 28-member team of Afghan migrants living in Iran won six gold, two silver, and three bronze medals after defeating their opponents in this event.

In addition to winning eleven gold, silver, and bronze medals, the Afghan migrant sports caravan was recognized as the runner-up after Iran and ranked third in the senior category.



# Gandapur announces PTI rally at Minar-e-Pakistan

Vows to fight for Imran Khan’s Release



E.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sardar Ali Amin Gandapur, has announced Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) next rally at Minar-e-Pakistan in Lahore, stating that even if permission is denied, the rally will take place. Speaking at a public gathering organized by PTI at Sangjani, he declared that Imran Khan has been wrongfully imprisoned but has emerged victorious, while those who jailed him have lost. He warned that if Imran Khan is not released within one to two weeks, PTI supporters would march with shrouds on their heads.

However, he expressed hope that Khan would be freed before then; otherwise, they are prepared to fight and sacrifice everything for him.

During the rally, Gandapur thanked the people from all provinces and PTI workers for their overwhelming participation. As the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he extended gratitude on behalf of the provincial government and people. He praised Imran Khan for always advocating for the nation, Islam, and raising the issue of Khatm-e-Nabuwat at the international level, proving that Islam is a religion of peace.

He condemned the ongoing atrocities in Palestine and Kashmir, lamenting that no one in the current government is raising a voice for the oppressed due to their vested interests.

Gandapur reiterated Imran Khan's teachings to his supporters to stand against injustice and support the truth.

He described the current situation in the country as one of oppression and tyranny, even affecting women and children. He called resisting this oppression a form of jihad, which PTI will continue to pursue.

He also criticized the repeated issuance of NROs to corrupt individuals who have plundered the country, questioning how granting such reprieves benefits the 250 million citizens of Pakistan.

Referring to potential confrontations, Gandapur declared, "If they strike us, we will strike back."

He criticized the frequent violations of the

Constitution and law by those in power and warned that if they continue to disregard the law, PTI will respond accordingly, leading to an inevitable confrontation.

The Chief Minister further lauded Imran Khan's vision of breaking the shackles of fear in the nation, congratulating him by stating that the people had already dismantled the idols of fear and are ready to go to any lengths to defend their rights.

He emphasized the need for a system that upholds the dignity of women and the country's honor, aligning with Imran Khan's vision.

Addressing Federal Minister Khawaja Asif, he remarked, "Not even your father can conduct a military trial of Imran Khan."



WENCHANG, CHINA: Aerial view of damaged houses after typhoon Yagi on Sunday in Wenchang, Hainan Province of China.

# Typhoon Yagi wreaks havoc to infrastructure in Vietnam

HANOI/HAIPHONG (Reuters): Typhoon Yagi, Asia's most powerful storm this year, was downgraded to a tropical depression on Sunday, after wreaking havoc in northern Vietnam, where it damaged factories and infrastructure in export-oriented industrial hubs.

Vietnam's meteorological agency issued the downgrade on Sunday but cautioned about the ongoing risk of flooding and landslides as the storm, the strongest to hit the country in decades, moved westwards.

On Saturday, Yagi disrupted power supplies and telecommunications in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, causing extensive flooding, felling thousands of trees and damaging homes. The typhoon and subsequent landslides and floods killed 21 people in Vietnam and injured 229, according to preliminary estimates from the government, after claiming the lives of four people on the southern Chinese island of Hainan and 20 in the Philippines, the first country it hit a week ago.

In Haiphong, a Vietnamese coastal

city of 2 million which hosts factories of several multinationals, industrial parks remained closed on Sunday, workers and managers told Reuters.

One was flooded, and workers said they had been sent home after they tried to go to work unaware of the conditions at their plants because telecommunications networks had not been restored.

"The damage for the factories is really significant. Some have lost roofs or entire front facades," said Bruno Jaspert, head of DEEP C industrial zones, which host plants from over 150 investors in Haiphong and the neighbouring province of Quang Ninh.

He said at least 80% of the factories had been damaged but the industrial parks had not been flooded.

"It might take a month if things go well before I fully recover from this damage," said Do Van Truong, a 45-year-old shop owner in Haiphong, noting the ceiling of his seafood shop had collapsed while power and water supplies had not yet been restored.

Several highways in the north of the country were flooded or seriously disrupted, state media reported, publishing pictures and footage of landslides. After it made landfall in Vietnam on Saturday afternoon, Yagi triggered waves as high as 4 metres (13 feet) in coastal provinces, leading to extended power and telecommunication outages that have complicated damage assessment, the government said.

The meteorological agency warned of continued "risk of flash floods" in riverside areas, including in Hanoi.

As winds subsided, authorities in Hanoi rushed to clean up streets from toppled trees scattered across the city centre and other neighbourhoods.

"The storm has devastated the city. Trees fell down on top of people's houses, cars and people on the street," said 57-year-old Hanoi resident Hoang Ngoc Nhen.

Hanoi's Noi Bai international airport, the busiest in northern Vietnam, reopened on Sunday after closing on Saturday morning.

# Georgia shooting lasted about a minute

26 teachers alerted authorities: sheriff

NEW YORK (Agencies): The shooting inside Apalachee High School lasted about a minute, beginning in a hallway and ending in a classroom, Barrow County Sheriff Jud Smith told ABC News.

Within that minute, Colt Gray, the 14-year-old accused of opening fire at his Georgia high school, shot 13 people, Smith said.

Four of the victims died -- two teachers and two students -- but there would have been more deaths had it not been for the quick response and the emergency alert system the county installed a week prior, the sheriff said.

Smith said all teachers at the school have an ID made by the safety technology company CENTE-GIX, which has a button they can press to alert authorities to an "active situation."

There were 26 teachers who pushed their buttons, immediately sending simultaneous notifications to law enforcement, Smith told ABC News.

According to Smith, before officers made it inside, two school resource officers had already found the alleged shooter. They were about 70 yards away from him with handguns, Smith said. The shooter had an assault-style rifle. It was a no-win situation, but they still charged at the

suspect, Smith said. "They stopped the carnage," Smith said. "At that distance with what he had and what we had, it was a no-win situation...it could have been worse."

Lyela Sayarath, an 11th grader, said she was in Algebra class with Gray just minutes before police say the suspect went on a shooting rampage inside.

"I've never seen him really talk to anybody," Sayarath told ABC News about the suspect, who transferred to the school last month. "He never really talked, and he was just kind of quiet."

On the morning of the shooting, Sayarath said she did not notice anything unusual about Gray's demeanor. That was until both Gray and another student with a similar name left the classroom, separately, and an administrator came in and took the latter's backpack, Sayarath told ABC News.

"[An administrator] came in and asked for my friend and then when they found out he was in the restroom, they asked for his bag and then they took his bag. And then a little bit later, he came back in with his bag," Sayarath said, adding that the boy with a similar name is her friend and told her there was some sort of confusion and that the administrator

had been looking for Gray, not him.

"I mean, he obviously, like, when he came back with his bag, like, we knew at that point they were looking for [Gray] and his bag, so we thought he had something...We just continued class like normal until [an administrator] asked my teacher to check her email over the intercom," Sayarath said.

Moments later, Sayarath said, Gray tried to get back into the classroom and Sayarath said her teacher notified administrators.

"[A] student was about to let them in. She backed away from the door and didn't let him in... And then...from where I'm sitting, I could see him, like, through the window. And then he just kind of turned to [the] right. And then he fired about 10 or 15 shots."

Sayarath said the class started scrambling, many students rushed against the back wall of the room, others helped barricade the door by pushing desks against it, while some students called their parents.

Gray's mother, Marcee Gray, called the high school Wednesday morning to warn a counselor of an "extreme emergency" involving her son, his aunt, Annie Polhamus Brown, told ABC News, after it was first reported in the Washington Post.

# Four dead, 14 missing in Morocco flooding

RABAT (AFP): Moroccan authorities on Sunday said four people died and 14 were missing in flooding caused by an "exceptional" climate phenomenon in southern areas.

"Four people have died and 14 have gone missing" since heavy rains began on Friday in the province of Tata, some 740 kilometres south of Rabat, a local official told AFP, saying the toll could potentially rise.

"Eight houses were washed away by floods in some valleys" near Tamanart, a rural area in the Tata region, said the official, who did not wish to be named.

Usually arid areas in southern Morocco and Algeria have been drenched in floods caused by massive rainfall since Friday, officials told AFP on Sunday.

Areas in southern Morocco have been affected "by an extremely unstable tropical air mass", the spokesman for the Moroccan General Directorate of Meteorology, Lhoussaine Youabd, told AFP. This "led to the formation of unstable and violent clouds" that caused massive rainfall, he said.

Youabd described the phenomenon as "exceptional" and said the areas saw "heavy thunderstorms and significant rainfall, leading to river flooding" as "humid tropical air masses moved northward".

As a result, the Ouarzazate region received 47 millimetres of water in three hours and Tagounite, near the Algerian border, received some 170mm, according to the Moroccan weather service.

The heavy rains hit regions of Morocco that have been suffering from drought for at least six years.

In neighbouring Algeria, authorities meanwhile confirmed one person dead and one missing in flooding in the south.

Algerian civil defence said an unnamed young girl was swept away by the waters in Illizi, in the far south, and another person who was trapped in a vehicle was still missing.

It also said it had rescued several families trapped by flooded rivers, mostly in Illizi and Bechar, also in the south. Videos posted on social media showed that some areas in the Sahara desert were drenched.

In Morocco's Ouarzazate, entire streets were flooded. "We haven't seen such rain for about 10 years," Omar Gana, a local, told AFP.

MOSCOW (Reuters): Ukraine and Russia accused each other of overnight air attacks on their border regions, with Ukrainian officials saying that two people died and four were injured in the Sumy region, and Russia saying three civilians were injured in Belgorod.

Two children were among those injured in Sumy, the military administration of the northeastern Ukrainian region said on Sunday on the Telegram messaging app. Several residential houses and cars were damaged, it said.

Across the border, in Russia's southwestern region of Belgorod, three civilians, including two children were injured in Ukraine's air attack, Vyacheslav Gladkov, the governor of the region, said on Telegram.

He said two residential buildings were destroyed and more than 15 buildings in total were damaged.

The Russian defence ministry said on Telegram that it destroyed two Ukraine-launched drones over Belgorod overnight.

Reuters could not independently verify the reports.

Both Sumy and Belgorod regions have been subject to frequent attacks. Both sides deny targeting civilians, saying the attacks are aimed at destroying each other's infrastructure critical to war efforts.

Thousands of civilians

have died in the war, which Russia started with full-scale invasion on Ukraine in February 2022. Millions of Ukrainians have also been displaced, while their cities and villages have become piles of rubble.

**Two NATO members say Russian drones violated their airspace**

AP adds: Two NATO members said Sunday that Russian drones violated their airspace, as one reportedly flew into Romania during nighttime attacks on neighboring Ukraine while another crashed in eastern Latvia the previous day.

A drone entered Romanian territory early Sunday as Moscow struck "civilian targets and port infrastructure" across the Danube in Ukraine, Romania's Ministry of National Defense reported.

It added that Bucharest had deployed F-16 warplanes to monitor its airspace and issued text alerts to residents of two eastern regions.

It also said investigations were underway of a potential "impact zone" in an uninhabited area along the Romanian-Ukrainian border. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

Later on Sunday, Latvia's Defense Minister Andris Spruds said a Russian drone fell the day before near the town of Rezekne, and had likely strayed into Latvia from

neighboring Belarus.

Rezekne, home to over 25,000 people, lies some 55 kilometres (34 miles) west of Russia and around 75 kilometres (47 miles) from Belarus, the Kremlin's close and dependent ally.

While the incursion into Latvian airspace appeared to be a rare incident, Romania has confirmed drone fragments on its territory on several occasions since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, as recently as July this year.

Mircea Geoana, NATO's outgoing deputy secretary-general and Romania's former top diplomat, said Sunday morning that the military alliance condemned Russia's violation of Romanian airspace. "While we have no information indicating an intentional attack by Russia against Allies, these acts are irresponsible and potentially dangerous," he wrote on the social media platform X.

Latvia's military on Sunday similarly said there were no indications that Moscow or Minsk purposely sent a drone into the country. In a public statement, the military said it had identified the crash site, and that a probe was ongoing.

Spruds, the Latvian defense minister, sought to downplay the significance of the drone incursion.

"I can confirm that there are no victims here

and also no property is infringed in any way," Defense Minister Andris Spruds told the Latvian Radio on Sunday, adding that any risks in the event were immediately eliminated: "Of course, it is a serious incident, as it is once again a reminder of what kind of neighboring countries we live next to."

Ukraine Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha called the incursions "a reminder (that) the aggressive actions of the Russian Federation go beyond Ukraine's borders."

"The collective response of the Allies should be maximum support for Ukraine now, to put an end to (Russian aggression), protect lives and preserve peace in Europe," Sybiha said in a post on X.

**Civilians reported killed in Ukraine**

In Ukraine, two civilians died and four more suffered wounds in a nighttime Russian airstrike on the northern city of Sumy, the regional military administration reported.

Two children were among those wounded, the administration said. The Russian Defense Ministry claimed later on Sunday that its forces struck foreign pro-Kyiv fighters in a village on Sumy's northern outskirts. It was not immediately clear whether this was a reference to the same attack.

# Sarhad Business Alliance finalizes names of candidates for elections

E.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The important five-member committee of the Sarhad Business Alliance, under the leadership of former Governor and Patron-in-Chief Haji Ghulam Ali, has finalized the names of candidates for the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry elections. Among the candidates, two women have also been selected, and it was agreed to intensify the election campaign. The committee's meeting was held yesterday under the chairmanship of Haji Ghulam Ali, during which a detailed review of the

candidate selection process was conducted. The meeting was attended by SBA Chairman and former Provincial Minister Syed Zahir Ali Shah, Malik Mehr Elahi, Muhammad Ishaq, while Malik Sajjad represented Sharafat Ali Mubarak.

In the meeting, it was decided to finalize the names of candidates from both the Associate and Corporate groups for the 2024-26 elections of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The committee praised all candidates, stating that since its inception, the Sarhad Business Alliance

has played a significant role as the vanguard of Peshawar's business community, and every member of the group is an integral part of it. Each candidate possesses a strong personality with a clear vision.

While finalizing the names, the committee selected ten candidates from both the Associate and Corporate groups, including two female members.

The committee also emphasized ensuring that every sector receives representation in the chamber elections. The selected candidates are expected to not only solve the busi-

ness community's problems but also restore the reputation of the Sarhad Chamber and make it the province's leading chamber.

The committee further clarified that those who are not selected for the election will remain valuable assets to the group and will be adjusted in key chamber committees and various government boards after the group's success.

After extensive deliberation, the committee unanimously finalized ten candidates from the Associate group and ten from the Corporate group.