#### Tribal elder among 4 killed F.P. Report

BANNU: At least four people including a tribal elder and a woman were killed when armed men fired multiple shots on their vehicle in Janikhel area of Bannu, police informed on Tuesday. Tribal elder, Malak Shudi Khan along with four others, was traveling in a pickup van when armed assailants intercepted their vehicle near Sin Tanga, Wariki Janikhel area and started indiscriminate firing on them.

# Frontier Post

50th polio case reported F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) has reported another polio case in Pakistan, bringing the total number of cases in 2024 to 50. It reported in media that National Reference Lab identified the latest case involving a 20-month-old girl from Tank district in KP. Tests confirmed the presence of Wild Poliovirus Type 1 (WPV1).

**@thefrontierpost** 

First national English daily published from Peshawar, Islamabad, Lahore, Quetta, Karachi and Washington D.C

www.thefrontierpost.com

Vol. XXXIXI

No. 297

**Regd. No. 241** 

JAMADI UL AWWAL 17 1446 -- WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 2024

**PESHAWAR EDITION** 

12 PAGES

PRICE. 30



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairing a meeting of Federal Apex Committee on National Action Plan

November 24 protest. "Let

PTI founder and former

prime minister Imran

Khan, currently incarcer-

protest on Sunday. November 24. He has

urged the nation and party

workers to take to the

streets on that day. In a

audio clip of Imran Khan's

considered for party tick-

ets in the upcoming elec-

tions. Separately, Bushra

Bibi held separate meet-

praised his contributions

to the party on behalf of

government has imposed

Section 144 in Islamabad to prevent the PTI protest.

founder

wife,

Bushra

Sunday,

### **Preparations underway** for Nov 24 protest: Saif

PESHAWAR: Advisor to should always keep the preparations the Chief Minister of doors open for dialogue. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Speaking to the media it be clear: no one can stop Information and Public outside Adiala Jail along- our protest now," he Relations, Barrister Dr. side PTI Saif, said that preparations Barrister Gohar, she were underway in all con- emphasised that the peacestituencies of Khyber ful protest scheduled for Pakhtunkhwa for the Nov 24 is their democratic ated in Adiala Jail, has protest on November 24. right. Khyber called for a decisive Chief Minister Ali Amin Pakhtunkhwa Gandapur has directed all Minister Ali Amin elected representatives to Gandapur briefed the PTI intensify their campaigns founder about the Nov 24 in their respective con- protest. stituencies.

"To prepare for Barrister Gohar and Ali November 24, rallies and Amin Gandapur had corner meetings are being sought Imran Khan's per-organized in all con-mission to initiate dia-the KP Chief Minister's stituencies. Barrister Dr. logue. Imran Khan under- residence has surfaced. In Saif stated" He said that scored the importance of the audio, she advised thousands of people, led discussions centered on workers to strategize to by elected representatives the rule of law, restoring avoid arrests, urging the from each constituency, the people's mandate, and need for alternative plans would join caravans that will converge on the motorway and proceed to Islamabad under the leadership of Chief Minister for negotiations, hinting would join caravans that releasing innocent party in the event of crack-downs.

Bushra Bibi also indicated that only those with evidence, such as videos

Ali Amin Gandapur. Barrister Dr. Saif a day of celebration if sigwarned the federal govern- nificant progress is made," ment to refrain from fas- she added. cist tactics, or face the consequences. He emphasized that November 24 Sheikh Waqas Akram has cials. She also met with will be a day of supremacy categorically denied any Gul Zafar, a leader from for the Constitution and contact between the party the Bajaur agency, and law in the country. The and the federal government. Advisor expressed conficess of the protest.

for dialogue: Aleema less, and we strongly con-rallies, and processions in Khan, sister of PTI demn it." He further the capital.

founder Imran Khan, stat- asserted that such reports ed that political parties aim to undermine PTI's

chairman added. Khyber called for a decisive

Aleema revealed that related development, an

that Friday could become of their protests, would be

Meanwhile, Secretary of Information ings with some party offi

In a statement, Sheikh dence that the people of Waqas Akram dismissed Pakhtunkhwa rumors of dialogue, stat- Meanwhile, the federal would participate in large ing, "Our party has no numbers, ensuring the suc- contact with the government, nor will there be Political parties any. The news about such The law bans all political always keep doors open communication is base- and religious gatherings,

#### Pak-ADB sign \$500m loan deal F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Asian Development Bank (ADB) today signed a landmark five hundred million dollar loan agreement regarding 'Climate and Disaster Resilience Enhancement Program'.

Secretary Ministry of Economic Affairs Dr. Kazim Niaz, and Country Director, Pakistan Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank Ms. Emma Fan, signed the agreement at a ceremony in Islamabad today. While giving consent to Ministry of Economic Affairs regarding this agreement, the Federal Minister Ahad Cheema said that the signing of the agreement underscores Pakistan's commitment to prioritize climate change initiatives and scaling up disaster risk financing using a risk-layered

approach. In their remarks, Secretary Economic Affairs and ADB Country Director said that this program is designed as a programmatic approach and aims at strengthening Pakistan's capacity for climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. They said it will also address the country's vulnerabilities to natural disasters and climate impacts.

#### VPN case: LHC issues notice to govt F.P. Report

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Tuesday issued notices to federal government and others over a petition against slowed down Internet speed and blocking the VPN.

Justice Iqbal Chaudhry of the high court heard a petition, filed by Azhar Siddique advocate, challenging a slowed Internet service and the blockage of the Virtual Private Network (VPN). Petitioner's counsel pointed out that with slowed down of internet speed the users' facing disruption of the service and also grappling difficulties the internet use. Petitioner pleaded to the court that the government is also going to impose ban over the VPN without any justification. The petition seeks the court order for ending obstacles in the Internet speed and restraining ban on the VPN.

# PM says no progress, prosperity sans peace

— wants all stakeholders to lend helping hands in economic, political stability; links it with end to terrorism

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday urged all the political leadership to continue lending their helping hands to the federation in overcoming the economic challenges, which was requisite to financial and political stability in the country.

The prime minister also clearly linked the stability and peace in the county with complete elimination of the specter of terrorism, which had resurfaced its head recently in southern districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces.

Addressing a meeting of the apex committee of the National Action Plan attended by the political and military leadership, the prime minister said with the grace of Allah Almighty, the economic efforts and sincerity of purpose, showed by all the stakeholders in the governments from the provincial chief ministers to and power theft which would supplethe federation, the country was mov-

ing on the path to stability.

He commended the efforts put forth by all the federal and provincial governments, saying that without it, try will move forward," he said, they could not move forward. The adding that during the past eight prime minister said the economic and political stability were interrelated with each other and no society could aspire to progress with these two vital factors. "It is imperative for the economic and political stability that all the leadership should play their due role," he added.

He also thanked the provincial governments for their support in getting the approval of IMF programme, adding that all the provincial chief ministers had fully supported it. also regretted that despite the valu-Prime Minister Sharif said that as able mineral wealth and brilliant result of these efforts, stock market minds the country possessed, billions dipped to a single digit, State Bank of Pakistan also curtailed its interest erals reserves cases in the past. rates mark to 15 percent, besides record surge while the remittances saw significant increase.

tors. The prime minister expressed direction. the confidence that it would be the last IMF programme in Pakistan's integrity and dedication.

For how long, the country would

### COAS warns of consequences for disrupting national security

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir warned that those who obstruct the country's security and prevent the military from performng its duties will have to face the consequences. Speaking at a meeting of the Apex Committee Session of the National Action Planchaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, COAS emphasized that every Pakistani is a soldier n the war against terrorism. "We must all join hands to fight the scourge of errorism," he said. The army chief further stated the Constitution placed the responsibility of the Pakistan's internal and external security on the military, and anyone who creates obstacles in Pakistan's security will have to bear the consequences. General Asim Munir also stated the Pakistan Army and law enforcement agencies are rendering sacrifices to address shortcomings in

for their financial support. He also were succeeded in effacing the menening the tax net, besides overcoming the issues of leakage and evasion of billion rupees taxes, circular debt, gas ment the national coffer, thus getting rid of the foreign debts. "All have to give lending hands; it is not about you and me; it is about us. Then the counmonths, there was no governance scam which reflected the strength of the government.

He thanked the chief ministers for their massive efforts and focus on improvement of economy, adding Punjab chief minister led with agriculture sector reforms, while the KP chief minister also got similar legislation approved from his cabinet. The Sindh chief minister was also making sincere efforts. The prime minister was on the bullish trend, inflation of rupees had been wasted on litiga- crushed. tion over Reko Diq and Chinot min-

"We have to move in unison, country's IT export witnessed a though it may be a difficult task but no nation can emerge successful without unity," he observed and cited He opined that all the indicators the examples of Japan and Germany, were showing stability in the process, that emerged stronger after the World however, he stressed that country's Wars. The prime minister enumerat- as the 'time and tide wait for none'. path to progress would open further ing government's efforts, said that the when investment was enhanced. The task force on power sector had suc- ister said that reforms were being foreign investors could follow the cessfully negotiated with the five taken in FBR to curb corruption and local investors once they were IPPs and with these efforts, they were mismanagement. He cited an inciencouraged to invest in various sec- moving step by step towards the right dent in March this year, when an

history, if they worked with honesty, to make sacrifices for the country's used with collusion of certain depend on IMF programme? he was linked with peace and end to ter- loss of billions of rupees to the posed a question and expressed grati-tude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, said that he could say that during An amount of Rs370 million was

emphasized upon the need of broad- ace of terrorism which was also acknowledged by the world.

At that time all the representatives of the entire nation and military leadership had gathered at this place to take unanimous decisions, he recollected. In the year 2018, terrorism was eliminated from the country and in this fight, about 80,000 people had sacrificed their lives whereas the country suffered over \$130 billion losses. He said, recently, this specter again raised its head in KP and Balochistan provinces which required questions to be answered.

If not eliminated completely, the prime minister said, all their efforts which he had elaborated at the economic and political stability would come to naught. He termed terrorism as the huge challenge for Pakistan. Certain parts of KP southern districts and Balochistan provinces were witnessing the worst incidents of barbarity at the hands of terrorists and stressed that its head should be

The prime minister also asked for reconsideration of calls for political sit-ins at the high-level events including SCO Conference in Islamabad and advised the political leaders to ponder over it with cold minds. He said the country was no doubt dear to everyone, but the choice was for them About other steps, the prime min-

officer brought to the notice of his He also underlined that today, the high ups, with a letter, that an well to do segment of the society had account of 80-year-old women was prosperity. The prime minister said employees for the purpose of fake the country's progress and prosperity inversion. It could have resulted in the United Arab Emirates and China Nawaz Sharif's tenure in 2014, they already embezzled, he added.

### Restrictions ease in Lahore as smog levels drop

LAHORE: As smog levels will be available at eateries drop, restrictions have till 10:00 PM. The bakers been eased and eateries have also been exempted timing has been extended from shutdown at 8:00 PM in Lahore. The educational and keep open until 10:00 institutions have been PM. reopened in Punjab from

among the most polluted dropped remaining on top of the list time has been extended to tinuing to haunt Lahore and winter cooling.

However, the shops and across

10 in the night. The dine-in and several other cities of and takeaway facilities Punjab despite authorities' taking various steps to

curb polluted air. Punjab government also announced closure of schools upto higher secondary level in smog hit districts of the province today except Lahore and markets shutdown order till 24 November. The will remain in place until decision was made as the Toxic smog has dropped November 24. Punjab's province grappling with in Lahore and the city goes environment department severe air pollution, down to third place at the announced new instruc- which have soared to Air Quality Index (AQI) tions after the smog levels alarming levels, affecting the the public health. For cities of the world after province. The commis- days, Lahore has been sioners and deputy com- enveloped by smog, a mix for several days. Local missioners were directed of fog and pollutants administration has eased to implement orders with caused by low-grade diesrestrictions, and all hotels regard to easing the smog- el fumes, smoke from seaand restaurants' opening related orders. Bad air consonal agricultural burning

### PHC dispose off Gandapur plea ATC issues arrest warrants for KP CM

PESHAWAR: A divisional bench comprising of Chief Justice Peshawar High Court (PHC) Justice Ishtiag Ibrahim and Justice Waqar dispose-of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur petition against National Accountability Bureau (NAB) call-up regarding assets beyond income, on Tuesday.

The court's decision came after it was informed that Gandapur didn't before the National appear Accountability Bureau (NAB) despite being served notices, and no new notice has been issued.

The counsel Alam Khan Adeenzai advocate argued that case against Ali Amin Gandapur was related to assets worth Rs304 million, which is below the Rs500 million threshold after amendments in NAB laws. He argued that NAB can only investigate cases involving embezzlement of over Rs500 million.

In the meantime, Chief Justice Ishtiaq Ibrahim remarked that {You/ ed. Chief Minister/ PTI are satisfied/ NAB laws. However, NAB prosecu-

F.P. Report

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court in Lahore has issued non-bailable arrest warrants for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur. The case was heard by ATC Judge Manzar Ali Gul, where Gandapur failed to appear before the court. The warrants were issued in connection with a case registered at the Manawan Police Station. It should be noted that a police case had been registered against the CM Gandapur under serious charges for mashing car windows during a political rally in Kahna.

The court dismissed the case due ous health issues and cannot attend to the lack of a new notice. The decision was made in accordance with NAB's amended laws, which empower the bureau to investigate cases involving embezzlement of over RS500 million.

PHC extends Bushra bail till **23rd Dec:** PHC has approved Bushra Bibi's request for exemption from appearance and extended her protective bail till 23rd December. The court warned that if Bushra Bibi fails to appear on the next hearing, her exemption request will not be accept-

happy with the amendments made in founding chairman, had filed a plea seeking exemption from appearance tor, Hashmat Jehangir stated that the due to health reasons. Her lawyer, served notices, but he didn't appear. court that she is suffering from serization.

the hearing. NAB informed the court that there is one case pending against Bushra Bibi, known as Toshakhana-II case.

PHC extends injunction against block funds till Dec 2nd week: A divisional bench Peshawar High Court (PHC) comprising Justice SM Atique Shah and Justice Sahibzada Asadullah has extended the injunction against block funds, also known as "umbrella schemes," until the second week of December, on Tuesday.

This decision came after the court heard a petition filed by Dr.
The petitioner is wife of PTI Ibbadullah, Arbab Waseem, and other MPAs from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly's opposition. The umbrella schemes are illegal and were included inquiry is ongoing and Gandapur was Alam Khan Adeenzai informed the in the budget without proper authori-

### 12th edition of IDEAS 2024 kicks off at Karachi Expo Centre

F.P. Report

KARACHI: The 12th edition of International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS 2024) commenced at Karachi Expo Centre on Tuesday.

Inaugurated by Federal Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, the exhibition will continue till 22 November than 350 high-level delegations from nesses and cooperation. 55 countries are visiting the exhibi-Export Promotion Organization (DEPO) in Pakistan.

2000, IDEAS has emerged as an suppliers to explore new avenues of logue on the basis of equality not only international rendezvous for defence manufacturers, entrepreneurs, R&D specialists, financial experts and toplevel policymakers to promote cooperation, knowledge sharing and supfor Defence and Defence Production port ventures in the field of defence collaboration. Indeed, IDEAS is an event that brings together the global 2024. Besides trade visitors, more defence industry for synergistic busi-

In his inaugural address, the federtion, a mega-regional event; biennial- al minister said that Pakistan today ly organized by Defence Export offered enormous opportunities for Promotion Organization (DEPO) in profitable investments, joint ventures Pakistan, said a statement issued by and trade in all sectors including the defence industry. In his regard, IDEAS served as a regional gateway

defence cooperation through joint ventures, outsourcing and collabora-

He said technologies were playing vital role in confronting modernday security challenges and its responsible use can make the world a better and safer place. Pakistan being a responsible state is always committed to playing its role for international peace, stability and order. Reciprocity, mutual interests and international norms are the guiding principles that govern Pakistan's relations at the bilateral and multilateral

He said that the government

Since its inception in the year for international manufacturers and always believed in meaningful diato resolve bilateral issues but also to give a chance for peace and harmony n the region. "At our end, we in collaboration with our partners are entific growth, manufacturing and steadfast to this unflinching commitment for peace and stability in the

world," he said. threshold of quality and reliability However, to further excel in this domain there is a need of academia industry interface, integration of public-private defence industry and exhibition halls lauded the participa- Asia and Far East out of which 55%

defence manufacturing sector of try under one roof. He appreciated Pakistan.

has the potential to emerge as a global platform for defence research, scijoint ventures, to strengthen our defence capabilities and spur developments as well as exports in this sec-Khawaja Asif said that Pakistan's tor. Earlier during his welcome defence industry has now reached the address, Major General Asad Nawaz Khan HI(M), DG DEPO welcomed wherein its products are competing in the visiting delegates, foreign and than 560 defence equipment the international defence market. domestic exhibitors, OEMs, trade exhibitors from 41 countries particivisitors and participants of IDEAS

The Minister during the visit of

that participation of Startups by The minister further said Pakistan NUST, PMSTAP and NASTP will hone the skills of young entrepreneurs by having interaction with foreign and national defence exhibitors.

IDEAS 2024 has surpassed all previous milestones in terms of space, booking, exhibitors and delegates both domestic and foreign. Karachi Expo Centre has been booked to its full capacity with more pating including exhibitors from Turkey, China, Iran, UK, North America, South America, Europe, involvement of R&D organizations in tion of academia and defence indus- are international and 45% local.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with JUI Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman at his residence. -- APP Photo

### Sindh launches 'Child Protection **Management Information System'**

UNICEF, and other key stakeholders have officially launched 'Child Protection Management Information System (CPIMS)' here on Tuesday.

This significant milestone was celebrated in conjunction with World Children's Day, aiming to initiate a new movement for the protection and promotion of children's rights and welfare.

The launching ceremony was graced by the Minister for Social Welfare, Mir Tariq Ali Talpur, Secretary of Social Welfare Pervez

The launching ceremony was lation but also its proper implementation. CPIMS will guarantee that no child is left without support.'

The Minister appealed to parents, Ahmed Sehar, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Deputy High Commission Martin Dawson, and UNICEF Islamabad's Chief of Child Protection Ms. Susan Andrew.

importance of children's rights, statour top priority. Emphasizing the sig-society where every child can fully safe and inclusive future for every child

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh govern- nificance of CPIMS, the Minister realize their potential in a safe and ment's Department of Social Welfare, said: 'This system will not only empowered environment.' streamline the management of child protection cases but will also strengthen decision-making processes. It will help us identify areas and children

requiring more focused attention.'
He further added, 'The Sindh government has always taken serious steps to protect children's rights. We are ensuring not only effective legis-

teachers, and civil society, saying: 'Child protection is a collective responsibility. We must all work together to support systems that address children's issues. I urge par-While addressing the event, Mir ents and teachers to adopt a friendly Tariq Ali Talpur highlighted the approach towards children and understand their concerns.' Reaffirming the ing, 'Children are the future of our government's commitment to child set a new standard for child protection society, and protecting their rights is rights, Talpur said, 'We envision a

He also announced that the Sindh government would soon introduce more comprehensive policies on child rights and protection, including awareness campaigns in schools and communities. The event featured a presentation on the development and features of CPIMS, followed by its formal launch. A heartwarming skit and a special performance by children made the day even more memorable.

On the occasion of World Children's Day, various activities were organized to raise awareness about children's rights The Minister announced an awareness walk to be held on November 23 at Karachi's Sea View, inviting the public to participate and support the cause of child protection and rights. The Department of Social Welfare and its partners are optimistic that CPIMS will services in Sindh, paving the way for a

### Jam applauds Baitussalam Welfare Trust's commitment to empowering youth

F.P. Report

Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, praised the efforts of Baitussalam Welfare Trust, calling it "Motivation Trust" for its extraordinary role in serving humanity and empowering the youth.

Speaking at an event that brought together dignitaries including provincial ministers, former cricket captain Shahid Khan Afridi, and Karachi Mayor Murtaza Wahab, he emphasized the ways that are unprecedent-Trust's unparalleled contri- ed. butions to societal welfare.

Reflecting on his association with the organization, dedication of Mulana Sattar Jam Kamal Khan said, "I Sb and his team. "Mulana am happy to witness this Sattar Sb and his team have trust's growth over the worked hard to achieve this years. Its ecosystem is level of impact. Without amazing, not only in serv- their dedication, this mile- ment leaders to extend their con of hope for youth and



of the Trust to the tireless

During the ceremony, Jam Kamal Khan distrib-He credited the success uted prizes and trophies for the Trust's initiatives. among high-achieving students of the Baitussalam ed with a renewed commitinitiatives, lauding their ment efforts and encouraging Baitussalam them to continue excelling.

ing humanity but also in stone would have been out support to such initiatives. communities across the strengthening the youth in of reach," he noted. "Dedication must lead to nation.

Our government must step in and do something to support this cause," he stated, describing the event as a pride and inspiration.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from variprominent figures, including Governor of Sindh Kamran Tessori, Shahid Khan Afridi, who commended the Trust for its dedication to community upliftment. Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab and other provincial leaders also expressed their admiration

The ceremony conclud-Welfare Trust's mission, ensuring He also urged govern- its continued role as a bea-

### OGDCL boosts tight gas exploration efforts with strategic initiative



F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Oil & Gas Development Pakistan's industry leader in in-house expertise. As part was selected as the preferred exploration and production of its ongoing efforts to contractor. The selection (E&P), is making signifi-cant strides in the develop- Pakistan's ment of the country's unconventional hydrocar- launched a comprehensive bon resources. This follows study to assess tight gas incentives introduced by prospectivity across key Govt of Pakistan under the areas in the Lower Indus new tight gas policy in Basin, Sindh. 2024, which offers a 40% premium over the 2012 pol- initiative, icy price to promote the announced an international exploration and commercial tender on March 7, 2024, for exploitation of tight gas.

OGDCL has already Gas made notable progress in Evaluation. After a rigorous

tight gas well, Nur West-1, Company followed by additional (OGDCL), wells to be fracked through unlock the full potential of resources, OGDCL has

To support this ambitious OGDCL an Integrated Study of Tight Prospectivity

this area, with the success- two-stage ful production of its first process involving 11 international bidders and 7 shortlisted companies, Schlumberger (M/s SLB)

> based Schlumberger's proven technical capabilities and financial competitiveness. The study, which will identify the most promising tight gas areas and wells, will play a crucial role in shap-

and production strategies. study will pinpoint optimal the nation's economic locations for new wells, as growth by harnessing every well as re-entry opportunities available for existing wells, to conduct resource.

hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and unlock gas from tight reservoirs. This will help OGDCL to commercialize tight gas resources on a fast-track basis, helping to meet Pakistan's growing energy needs.

OGDCL's partnership with Schlumberger is a key milestone in its ongoing efforts to leverage advanced technologies and best practices in unconventional resource development. This collaboration is expected to bring valuable expertise and innovation to Pakistan's tight gas sector ensuring the sustainable and efficient exploitation of the country's hydrocarbon resources.

Based on regional studies and using preliminary data, it is estimated the total prospective resource of Pakistan's tight gas is 25.2 TCF. On its part, OGDCL plans to execute 25 wells, with an initial production potential MMSCFD and an estimated reserve of 75-90 BCF over the next 5 years.

Through this strategic initiative, OGDCL reafing OGDCL's future drilling firms its commitment to driving Pakistan's energy Upon completion, the security and contributing to hydrocarbon

#### Strict action taken against polluting brick kilns: Minister

Home

LAHORE (APP): An intensive anti-smog operation is in full swing across Punjab to mitigate the effects of smog. According to Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, strict actions have been taken against multiple polluting brick-kilns and industrial units over the past four days.

The Senior Minister stated that between November 15 and 17, 34 brick-kilns operating without zigzag technology were demolished, with the nighest number in Multan (14) and Layyah (8). Additionally, on November 15, 20 industrial units in Lahore and Gujranwala were razed for causing pollution. On November 16 and 17, 16 more industrial units were demolished, and 51 units were sealed, including 30 units in Lahore, where 5 units were demolished, and fines worth Rs. 400,000 were imposed.

Vehicle inspections are underway at entry points and major highways, while actions are being taken against unsafe transportation of construction materials. Commercial generators in green lockdown zones are being closely monitored, and the situation is under surveillance through Safe City cameras. Water sprinkling is being carried out on Lahore's roads to control dust.

Marriyum Aurangzeb commended all institutions, administrations, and staff involved in the operation and urged the public to support these efforts to combat smog effectively.

#### **CCPO** office complaint cell performance

AHORE (APP): A total of 11,920 applications were received by CCPO Complaint Cell this year, out of which 11,480 have CCPO been resolved, while legal action is underway on the remaining 440 cases.

According to a statement issued by the spokesman for Lahore Police, 159 applications were received via the Chief Minister's Portal with 155 of them being addressed and the remaining four are under process. Additionally, 6,557 individuals visited the "feel and feel" moment of CCPO Office in person, of which 6.364 applications have been resolved and 193 are still being processed. Regarding the 5,203 applications received by post, 4,960 have been dealt with and 243 are under review. The overall resolution rate of complaints related to police department at the CCPO Office stands at 96%.

CCPO Lahore, Bilal Siddique Kamyana emphasised that the Complaint Cell at the CCPO Office is working continuously to

address public concerns. He said that the department is resolving issues related to police matters without delay through this service added that the issues of elderly citizens, differently-abled persons and women are given top priority. He appreciated police department's people-friendly initiatives which are providing relief to the citizens. The CCPO further said that traditional culture of police stations has been transformed into public service centres. He instructed police officers to adopt an open-door policy for providing immediate justice to petitioners and to treat the citizens with respect.

Bilal reiterated that providing timely justice and supporting the oppressed is a key responsibility of the Lahore Police.

### Governor Sindh meets Turkish **Ambassador**

KARACHI (PPI) Governor ing that diplomatic efforts has set up one of the largest Sindh Kamran Khan would play a pivotal role stall at the ongoing IDEAS Tessori met Turkish in this regard. He also 2024 defense exhibition, Ambassador Irfan Naziroglu, who accompanied by Consul General Cemal Sangu, at the Governor House.

During the meeting, the Governor invited Turkish investors to explore investment opportunities in Sindh, emphasizing the province's lucrative sectors, according to Governor House informaion on Tuesday.

Governor Tessori highighted the significance of increasing trade between Pakistan and Türkiye, stat- ther mentioned that Türkiye

expressed gratitude for reflecting the strong Türkiye's unwavering sup- defense ties between the port during Pakistan's challenging times, noting that bilateral relations between the two nations have now evolved into a deep friendship.

Ambassador Naziroglu affirmed the strong interest of Turkish investors in Sindh's various sectors and expressed Türkiye's desire to see Pakistan grow economically and defensively. He fur-

two countries.

As part of his visit, the Turkish Ambassador toured Quaid-e-Azam's historical room, gaining insights into the artifacts on display. He also participated in a flaghoisting ceremony and planted a tree under the Governor's plantation drive.

The visit underscored the mutual commitment of Pakistan and Türkiye to further strengthen econom-

### Pakistan sends 16 tons of humanitarian Aid to Syria



F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Government of Pakistan through NDMA in collaboration with the Al-Khidmat Foundation dispatched the 2nd shipment of 16 tons of humanitarian assistance for refugees in syria through special char-

2024) in Syria Damascus Airport.

The shipment contained medical supplies, sleeping bags, and packed food etc.
The assistance shipment is part of 80 tons of relief

the coming weeks. The plane was received uted

on Umer Hayat Khan along with Dr Moutaz Douaji, Deputy Minister of Local Administration Environment.

The Syrian side extended gratitude to the people and Govt of Pakistan for supplies due to arrive in support and will be distribtered flight which was by Deputy Ambassador of through the Syrian Arab received today (19-11- Pakistan in Damascus Mr Red Crescent.

### PTI's protest call aims at collecting funds: Azma

Provincial Information Minister Azma Bokhari has said that PTI's call for a protest on November 24 is merely an aim to collect funds.

She added that even if Gandapur manages to reach Islamabad this time, he will have to cross 24 districts to return to Peshawar.

She said that in Punjab, it would be a significant event if even their prominent MNAs and MPAs came out, let alone the public. Azma said that a veiled and non-political woman had been controlling the former prime minister through a remote control, adding, "We all know why Ali Amin Gandapur went to Adiala Jail, whom he received messages from, and whom he was instructed to follow.

Azma Bokhari expressed these views during a media briefing at the DGPR. She remarked that KPK is facing not only financial problems but also security issues. She said, "Four people were shot in Bannu, and tive party plans to insti-seven personnel were gate bloodshed and terror-KPK. In this troubling sit- Those calling for a added.

(APP): uation, KPK's chief minister is chanting slogans of November 24 are not resources to declare war. These resources, which should be spent on the public, are instead being used to benefit Bushra

She said, "We are seeing evidence that a nonpolitical woman is giving targets, and then they innocently claim they have no involvement in politics.'

Azma expressed regret that Punjab's MPAs were not even allowed to speak in a session of PTI; anyone who tried to speak was removed from the she is a junior politician, but CM Maryam Nawaz entered politics through a political struggle, while Bushra Bibi entered through amulets and spiritual guides.

now they are talking about giving a surprise but their real plan is to gather bodies, adding that the disrup-

"missed Jihad, using all state being taken seriously by the people of Punjab, she said and added that these people are pushing the children of KPK into fire. We want the children of KPK to receive free education, bikes, free medicines, and laptops. The disruptive group will government employees to participate in the protest on November 24," she added.

She questioned whether Bushra Bibi and Gandapur would take their children out on the streets. "They should bring their children, Qasim, and Suleman room. Azma said that along with them on their these people criticize container. Barrister Gohar Maryam Nawaz, claiming and Salman Akram Raja should also bring their children for protest," the Information minister said. Azma Bokhari conclud-

ed that no untoward situation would arise in Punjab, and many people She further said that from their side would voluntarily surrender themselves for arrest. Usman Dar has fled to London, leaving his mother alone. If PTI has plans A, B, and C, the state has a full set arrested with weapons in ism on November 24. of plans from A to Z, she

### 36 shops sealed over time violation

LAHORE (APP): A total sion of 36 shops have been Commissioner sealed in Lahore for violating official business sealed operating hours as part of beyond the allowed hours. the ongoing efforts to In Raiwind, Assistant combat smog.

tion has been active late operation, sealing three into the night, ensuring shops and two salons for into the night, ensuring compliance across all non-compliance. tehsils in Lahore. In Model Town, Commissioner Sahebzada Yusuf led the operation, resulting in the sealing of four shops at Minal Plaza for failing to close on time. In

Commissioner Basit Siddiqui oversaw the sealing of seven shops and line with the directive. He one departmental store for also briefed hotel owners similar violations. In Ravi about new SOPs for indoor Tehsil, under the supervi- dining and takeaways

Bashir, ten shops were Commissioner Zainab The district administra- Tahir led the enforcement

> In Shalimar, Assistant Assistant Commissioner Fatima supervised the seal ing of five shops on Link Road and GT Road for vio lating the 8 pm closure rule

Wahga, Assistan In Sadar, Assistant Commissioner Mohammad Abdul Amir Butt ensured all shops were found closed in



بنكمكرمه

# NOTICE FOR SHIFTING OF UNIVERSITY ROAD BRANCH, PESHAWAR

This is to inform our valued customers that our University Road Branch, Peshawar will be shifted to a new location Plot #32-A/2, Old Jamrud Road, University Town, Peshawar from Friday, 27th December 2024.

All Accounts/Lockers being maintained at University Road Branch, Peshawar will automatically be transferred along with services from the appended location. All valued customers shall continue to enjoy our best services as usual.

The name and address of the branch are given below:

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### Govt to solarize 195 health facilities: Ihtisham

F.P. Report

(KP) Health Department healthcare has announced plans to Originally under the Human Capital component in improving Project primary healthcare across health facilities. Investment (HCIP). The decision was the province.

He remarked, "This 6 Category-C hospitals. initiative is pivotal for

that Initially focusing on Under this project across Nowshera, four districts.

F.P. Report

Additional Secretary of party leadership.

Information for the Arbab Khiz

provocative slogans like be tested further."
"Al-Jihad, Al-Jihad", He pointed ou

Information for the Arbab Khizr Hayat Pakistan Muslim LeagueNawaz (DMI N)

Nawaz (PML-N) in Minister and PTI leader-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ship should not mistake Arbab Khizr Hayat, has their silence for weakness,

issued a stern warning to stating, "We are not help-the provincial government. less. We are democratic

Chief Minister Ali Amin through democratic means,

Gandapur, known for his but our patience should not

attempts to use the country is finally moving province's state machinery in the right direction, with

to launch an attack on the economic and financial

federal government on stability improving and

November 24, PML-N terrorism being effectively

He cautioned that if people engaging in politics

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for lion, comprising 42% Health Mr. Ihtisham Ali grant funding and 58% by Project Director Dr. loan financing, of which Ikram Ullah. \$12 million has been uti-Health Advisor lized so far. The project Intisham Ali directed the team to expedite the prohealth facilities, including ject's implementation, 151 Basic Health Units cance for improving Centers (RHCs), 13 healthcare services in KP. Category-D hospitals, and

Dr. Ikram Ullah highenhancing our healthcare lighted the development system and ensuring bet- of KP's first referral ter health outcomes for mechanism under the collaboration with the Program, is essential. He the people of Khyber project, with a strong emphasis on maternal and Project Director Dr. child health. Vaccination constructing facilities for panel must be licensed by Ikram Ullah while brief- of 14,000 defaulter chil- regional blood authori- the Blood Transfusion ing the advisor health told dren has been made ties.

project has been expanded allocations include \$63 (RBCs). While RBCs PESHAWAR: In a major to include 16 districts, million for improving have been established in initiative to strengthen particularly targeting the basic health services, \$3 healthcare infrastructure, restoration and revitaliza- million for capacity build- Peshawar is currently the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa tion of flood-affected ing and addressing staff operational. facilities. shortages, \$7.037 million Peshawar Regional Blood conceived for enhancing governance Center supplies screened solarize 195 health facili- three and a half years ago, and management, and \$10 blood to hospitals, signifties across four districts this program is a key million for the restoration icantly reducing costs

Minister emphasizing its signifi- (BHUs), 25 Rural Health Pakhtunkhwa for Health, centers. Ihtisham Ali, during a Ihtisham Ali emphabriefing by Chief sized that integrating the briefing by Chief sized t Executive Officer, Dr. Blood

Kaleem. The Transfusion Program, in thelesemia and Hepatitis Government of Khyber also mandated that hospi-Pakhtunkhwa and GIZ, is tals on the Sehat Card The Transfusion Authority the safety and quality of oversees the management services.

ic Pakistani will tolerate.

progress, which no patriot- mobilize their workers,

Khizr Hayat accused enticing government PTI of employing under- employees with various

handed tactics to challenge incentives to participate in

the state, aiming to secure their protests. This, he

the release of their found- claimed, reflects the pub-

ing chairman, which he lic's rejection of PTI in

be no deal, nor any lenien-cy, with the PTI founder." the Chief Minister

while peaceful protest is machinery to assault the the right of every political federal government on party, the use of violent November 24, the Chief

rhetoric and direct chal- Minister's House will not

He acknowledged that attempts to misuse state

declared as impossible. He firmly stated, "There will Arbab Khizr Hayat

all four regions, only

**Peshawar City** 

of 158 flood-damaged while ensuring safety.

The Advisor instructed Meanwhile, a decision that all blood centers in made during a briefing to
Advisor to Chief Minister project stands at \$85 milthe Blood Transfusion licenses from the Blood Authority across Khyber Transfusion Authority. Pakhtunkhwa to ensure The Authority will regusafe blood transfusion, late both public and prithe only way to prevent vate hospitals blood diseases transmitted banks, ensuring adherthrough blood. This was ence to SOPs and safe stated by Advisor to Chief blood donations through Khyber functional regional blood

Transfusion Authority with other programs, such as the HIV Blood Authority to ensure

which is why they are

Årbab Khizr Hayat con-



# KMU hosts inter-university speech competition

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The WaStan Cell, Local Council Board of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in collaboration with Khyber Medical University (KMU), Peshawar, successfully organized the 2nd Provincial Inter-University Speech Competition. The event was held to com-memorate World Toilet Day, focusing on the theme Role Environmental Sanitation in Building a Healthy

The event hosted by Mr. Imran Ullah Khan Mohmand, Assistant Coordinator of Local Khyber Government Pakhtunkhwa, the competition drew participants from 14 universities across the province. A total of 20 contestants delivered speeches in English and Urdu, highlighting key issues such as the importance of environ-mental cleanliness, the impact of climate change and Animal Sciences earnand global warming, and ing third. the role of public participa-tion in tackling these press-

in second place, and Nawal tional cooperation. He challenges effectively.

Sohail from Iqra National commended the provincial University in third. In the Urdu category, Haseeb Ahmad from Gomal while encouraging the cates were presented to the University, D.I. Khan active involvement of claimed the top spot, with Manahil Saqib from Iqra ture of cleanliness. Faculty members, adminis-University, Peshawar, taking second place, and

ence,Vice KMU Prof. Dr. Zia Ul Haq In the English category, delivered a keynote speech Abdul Basit from Sarhad emphasizing the crucial stressed the need for sustering sustainable practices Iniversity secured first role of sanitation and place, followed by Laiba hygiene in preventing dis- paigns and collective Yousaf of City University eases and fostering interna- action to address sanitation aimed at building healthier

government's focus on with an awards ceremony hygiene and public health where shields and certifiture of cleanliness. Faculty members, adminis-Honorary Chief Guest trative officers, and stu-Prof. Dr. Ijaz Khattak Vice dents from various institu-Chancellor of Gandhara tions attended, reflecting a University and guest united commitment to speaker Dr. Awais Qarni advancing public health from the University of Addressing the audi- Peshawar also elaborated This competition under-nce, Vice Chancellor on the importance of scored the dedication of hygiene in building a educational institutions healthier society. They across the province to fos-

The event concluded awareness.

tained awareness cam- and promoting essential public health initiatives communities.

### workers will not he state to countered. In such circumlenges to the state will be remain safe. PTI's agitation politics: A threat to democracy, economic development

He pointed out that the cy, with the PTI founder." the

PML-N warns KP govt against

misusing state machinery

F.P. Report

surround the Minister's House upon a PESHAWAR: The Additional Secretary of party leadership.

surround the Chief stances, any attempt by the PTI to destabilize the federal government is an attack on the country's leadership are struggling to

PESHAWAR cratic struggle on August countless political storms in street protests—poses a sigits 77 years of existence.

From democratic govern- governance in the country. ments to dictatorships in Pakistan, the nation's jour- strength from the people's ney has been marked by political instability mainly lies on streets or blocking of political forces for power.

has been the derailment of heights by ensuring political democracy through politics stability and continuity in of agitation, long marches, policies, rather than by purand allegations of corruption against the political or revolutions to achieve governments in the past, power through back chanresultantly the country's economy was badly suf-

disrupted the democratic outcomes, process but have also hin- democracy and economic development past. besides increased mass

(APP): Department Pakistan, a country born University of Peshawar, nomic potential of their Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali from a monumental demo-pointed out that agitation country. politics—characterized by 14, 1947, has weathered long marches, sit-ins, and nificant threat to democratic

"Democracy derives its vote, not from agitation raldue to wrangling between roads," Dr. Hilali said, emphasizing the developed One persistent challenge nations achieved economic suing disruptive movements

Professor Dr Hilali said that Pakistan's political his-These irrational events, tory has unfortunately often spearheaded by the reflected a pattern of instaopposition parties or politibility, often triggered by discal leaders, have not only satisfaction with election resultantly have been dered the country's political derailed four times in the

Despite the abundance of Professor Dr. A.H. Hilali, cant geographic location politics in Pakistan's history racy was derailed for the of the and a large population, he science said opposition leaders have tions, which led to the overformer Chairman of the and a large population, he

He attributed this to the frequent interruptions in i.e democratic process, where Alliance (PNA), launched a elected governments were nationwide agitation claimoverthrown on charges of corruption besides due to a Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples lack of political tolerance Party won a landslide victoand respect for electoral mandates.

He said the absence of a strong constitutional frame-Azam Muhammad Ali Minister Liaquat Ali Khan torship in the country. in 1951 had further hamcratic evolution.

accused the ruling elite of toral manipulations. rigging elections, sparking unrest and instability in of political chaos, the Govt Pakistan.

natural resources, signifi- cant examples of agitation was dismissed and democ-

the yet to realize the full eco- throw of the elected Govt of

Bhutto," he said. The opposition alliance Pakistan ing electoral fraud after ZA ry in the 1977 general election.

Despite Bhutto's frequent denial of any rigging, the work in the early years after PNA's protests escalated independence and the into widespread unrest, untimely deaths of founder leading to overthrowing of leaders-such as Quaid-i- an elected Bhutto Govt on July 5, 1977, marking the Jinnah in 1948 and Prime beginning of the third dicta-

He said the cycle of politpered the country's demo- ical intolerance continued into the 1980s and 1990s He said the political land- after successive governscape became a battle- ments of PPP and PMLN ground of competing parties were removed on allegawhen opposition groups tions of corruption and elec-

Dr Hilali said as a result of former Prime Minister "One of the most signifi- Nawaz Sharif's Government



PESHAWAR: Men carrying bananas during a busy hour at Fruit Market. — INP photo

# Pakistan's smog crisis: What can be done and how?

PESHAWAR (AA): Large released by NASA earlier swaths of northeastern and this month showed Punjab, northwestern Pakistan are and currently choking with provincial capital Lahore, pollution-fueled smog, cloaked in a toxic haze that triggering a surge in respi- extended to India's northratory diseases and forcing ern regions and New the government to take Delhi. desperate measures such as shuttering schools, parks, 14 million people – had an and other public venues.

ther deterioration in air er this month. Any reading quality in the coming more than 300 is consid-years, particularly if ered hazardous, while the authorities fail to come up acceptable with a serious strategy for between 0 to 50. immediate and sustainable

capital New other districts of the north-possible. eastern Punjab province list of the world's most Pakistan every polluted cities for several

ble levels of danger. Satellite

particularly Lahore - home to over

air quality index of above Warnings abound of fur- 1,900, a record high, earlirange

Hundreds of people are facing health issues such Along with the Indian as sore throats and itchy Delhi, eyes, with doctors and Pakistan's second-largest authorities advising public city Lahore, and various to stay indoors as much as

Air pollution claims an have been dominating the estimated 128,000 lives in year, according to Fair Finance years now, with their air Pakistan, a non-governquality crossing all possi- ment body working to mitigate the impacts of cliimages mate change.

UNICEF also issued a recent Pakistan, saying more than until a decade ago, but it 11 million children under has now crossed the borage 5 are exposed to smog ders of Punjab and entered in Punjab.

"Unfortunately, envi-ronmental issues like smog province. have reached a point where they cannot be addressed measures overnight. Pakistan now needs a serious approach Sheikh emphasized the to deal with this ever-worsening problem," said and short-term measures, Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, an including decarbonization environmentalist based in of the economy in accorthe capital Islamabad.

environment expert in public transportation in big Lahore, Pakistan is simply not two-stroke and threeready to face all the stroke vehicles into battery humanitarian crises emerg- electric vehicles (BEVs). ing because of climate change. referred droughts, unseasonal rains and aims to reduce global floods that have become greenhouse gas emissions ever more frequent in the and boost adaptation to cli-South Asian country over mate change. the past few decades.

Need for immediate

Speaking to Anadolu, dance with the Paris Imrana Tiwana, another Agreement, increasing warned that cities, and conversion of

> The Paris Agreement, Her remarks which entered into force in to regular 2016, is a legally binding heat waves, international treaty that

Smog, she added, was there can be an additional Pakistan," he said. warning for restricted to just Lahore up weekly day off or arrangements for working from home, he said.

> day to reduce vehicular emissions, which make up more than 80% of the air pollution in Lahore, he

Of this 80%, emissions account for 69%, accordto the Punjab Environmental Protection Department.

Part of the smog crisis, according to Sheikh, can collaborative approach. be put down to Pakistan's sil fuels, and that too lowquality fossil fuels, said narrative" being pushed by Śhaikh.

"We have poor micro- authorities. standards, micro-testing, and fitness testing systems. stubble because they want Otherwise, the same quanto increase their income by tity of fossil fuel in better environmental governance will not have as adverse an cropping seasons," he As a short-term step, impact as we have in explained.

Regional cooperation

Pakistan blames the providing them technoloincreasing smog on winds ders of Punjab and entered Only public transport from neighboring India, grow a third crop.' the northwestern Khyber could be allowed on that mainly due to stubble To this, Anwar burning by farmers in India's Punjab province.

biggest problem that we've been facing in winter," Raja Jahangir Anwar, envifrom two-stroke vehicles ronment secretary for Punjab, told Anadolu.

He said unilateral measures to curb the practice a local issue in Pakistan. will not work, stressing the importance of a joint and

However, environmen-'avid" dependence on fos- talist Sheikh dismissed what he views as a "wrong both Indian and Pakistani

"Farmers only burn

them, we need to work on New Delhi. To this, Anwar said the

Punjab government is already providing subsiery that will help avoid burning stubble.

Environment specialist Tiwana also emphasized climate changeinduced smog is no longer

"It's a regional problem and requires a regional approach to be addressed properly," she

Anadolu. The worsening situation has already led to Pakistani Punjab's Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz calling for added.

"climate diplomacy" with Ministry, and an official option," said Anwar.

"Instead of blaming letter will soon be sent to Pakistan plans to con-

gies that can help them vene a regional climate conference next month, involving Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and other countries, "Stubble burning is the dies to farmers for machin- to chalk out a joint strategy, he said. Despite frosty relations

between the two nuclear rivals, Anwar remains optimistic about the chances of successful diplomatic outreach. "The two sides have no

other choice because the wind does not care about borders," he said.

In addition to stubble burning, New Delhi and Lahore also share a burden of urban pollution, he

"This has to be longterm diplomacy that con-The process to engage tinues for decades. There with India, according to will be ups and downs, but Anwar, has been initiated I am sure it will succeed, through the Foreign as there is no other

#### In brief

**DPO** holds Kuli Katcheri F.P. Report

TOBA TEK SINGH District Police Officer Toba Tek Singh held Katcheri' Rajana police station area. During the open court of the DPO, the residents came forward with various complaints and issues. DPO listened to their problems and gave orders to solve them on the spot. DPO Ibadat Nisar says that the purpose of open court is to come and listen to the problems of the people of Rajana and its adjoining areas so that the people can come forward and express their griev-ances. Police will help the people to get justice and their rights. The stronger the connection between the police and the people, the more smooth the path to the reform of the society and the law and justice.

#### Tribesmen appeal CJP F.P. Report

WANA: Tribal elders and political alliance of South Waziristan have written a letter to Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Yahya Afridi to transfer district courts from Tank and Dera Ismail Khan to Wana, on Tuesday. Leader of Wana Political Alliance Ayaz Wazir, told the media " courts of Lower South Waziristan were being shifted to Dera Ismail khan approximately 220 km away Wana, which would create numerous difficulties to both lawyers and residents. Advocate Ajmal wazir told the media " people of these areas were already facing hardships in accessing justice, and warned that relocating the courts to Ismail Khan would lead to severe backlash from the locals". He added the court's remoteness and higher costs, proceedings under sections 512 and 514 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) against the accused and their guarantors. Nearly 700 accused individuals are on the run due to their inability to reach the courts on time. Courts of South Waziristan and Tank are being shifted to Dera Ismail Khan due to security concerns. This decision comes after an attack on two district judges in Tank district on August 2, in which two police personnel were martyred.

#### **Balochistan CM** opens exhibition F.P. Report

QUETTA: Balochistan Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti inaugurated the Science and Art Exhibition at Jinnah Elite School, Jinnah Town in Tuesday. Quetta on Provincial Education Raheela Minister Hameed Khan Durrani and head of the institution, Sardar Osama Khan Tareen, were also present on the occasion. The Chief Minister visited the scientific stalls set up by the students and praised the scientific creation of the children. Addressing the ceremony, Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti said, "The future of Balochistan is in the hands of beautiful and hardworking people; today's students are leaders and future ambassadors

Balochistan who have to take the reins of the future." He said that some of these students would be the Chief Minister and some could Education the Minister; we have high hopes for our future architects. "There is no doubt that our future is in safe and capable hands because of talented and hardworking young people like you, he said. "The youth of Balochistan proved their talents not only at the national level but also at the international level, and we are proud of our youth," he added.



MARDAN: Chairman BoD WSSCM, Engineer Adil Nawaz and CEO Shahid Khan presenting shield to KP Minister for Local Govt, Arshad Ayub Khan.

### Law Minister inspects uplift works in Kohat

F.P. Report

KOHAT: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Aftab Alam Afridi Advocate has said that the provincial government has accelerated developmental works in

He expressed these views while reviewing the ongoing developmental present on this occasion. Meanwhile, the provin- its needs.

cial minister also visited the Knowledge Park and dur- local committees have been ing inspection of the ongo- activated to keep a check ing work, he directed the on developmental projects authorities concerned to and they have been given ensure timely completion clear instructions that wherwork to spread a net of of the project without com- ever any deficiency or corpromising on the quality of ruption is found in any

Aftab Alam said, the interest will be made in the taken. He warned that a works during his visit to open court instead of closed Chorlaki along-with the rooms and personal likes been adopted for commis-Chairman Tehsil Gumbat and dislikes. He added that sion and corruption and Sajid Iqbal. Elites of the a separate developmental whoever is found involved, area and locals were also plan will be devised for will face justice.

each area keeping in view

The Minister said that work, it should be brought to notice immediately so decisions related to public that timely action can be zero tolerance policy has

### KUST delegation join global peace workshop

KOHAT: A delegation from University of Kohat (KUST) comprising Dr. Rahman Ullah, Lecturer, Rashid Ishaq, Lecturer and

Humanities,

University, in partnership workshop and added that with Oslo Metropolitan the workshop featured University, Norway, the insightful discussions, University, Norway, the insightful two-day workshop focused engaging sessions, and Science and Technology on 'Global Journalism as an expert insights, making it a Instrument for Peace and truly transformative experi-Safety of Journalists.

The hosts said that this Public Relations Officer impactful event brought workshop was exploring and Saad, a student of together renowned experts, global journalism's poten-Journalism and Mass passionate participants, and tial in fostering peace, Communication, participat- thought leaders to explore ensuring journalist safety in ed in a prestigious global the vital role of journalism challenging workshop. in promoting peace and expert sessions and panel Hosted by the Faculty of ensuring journalist safety in discussions and networking

Key features of the

contexts Forman challenging environments. College Participants enjoyed the tional participants.

### Politicians must protect public interest: Saira

F.P. Report

HAFIZABAD: Former Federal Health Minister Kharl, Saira Afzal Tarde has said that as politicians we are protectors of our Hafizabad district. Whether we win or lose in the elections, the votes we get are the trust of the people. Speeches in the assem-

bly are made for the betterment of the people. But if the politicians become thieves, robbers, then where will the people go? When the guards become robbers and join the ranks of thieves, there will be no relief for the poor people.

She was expressing Mian Muhammad Bukhsh affidavit regarding his sig-perity Tarar, Mian Tahawwur nature that his signature is Pakistan.

Hussain Tarar, former Vice forged. There was an Chairman District Council uproar when the building, Ch. Muhammad Bhoon, Zaman Mukhtar Hussain Mukhi, was vacated, but the fact is Khalid Mehmood Butt, Ch. Riaz Ahmad Tarar. Abid Ehsan Chatha, Sarfraz to the original owners. Hussain Tarar, Farhat

at the Press Club. She was said building is also fake. party

and other district officials

were also present.

Qamar-ul-Zaman which had been in the possession of the local leader-Ch. ship of PTI for a long time, that after the eviction, the building was handed over She said that the influen-

Chadhar, Qamar Chadhar tial members of the local PTI leadership have been illegally cultivating their Former Federal Minister crops on the government Saira Afzal Tarar said that land for a long time, but no the building of PTI's dis-department has been able to trict secretariat was taken take action till now. Now on rent and it was occupied when the government land later. If the local leadership is being transferred, our of PTI does not pay for political rivals are coming wedding food, how can it on social media and prepay the rent of their secresenting proofs of their innothese views during a tariat? The signature on the cence which is a complete crowded press conference ownership document of the lie. She said that PTI is a anarchy. accompanied by Member One witness in this is Crackdown has been taken Provincial Assembly Mian Mohammad Anwar against PTI workers due to Shahid Hussain Bhatti, Rahmani who has given his maintain the integrity, pros-Anwar against PTI workers due to perity and peace of

#### Sit-in with hunger strike started F.P. Report

SHAHDADKOT: The political, social, religious, literary and other parties of the district staged a symbolic hunger strike by staging a sit-in at Bhutto Chowk, against the growing unrest in Qamber Shahdadkot district and the failure of the police to restore law and order, on Tuesday.

According to details, Ahmed Jan Brohi, Siraj Chandio, Nazir Ahmed Tunio and others protested and said that due to the incompetence of SSP of district Qamber Shahdadkot, there is an increase in criminal activities in the district, while the criminals entered the houses with the force of weapons and stole gold from women. They are fleeing with jewels and other valuables, on the other hand criminals are raiding all the shops and looting lakhs of rupees from the common people and fleeing and the common citizens are not safe from them while the common citizens are always afraid of the activities of the criminals while the police are not taking any action against the criminals despite timely notification, NC is also registered at the police station for criminal imports.

As many as 15 cases of importation have been registered in a week, but the police have so far. No one has taken any kind of initiative to arrest any of the criminals, due to which the citizens of this place have suffered from severe punishment.

Journalist looted: Journalists of the district press club Qamber protested in front of the press club against the robbery of a motorcycle, mobile phone and thousands of rupees in cash by armed men from Muharam Ali Chandio, the senior journalist and president of Lalu Rounk press club.

Addressing the demonstration on that occasion, Muhammad journalists Saleh Buledi, Abdul Raheem Mangi, Hakim Khaskheli, Muhammad Mithal Khoso and others said that due to the incompetence of the police, there is an increase in criminal incidents due to which no citizen is safe. They demanded that the criminals should be arrested and the looted belongings of journalist Muharram Ali Chandio worth millions of rupees should be returned from them, otherwise the scope of the protest will be increased. and stated that all hospitals company. Work on this proj- Census 2024.

### LG Dept employees' promotion linked with performance

F.P. Report

MARDAN: Provincial Minister for Local Government Arshad Ayub has said that to bring transparency in the financial affairs of the local bodies, the accounts of these bodies are being digitized while the promotion of the local body officers will be subject to performance so as cially stable and to provide better services to the public.

He was presiding over a meeting regarding the performance of Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMAs) of Mardan district. Provincial Food Minister Zahir Shah DDAC chairman Zarshad Khan, provincial assembly members Iftikhar Ali Mashwani, Abdul Salam Afridi, Ameer Farzand Khan, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Azmatullah Mardan WSSCM Board Wazir,

Department and officers of against illegal housing sociother concerned departments were also present. The Provincial Minister

was given a detailed briefing regarding the performance and financial matters of TMAs, AD Government and WSSCM. Arshad Ayub Khan directed the TMOs to work for to make these bodies finan- increase in the rents of the properties of local bodies according to the market rate, revisit the allotment of government land according to the new lease policy and to take

steps to increase the resources

of TMAs with the approval of

their respective councils. He also directed to resolve the issue of distribution of assets between TMA Mardan and Garhi Kapura at the earliest. Arshad Ayub Khan said that any kind of negligence in projects of public interest will not be tolerated. He urged the and Vocational Education Chairman Engineer Adil municipal bodies have to take Nawaz, Chief Executive measures on emergency basis which officers of all district Officer Shahid Khan, senior to increase revenue. He direct-departments participated.

eties in Mardan.

The provincial minister said that all institutions should take measures to reduce the distance between the local bodies and the citizens and solve the problems faced by the citizens on a priority basis. He said that government was taking measures to solarize offices and tube wells to save electricity. The problems of the local bodies will be solved on a priority basis, but these bodies should also increase their own

Special Assistant reviews developmental projects: An important meeting was held at the Deputy Commissioner Mardan office under the chairmanship of Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Pakhtunkhwa on Technical (TEVTA) Tufail Anjum in

### Jamat- e -Islami Tehsil Timergara elects new Ameer

**FP Report** 

LOWER DIR:Maulana Javed Iqbal has been elected as the Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Timergara for the 2024-2026 session.

Suleman Muhammad, Deputy General Secretary of Jumaat-e-Islami Youth Dir Lower, congratulated Maulana Javed, praising his religious, educational,

and social background. He described the election as a "correct and suitable deci-Maulana Javed

known for his spirit of service and compassion. Suleman Muĥammad expressed hope that he will serve the public and party effectively, upholding the party's manifesto. Deputy

Secretary

General



Muhammad wished Maulana Javed Iqbal success and

### Empowering women for a more equitable society

**Mujahid Abbas** 

ESPITE compris- nomic, and emotional. In ity. This harsh reality is evident in various aspects of life, including education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and politi-

cal participation. Women are often denied autonomy, forced to rely on others for fundamental decisions regarding education, marriage, and career choices. The most egregious manifestation of gen-

education, economic participation, judicial representation, and decision-making positions, relegating them to a marginalized status. Consequently, women hold few leadership positions in politics, institutions, and the judiciary. Ironically, Islam advocates for gender equality, emphasizing fairness der inequality is violence and justice in all aspects of equitable, and prosperous against women, which life. However, societal society.

takes many forms: physi- norms and practices contracal, psychological, eco- dict these principles. True progress, peace,

ing more than 50% our society, women suffer and stability cannot be of the Pakistani from mental, psychologi- achieved without mobilizpopulation, women in cal, physical, and emotional ing the potential of the Pakistan face pervasive abuse, with their agency entire population. To boost gender-based discrimina- strictly controlled due to development and growth, it tion and systemic inequal- outdated concepts of honor. is crucial to: Promote gen-Gender discrimination der equality in education, restricts women's access to empower women to participate in decision-making processes, protect women from domestic violence, sexual harassment, abuse, overcome patriarchal standards and stereotypes.

By recognizing and addressing these gaps, our society can unlock the potential of its women, fostering a more inclusive,

### Digitalization of health facilities kicks off

TIMERGARA: The Health Department Dir has expedited reforms to provide better medical facilities in hospitals. An agreement has been signed with a private company to computerize laboratories in all small and large hospitals. This will also ensure transparency in financial matters of the hospitals.

This was claimed by district health officer Dr. Nisar while speaking to media computerized as per the representatives at his office agreement with the private

facilities to the public. supplied to the hospitals, ensuring that citizens receive healthcare services at their doorstep, resulting in a reduction in their prob-

DHO further added that a biometric system will be installed in hospitals, and the laboratories in all small and large hospitals will be

in the district have been ect will begin soon, bringing made operational 24/7 to transparency to financial provide the best medical dealings in hospitals. Additionally, he mentioned Medicines are also being that rabies vaccines are now available at district and tehsil headquarters hospitals, and patients can access these vaccines from there. Agri census kicks off:

Deputy Commissioner of Lower Dir, Muhammad Arif Khan, along with District Director Agriculture Sajjad Khan and Bakht Alam (District Coordinator of the Census), inaugurated the 7th Digital Agricultural

Pakistan's population @ 2050 report

### A roadmap for sustainable development and policy action

QUETTA: "Effective service organized by the Population delivery, particularly in family healthcare, essential to achieving sustain-Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal at

requires true devolution of highly appreciating the endeavthe grassroots level to make a future guidance and essential

able population growth and, ulti- of policy continuity, women's mately, broader development empowerment through educa-goals," said Federal Minister for tion, human capital development, and expanding access to health and family planning servthe launch of the multi-chapter ices. "To achieve sustainable volume entitled, "Pakistan's population growth and our Population @ 2050: national development goals, we graphic analysis, exploring not across all sectors. Furthermore, Demographic Change, Future must come together as Team only projections of population she noted that integrating fertili-Projections, and Development Pakistan, fostering collaboration Opportunities," produced by the and unity to effectively address population council with the sup- our challenges," he added.

guest at the launch ceremony for Health and Population those highlighted in the Pakistan, emphasized that popu-household size and the need for organized by the Population Welfare, Sindh, emphasized the Sustainable Development Goals lation management should be structural changes that would growth must be treated as an argues that Pakistan's demoresponsibilities; they must reach latest census results, offering ment goals. The issue of rapid context of its socio-economic population growth must be challenges and opportunities. real impact. Strengthening local tools to address the challenges addressed through the lenses of governments is, therefore, posed by a growing population. economic impact, resource allo-He emphasized the importance cation, climate change, and the Population Council, highdemographic shifts."

prehensive insights into the complex rela- comes in Pakistan. Dr. Sathar tionship between population stressed the critical importance dynamics and development. of prioritizing the development This volume goes beyond demo- of women and girls for progress numbers and age structures up to ty reduction into climate adapta-2050 but also considering other tion plans is essential for ensurcritical sectors. The report presents evidence that key develop-

lighted the intrinsic connections Pakistan@2050 offers com- between demographic trends, evidence and education, and economic out-

Council in collaboration with need to adopt a holistic (SDGs) 2030, are deeply influapproached from a broader perenable Pakistan to realize the UNFPA. The minister while approach, stating, "Population enced by population trends. It spective, not just with a narrow benefits of planned urbanization. focus on reducing fertility. She authority within provinces. It's our noted that the report pro-not enough to merely delegate vides an in-depth analysis of the risk falling short of our develop-ceptualized within the broader underlying social constructs urgent priority; otherwise, we graphic realities must be recon- advocated for examining the Regional Director, United contributing to population growth and stressed that population stabilization strategies should address these critical

issues highlighted in the report. Speaking at the event, the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of National Health ment is collaborating with

structural changes that would In his remarks, Mr. Pio Smith,

Population Fund Nations (UNFPA), stated that to leverage Pakistan's demographic dividend, the country must invest in human capital by empowering women, reducing unintended pregnancies, and providing women with rights and choices. The report highlights the need to Services stated that the govern- address population issues as part of a political agenda while provinces to implement deci- focusing on climate resilience, sions from the Council of resource optimization, and gen-Common Interest aimed at der equality. UNFPA remains achieving population stabiliza- committed to supporting tion. Two of the report's authors, Pakistan's sustainable develop-Dr. Hanid Mukhtar and Dr. G.M. ment, and this report serves as a Arif, discussed key findings, roadmap for future policies to rt of UNFPA.

Addressing the event, Dr. ents evidence that key developThe minister was the chief Azra Fazal Pechuho, Minister ment outcomes, particularly the National Assembly of between national savings and laboration across all sectors. underscoring the relationship ensure prosperity through col-







LONDON: Seth James, left, and Eddie England, right, accompanied with their parents, attending a farmers protest to urge the government to change course over its inheritance tax plans, in England.

### Leader of Georgia breakaway region quits

TBILISI (BBC): The leader Georgia. of Georgia's breakaway region of Abkhazia is Telegram, Bzhania's press

have legalised Russian Bzhania describes himself investment and land owner- as Abkhazia's president ship, has been withdrawn. Georgia and most of the Abkhazia declared its inde- world do not recognise his pendence in 1999, and authority. Russia recognised it as an independent state after the has not commented on Georgian-Russian war in Bzhania's resignation offer. Georgia Abkhazia is "occupied" by Sea and Caucasus moun- in 2014 Moscow and Moscow. Most countries tains, Abkhazia is known Sukhumi signed a "strate-

resigning after days of mass office said Abkhazia's parprotests over a controver- liament would consider his sial pro-Russia bill. Aslan resignation on Tuesday. It Bzhania's press office said said Bzhania's deputy would he was quitting "to main- become Abkhazia's acting tain stability and constitu- leader, who would then distional order" and that the miss the current prime mintwo sides had agreed pro- ister. The statement warned testers who had stormed the that Bzhania would withparliament in Sukhumi draw his resignation offer if must disperse on Tuesday. protesters refused to leave The bill, which would the government buildings.

Abkhazia's opposition says Located along the Black regard the area on the Black for its natural beauty and gic partnership" Sea coast as part of coastline, and was one of ment.

the favoured holiday desti-In a statement posted on nations for the Soviet elite until the collapse of the USSR in 1991. Locals feared that the proposed bil would trigger an influx of Russian investment, pricing them out of the property market and strengthening Moscow's grip on the region.

Backed by

Abkhazia fought a war of secession with Georgia in 1992-93, before unilateral ly declaring independence Abkhazia's economy depends overwhelmingly on tourism from Russia. In 2009, Moscow signed a five-year agreement with Abkhazia to take forma control of its frontiers with the rest of Georgia, while

Human Rights. Each time courts have rejected his claims. As he arrived at the court, Breivik, dressed in a Senegal's radical govt claims win in legislative polls black suit, had the letter Z shaved on the side of his head — a symbol seen on Russian tanks and other military Ukraine and embraced by supporters of the war and was holding a poster (BBC): The mayor Barthelemy Dias, Moustapha Ndieck Sarre Senegalese government has who were heading different told the BBC. with a political message. Pastef has not said how claimed victory in parlia- opposition coalitions, have

mentary elections with most of the votes already counted. It said the ruling party, expected. The vote was the mentary elections with most of the votes already counted. It said the ruling party, expected. The vote was the many seats it has won. It needs 83 for a majority in the loss-seat National because there is still a Assembly. Fave and his 'qualified and real" risk arge majority". the country, although there A victory for Pastef were sporadic clashes Sonko had struggled to get that he will commit anoth-Sonko had struggled to get er serious violent crime if give President between supporters of dif- their reforms passed in he is released, the Bassirou Diomaye Faye a ferent parties in the run-up recent months in the oppo-Norwegian news agency strong mandate to imple- to the elections. "We are sition-dominated parlia-NTB reported from the hearing. Prosecutor Hulda ment the radical agenda of proud of the Senegalese ment. Faye appointed economic and social reform people and we would like to Sonko, his political mentor Olsen Karlsdottir said on which he was elected in thank them for the large vic- who was barred from run-Breivik has not changed his ideological thinking or March. Former President tory that it has given to ning for the presidency, as government his prime minister soon his political position. Amadou after he became president. Authorities in Norway have insisted Breivik has the same rights as any other prisoner, arguing that treating him differently would undermine the principles that underpin Norwegian including the rule of law and freedom of speech. The bigger electoral test Two years ago, Breivik was

### Meloni's coalition suffers setbacks in two elections

Pastef, had won with a conducted peacefully across

Premier Giorgia Meloni suf- 51% of the vote in Umbria, fered election setbacks in compared with 46% for the two regions as the opposi- conservative coalition's tion Democratic party won a candidate. In the northern tight race in the central region of Emilia Romagna, Umbria region and deepened its control of the tradi- de Pascale won 57% of the tional left-leaning stronghold of Emilia-Romagna.

Macky Sall, Prime Minister Pastef,"

Amadou Ba and Dakar's spokesman

The results of the twowere a clear victory for Party candidate won with-Democratic Party leader out the support of the 5-Start Elly Schlein, who called the outcome "extraordinary." Movement, which has been nation of the right-wing overnor in a scandal.

Italy's Stefania Proietti won with tion. the left's candidate Michele vote, improving the party's 51% result in the last her

for Meloni comes in 2025 polls, including the popu-League, a key member of ruling coalition regional vote in 2020. In Meloni's coalition held on days of voting that ended both cases, the Democratic to control of the Ligurian tion prompted by the resig-

when six regions head to the lous norther region of Veneto that has long been governed by the populist region last month in an elec-

# Thousands of UK farmers descend on Parliament

LONDON (AP): With banners, bull- the mass lobby. "It's kicking the legs horns, toy tractors and an angry mes- out from under British food security.' sage, thousands of British farmers descended on Parliament on Tuesday to protest a tax hike they say will deal a "hammer blow" to struggling family farms. U.K. farmers are rarely as militant as their European neighbors, protests like those that have snarled cities in France and other European countries. Now, though, farmers say they will step up their action if the government doesn't listen.

International

Norwegian

mass killer

seeks parole

OSLO (AP): Norwegian

mass murderer Anders

Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people in a bombing and shooting rampage in 2011, was in

court on Tuesday for a

parole hearing. It was the

far-right extremist's sec-

spending more than a

Breivik, 45, who

serving a maximum 21

year sentence, is eligible

parole hearing after 10

he began serving his prison sentence in 2012

and has argued several

times that his treatment

amounts to inhumane pun-

European Convention on

under

vehicles

The authorities have

ishment

decade behind bars.

scrap a tax break dating from the 1990s that exempts agricultural property from inheritance tax. From April 2026, farms worth more than 1 million pounds (\$1.3 million) face a 20% tax when the owner dies and they are passed on to the next generation. "Everyone's mad," said Olly Harrison, co-organizer of a protest that flooded the streets around Prime Minister Keir Starmer's Downing mean that a farming couple can pass Street office with angry farmers. He said many "want to take to the streets and block roads and go full French."

Organizers urged protesters not to drove past Downing Street festooned with signs saying "the final straw" cheered by a tightly packed crowd many in in the countryside uniform of Barbour jackets. Some held signs proclaiming "Stand with a farmer, not

Children on toy tractors were due ond bid for freedom after under Norwegian law for a nearby organized by the National years in prison. He has able, it's wrong," NFU President Tom by more than 70%. Average farm from this," he said. "Every farmer is Bradshaw told farmers gathered for income ranged from about 17,000 losing." been held in isolation since

Volatile weather exacerbated by climate change, global instability and the upheaval caused by Britain's 2020 departure from the European Union have all added to the burden on U.K. farmers. Many feel the Labour and Britain has not seen large-scale Party government's tax change, part of an effort to raise billions of pounds to fund public services, is the last straw. "Four out of the last five years, we've lost money," said Harrison, a fifth-generation farmer who grows The flashpoint is the government's cereal crops on his family farm near decision in its budget last month to Liverpool in northwest England. "The only thing that's kept me going is doing it for my kids. And maybe a little bit of appreciation on the land allows you to keep borrowing, to keep going. But now that's just disappeared overnight.

Starmer's center-left government says the "vast majority" of farms — about 75% -- will not have to pay inheritance tax, and various loopholes on an estate worth up to 3 million pounds (\$3.9 million) to their children tax-free. The 20% levy is half the 40% inheritance tax paid on other bring farm machinery into central land and property in the U.K. London, though a handful of tractors Supporters of the tax say it will recoup money from wealthy people who have bought up agricultural land and "no farmers, no food." They were as an investment, driving up the cost of farmland in the process.

'It's become the most effective way for the super rich to avoid paying their inheritance tax," Environment Secretary Steve Reed wrote in the Daily Telegraph, adding that high to lead a march around Parliament land prices were "robbing young Square after a rally addressed by farmers of the dream of owning their speakers including former "Top own farm." But the famers union Gear" TV host and celebrity farmer says more than 60% of working Jeremy Clarkson. Another 1,800 farms could face a tax hit. And while farmers were invited into Parliament farms may be worth a lot on paper, for a "mass lobby" of lawmakers profits are often small. Government

stock farms to 143,000 pounds (\$180,000) for specialist poultry farms.

The last decade has been turbulent for British farmers. Many farmers backed Brexit as a chance to get out of the EU's complex and much-criticized Common Agricultural Policy. Since then, the U.K. has brought in changes such as paying farmers to restore nature and promote biodiversity, as well as for producing food. Some farmers have welcomed those moves, but many feel goodwill was squandered through missteps by successive governments, a failure of subsidies to keep up with inflation, and new trade deals with countries including Australia and New Zealand that have opened the door to cheap imports.

National Farmers' Union Deputy President David Exwood said the tax hike was "the final straw in a succession of tough choices and difficult situations that farmers have had to deal with." The government has "completely blown their trust with the industry," he said. Starmer spokeswoman Camilla Marshall said the decision had been "difficult" but was not being reconsidered.

Opposition politicians see an opportunity. The main opposition Conservative Party — which was in government for 14 years until July and the hard-right populist party Reform U.K. are both championing the farmers. Some far-right and conspiracy theory groups attended Tuesday's protest, though the organizers were not affiliated with them. Harrison said the demonstration was intended as "a show of unity to the government" and an attempt to inform the public "that farmers are food producers, not taxdodging millionaires." "It's every single sector, whether you're a landowner figures show that income for most or a tenant, whether you're beef, dairy, Farmers' Union. "The human impact types of farms fell in the year to the milk, cereals, veg, lettuce -- you name of this policy is simply not accept- end of February 2024, in some cases it, everyone has had a hammer blow

### Amnesty criticises ministers for arms firm funding

before giving them business grants Raytheon fail to take account of where some of the products may end up.

It claims this is "inconsistent" government said no grants were ported research, training and apprenticeships. And Scottish Enterprise, the government's economic development agency, strongly denied any dards and that the UK government administers export licences through a "rigorous and transparent" system.

Amnesty International submitted Freedom of Information requests to establish what checks were carried arrest warrants. A United Nations out before the grants were awarded. They have shared these with BBC news. The FOIs reveal that to date no company has failed Scottish Enterprise's human rights due diligence checks. They show that the risk they may be used in violation of level of checks is based on the amount of money being requested, three defence companies which not what the company sells or where received Scottish Enterprise grants it sells to. There are three levels from £100,000 to £2m, from £2m to below £100,000 are not subject to pended last month. human rights checks.

Tower on the wall. He also has a fitness room with weights, a treadmill and a rowing machine, while companies including Leonardo, called for an immediate end to UK funding goes towards the manufac-Raytheon and BAE Systems, who all arms sales to Israel, warning that the turing of munitions in Scotland. three parakeets fly around

tional has accused the Scottish gov- to sell to Israel in the same time peri- plicit in the killing of innocent civilernment of turning "a blind eye" to od. BAE Systems Surface Ships ians". Last month, John Swinney chain of arms which could be used in Enterprise in 2023 and £360,000 in Israel. Amnesty says Scottish minis-Systems £500,000 in the first half of 2024. continues to permit the export of people in Scotland.

given for the manufacture of arms in reviewing publicly available infor-Scotland, and that the funding sup- mation. Amnesty says money from Scottish Enterprise could directly or indirectly find its way into the supply chain sending weapons for use in the conflict in Gaza and other counsuggestion that its human rights tries. They say the supply chain of checks were not adequate. The com- arms is complex, with some compapanies involved say the UK defence nies selling component parts to one sector has robust and ethical stan- country - such as the US - for them to be assembled into planes and sold on to others.

In May the International Criminal Court accused Israeli and Hamas leaders of war crimes and applied for report also accused Israel of crimes against humanity. Last month the ed UK government said it was suspending 30 of the 350 export licenses to Israel because of concerns about the international humanitarian law. The Leonardo, Raytheon and BAE Systems – did not clarify whether £5m, and then above £5m. Grants their licences were among those sus-

BAE Systems says it does not cur-The papers also show that in the rently sell directly to the government past 18 months Scottish Enterprise of Israel. Leonardo and Raytheon has provided grants worth hundreds did not comment. Earlier this year, of thousands of pounds to defence the then first minister Humza Yousaf

LONDON (BBC): Amnesty Interna- have or have had UK export licences UK was "in danger of being comthe risk of being part of the supply LTD received £9,600 from Scottish called for an immediate ceasefire in the war in Gaza. Amnesty says the the first half of 2024. Leonardo ters "are correct to highlight to the checks done on arms companies received £786,125 in 2023 and UK government its own risk of comreceived plicity in such crimes by Israel if it The companies employ thousands of weapons. "However, it is entirely inconsistent to turn a blind eye to the with the Scottish government's Scottish Enterprise says its human possibility that the Scottish government's demands that the UK should stop rights due diligence checks involve a ment's own financial support for selling arms to Israel. The Scottish detailed examination of a company's arms companies may be involved, history and profile by searching and whether directly or indirectly, in manufacture and supply chains.

The FOIs also reveal that the PCS union - which represents civil servants within Scottish Enterprise raised concerns earlier this year that their members were "potentially complicit" in war crimes, should Israel be found to have broken international law. An email from the PCS said the concern was gaining "traction" among its members and asked if they would be affected. In response, the Scottish government said it believed it was "established business as usual" for Scottish Enterprise and that it could be argued that staff would not be affect-

Amnesty has written to Finance Secretary Kate Forbes calling for an "urgent review" of Scottish Enterprise's funding for arms companies selling components or parts going directly or indirectly to states accused of international humanitarian law breaches, including Israel and Saudi Arabia. And it says the due diligence checks carried out before awarding Scottish government grants are "inadequate" and risk failing to ensure Scotland upholds its international obligations. Business Minister Richard Lochhead told BBC Scotland News that no public

### From political outsider to Ghana's 'Mr Digital'

society

transferred

Ringerike prison, where

he is held in a two-story

complex with a kitchen

dining room and TV room

with an Xbox, several

armchairs and black and

white pictures of the Eiffel

GHANA (BBC): Mahamudu Bawumia mate. soared from being a political outsider to become Ghana's second-in-command and in December he could make history as the country's first Muslim president. Bawumia, currently Ghana's vicepresident, was chosen by the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) as their candidate for the forthcoming general elec-

The 61-year-old Tottenham Hotspur supporter has quite the reputation. He is an intellectual educated at Oxford University, is never seen without his signature slim, rectangular glasses and has been dubbed "Mr Digital" thanks to his pledge to whip Ghana into a technological heavyweight. But because he is head of the government's economic management team, many Ghanaians associate Bawumia with the punishing cost of living crisis they're experienc-

Should Bawumia overcome the criticism and win the election, he will replace his current boss President Nana Akufo-Addo, who is approaching the end of his two-term limit. "Mr Digital" barrelled onto the political scene in 2008, sparking bemusement and scepticism. Bawumia was a 44-year-old who had never held public office, yet Akufo-Addo - then a mere presidential candi-

Bawumia's father Alhaji Mumuni had served in Ghana's earliest governments after the country gained independence from Britain in 1957, working closely with revered Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah. But the younger Bawumia had forged a career in economics and banking - serving as the deputy governor of Ghana's central bank. To many commentators and NPP insiders, it made no sense for Akufo-Addo to pick Bawumia over seasoned party members. Akufo-Addo ended up losing the election to John Atta Mills from the National Democratic Congress (NDC) by a tiny margin. Bawumia lost out on the VP job - but his charismatic campaign had silenced the naysayers.

"He fired [up] the NPP campaign. I think no-one else could have done a support he gave to the NPP," Ghanaian political scientist Dr Clement Sefa-Nyarko told the BBC. Akufo-Addo and Bawumia gave the elections another go in 2012. Again, they lost. The NPP challenged the election results in the Supreme Court, choosing Bawumia as their star witness.

During the proceedings, which were broadcast on national television,

who is this guy? He's really the guy to root for," said Dr Sefa-Nyarko, who lectures on African leadership at King's College London. Akufo-Addo decided to keep Bawumia on his ticket and in 2016, on their third shot at power, the NPP won with 51.3% of the vote. Bawumia finally became vice-president. Bawumia's journey to the top began in 1963, when he was born into a large family in the northern city of Tamale. He was the 12th of his father's 18 children.

the complex.

After completing primary and secondary school in Ghana, Bawumia moved to the UK for undergraduate study and went on to gain a masters in economics from the prestigious Oxford University. To support himself during his studies, he took up jobs as better job, to be honest, in terms of the a taxi driver and cleaner. He returned to Ghana in 2000 to work at the central bank, where he worked his way up to become deputy governor. Bawumia campaigned on this economic knowhow during his attempts to become VP. Therefore, he faced heavy criticism when Ghana plummeted into its most severe economic crisis in years under his watch. Inflation hit a record 54% in December 2022 and the coun-

has said the economic management team he headed had no "decisionmaking powers" and that it merely provided advice to the government. But for many, this wasn't good

"In terms of character, in terms of integrity, people started questioning themselves: 'What is this? How did it end up here? We thought you were the best guy, and look at where we've ended up'," Franklin Cudjoe, a Ghanaian political commentator and head of the Imani Centre for Policy and Education, told the BBC. Along with his role as an economist, Bawumia has also built the reputation of being a digital visionary. Ghana's digital ecosystem has seen "significant growth" especially in areas such as mobile phone connectivity, Charles Abani, head of the United Nations team in Ghana, remarked last month.

This "remarkable digital transformation" was "spearheaded" by Bawumia, news website African Business reported, while Ghanaian newspaper The Chronicle hailed Bawumia's "expertise in global digital transformation". Bawumia said he initiated a partnership date - had chosen him as a running Bawumia came across as witty and try was forced to take a \$3bn (£2.3bn) between Ghana's government and US- Ghana are Christians but there is not

unflustered by the relentless, days-long loan from the International Monetary cross-examination. "People were like, Fund after government debt soared. In the creation of the world's largest vactories in the creation of the world's la response to the criticism, Bawumia cine delivery network. He said he reached out to Zipline, which uses drones to fly health products to hard-toreach clinics, after his father died from a loss of blood. Although this passion for technology is celebrated by some, others are more sceptical.

Mr Cudjoe said Bawumia has been campaigning on digitalisation rather than confronting debates about the government's handling of the economy. Whether Bawumia was in power or not, digitalisation was bound to happen in this country because we had already started it anyway," Mr Cudjoe said. Dr Sefa-Nyarko said of Bawumia: "What he has been very successful at is to push and also claim all credit for digitalisation outcomes of the current government." Bawumia's personal life has also been a strength in his presidential campaign. His wife of 20 years, Samira, is a former beauty queen who is widely admired for her chic outfits.

The Second Lady is also vocal when comes to party politics - and has embarked on campaign tours for the NPP. The couple have four children together. They are proud followers of Islam - a religion practised by roughly one in five Ghanaians. Most people in gious minority will hinder Bawumia's election chances, Dr Sefa-Nyarko said. The NPP has given its "full support" to Bawumia's candidacy, "his Muslim faith notwithstanding", Dr Sefa-Nyarko

"This could translate into widespread support across the country as well." Bawumia's geographical identity might be of greater consequence than his religion. The vice-president hails from northern Ghana, which is one of the NDC's strongest political bases. By choosing Bawumia as its presidential candidate, the NPP will be hoping to make inroads in the north, while retaining support in its heartland in the south. Bawumia has been traversing north, south, east and west in what he calls the "possibilities bus", a blue and red campaign vehicle emblazoned with the slogan "it is possible". To some, he is the face of economic mismanagement, but the vice-president retains some of the optimism he held when he was a 44year-old embarking on an eight-year battle for power. "I have the courage to accept when things do not go as well as planned," he told voters in his manifesto. "But I also have a mindset of possibilities, and faith in ourselves, that we can rise and achieve great things in our

#### The Frontier Post

Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late) Founder Bilal Shah Afridi Chief Executive Jalil Afridi

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Printed and published by Mahmood Afridi at Moraka's Printers, 27 Abdara Road, University Town, Peshawar. Peshawar Office: 091-5700095, 0300- 9009001 Peshawar Fax: 091-5703687, Post Box No. 573 E-mail: fppeshawar@thefrontierpost.com Lahore Office: 0335-4026284 Email: fplahore@thefrontierpost.com Islamabad Office: 0321-5066253 Email: mahmoodafridi@thefrontierpost.com Karachi Office: 021-32213411, 0300-8340907 Email: fpkarachi@thefrontierpost.com

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# NATO's aggression behind pro-peace veneer

HINA has increasingly become a scapegoat for some in the West to cover up their failure to resolve the Ukraine crisis, if not an excuse for them to advance certain parties' geopolitical

NATO and the European Union are ramping up efforts to pressure China to stop its "assistance" to Russia, and help get the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to stop its support to Russia for its "special military operation' in Ukraine.

China's normal and stable diplomatic ties and economic and trade cooperation with any other country, including its two neighbors, are by no means leverage those Western forces can apply to advance their own agenda.

That both North Atlantic Treaty
Organization and the EU have stepped up their collusion with and sealed certain forms of security pacts with such Asia-Pacific countries as Japan and the Republic of Korea citing "common threats" from other regional countries should be regarded as a political lever that these forces want to use to press China to do their bidding on the Ukraine cri-

In an opinion piece, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte wrote: "China bears particular responsibility here, to use its influence in Pyongyang and Moscow to ensure they cease these actions. Beijing cannot pretend to promote peace while turning a blind eye to increasing aggression."

After meeting with the top US diplomat on Wednesday, Rutte said "the Euro-Atlantic and the 'Indo-Pacific' really have to be seen as one theater, and not as two separate ones", and that "our security, therefore, now more and more is global, and we have to look at this as

Neither NATO nor the EU, or their common ally across the Atlantic, has provided any substantial evidence to support their claim that China is providing "military assistance" to

Instead, the whole world sees clearly which party is playing an ugly role in both the Ukraine crisis and the Korean Peninsula issue, along with the Gaza conflict, for its own narrow ends, and which party is upholding a neutral, fair and balanced stance on these issues, tirelessly working for cease-fires and lasting peace.

The haste with which the new NATO chief inherited the mantle of his predecessor in trying to weld together the transatlantic and the "Indo-Pacific" alliance networks using madein-China welding rods clearly indicates the real motive is not to resolve the conflicts but to make China part of them as "a decisive enabler", "a potential accomplice" and then "a

These tactics are also an integral part of the decoupling and de-risking moves of some developed economies targeting China, providing the China hawks on the economic front with "evidence" to transform a long-term major trading partner into an enemy at the gate overnight.

The EU has sanctioned multiple Chinese entities on groundless charges that they are providing support to Russia's military in the Ukraine crisis. And even though its imports of Russia-sourced energy remain sizable and it keeps silent on other countries' fast rising trade with Russia, it attacks China's normal trade with the country.

The Ukraine crisis has been ongoing for 1,000 days. Both parties to the conflict are yet to give up their obsession with winning by force and keep launching large-scale attacks against each other, which have been expanding in recent days. China has no self-interest in the Ukraine crisis, and along with other Global South countries, it has established the Friends for Peace group that calls for no spillover of the battlefield, no escalation of the fighting, and no provocation by any party.

Those Western forces trying to smear China over the Ukraine crisis should realize that, as history has proven time and again, military means will not bring lasting peace, and that all conflicts will, in the final analysis, end at the negotiating table. They should stop their scapegoating tricks and jointly send a strong message for an early cease-fire and a political settlement of the crisis with China and other peace-loving nations.

#### **Important Notice**

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# With Gaza war, Israel has normalized genocide

Osama Al-Sharif

O say that the world has failed the Palestinians for decades is an understated place in times of war as well of antisemitism. fact. To admit that it has as in times of peace. The turned its back on the peo- definition contained in week accused the Israeli ing statement: "If the ICC ple of Gaza is tantamount Article II of the convention authorities of causing the and its prosecutor do no to complicity in an ongoing describes genocide as a forced displacement of reverse their outrageous and massacre, the crime of the crime committed with the Palestinian people in Gaza unlawful actions to pursue century, which is yet to intent to destroy a national, to an extent that constitutes arrest warrants against end. Now in its 14th ethnic, racial or religious war crimes and crimes Israeli officials, the Senate month, Israel's war on group, in whole or in part. Gaza is an unrelenting nightmare that has all the characteristics of genocide, directly linked to the shameyet few officials or bodies

war on Gaza is genocide. It hold it accountable to even has rejected accusations that its most basic responsibiliit is using starvation as col-ties as an occupying power. lective punishment, that it is There is no doubt that the deliberately targeting civil- US and other countries that ians and resorting to the continue to send weapons access to humanitarian aid in tions and laws. indiscriminate bombing of and munitions to Israel are Gaza. hospitals, schools and UN directly complicit in the buildings, and that it is using crimes being committed in banned weapons like white Gaza. phosphorus.

humanity, ethnic cleansing and collective punishment Gaza, are now displaced.

The list of accusations is despite long. Israel has kidnapped appeals, torture, including rape, ous injury, using starvation prosecutor of against men, women and as a method of war and International and hundreds of doctors, population. academics and humanitarian workers.

Israel's horrific Still, onslaught continues unabat- Francesca Albanese has ed in an audacious challenge directly accused Israel of to the Geneva Conventions, committing the Genocide Convention, other areas of international humanitarian law, the laws of war, UN Security Council resolutions and the International Court Justice's provisional ruling from January on Israel's obligations toward the civilian population in Gaza. The list goes on and on.

According to the unseated from the UN over faces a probe into Genocide Convention, geno- its conduct. Naturally, she is sexual misconduct.

Israel's indifference to its obligations under the law is less support it receives from detached from reality.' have come out to label it as the US, which continues to supply Israel with lethal Israel has denied that its weapons while failing to rights organizations signed

A report published by a But after more than UN special committee last 44,000 fatalities and count- week said that Israel's war less injured and missing per- conduct in Gaza "is consissons, several UN officials tent with the characteristics and human rights organiza- of genocide," including tions have come out to mass civilian casualties and accuse Israel of committing using starvation as a war crimes, crimes against weapon. The report added: "Through its siege over obstruction against more than 2 million humanitarian aid, alongside people, almost all of whom targeted attacks and killing of civilians and aid workers, repeated binding orders doctors and nurses and some from the International Court have died in Israeli detention of Justice and resolutions of centers in suspicious cir- the Security Council, Israel cumstances. There is mount- is intentionally causing 2025. ing evidence that Israel uses death, starvation and seri-

> Outspoken UN Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territory Gaza Strip. Last month, she presented a report titled Genocide as colonial erasure," which concluded that Israel's genocide is founded on "ideological hatred" and "dehumanization," and "enabled through the various organs of the state." She recommended that Israel be

for cide is a crime that can take accused by Israel and the US leader of the US Senate

against humanity. Israel's response was that the organization was using rhetoric that is "completely false and

In March, 12 of Israel's prominent human crimes an open letter accusing the ing that it should facilitate

Office Coordination Humanitarian dire humanitarian situation. Human rights groups such as

potential war crimes. Even Pope Francis is ends. reportedly calling for an Court of Sunday from an upcoming book ahead of the Catholic Church's jubilee year in will become irrelevant.

Israeli arrest Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity, including extermination, Israel and the US moved genocide quickly to hinder the court's against Palestinians in the compliance. Khan and the court's judges were openly threatened by US lawmak-

More than six months after Khan requested those warrants to be issued, the judges remain silent. Meanwhile, Khan, who also warned against the intimidation of court officials, now unseated from the UN over faces a probe into alleged

ed as the next majority John Thune last week issued Human Rights Watch last an outrageous and threatenshould immediately pass sanctions legislation, as the House has already done on a bipartisan basis.

It is now a fact that Israel's impunity for its in Gaza and America's complete and unconditional support of its country of failing to comply genocide have become a litwith the International Court mus test of the validity of the of Justice's provisional rul- rules-based order, the UN and all international conven-

Israel and the US are Organizations like the against any investigation for the into the Gaza war, now or of ever. One wonders how Affairs, Israel will manage the dev-UNICEF and the World astated Strip once the war Health Organization have ends. Will it allow independrepeatedly highlighted the ent journalists and human rights observers into Gaza? For how long does it believe Amnesty International and it can deny access to both? Human Rights Watch have It is inconceivable that It is inconceivable that

called for investigations into the world can return to business as usual once the war The International Justice and investigation to determine if International Criminal Court Israel's attacks in Gaza con- will become symbols of stitute genocide, according colossal miscarriage of jus to excerpts released on tice. The UN, which Netanyahu has dubbed a "swamp of antisemitic bile,"

The persistent lack of When Karim Khan, the accountability for Israeli the violations, including attacks Criminal on civilians, destruction of children. Israel has killed inflicting collective punish- Court, asked the court in infrastructure and the impomore than 180 journalists ment on the Palestinian May to issue warrants to sition of collective punish leaders ment, has created a climate of impunity. This emboldens Israel to carry out further violations as it undermines the rule of law.

What is perhaps the most horrifying reality is that Israel has managed to normalize the most heinous act by any state: genocide.

If Israel is allowed to get away with war crimes and genocide in Gaza, the rules based order will become meaningless and void. What replaces it will be chaos and mayhem. Gaza is now the biggest challenge to the post-Second World War USled order.

# Facing genocide while disabled

Yousef M Aljamal

Gaza is a mass disabling event.

heavily populated areas have left more than 22,500 people who have sustained life-changing injuries. Hundreds of people with existing disabilities have been killed or remain under the rubble. Ninety percent of Gaza's population has been displaced, some as many as 20 times.

The destruction of infraordered by the Israeli mili-

Just as the Israeli army is destroying the healthcare system of the Strip, it has also decimated the system of care that used to exist killing many professionals who worked in the field. On May 13, Hashem Ghazal, the founder of the Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children and also known as the "spiritual father of deaf people in Gaza", was killed in an Israeli air strike

along with his wife. I grew up in Gaza in the Nuseirat refugee camp. As a child, I knew many people who had been permanently disabled as a result of Israeli violence. Before the war, nearly 50,000 people in Gaza were registered as living with a disability.

While I am no longer in Gaza, this September I was able to speak on the phone and WhatsApp with several Palestinians with disabilities who have been displaced. Here are some of their stories:

Azmi Aljamal is nine years old. On October 15, 2023, he was pulled from under the rubble of his family home, which was targeted with two missiles that killed his mother, grandparents, uncle, two aunts, two siblings and three of his cousins. Azmi had fallen from the third floor and was badly the limited resources she

Abed and Dyia carry him on their backs, despite the More than 400 days of danger. Mahmoud told me Israeli air strikes and con- he hasn't been able to stant ground invasions on access medication to manage his condition.

Reem Ayad is 10 years old. Originally from the Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City, she was playing with her brothers on October 16, 2023, when an Israeli warplane dropped two missiles on their home. Reem recounted: "We fled our home after it was partially destroyed over our structure hinders the heads. As we were fleeing mobility of people with all in the street, they bombed types of disabilities, mak- the street right next to us ing it extremely difficult and I was directly injured for them to flee when in my right hand, which led to its immediate amputa-

Reem's father, Kamal, describes how he carried her on his shoulders until he reached the nearest ambulance and Reem was for people with disabilities, transferred to hospital. Then Israel ordered the hospital to evacuate and they fled south, even though Reem had just had surgery.

Kamal told me she continues to suffer from nightmares and relives the experience of being pulled from under the rubble. "Reem needs vitamins, food and medicines that are not available, and she needs to get an injection to stop the growth of the hand bone so that it does not tear the skin. The most important thing she needs to continue her life like other children is a prosthetic limb.'

Amina Omar is nine years old, from the Zeitoun neighbourhood, who has cerebral palsy. Under fire, in front of Israeli tanks and with quadcopters above their heads, her mother Najah – who was pregnant had to carry Amina as they fled to the south. The struggle to survive took a horrific toll, and due to malnutrition and the lack of healthcare, she lost the child she was carrying in her womb.

Najah does her best to keep her family going with

Azmi's family was displaced from Nuseirat to Rafah, and then back to Nuseirat, when the Israeli army invaded Rafah. His father Mousa told me "He needs special care, for instance, he needs a particular type of diaper, he is on a specific diet and needs vitamins which are not available." His family struggled to get him ointment to cure his burns. Whenever there is a bombing nearby, his father carries Azmi and tries to provide him with some protection. Azmi's

dream is to walk again by himself. Mahmoud Adnan Shokor is 31 years old and lives in the Nuseirat refugee camp. After falling from a construction site in 2018, he became paraplegic and developed speech difficulties. He uses a wheelchair and relies on his family's help for everyday tasks. On November 4, Israel bombed his

family home, injuring his mother and killing his cousin. His surviving family members and neighbours pulled Mahmoud out from under the rubble. In the past, he received treatment in Egypt.

### Their sacrifice, our freedom: A debt we ought to honor

**Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal** 

SLAMABAD'S serene Margalla Hills are a magnet for nature ined in a quiet forest, the fear. ing and evening, trails devastatingly real. near these lush hills teem with activity as people of sight of vehicles lined horizon and darkness bravest among uswhether a bodybuilder or self-styled Hercules-might paths on winter nights. An unshakable, primal fear seems to reside in the heart of anyone contemplating the forest in soli-

But this fear pales in comparison to the dangers faced by our defenders on the borders and in troubled areas. These individuals, These were individuals bound by their oath to protect the homeland, are perpetually at risk. The notion of courage in the face of adversity finds its ultimate live, yet they chose to dedimanifestation in these cate their lives to a greater defenders who stand firm cause. They embraced the sible only through their sacagainst external and inter- ultimate sacrifice to ensure rifices. At the same time, it Respecting their sacrifice is nal threats. Unlike the that the rest of us could purhypothetical dangers imag- sue our dreams without role as citizens in safe- ensure it was not in vain.

lovers, fitness enthusiasts, risks for our armed forces and families. Each morn- and security personnel are

In times of war, a soldier engages the enemy with the all ages embrace jogging, hope of survival, relying on walking, and hiking. The strategy, comradeship, and training. There exists at along Margalla Road least a sliver of hope that paints a vibrant picture of one might return home, vica community drawn to torious or wounded, but the hills' tranquility and alive. However, the menace scenic beauty. However, of suicide bombers leaves as the sun dips below the no room for such hopes. When a defender encoun**envelops** the **forested** ters this faceless, merciless area, a strange unease threat, the only certainty is **creeps in.** Even the the deafening sound of an explosion and the shattering reality of martyrdom. These attacks strike at the hesitate to tread these core of human resolve, leaving no choice but sacrifice in the line of duty.

The gravity of this sacrifice often escapes the collective consciousness of those who live under the blanket of security. Among these martyrs are countless young men, often between the ages of 25 and 35. with dreams and aspirations-dreams of a family, a home, or a fulfilling career. They had every reason to

It is easy to forget the magnitude of their sacrifice amid the comfort of everyday life. Yet, it is imperative to recognize and honor their contributions. Their selflessness is a debt that can never be repaid, but it must not be taken for granted. These defenders represent the very spirit of resilience and unity, serving as a reminder of the

As a nation, it is our moral duty to value their threats at bay. Their sacrifices. Respecting these martyrs is not limited to ceremonial gestures or public statements; it demands tangible actions that support their families and their legacy. uphold Ensuring proper care for their loved ones, providing educational and career opportunities to their children, and fostering a culture that celebrates their heroism are critical steps in

this regard. The stories of these oung defenders should to appreciate the freedoms they enjoy. Their bravery underlines the privilege of living in a secure environment-a privilege made pos-

guarding the values they fought to protect. This means adhering to the rule of law, promoting harmony, and contributing to the nation's progress in every possible way.

As we walk the trails o Margalla Hills, basking in the peace they offer, let us a moment to spare acknowledge the unseen sacrifices that make such tranquility possible. Behind the picturesque landscape and calm surroundings lies price of peace and security. a harsh reality-the constant vigilance of those who keep courage and commitment ensure that the forests of fear remain confined to our imagination, allowing life to flourish in its myriad

forms. The defenders of our homeland stand as sentinels of peace, a barrier between chaos and order. Their sac rifices are not just acts o duty but profound expres sions of love for their country and its people. Let us honor them not just with words but through actions that reflect our gratitude inspire the next generation and commitment to pre serving the ideals they held dear. Their youth and dreams may have been cut short, but their legacy endures in the safety and freedom we is crucial to reflect on our the least we can do to

Azmi's family was dis-Rafah, and then back to Nuseirat, when the Israeli

army invaded Rafah. His father Mousa told me "He needs special care, for instance, he needs a particular type of diaper, he is on a specific diet and needs vitamins which are not available." His family struggled to get him ointment to cure his burns. Whenever there is a bombing nearby, his father carries Azmi and tries to provide him with some protection. Azmi's dream is to walk again by himself. Adnan Mahmoud Shokor is 31 years old and

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lives in the Nuseirat refugee camp. After falling from a construction site in 2018, he became paraand developed plegic speech difficulties. He uses a wheelchair and relies on his family's help for everyday tasks. On November 4, Israel bombed his family home, injuring his mother and killing his cousin. His surviving family members and neighbours pulled Mahmoud out from under the rubble.

In the past, he received treatment in Egypt. Now Mahmoud's medical condition is worsening. His mother told me: "He cries every day, and when it is time to escape and bombing is close, he cannot run for his life."

injured. He is now in a has at a camp for the diswheelchair and needs surplaced. In the sweltering gery to repair his foot but heat, she bakes bread using can't leave the country to a clay oven in her tent and sells some of it.

For Amina, daily tasks placed from Nuseirat to are even harder than before. Unable to walk, she has to drag herself through the dust of the camp. She needs a wheelchair, but it's impossible to get one. The food situation is another constant worry. Amina's weak digestive system rejects most dishes, causing bouts of vomiting and diarrhoea.

> These are just a few stories among thousands. As Israel's war on Gaza continues unabated. Palestinians with disabilities perhaps bear the biggest brunt of it.

Everyone I talked to was dealing with extreme hardship and unable to get the care they needed. But even under the most

extreme conditions, the lengths that people were willing to go to protect loved ones are their astounding.

I have heard so many stories of family members risking their lives to care for one another. Their courage should motivate us all to continue our struggle to bring to an end this horrific genocide. We need to do everything we can to pressure political leaders to impose an arms embargo on Israel and push for a

permanent ceasefire. The world must heed the pleas for help of all Palestinians, including those with disabilities.

# On genocide, Trump will be no different from Biden

F a Pulitzer Prize tion to the Times, but I ly) funniest, stitch- between Iran and Iraq on headline a map. drafted by a "major"

lished last week in the of President-elect Donald world. diplomatic to the Times, will "help Dick Middle East.

"Trump's Middle East Picks Signal Staunch Pro-Israel Policy," the Times wrote.

It is just so comical, isn't it?

An identical headline could have been recycled verbatim after every Democrat or Republican president-elect public his "Middle East picks" since Israel's engineered inception in

The headline's implicit suggestion is that, somehow, for some puzzling reason, there may have been a scintilla of doubt that Trump was not going to adopt a "Staunch Pro-Israel Policy" like all his deferential predecessors.

Sure, Trump played nicey-nicey with a bunch of gullible Arab "lead-(pawns) in swingstate Michigan during the presidential election campaign to curry fleeting favour with a "community" he would immediately abandon once he scored 270 electoral

The headline's second underlying inference is that any US presidentelect - Democrat or Republican - would consider, let alone be capable of, embracing anything other than Pro-Israel

Finally, and perhaps most absurdly, in its ongoing and signature efforts to normalise a fas- to anyone's mind – par-Times's uproarious head- New York Times? line and sub-headline imply that Trump, who will soon occupy the and Antony Blinken fol-Oval Office for a second lowed the "shock and time, has a nuanced awe" translate into a well- of Israel, defined "policy" and Netanyahu,

was handed out for don't think that Trump the (unintentional- can even distinguish Bank.

But, as we know, a news organisation in nuanced understanding 2024, then The New of the Middle East is not York Times – which craves such frivolous baubles – would win it without question.

Of the Middle East is not pursued the same kin fluckage, to be a first, think later "polifiers, think later" "pol Here's the "award- appointing people to take employed with such diswinning" headline, pubcarriage of America's astrous and inhumane "shock lished last week in the "policy" or "strategy" for consequences. US that troubled part of the

Do the discredited selections that, according names George W Bush, Iraq would have given appointed secretary of and memory by, if need Cheney, shape President-elect Condoleezza Rice and Trump's strategy" on the the late Donald Rumsfeld pause.

and Colin Powell spring

**Andrew Mitrovica** 

Nations cal United Ambassador pursued the same "kill Huckabee,

You would have rea- Marco sonably thought that the Representative calamitous invasion of Stefanik

You would be wrong.

where, would "shocked" that Trump and Biden, Blinken and has chosen an evangeli- Huckabee and Stefanik Christian Linda wannabe Thomas-Greenfield have Israeli settler, Mike Gaza and the West Bank.

would "shocked" that pro-Israel zealots like Rubio Elise would Thomas-Greenfield respectively is also a nate force. silly mystery to me.

The headline's second underlying inference is that any US president-elect - Democrat or Republican - would consider, let alone be capable of, embracing anything other than a "Staunch Pro-Israel Policy". Finally, and perhaps most

absurdly, in its ongoing and signature efforts to normalise a fascist president-elect, the Times's uproarious headline and sub-headline imply that Trump, who will soon occupy the Oval Office for a second time, has a nuanced understanding of the Middle East that will translate into a well-defined "policy" and "strategy" for the region. My goodness – the sequel. This may be a revelation to the Times, but I don't think that Trump can even distinguish between Iran and Iraq on a map. But, as we know, a nuanced understanding of the Middle East

is not necessarily a prerequisite in the White House or the State Department, when it comes to electing or appointing people to take carriage of America's "policy" or "strategy for that troubled part of the world. Do the discredited names George W Bush, Dick Cheney, Condoleezza Rice and the late Donald Rumsfeld and Colin Powell spring to anyone's mind particularly at the complicit New York Times? Lest we forget.

Predictably, Joe Biden and Antony Blinken followed the "shock and awe" gang's ruinous footprints by giving the indicted prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, all the money, arms, and "strategic" cover he required to commit genocide in Gaza and the occupied West Bank. Biden, Blinken and United Nations Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield have pursued the same "kill first, think later" "policy" or "strategy" - take your pick - that the "shock and awe" gang employed with such disastrous and inhumane consequences. You would have reasonably thought that the calamitous invasion of Iraq would have given Biden, Blinken and Thomas-

first, think later" form, Biden, Blinken and Thomas-Greenfield have enabled a genocide – that has already claimed the lives of more than 43,000 Palestinians, mostly children and women – with the patina of faux seriousness that Trump and halting company lack and that is so valued by the learned cognoscenti at the Times, CNN and MSNBC.

Greenfield pause. You would be wrong. Instead, true to "kill

Lest we forget.

Predictably, Joe Biden all the 'strategy" for the region. money, arms, and "strate-

Blinken Biden, Thomas-Greenfield have Israel enabled a genocide – that absolute, halting company lack and tional law be damned. that is so valued by the

Instead, true to "kill and Thomas-Greenfield, peace". cist president-elect, the ticularly at the complicit first, think later" form, Trump, Rubio, Huckabee uncontested change has already claimed the "right to defend itself". If Benjamin ousness that Trump and conventions, and interna-

Beyond the rhetorical edges about a mythical worded letter should "two-state solution", finally do the elusive there is no "daylight" trick. My goodness – the gic" cover he required to commit genocide in Gaza the Times, CNN and "two-state solution", This may be a revela- and the occupied West MSNBC.

So, why anyone, any- between Biden, Blinken. be and Thomas-Greenfield Trump, and concerning the "future" rampaging of the Palestinians in

They have no "future' Biden, Blinken, and Thomas-Greenfield have permitted Israel to do to Gaza and the West Bank what Trump, Huckabee and Stefanik Senator have long hoped to do to and Gaza and the West Bank - turn what remains of be Palestinian land into dust Biden, Blinken and state and UN ambassador be, lethal and indiscrimi-

Trump, Like Biden, Blinken, Huckabee and Stefanik represent the slightly more blunt and profane continuum of America's defining "kill first, think later" attitude towards the Middle East.

Democrats' is and the cognoscenti's fuming 'outrage" over Trump's "scandalous" cabinet and other high-profile administration choices has been largely reserved - surprise, surprise – for his controversial" picks for attorney general and defence secretary.

The methodical, more than yearlong destruction of Gaza and the West Bank is stale news.

Biden, Blinken and Thomas-Greenfield gave Israel the "green light" to kill as many Palestinians as it wants to for as long as it wants to and Trump, Rubio, Huckabee and Stefanik will do precisely the same.

On genocide: the new White House gang is the same as the old White

House gang. Hold on. There's still hope. The Arab leaders (pawns) who met with Trump towards the end of the campaign - in rebuff of Kamala Harris - have sent him a letter asking the president-elect "to apply [his] political influence in demanding an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon and Palestine' with a view towards negotiating "a lasting

and and Stefanik believe that assuming Trump bothers enjoys the to read it – is bound to Washington's ingrained view that lives of more than 43,000 that means the erasure of Palestinians are always gang's ruinous Palestinians, mostly chil- Gaza and the West Bank, the perpetrators and understanding of the footprints by giving the dren and women – with then so be it — decency, never the victims, and Middle East that will indicted prime minister the patina of faux seri- human and civil rights that their lives are as disposable as they are inconsequential.

Yes, a pretty-please-

### Rehabilitation robots awaiting large-scale use

HANKS to the rapid development robotic devices are transhealthcare, showing promise espedevices offer targeted, movement repetitive therapy, helping patients to recover from stroke, injuries or surgery. However, despite remarkable innovations, widespread adoption of robotics in healthcare these tools from laborahealthcare, increased

function, from exoskeletons for limb support to smaller end-effectors aiding wrist and finger movements. These devices offer personalized, high-precision exercises, allowing patients to perform repetitive, controlled motions crucial for recovery. They also give real-time feedback, track progress and, unlike human therapists, never tire. For patients recovering from conditions such as a stroke or spinal cord injuries, robotic devices have the potential to accelerate their rehabilitation process and reduce dependency on healthcare workers.

essential.

In China and other parts of Asia, universities such as Tsinghua University and Institute Beijing Technology are exploring advanced robotic systems to serve specific rehabilitation needs. Yet these promising technologies are largely confined centers, research access limited to elite healthcare facilities.

The question is: What will it take to see robotic rehabilitation on a larger scale, making it accessible for ordinary patients? And what is holding back largescale adoption?

Despite their potential, robotic rehabilitation devices face significant barriers. The key challenges include high costs, technological limitations, lack of regulatory frameworks, and limited evidence of long-term bene-

Robotic devices are materials and sensors. the Hospitals and clinics may devices,

Giuseppe Carbone

technology, financially unfeasible for funding support or finan- aging populations. cially in rehabilitation. cial incentives, the market Robotic rehabilitation is unlikely to grow at a reductions through economies of scale. Rehabilitation needs

patient,

device design. For example, robots must accommodate different body sizes remains elusive. To bring and movement ranges, requiring frequent and pretories to mainstream cise adjustments. Control struggle systems research funding and account for human biomestrategic policy shifts are chanics, limiting the robot's ability to adjust Robotic rehabilitation movements dynamically. Innovations like shape devices vary in design and memory alloy actuators, which allow variable stiffness for customized supin the early stage of development. Technical challenges related to durability and usability further hinder the chances of their adop-

> indicate that robotic rehacome from small trials. For adoption, large-scale healthcare providers and companies insurance require strong, large-scale establish standard treatit difficult for hospitals to justify investment in these devices. Besides, robotic rehabil-

itation devices require specialized training, healthcare curriculums ness. rarely include robotics in therapy with these tools may mistrust their efficacy or feel

them, hindering patient acceptance. This gap between innovation and application hinders mainstream adoption, particupatients question the technology's value. One way to accelerate

robotic rehabilitation is to allocate more funds to dedicated research. Europe is leading the charge, recognizing that without susoften prohibitively expen- tained financial support, robotic devices. Subsidies, sive, with costs driven by even promising technolo- tax incentives, and regulacomplex components, gies risk hitting the wall at tory support could make it European initiatives such hesitate to invest in such as the "Agewell" project, robotic especially coordinated by this author Policies that promote the because traditional physio-therapy, while less effi-of Cluj-Napoca's CESTER use of medical robotics in public healthcare settings cient, is effective and Laboratory in Romania, affordable. For instance, a are pushing the boundaries basic exoskeleton can cost of what robotic rehabilitaupwards of tens of thou- tion can achieve. Agewell varying levels of health-

adaptive robotic solutions to aid stroke patients to regain daily life skills, most facilities and out-of- directly tackling the chalreach of patients. Without lenges associated with

To move robotic rehabilitation from labs to pace that would allow cost everyday use, we must address both technological and economic barriers.

To begin with, cost vary widely from patient to reduction is essential. Mass production of stancomplicating dardized components and shifts toward cost-effective materials, like flexible robotics, could make devices more affordable. Also necessary is exploring bio-inspired designs to increase functionality without driving up costs.

Artificial intelligence (AI) can play a significant role in making rehabilitation robots smarter and more adaptive. AI allows devices to analyze realport, are promising but still time patient data and adjust exercise intensity, frequency, and support levels. By customizing therapy, AI minimizes the need for manual adjustments, easing the burden on therapists. A robotic device that Although initial studies continuously learns and bilitation can improve tailors itself to each motor skills, the data often patient's progress could maximize rehabilitation outcomes, even in highdemand settings.

To bridge the knowledge gap, robotic rehabilievidence to prove it yields tation should become an long-term benefits. Robust integral part of medical data are also needed to and physiotherapy training. Certification programs ment protocols, which are and continuing education currently lacking, making courses can equip healthcare workers with the skills to operate and maintain these devices, giving therapists confidence in their use and patients confidence in their effective-

Tele-rehabilitation training. offers new possibilities for Therapists not familiar remote care, especially in regions with limited access to physical therapy servicuncomfortable operating es. Robotic devices that patients can use at home, under the remote guidance of a therapist, could bring professional rehabilitation to rural and underserved larly when caregivers and areas. Tele-rehabilitation also supports continuity of care, as patients can continue therapy from home, the adoption process of enhancing outcomes and reducing hospital readmissions.

Government-backed initiatives can dramatically increase the availability of prototype stage. financially feasible for healthcare centers to adopt rehabilitation. use of medical robotics in would improve accessibility, especially in countries with large populations and sands of dollars, making it is focused on creating care access, like China.

### Israeli government in a rush to legislate against Palestinians

ment is on a mission two years ago. to destroy any chance of a peace agreement with the the extreme-right Religious Palestinians based on a two-state solution. It is not the Knesset's influential concealing this or apolo- Constitution, Law and

getic about it. uses for this purpose is the mocratic enactment of legislation Palestinian legislation. For hostile to the Palestinian instance, he has tabled a bill Authority and Palestinians setting out to deny the PA in general. Prime Minister the right to petition to Benjamin Netanyahu's far- Israel's Supreme Court, a coalition embarked on this mission recently passed with a big with both a great appetite majority in a preliminary and a sense of urgency, sug-reading. gesting that its members and perhaps only, opportuif not all of it.

ment appears to be in a hurry to pass legislation that dramatically alters the legal relations between Israel and basic right that anyone else the Occupied Territories. has to appeal. the country's judiciary that since the 1990s.

ET'S put it bluntly: began with the formation of the Israeli govern- the current administration

Zionism party, also chairs Justice Committee, where One of the instruments it he orchestrates his antideand antihas bill that the Knesset plenum

This legislation followed believe this is their great, an unprecedented move by the PA of filing a petition to nity to fulfill their dream of Israel's High Court of a "Greater Israel," which Justice, requesting it to requires the annexation of overturn two laws that the end of one of the last proof. the West Bank, while they allow victims of Palestinian are also recklessly advanc- terrorism and their families ing the cause of annexing at to seek financial damages least part of the Gaza Strip, from the PA. First, the Knesset legislated to allow With its solid majority in the families of the victims the Knesset, the govern- to sue the PA, subjecting the governing body of the Palestinians to Israeli law, but then deprived it of the

Much of it is directed at weakening the Palestinian victims of Jewish terrorism, Authority, in addition to for instance in the West harassing and intimidating Bank, do not have similar Palestinians and making legal standing to sue the them feel insecure and sub- Israeli government and, in ject to total Israeli control. any case, one might ask: One of the leading culprits can the PA or any in this hostile legislation is Palestinian expect justice Simcha Rothman, who is from an Israeli court? It is little-known abroad but in actually the cooperation Israel is infamous for being between the security forces one of the major driving of Israel and the PA that has bers of those who had not about international law, ernment does not leave forces behind the attacks on saved many Israeli lives

Yossi Mekelberg

about the collapse of the

tler movement, the destrucremaining vestiges of the Oslo Accords, which in turn tion suggested by a Likud would open the path for member would enable the Israel to annex the West Bank. The most extreme among them are already fantasizing about ethnic to "terrorist organizations cleansing there, similar to that hold Israeli captives." what is allegedly already taking place in Gaza.

story. Earlier this month, the committed that earned them Knesset passed another law, one that allows the govern- place, the extreme ideology ment to deport family mem- of organizations they are bers of those convicted of affiliated to or the inhuman terrorism offenses. This treatment of their hostages, includes Israeli citizens, prisoners have the right of although no one could imagine it being applied to anyone but the Palestinian is also a measure that keeps citizens of Israel.

The law allows for the deportation of family mem- right-wing legislators, it is ensure that this Israeli govadvance knowledge of a ter- human rights, morality or scorched earth behind it. rorist act and either failed to even expediency, but a con-

police or "expressed sup- prove to their electoral base Rothman and others in port or identification" with Rothman, a member of the government are continusuch an act. It is hard to toward the Palestinians. ing to abuse their power, as imagine how on earth the previously demonstrated by legislature of a country Finance Minister Bezalel claiming to be a democracy Smotrich's decision to with- could enact such an hold the tax revenues that Orwellian piece of legisla-Israel collects for the PA, tion whereby first-degree which are its financial oxy- relatives — in other words gen and anchored in treaties the parents, siblings or chilwith Israel, in a move that is dren — of those committing no more than a ploy to bring an unlawful act could be expelled by the interior minister for up to 20 years, And if you ask yourself without any due process of why, it is because, in their culpability, which many zeal and myopia, they want legal experts claim is plainto provoke a power vacuum ly unconstitutional. This in the belief that the result- truly draconian legislation ing chaos would work to imposes severe punishtheir advantage. For the set-ments on people, without trial and without the authortion of the PA would mean ities having the burden of Another piece of legisla-

Israel Prison Service to deny visiting rights to highsecurity prisoners affiliated Without belittling the seriousness of the acts that But this is not the full some of these prisoners a prison sentence in the first visitation enshrined in inter-

prisons relatively calm. However, for Israel's time, the challenge is to

report the matter to the test among themselves to who is the most punitive

This barrage of anti-

Palestinian legislation sug-

gests one of two things First, that the government is confident, maybe overconfident, that neither opposition at home nor pressure from abroad can halt its rush to make the PA irrelevant and a peace process impossible. Or, second, that it is a coalition that cannot believe its luck at being in power in the first place, yet it knows that its prime minister is extremely weak and so, although he will cave in to any of their demands in his desperation to stay in power, he might nevertheless not survive for much longer. Hence their rush to enact as many laws, budgets, settlement expansions and further policies that discriminate against Palestinians and harm the PA to make their policies as irreversible as possible before they are consigned to the dustbin of history, where they belong.

These far-right elements are well aware that a government led by someone who is scheduled to very soon give evidence in his corruption trial and is responsible for the failure to foil Hamas' attack on Oct. 7, 2023, let alone enjoying little public support, could disappear from politics at any moment. In the mean-

takes in dealing the presidency not once envisioned and even his

Trump's return: A bold vision

to reshape the Middle East

Trump underestimating his that he lacks academic jargon, analyst-style phrasing or the polished demeanor of traditional politicians does not diminish his knowledge or awareness of popularity and influence, the issues at hand.

Trump faced ridicule from his opponents, both domestically during the electoral process and from foreign commentators seeking to tarnish his reputation. Trump is not a Yale graduate like Bill Clinton or someone with 50 years of political like Joe experience Biden. Yet, his actions during his four years as president were arguably more successful addressing key events. For instance, when he threatened to cancel or improve the comprehensive nuclear agreement with Iran, he was told it was an international deal he could not withdraw from. But he withdrew the US from it entirely, altering the course of the region's history and sav-ing it from the dangers of that flawed agreement.

Trump may not be as intellectually renowned as Henry Kissinger or as humble as Jimmy Carter, but his background in business, investment and real estate gives him an edge in a capitalist country like the US, which values hard work, competition and success.

- Arab News | most notably in winning Over his four years, upcoming changes.

President-elect but twice. His success is attributed to his personal ly backtracked on his efforts rather than public capabilities. The fact relations firms or the Republican Party's backing, unlike many previous US presidents who relied on party support. His electoral victory is a unique testament to his

> the US and make bold decisions that others might shy away from. The president-elect will face multiple domestic battles, as he has Jan. 20. promised his voters The changes in immigration, the economy and education. His upcoming four-

year term is expected to be filled with controversy and significant shifts. What about the Middle East? Let us recall what he did when he first took office in 2017. Breaking protocol, Trump chose Riyadh, not London, as his first international destination, a departure from the tradition of visiting Britain first. At the time, Saudi Arabia faced harsh criticism from US politicians, with former President Barack Obama relegating the relation-ship with the Kingdom to

the past.
Trump, who entered office amid allegations of racism against Arabs and Muslims, surprised everyone by accepting Saudi Arabia's invitation and making it his first

Abdulrahman Al-Rashed the relationship as he successor, Biden, initialpromises and eventually followed approach. When the president-

elect claims he can solve critical crises like those in Ukraine, Gaza and Lebanon, among others, we should take him serihighlighting his ability to ously. lead a major power like Republican Party will control both houses of Congress and he has already initiated communications before officially assuming office on

> The final point worth noting is not how Trump sees the world, but how the world sees Trump. Internationally, he is perceived as having a strong personality, being quick to act and as a leader who follows through on his words. This image forces America's adversaries to think twice before engaging in major confrontations with him. Most would likely prefer to negotiate agreements and political deals, knowing possesses willpower and tools, such as congressional support,

It seems clear that Trump intends to reshape the Middle East and we will witness this through agreements and sanctions rather than wars. Indeed, as he often points out, he governed for four years without engaging in a single war, but he was stop. His trip sent a clear relentless in enforcing message to his adver- sanctions. For this rea-Trump demonstrated saries in Washington and son, the region must prehis leadership abilities, countries in the region. pare and adapt to the

to back his decisions.



# Governor underscores need to support women entrepreneurs

**Muhammad Naeem Khan** 

KARACHI: The Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), Jameel Ahmad on Tuesday, emphasized the importance of supporting women entrepreneurs in Pakistan, noting that they currently make up less than 10 percent of total borrowers and hold only 26 percent of bank accounts.

reaffirm its commitment to enhancing women's participation in the economic landscape. The event brought together various stakeholders, including international and local partner institutes, banks, civil society, and

successful women entrepreneurs.

innovation, economic growth, and available financing opportunities. community development.

He acknowledged the structural and cultural challenges women entrepreneurs face, such as limited access to finance, markets, and mentorship. Despite these challenges, women in Pakistan have shown remarkable The SBP hosted Women determination and success in various presented to outstanding women Entrepreneurship Day in Karachi to sectors, including agriculture, tech-entrepreneurs and banks for their nology, and manufacturing.

Ahmad appreciated the efforts of economic banks in disbursing about PKR 24 Governor expressed hope that these billion to over 20,000 women-led trailblazers would inspire future genbusinesses from July 1, 2024, to erations and that the SBP remains November 10, 2024. The SBP con-committed to fostering an inclusive ducted over 50 sessions through its financial ecosystem that empowers During his keynote address, Banking Services Corporation women.

Ahmad highlighted the critical role of offices, reaching over 1500 women women-owned businesses in driving entrepreneurs to inform them about

**Business** 

He urged financial institutions to adopt innovative and inclusive approaches and emphasized the importance of partnerships with organizations such as UN Women

The event concluded with awards contributions to advancing women's participation.



held to mark Women Entrepreneurship Day at SBP Museum Karachi.

### BankIslami celebrates Women Entrepreneurship Day

leading Islamic bank in all, regardless of back-Pakistan, recently celebrat- ground or financial status. ed Women Entrepreneurship Day at its branches State Bank of Pakistan for across the country along its initiatives for Women with the State Bank of Entrepreneurship Pakistan. The celebrations which encompass a series were marked by the strong of activities designed to presence of senior women mentor, inspire, and supofficials from the apex port women entrepreneurs, bank, many of whom com- as well as enhance their mended the BankIslami on access to finance and celeits initiative for the promo- brate their achievements. tion of women's financial inclusion.

diversity, inclusivity, and financing facility under the ethical banking practices, SBP Islamic Refinance and BankIslami positions itself Credit Guarantee Scheme as a bank for the people, for Women Entrepreneurs offering riba-free financial (IRCGS-WE) to new-tosolutions that align with the bank women entrepreneurs, values and beliefs of a helping them run and grow diverse clientele, belonging their businesses, under the to all walks of life. SBP's EmpowerHER BankIslami's vision of Finance Campaign since sustainable is due to lack of noing applicants in a more 'Saving humanity from July 1st, 2024.

KARACHI: BankIslami, a inclusive and accessible to

BankIslami supports the

On its part, BankIslami has disbursed Mashal Busi-Committed to gender ness Finance, a low-cost

BankIslami in Karachi, Ms. tailored for them. By cele-Sara Sajjad, Deputy Chief brating Women Entreprene-Manager, Financial Incluurship Day, we aim to highsion Division, SBP Ban- light the financing available king Services Corporation, to Women Business ownstated: "Bank Islami's zeal ers, support the women

promote from their highly effective growth of Pakistan.' sessions, attended by a diverse audience from vari- recently signed a Technical ous walks of life. I hope that these efforts will play a part in further strengthenship, large and small."

gles of women entrepreneurs, Ms. Ayesha Ashraf technology Women Financial Services awareness of subsidized effective manner.

New era of real estate investment:

IMARAT announces launch

of Sharia-Compliant REIT

legal expert and former expanding IMARAT's real

-Farooq

distinguished

efficiency.

with over 20 years of indus- gic systems implementa- portfolio of high-quality IMARAT remains fully

Additionally, the board

consists of two Non-

Executive Board Members

brings a robust background

in banking and finance,

focusing on treasury man-

agement and financial fore-

Muhammad Haroon Aslam

operational discipline and

career, reinforcing the

board's commitment to fos-

tering long-term success

and optimizing operational

Together, this esteemed

Kamran, who

Chairperson of Pakistan's estate presence.

Professional

ISLAMABAD: IMARAT Competition Commission,

Group, a leading real estate and Dr. S. Qaiser Anis, the

developer and innovator in Vice Chairman and Found-

Pakistan, accounces the ing President of Pakistan

Estate Investment Trust. ise in global financial strat-

This groundbreaking initia- egy, regulatory compliance,

tive signifies a new era for and legal affairs signifi-

Pakistan, offering a secure IMARAT REIT Board's

and transparent pathway ability to deliver highest

for both local and interna- standards of corporate gov-

er to uphold the highest Members of IMARAT

standards of governance, REIT bring a wealth of pro-

transparency, and sustain- ficiency- Saad Khalid

able growth. Under the Awan, Chief Commercial

chairmanship of Shafiq Officer at IMARAT Group,

Akbar, a visionary leader who is an expert of strate-

try experience, the board tion and corporate perform-

leverages the expertise of ance management and Mrs.

IMARAT REIT is guid- and long-term value cre-

Real

largest Council- Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Their combined expert-

enhances

ernance, ethical conduct,

The Executive Board

launch of IMARAT REIT, Business

real estate investment in cantly

ed by an esteemed board of ation.

directors, who came togeth-

the country's

Sharia-compliant

tional investors.

Riba' highlights a commitment to making banking in one of the branches of Islamic banking solutions Female entrepreneurial ecosystem Entrepreneurship is evident and facilitate the economic Moreover, the Bank

> Assistance Agreement with Asian Development Bank-Women's Finance Exching female entrepreneur- ange (gWFX) for piloting an alternative credit scoring Highlighting the strug- technology solution selected from the ADB-WFX's innovation Jangda, Senior Manager, challenge. It will assist BankIslami to obtain a Department, BankIslami, broader view on the creditsaid: "One of the reasons worthiness of the women women entrepreneurs are entrepreneurs and womenunable to scale up their owned small and medium EmpowerHER business and make them enterprises (WSMEs) fina-

> > aims to maximize asset

returns, and lead the charge

in fostering long-term, sus-

tainable growth within

Pakistan's dynamic real

as the only company in

Pakistan with an integrated

expertise across real estate

construction, development

project delivery, and capital

markets, giving it a unique

advantage in launching IMARAT REIT. This

groundbreaking initiative is

designed to transform the

investment environment by

proven success in these

Founded with the ambi-

tion of revolutionizing

Pakistan's real estate indus-

consistently driven innova-

Their advancements have

parency, quality, and cus-

tomer-centric service, rein-

forcing IMARAT's leader-

the Group is expanding

access to high-quality

With IMARAT REIT

ship in the sector.

IMARAT's

IMARAT Group stands

estate sector.

leveraging

casting and finally, Lt. Gen. try, IMARAT Group has

who brings invaluable tion through its ventures.

strategic acumen from his set new standards for trans-

leadership team is position- investment opportunities,

ing IMARAT REIT to making property invest-

attract domestic and inter- ment more efficient, trans-

national investors through a parent, and accessible.

commercial, residential, committed to modernizing

and mixed-use projects. the real estate sector and

military

critical sectors.

#### Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Four ships, Solar Catie, Sanmar Raga, Navig8 Montiel and Yannis Pittas carrying Palm oil, Chemicals, Gas oil and Coal, berthed at Liquid Terminal, Engro Cargo Vopak Terminal, FOTCO Oil Terminal and Pakistan International Bulk Terminal respectively on Monday.

Meanwhile four more ships, Jaru Bhum, MSC Branka, MSC Positano and Adam Junior carrying container and Chick Peas are also arrived at outer anchorage during last 24 hours.

Eleven ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them a containers ship 'TSS Amber' left the port on today morning, while four more ships, Sanmar Rag, Star Crimson, Xin Xiang He and Kouras Queen are expected to sail on today afternoon. Cargo volume

104,164 tonnes, comprising 56,675 tonnes imports cargo and 47,489 tonnes export cargo carried in 1,754 Containers (52 TEUs Imports& 1,702 TEUs Export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours.

Ten ships at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them two ships, MSC Branka and MSC Positano are carrying Container are expected to take berths at QICT respectively on Tuesday, while three more ships, Maersk Cape Town, Atlantic Ibis and Milaha Ras Laffan are due to arrive at port on Wednesday.

### **Foods exports**

surged ISLAMABAD (APP): The food exports from Pakistan increased by 21.73 percent during the first four months of the current fiscal year as compared to the corresponding period of last year PBS reported.

Food exports during July-October (2024-25) recorded at 2,365.114 million as compared to the exports of \$ 1,942.915 million in July-October (2023-24), according to latest PBS data.

The food products that contributed in the positive growth in of food trade included rice, the exports of which increased by 52.53 percent, from 710.789 million last year to \$ 1,084.193 million during the ongoing fiscal year.

Likewise, the exports of fruits increased by 7.02 percent, from \$108.995 million to \$116.649 million, vegetables by 36.74 percent, from \$66.640 million to \$91.121 million and tobacco by 365 percent, from 14.061 million to \$65.474 million.

The exports of sugar also went up by 413 percent, from \$21.070 million to \$108.248 million whereas the exports of meat and meat preparations increased by 4.67 percent, from \$152.997 million to \$160.135 million.

The food products that witnessed negative growth in the trade included fish and fish preparations, the exports of which declined by 6.33 percent, from \$123.965 million \$116.115 million, legumipercent from 35.157 milion to 31.007 million.

The exports of oil, seeds. nuts and kernals declined by 31.79%, from \$307.024 million to \$209.423 million whereas exports of all other food commodities decreased by 4.82%.

### level of 95,856 points ISLAMABAD (APP): The of Rs120.10 per share Rs8,004.60, whereas the closed at Rs1.79, whereas

100-Index of the Pakistan price, Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with witnessed bullish trend on Tuesday, gaining 861.00 points, a positive change of 0.91 percent, closing all time high at 95,856.67 points as compared to 94,995.67 points

on the last trading day.
A total of 830,931,008 shares were traded during the day as compared to 765,206,618 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs30.019 billion against Rs23.924 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 460 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 249 of them recorded gains and 156 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 55 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading

companies were Hascol K-Electric Limited with 44,488,839 shares at Rs5.24 per share and Cnergyico PK with 42,303,494

shares at Rs4.64 per share. Rafhan Maize Products 293.01, according to the Company Limited wit- State Bank of Pakistan nessed a maximum increase (SBP).

Laboratories (Pakistan) in its per share price to Rs1,070.86.

**PSX** reaches historic

PIA Holding Company Limited B witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs59.37 per share closing at Rs840.61 followed by Unilever Pakistan Foods Limited with Rs32.50 to close decline Rs19,117.50.

Rupee sheds 10 paisa against dollar

Pakistani rupee Tuesday depreciated 10 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs277.95 against the previous day's closing However, according to

the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dol-Petrol with 60,058,856 lar in the open market stood shares at Rs10.24 per share, at Rs277.40 and Rs278.90 respectively.

increased by Rs1.16 to close at Rs294.17 against the last day's closing of Rs

at remained unchanged and runner-up was Abbott an increase of Rs1.59 was witnessed in the exchange Limited with Rs70.20 rise rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs352.17 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs350.58.

The exchange rate of the Emirates Dirham and the Saudi Riyal increased by 03 and 02 paisa to close at Rs75.67 and Rs74.04 respectively.

Gold prices increase further by Rs3,600 per tola

The price of 24 karat per tola gold increased further by Rs3,600 and was sold at Rs273,500 on Tuesday against its sale at Rs269,900, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of 10 grams of

24 karat gold also went up by Rs3,086 to Rs234,482 from Rs231,396 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat increased Rs214,942 from Rs212,113.

The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained The price of Euro constant at Rs3250 and Rs2,786 respectively.

The price of gold in the international market increased by \$36 to \$2,623 from \$2,587, the Association reported.

### LCCI for int'l events to spur economic growth

become economic power only through exhibitions and exchange of trade delegations. Pakistan would have to focus on organizing international events for real economic growth.

Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) President Mian Abuzar Shad expressed these views while addressing the Board meeting of Lahore Expo Center presided-over its Chief Executive Öfficer Maryam Khawar.

highlighted the center's attracting foreign invest- in a global scale.

nomic development through trade exhibitions and international collaborations.

held a detailed discussion with Maryam Khawar, CEO of the Lahore Expo Center, to explore strategies for enhancing the center's impact Pakistan's economy.

expressed views about the He suggested targeted significance of the Expo marketing efforts to draw Center as a platform for showcasing Pakistan's The LCCI President industrial potential and Pakistan's trade visibility

services, the exports of soft-

ware consultancy services

witnessed an increase of

39.68 percent, from US \$182.371 million to US

\$254.740 million this year

while the export of hard-

ware consultancy services

also surged by 18.51 percent, from US \$1.451 mil-

lion to US \$1.720 million.

surged by 102.12 percent

from US \$0.286 million to

US \$0.579 million whereas

the export and imports of

computer software services

however decreased by 9.27

percent, from \$153.525 mil-

of other computer services

witnessed a growth of 77.15

percent from US \$196.585

million to US \$348.241

In addition, the exports

lion to \$139.289 million.

maintenance

The export of repair and

services

LAHORE (APP): Germany critical role in driving eco- ment. He stressed the need to upgrade the center's infrastructure to international standards, During the meeting, he ensuring it remains competitive in the global marketplace.

> He proposed expanding the frequency and scope of trade exhibitions to include greater participation from small and medi-Mian Abuzar Shad um enterprises (SMEs). international exhibitors and buyers, amplifying

#### Independent Board Memb- Mehwish Shafiq a pertinent With a firm commitment to driving sustained, impacters including-Rahat Kaun-ain Hussain, an acclaimed ment of Graana.com and standards, IMARAT REIT rapidly evolving market. European stocks slide on fears of Russia-Ukraine escalation

European stock markets slid Tuesday on fears of escalation in the Russia- stock markets were down Ukraine war after President nearly 1.5 percent in mid-Vladimir Putin broadened rules on his country's use of better, with a drop of 0.4 nuclear arms, analysts said. percent.

On the 1,000th day of ine, Moscow said it will against a non-nuclear state notably gold and the yen. if they are supported by

nuclear powers. Russia vowed also to defeat its neighbour.

fears of further escalation," said Chris Beauchamp,

ing platform IG.

The Paris and Frankfurt day deals. London fared

The dollar was mixed Russia's offensive on Ukra- against main rivals, while there were gains for other consider using the weapons investments seen as havens,

Russia's move comes days after the United States granted permission for Ukraine to strike Russian "Investors are once territory with Americanagain turning cautious on supplied long-range mis-

on hopes China will unveil ness. more stimulus aimed at and property sector in par-

On the corporate front, shares in German industrial tion risks from his pledge to giant Thyssenkrupp rose cut taxes and impose about six percent after the group said it expected a return to profit in its next

fiscal year. It comes after the group reported a massive annual loss for 2023-2024.

Nestle dropped 1.5 percent after new chief execu- more interest-rate cuts the In Asia on Tuesday, announced a plan to slash coming year.

(AFP/APP): chief market analyst at trad- Hong Kong and Shanghai costs and have a standalone stock markets closed higher water and beverages busi-

Equities have seen big kickstarting its economy swings since Donald Trump was elected US president earlier this month, as markets weigh renewed inflaimport tariffs.

. That has also given a headache to policymakers at the US Federal Reserve who are still fighting to bring prices under control.

Traders are scaling back their bets on how many Laurent Freixe Fed will announce in the

### Pakistan earns \$876m from IT services' export

earned Pakistan US \$876.457 million by exporting different Information Technology (IT) services in various countries during the first three months of the current fiscal year 2024-25.

This shows a growth of 33.69 percent as compared with the US \$ 655.606 million earned through the provision of services during the corresponding months of the last fiscal year 2023-24, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

During the months under review, the computer services grew by 39.38 percent as it surged from US \$534.220 million last year to US \$744.571 million during July-September

Among the computer million. In the Court of Syed Zamarrud Shah, Judge Banking Court-II to

nous vegetable vegetables (pulses) by 100 percent, Suit for recovery of Rs. 26,33,241/54 from \$0.084 million to zero exports; spices by 11.80

HBL Dargai Branch Malakand VS M/s Luqman Gul & Sons. Notice Versus: M/s Luqman Gul and Sons through Ameer Gul S/o Luqma Gul R/o Noor Islam Market, Kot Adda Tehsil Dargai Malakand. Where is the plaintiff Bank has instituted a suit for the recovery of

Rs.26,33,241/54 against you under section 10(2) of the Financial Institution (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001. You are hereby summoned to obtain leave of the court to appear and defend the suit within 30 days after receipt/ publication of the notice in the newspaper failing which an expartee decree shall be passed in favour of the plaintiff Bank with costs. Issue today on 05-11-2024 under my Signature and seals of the Court. Banking Court-II Peshawar

### نكهمساة المجمن مقصود وبيوه مقصودا حمر سكنه محكّه رميزي \_ ڈا كانه پیاور یو نیورشی،سفید دٔ هیری بخصیل وضلع پیثاور کی ہوں۔حلفاً

یان کرتی ہوں کہ من حالفہ کے شوہر مقصود احمد ولد فضل محمد وفات یا چکے ہیں \_من حالفہ اور درج ذیل افراد متوفی مقصود حمہ کے جائز شرعی و قانونی وارثان ہیں۔ \_انجمن مقصود (بيوه)\_۲\_ لائئه مقصود\_۳\_ ملائكه مقصود\_۴. جنت مقصود\_ (وختران)\_ درج بالا افراد کے علاوہ متوفی قصوداحمہ ولدفضل محمہ کا دیگر کوئی وارث نہیں ہے۔ درج بالا فرادمتونی مقصود احمد کی وراثت اینے نام منتقل کروانے کے لیے درخواست گزار ہیں۔اگراس بابت کسی شخص کو کوئی عذریا عتراض ہوتو متعلقہ مجاز حکام سے رجوع کریں۔ لہذا جملہ راتب بیان حلفی میرے علم ویقین کے ساتھ درست وصحح یں۔اورکوئی امر مانع بیان حلفی ہذانہہے۔

شتهر:المجمن مقصود بـ حالف بـ 173016502620 الرقوم: 19/11/2024

#### **Court Notice** In the Court of district Judge

Zilla Qazi Buner at Daggar Buner. Civil Appeal Meselinious No 23/14. Institution 10/2/ 2024. Date of hearing. 4/12/2024. Mst Bakht Khuda etc VS Abdul Karim etc.Notice to No.1/5. Mohmad Ibrahim. 1/6.Mohmad Ashfaq sons of Abdul Karim old name Gul Karim (late) resident of Daggar Kalay Koza Hujra tehsel Daggar district Buner at present abroad . Whereas in the above mentioned case the mentioned defendants can not be served in the ordinary way, it is, therefore, proclaimed that if the said defendants will/shall not appear personally or through dually authorized agent or pleader in the court at 8.30 am dated 4/12/2024 the proceeding will be taken ex-parte. Given under my hand and seal of this Court.





### In brief

#### Champions Trophy displayed in Nathia Gali

ISLAMABAD (APP): The ICC Champions Trophy was exhibited in Nathia Gali on Tuesday, drawing a significant number of cricket enthusiasts eager to see the prestigious prize. Before reaching Nathia Gali, the trophy's journey included a vibrant showcase

Abbottabad, where it was displayed at prominent locations such as Army Public ol, Abbottabad College, Medical Thandiani and the Abbottabad Cricket Stadium. At each venue, large crowds gathered to witness the iconic symbol of cricket Champions Trophy is on a global tour before the tournament officially kicks off in Pakistan on January 27, 2025. Its upcoming stops include Afghanistan November 26 to 28, Bangladesh from December 10 to 13, South Africa from December 15 to 22, and from 25 to Australia December January 5. Further destinations include New Zealand from January 6 to 11, England from January 12 to 14, and India from January 15 to 26, ensuring a global celebration of cricket

#### Britain miss out

Great Britain's long final. British number victory over Viktoria Slovakian number one meant British hopes of called upon for the first time this week, lost 6-2 6-2 to Hruncakova and

#### S Arabia unveils King

RIYADH (Web Desk): Saudi Arabia recently unveiled its design plans for the King Salman Stadium, a giant, 92,000-capacity facility, which will be constructed in Riyadh as the showpiece of the 2034 Fifa Men's World Cup. The Saudi Ministry of Sports unveiled a promotional video made with computer-generated imagery to offer a first look at the state-of-theart stadium which is scheduled to be completed in the fourth quarter of according to Sports Business Journal. The stadium is set to serve as the main base of the Saudi national football team and will be part of the sports complex featuring an indoor sports hall, an Olympic-sized pool, and other facilties. Although not officially confirmed by Fifa, Saudi Arabia is almost certain to win the vote to host the 2034 Fifa World Cup, having been the only country to formally summit a bid before the deadline in late 2023. The King Stadium in Salman Riyadh, designed by leading architectural Populous, is poised to redefine global sports entertainment infrastructure. The stadium is a flagship project of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 initiative, aimed at transforming the nation into a global hub for sports and culture. Populous is also designing Prince

Mohammed

Salman Stadium.

# India pull out of Blind T20 WC 2024 in Pakistan

KARACHI (Web Desk): mission to the blind team directives. team has withdrawn from upcoming world cup. Affairs (MEA) denied per- can't wait any longer as the this mission to cross the bor-

confirmed the develop-ment to an Indian media outlet, saying that the Indian team will not travel to Pakistan for the global event, which will be held from November 23 to December 3.

the blind cricket team received a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the Sports Ministry but was awaiting the government's

However, as per the lat-

Dream team clinched the

nament which was organ-

ized by Right to Play in

Alliance Française and

held under the supervi-sion of the Federal

Basketball Association.

the final to win the tour- Federal

Complex on Tuesday.

collaboration

ISLAMABAD (APP): Club, with 10 points.

Female Club Ambassador,

title here at the Hamidi Camelia Galey, were the

standout player for the role in the event. Not

dignitaries.

The Indian blind cricket to participate in the

tournament is about to claimed.

Shailendra Yadav, Ministry of External 2024 will proceed as per General Secretary of the Affairs (MEA) on the Indian Blind Cricket phone then they told us "All other teams are Association (IBCA), has that we won't be getting coming to Pakistan for any permission to go to the World Cup. If one Pakistan and we can can- team doesn't show up, it cel your tournament.

However, we haven't got Shah had stated. any official letter yet but Speaking to the media on the basis of our converamid reports, suggesting outlet, Yadav shared that sation with MEA we've that the Board of Control decided not to go to for Cricket in India Pakistan and we will not (BCCI) has formally participate in the Blind informed the International T20 World Cup."

sion but affirmed that the the Champions Trophy,

Basketball Tournament title

Basketball Tournament Galey, and his wife, the tournament, saying,

Hall of Pakistan Sports chief guests at the closing promote the spirit of the

ceremony. Also in atten-

Warriors Club by 30-20 in General Secretary of the Pakistan. It is essential for

Maria Soratgar was a France, played an active equally important."

andout player for the role in the event. Not A total of eight teams

winning team, scoring 10 only did she kick-start from different areas of

points, while Humna the tournament, but also Islamabad participated in

points. Noor Fatima was the participants during held under the theme the top scorer for Warriors the competition.

contributed 8 offered coaching tips to the tournament, which was

Dream team defeated dance were Ouj E Zahoor, Paralympic Games here in

Association, Ali Khayam, organization

with Right to Play, and other and dignitaries.

Gender equality and the promotion of women's

Camelia Galey, a former professional basket- French diplomacy. Social

ball player in Algeria and equality and inclusion are

Country Director for women's

England, Australia and the upcoming T20 World Cup 2024, scheduled to be last 25 days to get permis
We were waiting for the New Zealand are also not coming. Hence, India will held in Pakistan, after its sion from the government become the fourth team Ministry of External to go to Pakistan. Now we which will not take part in to go to Pakistan. Now we which will not take part in tournament,'

**Sports** 

der, Indian media reported on Tuesday.

begin," Yadav said.
"When I talked with the blind T20 World Cup

won't affect our prepara-"They also told us that tions," Pakistan Blind we will be getting an offi- Cricket Council (PBCC) cial letter of denial as well. chairman Syed Sultan

The development came Cricket in India Cricket Council (ICC) that He expressed disap- it will not send its national pointment over the deci- men's team to Pakistan for est development, the MEA cricketing association citing the directives of the has denied granting per-would abide by the MEA's federal government.

Speaking at the event,

"This event allows us to

Olympic

rights are priorities for

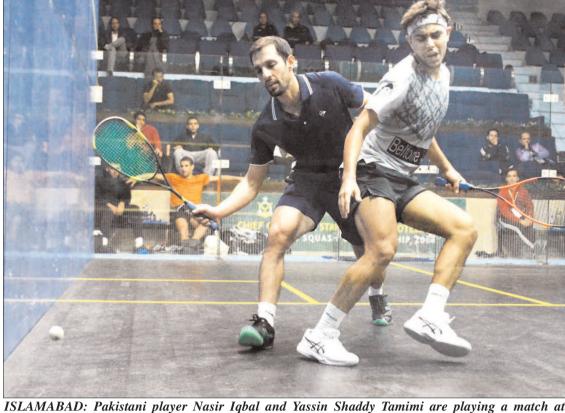
tournament.

French Ambassador Galey high-

Nicolaos lighted the significance of

Basketball us to contribute to the

Paris



Pakistan sports Complex during ongoing International Squash Champion 2024.

### tribute to Nadal for 'epic career'

MADRID (Agencies): Roger Federer says Rafael Nadal "made the whole tennis world proud" during his "epic career" as he paid tribute to his former rival before his retirement.

Nadal, a 22-time Grand Slam champion, will bring an end to his illustrious career aged 38 after representing Spain at the Davis Cup Finals in Malaga this week.

Federer, who retired in 2022 with 20 Grand Slams, won 16 matches and lost 24 - including an epic final at Wimbledon in 2008 – in the 40 times he faced Nadal.

"As you get ready to graduate from tennis, I've got a few things to share before I maybe get emotional," wrote 43-year-old Federer on Instagram.

"Let's start with the obvious: you beat me - a lot. More than I managed to beat you. You challenged me in ways no-one else could.

"On clay, it felt like I was stepping into your backyard, and you made me work harder than I LAHORE (Monitoring cluded T20 international Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, ever thought I could just Desk): to hold my ground.

Nadal made him "reimagine" his game, to the as the Pakistan men cricket extent that the Swiss team's batting coach just changed the size of his few days ahead of the racquet head. A 37-year-old Federer

triumphed in the pair's final encounter, in 2019 at 17-year-old Nadal who the national squad. won their first meeting, in

of the world. And I was until two months later, when you walked on the court in Miami in your red sleeveless shirt, showing off those biceps, and you beat me convincingly.

"All that buzz I'd been cricket. The recently-con- for hearing about you about this amazing young player from Mallorca, a generational talent, probably going to win a major someday – it wasn't just

hype.
"We were both at the start of our journey and it's one we ended up taking together. Twenty years later, Rafa, I have to say: What an incredible run you've had. Including 14 French Opens – historic!

"You made Spain proud... you made the whole tennis world proud." Federer teamed up with Nadal for the final match of his career when the pair – affectionately nicknamed 'Fedal' - played together in the doubles for Europe against the Rest of the World at the Laver Cup.

Both players were in tears as Federer bowed out of the game. "Sharing the court with

you that night, and sharing those tears, will forever be one of the most special moments of my career.' He added: "Rafa, I

know you're focused on the last stretch of your epic career. Minister for Law Punjab, "We will talk when it's Bilal Akbar, Provincial

done. For now, I just want to congratulate your family and team, who all played a massive role in your success. "And I want you to Kartarpur, and other distin-

know that your old friend | guished personalities. is always cheering for Corporate Services PPL Tadkaew (THA) 4-6,6- Knese (GER) beat Fatima you, and will be cheering just as loud for everything you do next.'

### Federer pays Pakistani trio moves in Int'l Squash C'ship quarterfinals

F.P. Report

Nasir Iqbal, M Ashab Irfan beat Duncan Lee (Mas) and Noor Zaman have 11-9, 14-12, 13-11 (41 Championship here at Mushaf Squash Complex on Tuesday.

Elshanwy of Egypt while Ashab is up against Rowan Damming of The Netherlands and Noor

es played on Tuesday, (33 Min), Noor Zaman ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ibrahim Elkabbani (Egy) (Pak) beat Hazem Hossam (Egy) 12-10, 11-9, 10-12, and Noor Zaman nave moved in the quarterfinals of the Chief of the Air (Mas) beat Tayyab Aslam Staff-Serena Hotels (Pak) 9-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11- International Squash Squash (Fay) beat Hafiz organized by the Shenawy (Egy) beat Hafiz organized Zhafri (Mas) 11-9, 11-8, Pakistan 11-8 (24 Min), Nasir Iqbal Federation in collabora-Nasir will face Seif (Pak) beat Yasin Shodhy tion with Serena Hotels.

(Egy) 11-4, 11-8, 8-11, 8-11, 11-7 (48 Min), M a 11, 11-7 (48 Min), M a prize money of Ashab Irfan (Pak) beat US\$15,000. Apart from (WC) Abdullah Nawaz nine Pakistani players, a would play Perry Malik of (Pak) 10-12, 11-8, 11-5, group of 15 world ranking England in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Meanwhile Ibrahim (WC) Farhan Mehboob China, Ireland, Kuwait, Elkabbani of Egypt will (Pak) 11-4, 11-9, 11-9 (27 Malaysia and Netherland face Darren Pragsam of Min), Perry Malik (Eng) are participating in the Malaysia in the quarterfinal. beat Ammar Altamimi championship.

The tournament carries

### Shahid Aslam gets picked as Pakistan batting coach

Cricket Board (PCB) has Federer added that appointed Shahid Aslam, former first-class cricketer, Zimbabwe tour.

The PCB spokesperson on Tuesday confirmed Aslam will serve as the Wimbledon, but it was a full-time batting coach with

Moreover, the spokesperson said soon spin bowling "I thought I was on top coach would also be appointed for Pakistan as the board management was on the hunt for one.

come as Pakistan are reel- Zimbabwe will be played ing from more dismal than on November 24 (Sunday). prideful performances in

that Pakistan lost 3-0, has particularly been hurtful for its memories are freshly etched into minds.

Earlier, sources privy to the development said newlyappointed interim white-ball head coach Agib Javed had recommended Aslam for the post. Aslam has spent a number of years working as a support staff member for the Green Shirts. The whiteball tour of Zimbabwe will be his first assignment, before a full-fledged tour of

The first ODI match The development has between Pakistan and Pakistan's ODI Squad Zimbabwe: Aamir Bulawayo.

South Africa.

Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shahnawaz Dahani and Tayyab Tahir. Pakistan's Zimbabwe itinerary November 24: First ODI, Bulawayo

Daniyal, Faisal Akram,

Haris Rauf, Haseebullah

(WK), Kamran Ghulam,

Mohammad Rizwan (WK),

Muhammad Irfan Khan,

Mohammad

November 26: Second ODI, Bulawayo November 28: Third ODI Bulawayo

December 1: First T20I, Bulawayo December 3: Second T20I Bulawayo

December 5: Third T20I,

### Int'l kabaddi festival held at Kartarpur

Guru Kabaddi International Festival 2024" was held with great enthusiasm at play a vital role in strength-PMU Kartarpur, jointly ening ties between Pakistan unfortunately, like the organized by the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee and Pakistan Kabaddi Federation. The event saw a large turnout of Sikh pilgrims from across the world, with many pilgrims from India also community but for people attending to witness this unique sporting event. The festival was attend-

ed by prominent figures, including Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, Chairman of the Pakistan Kabaddi Federation and Provincial Minister for Industry and Commerce, Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs and Chairman of Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Sohail Burth, Provincial Minister for Transport Punjab, Saifullah Khokhar, Additional Secretary Shrines, Abu Bakar Aftab Qureshi, CEO

Chaudhry Hussain congratulated the Pakistan Kabaddi Federation for the success-

the winning team, he said that Baba Guru Nanak Dev Ji taught the values of peace, love, and humanity, and his teachings are a beacon for not only the Sikh of all faiths. He added that for the first time, Kabaddi has been introduced as a festival in Kartarpur, and the tournament will be held annually in the future, with further improvements to the

grounds Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora congratulated the government of Pakistan for supporting the global promotion of Kabaddi. He stated that organizing such events not only advances sends a message of love and unity between the people of both nations. He stressed that the foundation for annual Kabaddi matches has been laid today, as such events can improve relations between

the two countries. Sohail Burth, Bilal Akbar, Abu Bakar Aftab also spoke, expressing that and other officials.

LAHORE (APP): The ful organization of the politics should not inter-"Baba Guru Nanak International Kabaddi fere in sports. They men-Festival. He emphasized tioned that efforts were that such cultural events made to invite an Indian team to the festival, but and India. Congratulating cricket team, the Kabaddi team was not allowed to participate. However, they assured that they will continue to work towards including an Indian team in future events, as sports play a key role in improving relations and strengthening the bond of friendship with Sikh brothers.

An exciting Kabaddi match was held between Bandehsha Royal Belgium Kabaddi Club and Royal King Kabaddi Club, with the Royal Belgium Kabaddi Club emerging victorious. Chaudhry Shafay Hussain presented the winning team with the trophy, while the winning team was awarded a cash prize of Rs600,000, the sports sector but also and the runner-up team received Rs400,000.

The event was also attended by Commissioner Gujranwala Naveed Haider Shirazi, RPO Muhammad Tayyab, Commissioner Deputy Narowal Syed Hassan Raza, DPO Narowal, General Pakistan Secretary of Kabaddi Federation Qureshi, and other leaders Muhammad Sarwar Rana,

# approval. Dream team bag Federal

### on BJK Cup final

leading up to the event.

MÁLAGA (Agencies): wait to win the Billie Jean King Cup contin-ues after Slovakia staged an impressive fightback to reach the two Emma Raducanu put her team in early command with a 6-4 6-Hruncakova at the start of Tuesday's semi-final. Katie Boulter, Britain's leading singles player, then missed the opportunity to secure victory by losing 2-6 6-4 6-4 to Rebecca Sramkova. It reaching the final for the first time since 1981 - when the competition was known as the Federation Cup - rested on a deciding doubles match. But Heather Watson and Olivia Nicholls, who were

### Tereza Mihalikova.

Salman Stadium

### **World Junior Tennis** C'ship Leg-2 continues

ISLAMABAD: Players of Net Warriors and Islamabadians teams struggling

to get hold on ball during Girls Basketball Tournament at Sports Complex.

Dilawar Abbas Championship sponsored by Pakistan continued here at the pants, especially the for- 6-2 Pakistan Federation (PTF) Tennis

Complex on Tuesday. The event has brought together 80 junior players from around the globe, including 50 boys and 30 girls representing countries such as Pakistan, 6-4, 6-2; Youngchae Oh Japan, China, Thailand, (KOR) Sri Lanka, Canada, Korea, Roman (PAK) 4-6,6-4,7-Germany, Maldives, Singapore, beat USA, Belarus, and Russia.

Earlier in the opening ceremony Tariq Mehmood Murtaza Chairman of Islamabad Tennis Association, inaugurated the Championships.

The ceremony was also attended by Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi President PTF, Col. (R) Zia-ud-Din Tufail Secretary, PTF, Majid Bashir President ITA, Tufail Cheema Secretary ITA, Ali Noon, Chief

ISLAMABAD (APP): The of International Tennis (RUS) 6-0,6-1. ITF Pakistan PPL-Syed Federation (ITF) London World and other distinguished Tennis officials of Islamabad Leg-2 Tennis Association.

Tariq Mehmood inter- Lacsakulporn coverage.

beat Yota Nishikori (JPN) beat Hamza Kazakhstan, 6(4); Yeonmu Jung (KOR) Mohammed Ali Talha (PAK) beat Andrew Kaavinda Kim (KOR) beat Teetawat Basith Cader Tavachehongsrl (THA) 6-

In Girls Singles 2nd Round, Dinara De Silva beat (SRI) beat Chaewon Pisutharnonth Hyun 30 (KOR) beat 0,6-4. Phitchayapak Srimuk In Lee (KOR) beat Paramee (SGP), Arif Qureshi Supervisor beat Palina Huretskaya (PAK) 6-0,6-0.

In Boys Doubles 1st

Round, Bilal Asim (PAK) Nael Qureshi Ahmad (PAK) beat Patham Petroleum Limited (PPL) acted with the partici- Ariyaphol Leekul (THA) Pudit Tennis eign players. They also Phapatsirikul (THA). Tennis thanked the Islamabad Teetawat Tavachphongsri Police for the provision (THA) beat Minwoo Kim of foolproof security (KOR), Ho Jun Park (KOR) 2-6 6-4(12-10); In Boys Singles 1st Muhammad Haider All Round, Sion JI (KOR) Rizwan (PAK), Abu Bakar Rizwan (PAK), Abu Bakar Talha (PAK) beat Sion II (KOR), Yeomu Jung (KOR) 6-4,5-7 [10-5); Aahil Kaleel (SRI), Louis Eliah Knese (GER) beat Tchegoun Derosa (USA), (CAN) 6-2,6-3; Abubakar Muhammad Talha (PAK) 6-3,6-3; Ahtesham Wijemanne Humayun (PAK), Hamza (SRI) 6-0,6-3; Minwoo Roman (PAK) beat Abdul (SRI), Methika (SRI) 6-1,6-2; Yota Nishikori (JPN) Youngchae Oh (KOR) Chanapat (THA). Moon (KOR) 6-2,6-2; A Danthal Takong (THA) 6-

In Girls Doubles 1st (THA) 6-4,6-4; Chaerin Round, Tanisha Kantam Leyla-Esther (Sponsor), Muhammad 3,7-5; So Yuna (KOR) Raja (PAK), Zainab Raja

#### The Frontier Post



### In brief

#### **ANF** recovers

over 210 kg drug RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting nine operations across the country managed to recover over 210 kg drugs worth Rs 140 million and arrested 11 accused, said an Headquarters spokesman on Tuesday. He informed that in an operation, 800 grams hashish and 200 grams ice were recovered from an accused arrested near a university in Sialkot. The arrested accused confessed to selling drugs to the students of educational institutions. In another operation, 2.5 kg ice was recovered from the trolley bag of a passenger going to Bahrain at Lahore Airport. 52 kg heroin and 9 kg ice hidden in a vacant house in Kali Attaullah area of Chaman were recovered. In fourth operation, 19.2 kg opium and 31.2 kg hashish hidden in two vehicles near Jaranwala Road, Sheikhupura were recovered. During the operation, 5 suspects were also arrested on the spot. 38.4 kg hashish and 1.2 kg opium were recovered from an accused held near Pasrur Bypass, Sialkot. 26 kg heroin was recovered from Dera Ghazi Khan road near Loralai and 24 kg hashish was recovered from an accused round-

#### **IRSA** releases 100,600 cusecs

ed up on Daska Road in

Sialkot. 2.5 kg hashish

was recovered from the

possession of the

accused netted near a

hotel on Torkham bor-

der. In 9th operation, 1

kg opium and 2.4 kg

hashish were recovered

near a check post on

Sheikhupura, Muridke.

Cases under the Anti-

Narcotics Act have

been registered against

the arrested accused

and further investiga-

ions are under process.

Narowal

Road,

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Tuesday released 100,600 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of cusecs According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Dam Tarbela 1507.53 feet and was 109.53 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 25,300 cusecs and 49,000 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1167.45 feet, which was 117.45 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 5,700 cusecs and 28,000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 59,200, 49,100, 37,700 and 5,600 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 15,800 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 3,000 cusecs released from

#### River Chenab at Marala. Nine held for

carrying illegal arms RAWALPINDI (APP): Police have arrested nine illegal arms holders and recovered arms and ammunition from their possession during a crackdown. According to police spokesman, Sadiqabad, Naseerabad, Race Course, Wah Cantt, Mandra, Jatli and Chakri police rounded up nine illegal arm holders namely Ijaz, Abbas, Suleman, Ubaidullah, Waheed, Imran, Zia Mehboob, Sajid and Basharat and recovered eight pistols 30 bore, a 9mm pistol and ammunition from their possession. Police have registered separate cases against the accused and further investigation was progress.

Operations commended and police teams instructed to take strict action against those carrying illegal weapons.

# Marri stresses importance of dialogue to solve national challenges

ISLAMABAD (APP): A prominent leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Shazia Marri Tuesday urged the government and opposition to resolve their differences through dialogue, criticizing PTI's destructive politics that has disturbed citizens and damaged state property.

Shazia Marri stressed the importance of peaceful dialogue in tackling national challenges during an exclusive interview with a private news channel.

Shazia Marri mentioned that while her party whole heartedly supports peaceful protests as a fundamenta democratic right, these protests should never be allowed to turn destructive. She also highlights the importance of balancing the right to free speech and assembly with the need to maintain public order and safety.

Marri also strongly criticized PTI protests, stating that they consistently disturb citizens and harm the country emphasizing that this should not be tolerated at any cost

Shazia Marri also expressed optimism about Pakistan's direction, emphasizing that the country is moving in the right direction. Responding a query, Shazia Marri also highlighted Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari's support for the 26th amendment, emphasizing his interest in collaborating

# NA panel slams mismanagement in Hajj affairs

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony raised serious concerns over the management of Hajj and Zaireen, pointing to mismanagement, corruption, and nepotism as major issues.

The committee chaired by Malik Muhammad Aamir Dogar expressed deep concern over the Hajj operations and Zaireen management, highlighting issues of mismanagement, corruption, and nepotism. Dogar stressed the need for proper arrangements to assist religious tourists both domestically and internationally.

He urged the ministry to establish a framework for Zaireen and present a schedule of visits for both sides at the next Committee meeting. The chair directed the Secretary Ministry of Religious Affairs (MORA) to complete the composition of the Ziarat Management Committee (ZMC) and write a letter to the Speaker for the required nomination of one Honorable Member of the National Assembly as per rules.

The secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony briefed the Committee on the ministry's operations, performance, and challenges.

The committee directed the Secretary to promptly address the issue of Pakistani beggars in Saudi Arabia in coordination with the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development.

At the outset of the meeting, Committee members congratulated Chairman Malik Muhammad Aamir Dogar and pledged their full support. The Chairman thanked them for their confidence and expressed hope that, through collective efforts, the Committee would effectively oversee the executive. The Committee deferred consideration on 'The National Commission for Minorities Bill, 2024' due to the absence of its mover.

The meeting was attended by the Members of National Assembly (MNAs) Sardar Muhammad Yousaf Zaman Chaudhry Armghan Subhani, Syed Imran Ahmad Shah, Seema Mohi ud Din Jameeli, Shahnaz Saleem Malik Asiya Naz Tanoli, Dr. Nelson Azeem, Mussarat Rafique Mahesar, Ms. Shagufta Jumani, Samina Khalid Ghurki Ahmed Saleem Siddiqui, Muhammad Bashir Khan, Mujahid Al. The meeting was also attended by the Secretary and senior officers from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony.

### **IESCO** notifies power shutdown programme

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) on Tuesday issued a power sus pension programme for Wednesday for various areas of its region due to necessary maintenance and routine development work. According to IESCO Spokesperson, the power sup

ply of different feeders and grid stations would remain suspended for the period from 09:00 AM to 02:00 PM Islamabad Circle, Chhata Bakhtawar, New Marvi Navy, Zia Masjid, Highway, Koral, PHA Flats, Orchard Scheme, CDA Pump, Abpara, Madinah Market, G-9/3 I-9/4, I-11/1, I-10-1, Warda Humna, Railway Road Bhara Kaho, Bhara Kaho.II, Pindi Point, Dhalla Upertupah, Bari Imam, Bhara Kaho.I, Athal, Shahpur Feeders, Rawalpindi City Circle,6th Road, A Block Muzmal Town, Jannah Camp, Farooq Azam, APHS Zafaral Haq, Dhok Khaba, Fawara Chowk, Sarafa Bazar, Jinnah Road, Rajahabad, Muslimabad, Asghar Mall, Azizabad, NLC, Kayani Road, MH, MH.2, Zeeshan Colony, Ameer Hamza Colony, Shams Colony, Noon Feeders, Rawalpindi Cantt Circle, Hyder Road, Jahangir Road, Rahimabad, NPF.I, Model Town Murree Brewery, AOWHS, Humayun.I, Khasala Dhamiyal, UC Lakhan, Jhawara, Rajar, Old Rawat, Lahtrad.II, Doberan, New Chuah, Fazal Ahmad Shaheed, Panjar, Chowk Pandori, PAECHS, Bengali Raman, Gagan, Mandra, Dhamiyal.I, Gulshan Saeed Zaraj.I & II, Zeta.I, IST, Dhok Awan, Mohra Nagya Feeders, Attock Circle, Margalla, Nawaz Shaheed Jalala, Nisar Shaheed, Museum, Garhi Afghana, Pur Miana, Hassan Abdal, Islampura, Shahullah Ditta Sarai Kharboza, Hazro, GBHP, Qaziabad, Hattian Shamsabad, Maskinabad, People Colony, Shadi Khan Sarka, Dhok Fateh, Kachhari, Attock Cantt, Gharib Wall, Hafizabad, Sajjad Shaheed, Fateh Jang City.II Nara, Kamrial, Khore, Fateh Jang, Lani Wala, Chub Feeders, Jhelum Circle, Abbas Pura, Sanaullah Shaheed, New Cantt Jhelum, CMH Jhelum, Kariala, Kohar, F-8 Civil Line, Pakhwal, Chamala, M.Riaz Shaheed, Mangala Cantt, Dinah, Sanghui, Mumtaz Shaheed, Karoli, Hayat Sir Road, Main Bazar, Behlot, Sohawah Kachheri, Baba Shaheed, Galiana, RTM Mill KTM Mill, Qazia, Islampura Feeders, Chakwal Circle Bhoun, Line Park, Jamalwal, Khair Pur, Main Bazar Jand Awan, Dhudial City, Dharogi Rajgan, Pinwal Dandot, Dalwal, Ahmed Abad, Katchery, Dullaha, Neela, Dhurnal, Moorat, Jhatla, Pera Fathial, Thoa Mehram Khan, Khuian feeders, GSO Circle From 06:30 AM to 06:30 PM, RCCI-I,III,IV Feeders, From 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM, Baloch, Jindal, Paljari, Tangi Gali, GHQ, Kayani Road, Army Flats, MH-I, CMH-I MH-II, Zeeshan Colony, Hyder Road, NLC, Galiana, EC Mill, RT Mill, Mandira, Samot, LTC, Dhirkot Chaman Kot, Ringla, Dana Express, Dhila, Sohawa Manhasa, Nimbal, Birut Kazmi, Dhirkot-II feeders and surrounding areas.



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Minister/Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at Foreign, Commonwealth & Development, United Kingdom Mr. Hamish Falconer along with delegation at Parliament House.

#### Salik directs to establish Pakistan House in Karbala

Capital

ISLAMABAD Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Chaudhry Salik Hussain on Tuesday held a meeting with the Pakistani Ambassador to Iraq, Muhammad Zeeshan Ahmed to deliberate on measures to facilitate Pakistani pilgrims travelling to Iraq.

The minister emphasized that the Pilgrim Management Policy, approved by the federal cabinet in April 2021, was designed to ensure the provision of maximum facilities for pilgrims. Highlighting progress on bilateral arrangements, he informed that a draft Memorandum Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the government has already been forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs. Chaudhry Salik directed the expeditious final-ization of the MoU to enhance the welfare of pilgrims. He further instructed the immediate establishment of the Pakistan House in Karbala, as well as a Directorate of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony in Iraq.

Reiterating the governnent's commitment, the minister said that every effort would be made to address the needs of pilgrims and facilitate their the Pakistani Senate issador suggested increasing the number of community welfare attachés in Iraq to better serve the expatriate and pilgrim community.

#### Sealed hospital must submit required documents

RAWALPINDI (APP): A sealed private hospital has been given an extended period of ten days to submit the required documents, failing which final legal action will be taken against it. A private hos-Rawalpindi pital in Cantonment area was sealed on allegations of misusing the lease of the residential land for com-

mercial purposes. According to the details, the hospital had already been served several notices from time to time by the Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB) which were not responded to by the hospital administration, to which the RCB sealed the administrative block of the hospital, and a case in this regard was registered against the said violation of the rules of the RCB with respect to Military Lands and Cantonments (MLC).

The said private hospital, located on the main Murree Road at Marir Chowk, also persuaded the case in court.

During a recent hearing, as per information shared by RCB, the court had provided another opportunity to the hospital to submit all required documents with ten days failing to which RCB would take further legal action.

During the grace period of ten days, the hospital would remain sealed. "The court held the hospital administration responsible and ordered to apply for commercialization, composition within ten days", an RCB spokesman informed APP in a brief interaction. The spokesman further informed that the hospital would be sealed again for further legal action if the court orders were not implemented.

# NA speaker highlights importance of resolving Kashmir and Palestine issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker be further strengthened. He empha-Tuesday said that durable global peace cannot be achieved without the resolution of Kashmir and Palestine dispute.

He said this during a meeting with Minister/Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development, United Kingdom, Himesh Falconer along with UK Parliamentary delegation who called on him at the Parliament House.

Ayaz Sadiq expressed concern over the grave human rights viola-tions in these regions, stating that goals in Pakistan. Additionally, he without addressing these issues, regional stability would remain elusive. The Speaker stressed that Parliament of Pakistan represents all political parties and the incumbent Parliament has active opposition that plays a constructive role on matters of national importance.

He affirmed his impartiality as Speaker, ensuring a balanced approach in managing parliamentary affected countries by climate proceedings. Ayaz Sadiq has said that change. He called for greater inter-Pakistan is committed to fostering regional peace and stability in the region. He also said that Pakistan has long standing and historic ties with the United Kingdom.

The Speaker said that by enhanc-

National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq sized that close interaction and cooperation between the parliaments of both countries could play a pivotal role in bolstering bilateral relations. The Speaker mentioned that Pakistan has rendered immense sacrifices in the global war on terror and it has always strived for regional peace. He also highlighted initiatives of

the Parliament, namely the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Secretariat established in 2014, which actively works toward mentioned the establishment of a parliamentary caucus to protect the rights of women and children, playing a vital role in addressing discrimination against women and promoting gender equality.

Furthermore, the Speaker underscored Pakistan's minimal contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions while being one of the most national collaboration to address this pressing challenge. Parliamentary Whips of various political parties, present during the meeting, also emphasized the importance of

Pakistan-UK diplomatic relations.

nificance of Pak-UK friendly ties. MNA Syeda Shehla Raza expressed deep concern over human rights violations in Kashmir and Palestine. MNA Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar thanked the UK for its aid during the COVID-19 pandemic.

MNA Syed Amin-ul-Haq described Pakistan-UK relations as historic. MNA Noor Alam Khan emphasized Pakistan's sacrifices in the fight against terrorism and urged global acknowledgement of these efforts. Himesh Falconer thanked the Speaker for the warm reception and reaffirmed the UK's commitment to its longstanding ties with Pakistan.

He announced £108 million aid package to tackle climate change induced challenges in Pakistan, highlighting that a partnership on this issue is mutually beneficial. The minister pledged continued UK support for Pakistan in strengthening its democratic institutions and fostering economic and social cooperation.

Parliamentary Delegation, accompanying the UK Minister, comprised British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, Personal Assistant to the Minister, Calum Matthews, Political Counsellor, Zoe Ware, Deputy Political Counsellor, Mark Bailey, ing and promoting parliamentary and economic cooperation these ties can PML-N Chief Whip, Dr. Tariq and Principal Political Adviser to the economic cooperation these ties can Fazal Chaudhry highlighted the sig-

# Senate Body restores 137 teachers; addresses media misinformation

journey. During the meet- ISLAMABAD (APP): The tiative. She clarified that of Committee Education Professional Training, fol-lowing tireless efforts and mittee's persistent efforts continuous day-to-day and daily hearings. hearings, reinstated 137 teachers of ICT public secpreviously dismissed.

> Committee on Federal Education

Tuesday. Senator Bushra Anjum Butt lamented Butt, emphasized that the committee's primary objective is to facilitate ing deserving individuals, pareducational journey.

However, after the condiscontent regarding media misinformation surrounding the issue, particularly claims that the reinstatesolely a Ministry-led ini- Maintenance of Standards derogatory remarks about

O(APP): The tiative. She clarified that of Education Standing this matter had been stalled (Amendment) Bill 2024".

On Federal for years and only gained The bill will understand the state of textbooks. In response, the and momentum over the last

In a statement, Senator Butt observed certain sector schools who had been tions of the media for spreading inaccurate infor-The teachers were offi- mation, asserting that it is cially notified and regular- the responsibility of the education to be incorporatized on 18th November media to provide correct 2024. Senate Standing and unbiased reports. She also issued a formal ban on and the media outlet that has Professional Training met propagated this misleading with Senator Bushra information, "If informa-Anjum Butt Tuesday at the tion is to be manipulated, Parliament House on then there is no need for it to be reported," Senator

Key Agenda Items Discussed during the meeting included Private Members ticularly youth, in over- Educational Curriculum coming challenges in their moved by Senator Quratul-Ain Marri.

A subcommittee was clusion of the meeting, the formed, led by Senator chairperson expressed her Kamran Murtaza, Senator Khalida Ateeb, and Qurat-ul-Ain Senator Marri, to review the "Federal Supervision of ment of the teachers was Curricula, Textbooks, and

further scrutiny, with special attention given to the viewpoints of the Islamic Council of Ideology, on education on reproductive health to be included in the

Curricula.

Senator Butt also advocated for mental health ed into the national curriculum, highlighting the importance of addressing issues like depression, anxiety, and demotivation among Additionally, she emphasized the need for comprehensive education on reproductive health as pre-

sented in the bill. raised a starred question regarding the number of scholarships offered during the past three years. The committee chairperinstructed son Chairman of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to expedite the

response.

Senator Bilal Ahmed Khan raised a point of public importance concerning

action, securing a formal apology from the author. All copies of the offending textbooks were confiscated, and an official notification was issued to remove them from the market. The books will be reprinted and

On the occasion, a comprehensive briefing was presented by the CEO of Education Pakistan Endowment Fund (PEEF). formerly known as NEST, youth. regarding the organization's performance and the status of scholarships offered to students.

republished without errors.

Senator Butt emphasized the need for an offi-Senator Shahadut Awan cial audit report to ensure there has been no fraudulent activity. She also stressed the importance of appointing a permanent CEO to ensure the organithe zation operates effectively and efficiently.

The meeting was attended by Senators Falak Naz, Kamran Murtaza, Khalida Ateeb, Qurat-ul-Ain Marri, and Shahadut Awan, along with representatives from relevant departments.

### Nation rejects opposition's call of destabilizing Pakistan: Rana

Chairman of the Prime 23 in which around 3,000 Minister's Programme(PMYP) Rana on Tuesday said that not send a positive mes-

any hurdle to derail the the capital and disrupt the country's prosperity and daily life.

development. "With 3,000 partici-Addressing a news conference, Mashhood said Olympiad will not only that a political party hav- foster a spirit of healthy ing imported agenda of competition but will also

destabilising made attempts in the past youth to engage, excel, of sit-ins during a previous and represent their univervisit by the Chinese prime sities with pride. minister in 2014 and had also given a protest call to Ambassadors, internationdisrupt the Shanghai al development partners Cooperation Organisation and international sports (SCO) summit.

the Prime Minister's the event. University Sports (PMUS)Olympiad would that Pakistan's position tunities to the youth.

(APP): start from November 21 to had been strengthened at

"Protests during nation-Mashhood Ahmad Khan ally significant events do the November 24 protest that the government call of the opposition as the people did not want gruntled elements to enter

> pants, the Pakistan serve as a platform for the

added He organisations were also

the global level and the Youth athletes would participate. trust of international financial institutions and big powers reflected the best economic policies of entire nation had rejected sage," he said and added the govt that the country was advancing towards the path of development.

He said that the participation of 50 players from 14 foreign countries in tennis competitions also highlighted the country's positive image.

Mashhood said that Pakistan has a talented youth and has a central role in progressing the towards country paced development.

He added the government under the dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was taking various initia-He said a mega event of invited to participate in tives to highlight the ne event. potential and provide Chairman PMYP said more employment oppor-

#### Crime review meetings held RAWALPINDI (APP): A

crime review meeting was Superintendent of Police Saddar Muhammad Nabil Khokhar at the police stations of Gujjar Khan, Jatli, and Mandra, informed police spokesman. The meeting was attended by SDPO Gujjar Khan, SHOs, and investigation officers. During the meetings, the progress of various cases was reviewed, and the officers were given clear instructions to arrest the accused involved in pending investigations. SP Khokhar stressed the importance of issuing challans on time and speeding up the investigation process further. He highlighted the need for an improved patrolling system to tackle the rising issue of motorcycle thefts. The protection of citizens and addressing their concerns were outlined as top priorities, he maintained. Khokhar urged the police officers to treat citizens with respect.

#### 6,900 carats of emeralds sold

PANJSHIR (BNA): Officials from the Panjshir Department of Mines and Petroleum have announced the sale of freshly extracted emeralds from the province. According to the head of the Panjshir Department of Mines and Petroleum, Mawlawi Mohammad Qasim Amiri, 6,909 carats of emeralds, extracted from the Hosse-e-Awal district of Panjshir, were sold for a total value of \$305,910 during the 13th

# The Frontier Post FGHANISTA Jamadi-ul-Awwal 17 1446 — Wednesday, November 20, 2024

**Uplift projects approved** 

KABUL (BNA): The Acting Minister of Higher Education, Sheikh Neda Mohammad Nadim, approved four major foundational projects valued at 30 million Afghanis during an official visit to Ghazni University. These projects include the construction of a general conference and meeting hall, a central library, a research farm for the Faculty of Agriculture, and the expansion and renovation of the universi-

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

### Project launched to revive Jangal Bagh

JAWZJAN (TOLOnews): Ministry of Agriculture," day laborers and might find The irrigation network said Mohammad Amin work for two days, but the project for Jangal Bagh in Akrami, an irrigation sperest of the days, we were launched at a cost of over Agriculture. four million afghani.

Officials from Ministry of Agriculture, ing due to elevation differ-Irrigation, and Livestock ences. The wells dug cansaid this project aims to not supply water to higher this project will be executprevent the drying of trees areas due to the lack of adein Jangal Bagh, one of the quate largest research and recre- Zabihullah Abrar, Director ational gardens in the of Natural Resources at the province.

This garden, established Directorate. about 90 years ago on more water shortages.

"Due to water shortages, worth 4.016 million meters of skem pipes and a worker on this project. 1,200 meters of irrigation

Jowzjan province has been cialist at the Ministry of

"Water passage through the the canals is very challengflow," Agriculture Jowzjan

Several workers involthan 400 acres of land, has ved in the project have lost a significant number of urged the Islamic Emirate trees in recent years due to and aid organizations to implement similar projects.

'Now we don't need to many trees in Jangal Bagh go to Iran. Work here is have dried up. This project, good, and if there are jobs here, we won't need to migafghani, includes 1,200 rate," said Sher Mohammad,

canals, implemented by the Previously, we worked as

unemployed. Now every family working here is very happy," said Bismillah,

another worker. Local officials Jowzjan emphasized that ed with high quality and will be completed within three months.

"Development projects in various parts of the country bring great joy to us and the people. This project not only develops the nation but also provides job opportunities for the people," said Gul Haider Shafaq, the governor of Jowzjan.

According to Jowzjan Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock, a major reconstruction of Jangal Bagh "This work is very good. will also be undertaken

### Muttaqi appeals to help strengthen health sector



KABUL (Ariana News): appealed to the World He- support for Afghanistan alth Organization to equip from leading health experts and strengthen Afghanis- around the world. tan's health sector and to suceutical production sector. the Bill Gates Foundation, six cases each in 2023.

Kabul this week for talks with Amir Khan Muttaqi,

During the meeting, Muttaqi asked the World cal production sector.

40 Afghan

migrants

detained

KABUL (Khaama Press):

The Turkish Coast Guard announced that 44 Afghan

migrants, including 19 chil-

dren, were detained in two

separate operations in the

city of Canakkale. The

detained migrants were

transferred to holding cen-

ters, and their deportation

According to Turkish media, the Ayvacik Coast

Guard detained 39 Afghan

migrants, including 19 chil-

dren, in Çanakkale. In a

process has begun.

Dr. Hanan Balkhy, the also attended this meeting World Health Organizat- and said his organization Regional Office, met in polio virus in Afghanistan. Polio cases increase

Elias' comment comes the IEA's foreign minister. after the WHO stated that the forced repatriation of ciency in the pharmaceutical production sector. tributed to the regional resurgence of the disease. migrants returning to Afghanistan since August 2023.

Pakistan and Afgha-Balkhy meanwhile said The Islamic Emirate has that he was trying to garner nistan are the only two polio-endemic nations in the world and so far this year, the two countries have Christopher Elias, head reported 49 and 23 cases pport Afghanistan's pharma- of global development for respectively; up from only

stan was confirmed last ion's director for the was trying to take effective week in the southwestern Mediterranean measures to eliminate the province of Balochistan, which sits on the Afghan border and accounts for half

the cases reported in 2024. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has said Afghan nationals from that Pakistan's crackdown Health Organization to Pakistan was a "major set- on undocumented foreign assist Afghanistan and to back" for polio eradication nationals has resulted in help it achieve self-suffi- efforts and that it con- more than 730,000 Afghan anistan since August 2023.

### *Over 300* Afghan refugees deported KABUL (Khaama Press):

Officials from the Ministry Refugees Repatriation have reported that over 300 Afghan refugees were deported from Iran and Pakistan and have returned Afghanistan.

The Bakhtar News reported on Agency Tuesday, November 19 that 323 Afghan families were deported from Iran and Pakistan and re-entered Afghanistan through various border crossings.

According to the report, the deported refugees returned to Afghanistan through the provinces of Nangarhar, Kandahar, Nimroz, and Herat.

The deportation Afghan refugees from Pakistan comes as the trend of forced expulsions from neighboring countries, particularly Iran and Pakistan, has seen a significant rise in recent months.

This follows a recent announcement by the United Nations, which revealed that over two million Afghan refugees have been deported from Iran and Pakistan in the past

The growing number of deportations has placed immense pressure on Afghanistan, which is already grappling with an economic and humanitarian crisis, leaving returnees without basic support or resources.

The escalating deportations of Afghan refugees from neighboring countries highlight the deteriorating regional tolerance for hosting displaced populations.

This surge in expulsions has created immense strain on Afghanistan's limited infrastructure and humanitarian resources, exacerbating an already dire situation for returnees who often arrive with little to no support.

Furthermore, The latest case in Paki- forcible deportation of Afghan refugees has raised concerns among human rights organizations about violations of international refugee conventions.

Many deportees report facing harassment, lack of due process, and inadequate time to prepare for their return, underscoring the urgent need for a coordinated international response to address this growing crisis.

# Hanafi calls for action on expired medicines

Abdul Salam Hanafi, the Administrative Deputy of the Prime Minister's Office, has expressed concern over the distribution of expired and low-quality medicines and kits by international organizations in Afghanistan. He has called on the World Health Organization (WHO) to prevent such practices.

According to a statement issued by the Arg, Hanafi raised this issue during a Hanan meeting Hassan Al-Balkhi, the Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean of World Health Organization (WHO).
"The distribution of

expired and low-quality medicines and kits not only creates problems for patients but also damages the credibility of international organizations. This must be prevented," said the Arg.

Director for the Eastern the disease," said Hanafi. Mediterranean promised to investigate this matter.

During the meeting, countries where positive Hanafi also requested that cases of polio are still Afghanistan's seat at the reported, and both nations WHO be assigned to a rep-resentative of the Islamic the disease.

Emirate.

Other requests raised by years. He emphasized that the the Administrative Deputy Islamic Emirate is fully of the Islamic Emirate patients, treating addicts and infectious diseases, establishing a specialized hospital for cancer treat-

vaccinating all children, The Arg further said that eradicating polio, and the WHO Regional ensuring no child contracts ity of doctors and techni-Afghanistan Pakistan remain among the

"We are committed to

committed to eradicating

polio in Afghanistan.

equipping them. extensive challenges in the

A lack of resources, weak healthcare infrastrucincluded facilitating visa ture, and reliance on inter-issuance for Afghan national aid have left millions of Afghans without access to adequate healthcare services. With one of the highest ment, enhancing the capac-

maternal and child mortalirates, Afghanistan cians, reactivating polio urgently requires global laboratories, and fully attention to provide sustainable healthcare services, Afghanistan has faced modern equipment, and improved training healthcare sector in recent healthcare workers.

### Kabul faces worsening power outages amid rising winter concerns

These days, residents of there is no electricity. various areas in Kabul are Especially during the wincomplaining and are calling on the interim government to address this issue.

They say that despite the for their needs.

#### MoD teams repair and reactivate 325 vehicles

KABUL (BNA): The fixed and mobile workshop teams of the Engineering and Fortification Directorate of the Ministry of National Defense have successfully repaired and reactivated 325 various military vehicles.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of National Defense's press office, as a result of the concerted efforts of the fixed and mobile teams, 325 engineering and military vehicles, including those used in central and regional units, have been repaired

and made operational. In the past, the repair of heavy vehicles was conducted by the NMS company. However, with the establishment of fully equipped workshops and the deployment of both fixed and mobile teams, the Engineering and Fortification Directorate is now capable of independ-

ently repairing all types of military vehicles. It is also important to note that the technical teams of the Ministry of National Defense have repaired and reactivated thousands of military vehicles across the central and regional army corps.

"From 4 PM to 9 PM, alleviate some of these about ter season, electricity is a expensive. It would be betincreased power outages crucial and essential service ter if the government pro-

people,' said Mohammad Farooq, a Kabul resident.

"The electricity issues weather not being fully are severe. It comes and cold yet, they have electric-goes frequently. If we have goes frequently. If we have ity for only 5 to 6 hours a electricity during the day, would be good if the gov-day, which is insufficient it's only for 5 or 6 hours, would be good if the gov-ernment addressed the elecneeds," said Sohail Khan,

another Kabul resident. Other residents of Kabul challenges. "Wood and coal are

vided 24-hour electricity so we can keep our homes "said Fawad, a warm, Kabul resident. "People cannot afford to buy wood and coal. It

which is not enough for our tricity problems," said an exclusive interview with Faheem, another resident of TOLOnews that plans had Kabul.

say that the country's dire economic situation has the main reason for the out- vent frequent outages. economic situation has the main reason for the outmade life harder for many ages to maintenance work. However, it seems there is families, and having consistent electricity could capital. on the power lines in the still no news of these plans being implemented.

"Breshna is working to provide adequate and reliable electricity for the people. To this end, we have implemented two key programs to ensure more stable electricity during the uncoming winter," said upcoming winter," said Hikmatullah Maywandi, spokesperson for Breshna Company.

Previously, the head of been prepared to ensure electricity supply for the

### **Innovation exhibition** highlights creativity



pants in the second day of Afghanistan's Second National Exhibition of Innovations and Top Inventions have called on officials in the interim government to support them in developing their products. The exhibition, which opened at Badam

Bagh in Kabul, will continue for four days. Haseebullah, who along with a group of young people built a military vehicle in six months with limited resources and displayed it at the exhibition, told TOLOnews: "When Israel attacked Palestine, as it is a Muslim country and they want to destroy Islam, this motivated

KABUL (TOLOnews): Several partici- us. We said to ourselves that we can create something and support the people of Palestine

Zia-ul-Haq, another participant from Farah, told TOLOnews: "I feel proud that have built such a device, which, God willing, can help defend our homeland in the future." Participants expressed happiness at having the opportunity to showcase their creations.

Naqibullah, another participant, said: We can stretch our hands, get water, or wash our hands. This system is designed for laboratories and health centers, and we considered it during the COVID-19 pan-

Organizers said the aim of the exhibition is to promote the innovations of young people in the country and urged domestic and international partners to support these creative individuals.

Sayed Mohsen Sadat, head of research and innovation at the Technical and Vocational Education Administration, said: "Compared to yesterday, we had significantly more visitors. So far, we have registered over 2,000 visitors and hope to see even more in the coming days. We expect to achieve great results by the end of this exhibition.'

Obaidullah, a visitor, said: "It is a source of joy and pride that such an exhibition has been organized. It would be good if similar exhibitions were held in the future as well. This is beneficial for the future generations of Afghanistan to encourage creativity.'

The exhibition features 318 projects from 21 provinces displayed in 80 booths, showcasing innovations in technical fields, robotics, and agricultural tools over four days.

# Boosting Herat-Khaf railway: Officials visit Iran

Mohammad Ashraf Haqshenas, spokesperson for the Ministry of Public Works, stated that a delegation led by the deputy for railway from the ministry has traveled to Iran.

Haqshenas said that during this trip, the delegation will discuss cooperation via railways and increasing the volume of transport through the Herat-Khaf railway with Iranian officials.

separate operation in the same area, five more Afghan citizens were detained During these operations, two individuals were arrested on charges of human trafficking. Turkish authorities stated that investigations into their cases are ongoing.

railway infrastructure."

'Recently, Iran's railway was established. If it is fur-

### and Investment.

Meanwhile, Chamber of ther developed, it will ben-Commerce and Investment, efit both traders and the considering the importance region. It is a low-cost corexports with Pakistan and

> from the Ministry of Public Works participated in the 81st meeting of the Commonwealth of Independent States Railway Transport Council in Uzbekistan. On the sidelines of this meeting,

#### (TOLOnews): technical capacity of Afghan Financial acting Head of railway staff, and exploring the Chamber of Commerce joint investment opportunities in the development of

The spokesperson of the Ministry of Public Works mentioned that the transfer process via the Herat-Khaf railway is proceeding normally, saying: "In this meeting, both sides discussed important issues comprehensively, including increasing transfers through the

of this delegation's visit, ridor that can facilitate emphasized attracting grea-ter cooperation from Iran in India," said Mirwais Haji the field of railways with Zada, a businessman. Afghanistan. The chamber sees railway transport as impactful in reducing costs. 'According to an agree-

ment previously held between Iran and India, facilities should be provided at Chabahar Port, exist-

Previously, a delegation

ing issues resolved, and the they also discussed implecongestion of ships reduced menting joint railway projslightly so that we can ects and the transport of transfer export and import commercial goods via railgoods through Chabahar ways with railway officials third section of the Herat-Khaf railway, enhancing the Popal, Administrative and and Uzbekistan.

### 80-year-old freed after being detained for 7 years by son



(TOLOnews): Yar Rod district in Farah province, has Mohammad, a resident of Pusht-e- been freed after seven years of TOLOnews: "After receiving infor-

his son in the center of the province.

The 80-year-old man, who was released from his son's home imprisonment through the joint efforts of the Office of Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice and the security forces of the province, is currently under treatment by the Farah Public Health Directorate due to illnesses and other issues caused dur-

ing his imprisonment. Local officials in Farah have stated that Khuda Rahm, the son of this man, has been arrested.

Yar Mohammad was held in an unsuitable environment and in poor conditions in the jail. Abdul Majeed Mosamam, head of

the Farah Office of Promotion of

Virtue and Prevention of Vice, told

Khuda Rahm said: "Seven years ago, I imprisoned my father in a room located at the corner of the yard. I regret my actions and urge others to treat their parents kindly. Several residents of Farah have

deemed the imprisonment of this

man by his son to be contrary to

remorse and is now released."

with kindness.

mprisonment in a private jail run by mation, we went to the location of the rights, urging authorities to take seriarea where this man was held. He was ous and legal action against such in an unsuitable environment and in individuals. poor condition. He is now under treat-

Mumtaz, one of the residents of Farah, said: "Every child should ment. The perpetrator has been handrespect their father because a father ed over to the law, and after the intervention of elders, he has expressed has significant rights over their children, and anyone who mistreats their Khuda Rahm, the son of Yar father will face God's displeasure.'

Mohammad, who was arrested by Tofan, another resident of Farah, security forces, expressed regret and said: "Imprisoning this man by his son is against Islamic teachings and urged others to treat their parents parental rights. I urge officials to take serious and legal action against such individuals.

Previously, similar incidents have been reported in the country, the most notable being the imprisonment of Nikbakht, who spent 25 years of her life in a dark room in her brother's house in the Chahar Qala-Islamic teachings and parental e-Wazirabad area of Kabul



KARTARPUR: Indian Sikh Yatrees arriving at Pakistan-India border to attend birth anniversary

### PM directs installation of cameras at sugar mills

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), and ly beneficia Intelligence Bureau to take joint action to cooperation. prevent tax evasion on sugar sale, undocumented sales and price hikes.

A notification to this effect has also been issued. According to a statement issued by the PM Office, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said sugar crushing season is starting and complete GST collection from sugar mills and dealers should be

The Prime Minister took a decision to install cameras at sugar mills saying this will prevent sugar hoarding and maintain price stability. He said strict legal action will be taken against the sugar mill owners involved in tax evasion and hoarding. The Prime Minister directed that any increase in sugar prices would not be tolerated. He said similar measures should be taken in other sectors such as steel, cigarettes, cement, and beverages.

Shehbaz Sharif emphasizing the significance of cooperation between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in different sectors, expressed satisfaction over the implementation of recently signed bilateral MoUs for Saudi investment worth \$2.8 billion in

Deputy Interior Minister of Saudi Arabia, who is on an official visit to Pakistan, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Shehbaz

tries, the prime minister thanked the Saudi leadership and government for always supporting Pakistan and said both sides were working together to further strengthen Pakistan-Saudi Arabia ties into mutually beneficial economic and investment

The prime minister welcomed the Saudi Deputy Interior Minister to Pakistan and wished him a successful visit. He also conveyed his greetings and best wishes to The Custodian of Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud and Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud.

Discussing the situation in Gaza and the broader Middle East, the prime minister recalled the recent Arab-Islamic Summit held in Riyadh, and appreciated the leadership of Saudi Arabia for holding the event and also the stance of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman over the issue of Palestine. Prime Minister Shehbaz applauded the leadership role of Saudi Arabia and the efforts of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in unifying the Meanwhile, the Prime Minister Ummah to collectively seek an end to violence in Gaza due to Israel's genocidal

Emphasizing the significance of bilateral cooperation in defence and security sectors, he said that the visit of the Saudi deputy interior minister and his delegation would help bring both sides closer in terms The bilateral ties were discussed as of cooperation in the said sensitive areas Prime Minister Shehbaz also reiterated his invitation to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to undertake an official visit to Sharif here, according to a PM Office Pakistan at his earliest convenience as the press release. Recalling the historic and people of Pakistan were waiting to accord fraternal relations between the two counhim a very warm welcome.

### Putin issues warning to US with new N-doctrine

(Reuters): Russian President Vladimir Putin issued a warning to the nuclear response. United States on Tuesday, lowering the threshold for a Russian Federation and [or] nuclear strike just days after its allies on the part of any the administration of Joe non-nuclear state with the Biden reportedly allowed Ukraine to fire American nuclear state is considered as missiles deep into Russia.

mally known as "The basics any state from a military of state policy in the field of coalition nuclear deterrence", outlines the threats that would make Federation and [or] its allies Russia, the world's biggest nuclear power, contemplate by the coalition (bloc, union) using such weapons. Russia as a whole." would consider a nuclear strike if it, or its ally Belarus, considered nuclear weapons faced aggression "with the as a means of deterrence and use of conventional weapons that created a critical threat to make absolutely clear to to their sovereignty and [or] their territorial integrity", the new doctrine said.

out in a 2020 decree, said control 88 per cent of the Russia may use nuclear world's nuclear warheads. weapons in case of a nuclear Putin is Russia's primary attack by an enemy or a conventional attack that threatened the existence of the state. Other innovations November US presidential included considering any elections, Putin ordered conventional assault on changes to the nuclear doc-Russia by a non-nuclear trine. Those changes have power supported by a now been formally approved nuclear power to be a joint by Putin. Analysts said at the tary infrastructure and perattack. Any mass aerospace time that the change to the attack with aircraft, cruise doctrine was an attempt by missiles and unmanned air- Putin to draw a red line for firing of the missiles.

craft that crossed Russia's the borders could also trigger a

"Aggression against the participation or support of a their joint attack," the doc-The updated doctrine, for-trine said. "Aggression of (bloc, union) Russian the against is considered as aggression

The Kremlin said Russia that the updated text aimed potential enemies the inevitability of retaliation should they attack Russia. The previous doctrine, set Together, Russia and the US decision-maker on the use of Russia's nuclear arsenal.

Weeks before

West. The war in Ukraine, which entered its 1,000th day on Tuesday, has triggered the gravest confrontation between Russia and the West since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis - considered to be the closest the two Cold War superpowers

came to intentional nuclear

The reported decision on

the use of US missiles by the outgoing Biden administration — though yet to be confirmed by Washington has escalated tensions over Ukraine. Washington says Russia's deployment of North Korean soldiers in Russia is an escalation. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, commenting on reports that Kyiv may use US-made ATAČMS missiles in support of Ukraine's military incursion into Russia's Kursk region, said on Tuesday that the Russian military was monitoring the situation very closely. Putin said on Sept 12 that Western approval for such a step would mean "the direc involvement of Nato countries, the US and European countries in the war in Ukraine" because Nato mili

#### Trump's hush money case should be paused NEW YORK (Reuters): before the 2016 election not guilty in the case, which

The case in which Donald about a sexual encounter he has long portrayed as a Trump was convicted on she says she had with criminal charges stemming Trump, who denies it. from hush money paid to a porn star should be paused time a US president — forin light of his election victo- mer or sitting — had been ry to allow Trump to seek convicted of or charged dismissal, New York prose-

cutors said on Tuesday. Trump, 78, is hoping to enter office for a second has faced and which some said would derail his 2024 candidacy to return to the House. Republican Trump was consider next steps in the case, victed in May of falsifying citing the need to balance business records to cover up the "competing interests" a \$130,000 payment his for- between having the crimimade to porn star Stormy protecting the office of the cannot be used in trials

The case marked the first with a criminal offense. Trump had been scheduled to be sentenced on Nov. 26, but Merchan last week put term unencumbered by any all proceedings in the case of the four criminal cases he on pause at the request of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office.

The prosecutors had The asked for more time to con-Daniels for her silence president. Trump pleaded over personal behavior.

politically attempt by Bragg, a Democrat, to interfere with

sonnel would have to be

involved in the targeting and

His defense lawyers urged Merchan to dismiss the case, arguing that having it loom over him while he was president would "unconstitutional cause impediments" to his ability to govern. Trump's lawyers also argued his conviction should be vacated and the charges dismissed because of the US Supreme Court's ruling in July that presidents cannot be prosecuted over their official acts, and that evimer lawyer Michael Cohen nal case go forward and dence of their official acts

his campaign.

Aljazeera

#### UK, India to resume stalled free trade talks

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) Britain and India will resume stalled talks to agree a free-trade deal, the two countries said after their leaders met at the G20 summit in Brazil.

Prime Minister Kein Starmer, who took power in London in July, hailed his meeting with Indian counterpart Narendra Modi as productive" and vowed that a trade pact with Delhi would boost UK growth. "A new trade deal will support jobs and prosperity in the UK — and represent a step forward in our mission to deliver growth and opportunity across the country," he posted on X late Monday.

Hours earlier, Starmer's office confirmed the two countries would relaunch the talks "in the new year' as Britain sought "a new strategic partnership with India". That will include "deepening cooperation in areas like security, education, technology, and cli-mate change," Downing mate change," Street said in a statement summarising the meeting of the two leaders.

India's foreign ministry said both leaders had 'underlined the importance of resuming the Free Trade Agreement negotiations at an early date". It added they had "expressed confidence in the ability of the negotiating teams, to address the remaining issues to mutual satisfaction, leading to a balanced, mutually beneficial and Agreement".

The two countries have spent nearly three years negotiating what would be a milestone for Britain as it continues to seek alternative markets after its departure from the European The previous Union. Conservative government ousted by Starmer's Labour party in July, had hit several roadblocks in its talks with Delhi over the trade pact. In exchange for lowering tariffs on British imports such as whisky. India has pushed for more UK work and study visas for its citizens.

#### 200 children killed in Lebanon: UN

NEW YORK: More than 200 children have been killed in Lebanon since Israel launched a military campaign focused on its northern neighbour two months ago, the United Nations agency for chil dren (UNICEF) has said.

An average of three children have been killed every day in Lebanon UNICEF told reporters on Tuesday, as Israel has intensified its bombing campaign across the country. It warned that as in Gaza, despite the horrific toll on Lebanon's children "those with influence" were failing to mount a meaningful response 'Despite more than 200 children killed in Lebanon in less than two months, a disconcerting pattern has emerged: their deaths are met with inertia from those able to stop this violence,' UNICEF's spokesperson

James Elder told reporters. 'For the children of Lebanon, it has become a silent normalisation of horror," he added. Elder listed at least six attacks across Lebanon where children were killed, most of the time along with their families, over just the past 10 days. The UN official noted "chilling similarities' between what is happening to children in Lebanon with those in Gaza, which has been pounded by Israeli air raids for more than a year.

### Bilawal briefed on performance of Sindh govt

Sharjeel says PPP govt taking steps for public welfare

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari met with Senior Minister of Sindh Government Sharjeel Inam Memon at Bilawal House Karachi. On the occasion of Chairman meeting, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that along with solving public problems it is also important to further highlight the feeling among the people that the government stands with the common man at every step.

During the meeting, Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was briefed by Senior light the performance of the provincial government.

Memon briefed Chairman Bilawal its duties to highlight the continuity of public service in Sindh. He said being laid in Sindh, and public problems arising in this regard are also being resolved on priority basis.

Transit Sindh, Sharjeel Inam Memon inaugurated the Command and Control Center of People's Bus Service. The Command and Control Center has been established at the office D-43 Block 2, Clifton, of the Sindh Mass Transit Authority. The

Talking to the media on the occasion of the inauguration ceremony, Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the Command and Control Center will provide proper monitoring and timely necessary instructions to the People's Bus Service running across Sindh. This command and control system would monitor the convenience of the passengers of the People's Bus Service and their live videos and will monitor the conduct of the staff. If there is any complaint or the fare is being charged excessively, you can complain. If any item of a passenger gets stolen or missing, it will also be captured on

He said that, for the very first time lished that would monitor all the Gandapur came to Islamabad last we are taking our stand and on operations of the People's Bus time, civil people were throwing tear which we are talking about our gen-Service. Along with this, complaint gas shells on behalf of him through uine rights.

Minister of Sindh Sharjeel Inam numbers have also been given on the right path. Everything has good Memon on the steps taken to high- which any complaint related to the and bad uses. Unfortunately, those

service can be made. If anyone has any complaint, it can also be Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam redressed in a timely manner.

Bhutto Zardari that the provincial Memon has said that this facility was information department is performing in developed countries. The Sindh government is providing facilities like that to developed countries in that a public transport network is Sindh. Earlier, a card system was introduced for purchasing tickets for the People's Bus Service, which has eing resolved on priority basis. made it very easy for passengers.

Meanwhile, Senior Minister for Insha Allah, the Sindh government Information, Transport and Mass will soon bring more facilities for its party in the country that has had the people. In response to a question while talking to media,

Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon further said that the same group that announced protests on November 24 is the same force that wants anarchy and lawlessness in the Command and Control Center will country. Improvement in the national monitor, facilitate, and live-track the economy, gushing business activities operations related to the People's Bus notwithstanding, there is a force that wants to bring the wheels of the national economy to a grinding halt. These people want to harm the country's economy. Bushra Bibi has also recently announced that everybody should march towards Islamabad

with five thousand men. The politicians are being black-mailed that anyone who fails to bring 5 thousand men on November 24th will not be given any tickets in the forthcoming elections. It's the same hostage-taking group that is trying to hold the country hostage, and that group wants anarchy and chaos in the country. God forbid horrific incidents like May 9. May 9 was not an ordinary day; it was a tragic tragedy in the history of Pakistan.

in Sindh, such a modern command incidents and are trying to hold the by the federation. This is the right and control system has been estab- state hostage. When Ali Amin of the whole of Pakistan, on which

the resources of the state missionary. I think foolishness for anyone who thinks the state can be forced into doing things by the force of a gun or a bully. Tomorrow, terrorist organizations could do that. On another question, the Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam

Memon replied, The Sindh government has serious reservations on the construction of canals on the Indus River; Sindh is already suffering from a water shortage; our stand on this issue is unwavering. He said in response to a question regarding the ban on VPN that we want our country to progress and the youth to be on

who use it badly have also turned good things into bad. PTI people have started digital terrorism on social Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam media at the behest of their leader. They are making things like VPN controversial. Such things should be used positively. Such things must not be controversial and used against institutions.

On the other question, Senior Minister responded that we always talk about freedom of the press. The Pakistan People's Party is the only worst media whenever the PPP has been in power, but the PPP has never imposed a ban on any media. During the 2008 government, the Pakistan People's Party's targeted media was subjected to trial. But we have never disturbed anyone nor imposed any kind of ban.

Answering to a question, he said, we are not an ally of the federal government, but we supported the government unconditionally so that the democratic system could move forward. It was decided in the CEC of the Peoples Party that we are ready for talks with every party, then the message came from the PTI that we are not ready for talks with any party. If the Peoples Party too had kept silent, then the members of assembly could not have taken the oath, and it would not have been enforced. Thus, the Peoples Party supported the federal government by putting demands for the sake of Pakistani people. The Hyderabad-Sukkur Motorway is direly needed for the whole of Pakistan because this road connects the whole of Pakistan to the port, Those people want to repeat such which was not being given priority

### Ukraine hits Russia with US **ATACMS** missiles for first time

forward looking Free Trade | KYIV (Reuters): Ukraine used US war. ATACMS missiles to strike Russian territory on Tuesday, taking advantage of newly granted permission from the outgoing Biden administration on the war's 1,000th day. Russia said its forces shot down five of six of the missiles, which were fired at a military facility in the Bryansk region. Debris of one hit the facility, starting a fire that was swiftly put out and caused no casualties or damage, it said.

Ukraine said it had struck a Russian arms depot around 110 kilometres inside Russia in an attack that caused secondary explosions. The Ukrainian military did not publicly specify what weapons it had used, but a Ukrainian official source and a US official later confirmed it had used ATACMS. President Joe Biden gave approval just this week for Ukraine to use the ATACMS, the longest-range missiles Washington has supplied, for such attacks inside Russia. Moscow has described their potential use as an escalation that would make Washington a direct combatant in the

war and prompt its retaliation. weary troops at the front, Kyiv besieged by airstrikes, a fifth of Ukrainian territory in Moscow's hands and doubts about the future of Western support as Donald Trump heads back to the White House. Military experts say using the US missiles to attack positions at such a depth in Russia can help Ukraine defend a pocket of Russian territory it has captured as a bargaining chip, but is not likely to have a decisive impact 1,000 days of war. on the course of the 33-month-old

Moscow has said such weapons cannot be used without direct operational support from the United States, and therefore their use would make Washington a direct participant in the war. On Tuesday, President Vladimir Putin signed a new nuclear doctrine apparently intended as a warning to Washington. It lowers the threshold under which Russia might use atomic weapons to include responding to attacks that threaten its territorial

Washington said the update to the nuclear doctrine was no surprise and cited "more of the same irresponsible rhetoric from Russia". Reports of the Ukrainian attack caused jitters in markets, with share indexes sliding in Europe and safe haven assets rallying. Trump has criticised the scale of US aid to Kyiv and said he will end the war quickly, without saying how. Both sides appear to anticipate his return in two months will be accompanied by a push for peace talks, which are not known to have taken place since the war's early months.

The warring sides have both been The attack took place as Ukraine escalating in recent weeks in an marked 1,000 days of war, with attempt to secure a stronger position at any negotiations. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy says Kyiv must do everything for the war to end diplomatically next year. "At this stage of the war, it is being decided who will prevail. Whether us over the enemy, or the enemy over us Ukrainians ... and Europeans. And everyone in the world who wants to live freely and not be subject to a dictator," he said in an address to parliament today marking

A candle-lit commemoration was there to try to take it back.

Ukrainian citizens have died, over six million live as refugees abroad and the population has fallen by a quarter since Putin ordered the invasion by land, sea and air that began Europe's biggest conflict since World War Two. Military losses have been huge, although casualty figures remain closely guarded secrets. Public Western estimates based on intelligence reports say hundreds of thousands have been wounded or killed on each side.

"In the frozen trenches of the Donetsk region and in the burning steppes of the Kherson region, under shells, hail, and anti-aircraft guns, we are fighting for the right to live," Ukraine's top commander Oleksandr Syrkyi wrote on Telegram. Tragedy has touched families in every corner of Ukraine, where military funerals are commonplace in cities and farflung villages, and people are exhausted by sleepless nights of air raid sirens and anguish.

In the first year after the invasion, Ukrainian troops pushed Russian forces back from the outskirts of Kyiv and recaptured swathes of territory with surprise military successes against a larger and better-armed foe. But since then, the enemies have settled into relentless trench warfare that has ground eastern Ukrainian cities to dust. Russian forces still occupy a fifth of Ukraine and for the past year, they have steadily gained ground. Kyiv now hopes to gain leverage from a sliver of territory in Russia's Kursk region it captured after launching its first major cross-border assault in August. It says Russia has deployed 50,000 troops

### Three more Palestinians killed

JENIN (AFP): Three Palestinians Palestinian health ministry said the were killed in an Israeli military operation near Jenin in the occupied West Bank on Tuesday, Israeli security forces said. A joint statement from the army, police and Shin Bet security agency said the three militants died in an exchange of fire in Qabatiya village, where undercover border police attempted to arrest a wanted man.

The Israeli forces came under fire from a building where the suspect, shooting and bombing attacks" Raed Hanaysha, was hiding, the recently against the army. Violence in Raed Hanaysha, was hiding, the statement said, before killing him and "two armed terrorists." The Israeli army said it seized weapons from the Gaza broke out on October 7 last scene, "destroyed two bomb-making year. labs," and that its forces were still active in the area.

There are three bodies of martyrs that are now with the Israeli side, after they killed them," local goverthe office in charge of liaising between Israeli and Palestinian Bank, according to official Israeli fig-perpetrating violence in the West authorities in the West Bank. The ures. Meanwhile, Israeli organization Bank," the US Treasury said.

District Coordination Office had also informed it of the deaths of "three young men shot by Israeli forces near Qabatiya," which is in the Jenin governorate. The three men were between 24 and 32 years old, a ministry statement said, identifying Raed Hanaysha as one of the dead. Israeli security forces said

Hanaysha had been involved "in the West Bank, particularly in the north, has soared since the war in

Israeli troops or settlers have killed at least 771 Palestinians in the West Bank since the start of the Gaza war, according to the Ramallah-based health ministry. Palestinian attacks on nor Kamal Abu Al-Rub said, citing Israelis have also killed at least 24 people in the same period in the West between Israeli and Palestinian Bank, according to official Israeli fig-

Amana, a movement that backs developing settlements in the occupied West Bank, on Tuesday denounced sanctions imposed on it by the United States the previous day. A statement by the group said the sanctions "result from baseless slander directed at Amana by hostile and extremist elements.'

'Had the US administration bothered to verify the claims... it would have found them to be factually unfounded and refrained from taking action against us," the statement said. US authorities said Monday they would impose sanctions on Amana and its construction branch Binyanei Bar Amana, as well as others who have "ties to violent actors in the West Bank." "Amana is a key part of the Israeli extremist settlement movement and maintains ties to various persons previously sanctioned by the US government and its partners for