3 killed in N Waziristan F.P. Report

MIR ALI: At least three people were killed in a targeted attack in North Waziristan's Mir Ali area, police informed on Friday. The victims' bodies have been moved to the hospital. Police said, the incident occurred within the jurisdiction of Mir Ali Police Station in Haider Khel Qamar Khel where unknown assailants shot dead

Frontier Post

Cop kidnapped, house burnt F.P. Report

TANK: unidentified armed men on Friday set the house of policeman on fire in Tank district and later abducted him on gunpoint. Police said, the incident occurred in the village of Gara Shada within the jurisdiction of the Saddar Police Station. Unknown assailants completely burned down the house of police constable, Akhtar Zaman during the night and subsequently kidnapped him.

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PESHAWAR EDITION



ISLAMABAD: Vice Chancellor of University of London Wendy Thomson presenting a souvenir to

Parliament holds sole authority to repeal 26th Amend: Bilawal

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari said on Friday only parliament had the mandate and authority to roll back the 26th amendment.

Speaking to media in the federal ting chief justice. He added the 26th amendment had created a lot of convenience for the federation as well as

Answering a question, he said the cabinet. Moreover, the former foreign

r.r. keport

ers who presented the bills

and National Assembly

Speaker Ayaz Sadiq wear-

ing headphones to avoid

noise. The opposition start-

ed protesting after the NA

speaker denied Leader of

Opposition Omar Ayub's

request to speak on the floor

The house approved important bills including,

Trade Organizations (Amendment) Bill 2021.

The bill was presented by

approved with a majority

vote. Imports and Exports (Amendment) Bill 2023

tabled by Federal Minister

Jam Kamal was also passed

by the house. National

Technology Organization

Establishment Bill 2024,

proposed by Member of

Assembly Žahra Wadood

Fatima was also okayed

The joint session of par-

with majority.

till February 12.

Minister

the bill

Jam

was

amid the

Pakistan

of the House.

Federal

technology are the gifts to the the sake of opposition as we had Pakistani nation from Shaheed Quaid given our suggestion and input in that e Awam Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto. Pakistan Peoples Party will never trade on the issue.

capital, he said the judges of Supreme Court should create ease for the sit-Chairman PPP said that this was the news on the media and one should ask this question to the media. He said, he will go to attend the breakfast event the provinces. The PPP chairman said and for the PPP this has continued for it would have been better if the gov- a long time. I don't have an official ernment had consulted the main- position so I do not have any program stream as well digital media on to hold official meetings with US authorities. I intend to meet Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto's friends. PPP would not become part of the On the question of the PPP joining the islation journalists' organizations government he answered in the negaminister said he would take part in the tive. Responding to a question, breakfast invitation of Donald Trump. regarding PECA he said that, it is on Pakistan's foreign policy is intact and in place. The nuclear and missile record we opposed PECA ordinance at the time of PTI's government.

That opposition was not interest.

given our suggestion and input in that legislation which was included. The final proposed draft of the bill shows that the PPP continuously remained engaged with the government and On the question of him attending brought several amendments which have improved the law more than before. There are other political parties as well and if they want to give any suggestions they can do so.

This is the way to give your party's point of view in the parliament. The PPP thus does not have a majority to legislate according to its wishes but with the numbers we have in the parliament we can play our positive role. It would have been better for this legshould have been consulted to forge a consensus and it would have been

better to have consulted the representative of media and digital media at the time when the legislation was at That opposition was not just for the committee level. Parliament's | PTI to boycott 4th round of talks with govt: Gohar

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The joint session of Parliament guick-ISLAMABAD: A day after Pakistan ly concluded on Friday Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Čhairman Barrister opposition' Gohar refused to sit with the government in protest over the recently the ongoing negotiations any further till the passed amendments to the formation of the judicial commission to probe the events of May 9 and Nov 26, Prevention of Electronic Crimes (PECA) law 2025. National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz A live telecast from the Sadiq on Friday summoned another meet-Television ing of the dialogue committee scheduled to Network showed lawmakbe held on Jan 28.

Barrister Gohar Ali Khan told the newsmen on Friday said the decision to call off the talks can be revisited if the government constitutes a judicial commission to probe May 9 and November 26 events.

On the other hand, Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Omar Ayub said the government didn't have the power to offer anything in the negotiations while Gohar said PTI founder Imran Khan had directed the party not to become part of the ongoing negotiations anymore.

It must be noted that the PTI founder had announced ending the negotiations with the government without the formation of the judicial commission demanded by his party. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said talks with the government had been put on "hold" by party founder Imran Khan due to not meeting their demands.

The PTI chairman revealed it while talk-

ing to media at Parliament House a day after he announced calling off the negotiations with the government committee. "We had put only two demands but no action was taken to form judicial commissions in seven days," he said while asserting that seven days were enough to announce the commission.

liament on Friday lasted 18 He said the PTI could reconsider talks if in the dialogue process," he added. minutes of which the treasthe government formed the commission to ury took nine minutes to investigate the May 9 and Nov 26 incidents. A day earlier, Gohar Ali Khan told pass four bills and then the speaker adjourned the house media outside Adiala Jail that Imran Khan side only one man controls the entire negohad directed the party to withdraw from the tiations process who lacks moral values.

dialogue amid government's prevarication on the formation of judicial commissions as demanded by the PTI.

Barrister Gohar stated that despite granting the government a seven-day deadline, no progress had been made in forming a judicial commission. He emphasised that the PTI's preference was to resolve issues through dialogue. However, if the government fails to announce the commission, no further rounds of negotiations will take

Spokesperson for the government's dialogue committee, Senator Irfan Siddiqui, said the PTI had also been invited for the meeting while saying the latter had refused to join and hadn't submitted any written

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has called a meeting of the government and Opposition's negotiation committees while government committee's Senator Irfan Siddiqui on Friday said that they did not halt the negotiations, asking the PTI to return to the talks on January 28

According to a notification released by the National Assembly Secretariat on Friday, the NA speaker has called the meeting of both the committees on January 28 (Tuesday) at Parliament House's Committee Room 5 at 11:45 am. This is going to be the fourth round of talks

between the two sides. Meanwhile, talking to newsmen outside the Parliament House in Islamabad on Friday, Irfan Siddiqui maintained "No ifs and buts, the PTI should come to the table on January 28." He said whom should the government talks as the PTI had called off the talks. "Should we talk to the walls in meeting? A man from Adiala Jail abruptly announced that the PTI was not interested

Irfan Siddiqui said the government negotiation committee was still unaware of the latest situation because as on the other

PTI-backed Junaid Akbar elected PAC Chairman F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed Sunni Ittehad Council's (SIC) MNA Junaid Akbar Khan has been elected as the Chairman of the Public Committee Accounts (PAC) on Friday.

The election of the PAC

chairman took a year to materialise, with PTI and government blaming each other for the delay. Since the current government came into power after the February 2024 elections, the position has been

An emergent meeting of the PAC was summoned after the PTI-backed SIC sent a panel for the position government' demand. Besides Junaid Akbar Khan, the name of Adil Bazai was also among the panel.

Junaid Akbar Khan's name was proposed by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) Tariq Fazal Chaudhry and none of the PAC members objected to it, paving the way for unanimous selection. He was elected member National Assembly for the third time in general elections 2024 a PTIbacked independent candidate from NA-9 Malakand securing 113,513 votes while the runner-up, Syed Ahmad Ali Shah of PPF bagged 40,740 votes.

Dr. Aafia's mercy appeal rejected in US: IHC told

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) was informed on Friday that former US President Joe Biden had rejected the appeal of mercy for release and repatriation of Dr. Aafia

Justice Sardar Ijaz Ishaq Khan of IHC heard the case regarding the release of Dr. Aafia from a US jail During the course of pro-Dr. ceeding, Fawzia Siddiqui and her American Clive lawyer Smith appeared in the court through video link, while the petitioner's lawyer Imran Shafiq and the Additional Attorney General were also present in the court.

The lawyer told the court that former US President Joe Biden rejected Dr. Aafia Siddiqui's mercy plea. During the hearing, the court was also informed that the US has refused to sign an agreement with Pakistan for the release of prisoners.

Justice Sardar Ijaz Ishaq Khan remarked that the US is showing us our worth The former US President pardoned his son's sentence but did not release our prisoner. On the occasion reports containing details of the foreign visits of the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister were presented in the court. The Foreign Office also submitted the answer regarding not attending the meetings related to Dr. Aafia by Pakistani Ambassador to the US. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted a report containing answers to court questions. The court then adjourned the hearing of the case for two

Passenger killed in Lakki Highway F.P. Report

LAKKI MARWAT: A passenger was killed in a firing incident by robbers target passenger van ir Marwat district police informed on Friday. The incident occurred

in Haji Gul Wanda within the jurisdiction of Lakk City Police Station. Police reported that the robbers opened fire on the passenger van, resulting in the tragic death of one passenger. The van was en route from Bannu to Raiwind when the attack happened.

Govt resolved to equip youth with skills: PM

— forms special task force to curb human trafficking groups

F.P. Report

Sharif on Friday said that the incumbent cles, bank accounts, and assets. government was resolved to equip the country's youth with modern skills to cope with the global market's demand.

Vice Chancellor of University of London Wendy Thomson, who called on him here, said that Pakistan's youth were capable of proving their mettle in all fields of life and bringing laurels to the country. He told the visiting dignitary that the Pakistani nationals were serving the international market having graduated from the University of London and other globally renowned insti-

The prime minister said that the government had introduced various programs including merit-based foreign scholarships and employment, and was also formulating new strategies in this regard. Vice Chancellor Wendy Thomson appreciated Prime Minister Shehbaz for the recent initiatives taken by his government to promote education in the country. Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Economic Affairs Minister Ahad Khan Cheema and other relevant senior officers attended the meeting.
Prime Minister also formed a Special

Task Force to combat human trafficking syndicates operating in Pakistan. The task force will be led by the prime minister him-

"We will bring the perpetrators involved in human trafficking to justice," the prime minister resolved while chairing a review meeting regarding steps to curb human trafficking in Pakistan. Stressing to speed up the pace of arrests of those involved in human trafficking, the prime minister directed all the relevant departments including the foreign ministry to play their active role in identifying the human smugglers.

The prime minister said that the entire and purpose. nation, including himself was deeply saddened by the heartbreaking incident of deaths of Pakistanis in the boat of illegal in the deaths of Pakistanis in the illegal immigrant boat incident, arrests made by various institutions in Pakistan, FIRs filed, and the future course of action.

and the names of 16 individuals had been added to the passport control list. The meet-ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz ing was also briefed on the seizure of vehi-

The meeting was also updated on the actions taken against suspected FIA personnel and officers. Besides it was also The prime minister, in a meeting with informed about the report from the overseas investigative committee. The prime minister instructed to identify the human trafficking groups and exemplary punishment should e given to them.

The meeting was attended by federal ministers Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Azam Nazir Tarar, Ahad Khan Cheema, Attaullah Tarar, Special Assistant Tariq Fatemi, and other senior officials.

Azerbaijani Defence Industry
Minister calls on PM: Minister of Defence Industry of Republic of Azerbaijan, Vugar Mustafayev called on Prime Minister hehbaz Sharif.

During the meeting, both sides expressed their shared commitment to strengthen and diversify relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, a Prime Minister's Office news release said. The prime minister expressed satisfaction at the current trajectory of their bilateral cooperation, in all areas of mutual interest, particularly in trade, energy, investment and defence sectors.

Minister for Defence Industry thanked the Prime Minister for the warm hospitality extended by Pakistan to him and his delegation. Vugar Mustafayev is visiting Pakistan Co-Chair the 8th Session of Joint Ministerial Commission between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, being held on 23-24 January 2025 in Islamabad.

Meanwhile, as the world observes International Day of Education on Friday, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif reaffirmed the government's resolve to advance an education system that embraced the promise of artificial intelligence while safeguarding the essence of human creativity, compassion,

The prime minister, in his message to the nation on Education Day annually observed on January 24, acknowledged the educators, immigrants. During the meeting, the prime advocates, and partners working tirelessly to minister was briefed on the groups involved illuminate lives with the light of knowledge. "On this International Day of Education, we reflect on the profound role education plays in empowering individuals and communities to navigate the rapid advancements of The meeting was informed that six technology...Together, let us continue to organized human trafficking groups had champion this noble cause and ensure that been identified, 12 FIRs filed, 25 individue education remains a beacon of hope for genals identified, three key suspects arrested, erations to come," he remarked.



Zardari addressing during PPP CEC meeting at Zardari House.

Saif, JI leaders discuss current political situtation

LAHORE: Barrister Dr. Saif, Advisor to the Chief Minister Khyber of Pakhtunkhwa Information and Public Relations, met Jamaat-e-Islami leaders Liagat Baloch and Amir-ul-Azeem at the party's headquarters in Mansoora, following PTI Chairman Imran Khan's directives.

During the meeting, senior politician Muhammad Ali Durani and other Jamaat-e-Islami leaders were also present. The leaders discussed the country's overall political situation in detail. On this occasion, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif also conveyed a special message from PTI leadership to Jamaat-e-

Islami leaders. Barrister Dr. Saif praised Jamaat-e-Islami's efforts for public relief and thanked the party for its recent statement regarding the snatching of the public Jamaat-e-Islami leaders to mandate. He said that attend a consultative meet-Imran Khan and Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur sent a message of Gandapur.



Barrister Muhammad

Ali Saif stated that Imran Khan directed him to consult with national political parties to establish a com-Liaqat agenda. Baloch, Jamaat-e-Islami's deputy chief, thanked PTI leadership for their good wishes.

Liaqat Baloch emphasized that the public wants genuine relief from inflation Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif also briefed Jamaat-e-Islami leaders on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's efforts to combat terrorism and establish peace in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Information Advisor extended an invitation to Jamaat-e-Islami leaders to called by Chief Minister Ali

Muhammad Ali Saif on Friday lashed out at the federal government for making amendments to the PECA Act, saying the purpose of the amendments was to hide the wrongdoings of the from government media. In a statement, Saif

termed the amendment an attack on the freedom of press while condemning the move as digital nation destruction bill. "The government had attacked the judiciary through passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, now they have strangulated press freedom for perpetuating their time in power," he added. He vowed to stand shoulder to shoulder with journalists saying he had never seen such kind of fascism even in dictator-

KP govt includes Life Insurance **Scheme in Health Card Program** try to introduce an insurance scheme scheme, which will cost Rs 4.5 bil-

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government decided to incorporate the life insurance scheme into the Health Card Program. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed for the implementation of the life insurance scheme at a ceremony held at the Chief Minister's House.

The event was attended by offiwith Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur as the chief guest. 500,000.

Addressing the ceremony, CM Ali
Amin Gandapur stated that KP has that over 10.4 million families will become the first province in the counbenefit from this life insurance healthcare services

of this kind. He emphasized that this lion annually, entirely funded by the initiative is a source of pride and happiness for the provincial government and its people.

He said under the scheme, financial support will be provided to the families of deceased breadwinners who were beneficiaries of the Sehat Card Plus program. Families will receive compensation of Rs one million if the head of the cials from the Health Card program household, aged up to 60 years, and State Life Insurance Corporation, passes away. For those above 60 years, families will receive Rs

provincial government. He added that this initiative, fol-

lowing the Sehat Card Plus, is the KP government's second major program for social security. With nearly 49% of the province's population living below the poverty line, the government is determined to ensure their social protection.

The CM concluded that the life insurance scheme will provide muchneeded relief to families who lose their primary earners. Furthermore, under the Health Card program, 100% of the province's population is already receiving free and quality



Gilani stresses collective efforts to strengthen Parliamentary framework

ISLAMABAD (APP): Representing a broad spec-Chairman Senate Syed trum of Pakistan's demo-Yousaf Raza Gilani on cratic leadership, the dele-Friday called for collective gation includes of fiscal policies.

Chairman Senate was officials. addressing a reception hosted by European Delegation Dr. to Pakistan in Islamabad said a news release.

a pre-departure reception in strengthening Pakistan's and fiscal matters. Parliamentary ahead of their visit to the Parliament and Parliamentary Budget Offices (PBOs) of said, "The European Union Budget Offices (PBOs) of Austria and Ireland.

European Union-funded This visit offers a valuable Parliamentary Development legislators to learn from the

guished members, is led by pendent budgetary analysis the Chairman of the Senate. and effective parliamentary

efforts to build a robust Speakers of the Provincial framework that enhances Assemblies, members of parliamentary capacity and parliament from across ensures effective oversight political parties, and senior parliamentary secretariat

> The reception, hosted by Riina Ambassador the European Union Delegation Pakistan's parliamentary democracy Delegation through this project.

has been a steadfast partner The visit is organised in strengthening Pakistan's under a 15 million euros democratic institutions. in Pakistan (also known as successful practices of learning from the Mustehkam Parlimaan).

Austria and Ireland in Parliamentary This high-level delega- establishing PBOs. They tion, comprising 23 distin- play a critical role in inde-

nance in Pakistan."

legislative capacity, specifically in establishing an extend our deepest appreciation to the parliaments of independent Parliamentary Ireland and Austria and

"This visit reflects the enhancing responsible govenduring and close ties ernance. between Pakistan and the The Office (PBO)

towards inclusive, transpar- empower our federal parliaent, and accountable gover- ment and provincial assemblies with data-driven The visit is a pivotal step insights for more informed in advancing Pakistan's budgetary decisions. We

Kionka, Budget Office (PBO) to their leadership for their provide parliamentarians invaluable cooperation and The European Union to Pakistan, highlighted the tisan, and in-depth analysis will provide us with practi-Delegation to Pakistan hosted EU's commitment to on the economy, budgetary cal knowledge and best practices to guide the estab-Yousaf Raza Gilani, lishment of a PBO in Chairman of the Senate and Pakistan, strengthening our head of delegation, said democratic institutions and

> The visit will focus on to fostering democratic Irish PBOs, both established learning from the successful budget transparency and para framework in Pakistan cussions through independ- and issues of the day. We

PBO, modelled on the opportunity to share our Westminster system, provides a familiar framework for Pakistan's legislators.

Ambassador of Austria to economic legislation and Pakistan, noted: "The estab-policy for their conlishment of PBOs strengthens the accountability and transparency of governance. We are delighted to host Pakistan's delegation and

Declan

d'Affaires), emphasised: 'Well-informed and quality independent advice and European Union, highlight-ing our shared commitment models of the Austrian and fil its mandate. Ireland's tating any parliament to ful- from Austria and Ireland. Parliamentary project named Support to opportunity for Pakistani governance and addressing in the last decade, to address Office was established in common challenges. By critical challenges such as 2017, and provides independent and impartial Budget liamentary independence. information, analysis and models Austria's PBO, established advice to our parliamentariinformation, analysis and implemented in Austria and in 2012, enhances parlia- ans as they address the piv-Ireland, we aim to establish ment's role in budgetary dis- otal economic questions

ent expertise, while Ireland's are very excited to have the experiences with Pakistani parliamentarians, as they similarly seek to deliver Mrs. Andrea Wicke, high quality and effective stituents.

The parliamentarians visit aligns Mustehkam Parlimaan's objectives of supporting the with professional, non-par- support. Their experiences share Austria's journey in National Parliament and creating an independent budget office." Provincial Assemblies in legislative capacity-build-Johnston, ing, oversight enhance-Deputy Ambassador of ment, and inclusive gover-Ireland to Pakistan (Chargé nance. It will also enable participants to develop an action plan for establishing a PBO in Pakistan analysis is crucial in facili- informed by best practices

CM Maryam pledges Ramadan packages to millions of families

LAHORE (PPI): Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif decided in-principle to provide Nighaban Ramadan packages to millions of families in the province, while chairing a special meeting on the subject. According to a statement by Punjab Chief Minister House, she asked citizens to complete registration for Nighaban Ramadan package by February 15, and direct-

ed the authorities concerned to take necessary measures to ensure transparency in the provision of Ramadan Nighaban packages to the deserving families. Maryam said, "Nighaban Ramadan package is a right

of the poor, and a duty of the government." She added,"People should get their right with respect and dignity." She highlighted, "People should not stand in queues to get Nighaban Ramadan packages." She said, People should be served to seek Allah Almighty's pleasure in Ramadan." She added,"The administration and relevant authorities should perform their duries considering them not as a duty but an act of worship.

Ombudsman meets elected Provincial Ombudsman Sindh's **Ambassadors**

KARACHI (APP): Provincial Ombudsman Sindh Mohammad Sohail Rajput met with the delegation of elected Provincial Ombudsman Sindh's Ambassadors from Saleem Habib University in his office here Friday. On the occasion, Advisor Provincial Ombudsman Rehana G Ali Memon, Registrar Masood Ishrat and oth-

ers were also present in the meeting.

During the meeting, Sohail Rajput informed the ambassadors about the aims and objectives of the Provincial Ombudsman Office and emphasized playing their role in public awareness about the Provincial Ombudsman Office. Sohail Rajput said that students are our bright future, what they learn today will be useful for them tomorrow, while the ambassadors who perform

best will also be given internships. He said that the selected ambassadors will be taken to various offices of the Provincial Ombudsman and will also be awarded certificates of appreciation, while awareness sessions will be held in other educational institutions for the selection of more ambassadors. During the meeting, the ambassadors also asked various questions related to the jurisdiction and procedures of the Provincial Ombudsman Sindh, to which the Provincial Ombudsman Sindh Mohammad Sohail Rajput gave detailed answers.

Commissioner chairs meeting on urban governance

Muhammad Naeem Khan

KARACHI: Commissioner Karachi, Syed Hassan Naqvi, chaired a weekly virtual meeting on urban governance, focusing on the anti-encroachment drive. Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners presented their progress reports on the efforts for the improvement of urban governance, including anti-encroachment drives to improve traffic, said a statement on Friday. The meeting also discussed and reviewed the progress work of removal of construction material, debris and garbage removal and non-use of basements in high-rise commercial plazas on busy roads obstructing the traffic flow.

Deputy Commissioners of South and East reported constant contact with high rise building associations to keep their materials and debris inside their buildings to avoid traffic problems to the vehicle and pedestrians. They said, they have close coordination with the concerned officials of SBCA to ensure their construction activities are under taken as per building laws and some of the locations the issue has been resolved. All deputy commissioners shared their efforts to improve urban governance between January 15 and 22, highlighting challenges and successful anti-encroachment efforts. Deputy Commissioner Malir, Salimullah Odho, informed the meeting that 20 illegal stalls and 30 cabins were removed from Malir Halt and Shah Town in Malir district.

Deputy Commissioner West, Ahmed Ali Siddiqui, reported that in the West district, five locations in Orangi were cleared of encroachments which were creating obstructions to the traffic. Additionally, encroachments were removed from Gulshan-e-Bahar in Mominabad sub division, and action was taken against tyre vendors at various spots on the roads. Deputy Commissioner South, Javed Nabi Khoso, stated that in the South district, encroachments were removed from Lea Market Chowk in Lyari and from Zainab Market to Co-Operative Market on Abdullah Haroon Road Three restaurants causing traffic obstruction were also targeted, and 15 stalls and five pushcarts were removed. Similarly, anti-encroachment operations were conducted in other districts. DC East District Abrar Jafer briefed the Commissioner about the anti encroachments drive carried out in the East District informing that the encroachments were removed from the busy roads including the Allama Iqbal Road, and Aladin Park Sunday Bazaar. According to DC Central Taha Saleem, during an anti encroachment drive, encroachments were removed from Liaquat Ali Khan Road, Yasinabad Bridge, and Rais Jafferi Road. DC Keamari, Raja Tariq chandio briefed that encroachments were removed from various locations, including Bismillah Chowk, Nazimabad, and Quetta Madina Hotel.

تمام متعلقہ افراد کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ پلاٹ نمبر A-6 سروے نمبر 263 'رقبہ 502 مربع گز' واقع کوھاٹ کینٹ جومشتر کہ طور پر ساۃ متاز بیگم وغیرہ کے نام لیزشیرُ ول (VIII) کے تحت ملٹری اسٹیٹس آفس کوھاٹ کینٹ کے ریکارڈ میں درج ہے۔مساۃ متاز بیگم مورخه 20 اگست 2018 کووفات یا چکی ہیں۔اب مرحومہ کے درج ذیل قانونی ورثاء نے مذکورہ جائمیاد کے حقوق لیز اینے نام منتقل کرنے کی درخواست کی ہے۔ 1 غیور احمد (بیٹا)2 تیمور احمد شنخ (بیٹا)3 منصور احمد شنخ (بیٹا)4 حفیظ اللہ خان (بیٹا)5 شنخ عنايت الله (بينا) كا شكيل احمد في (بينا) 7 كورستي (بيني) 8 عذرا خاتون (بيني) _ اگر كن فرويا وار _ كوندكوره جائيدا و كانتخل يركس قتم کااعتراض ہوتو وہ اس نوٹس کی اشاعت کے پندرہ دن کےاندر دفتر زیر یخطی کوتر پری طور بریآ گاہ کرے۔اگرمقررہ مدت کےاندر کوئی اعتراض موصول نہ ہوا۔ تو مذکورہ جائئیداد کے حقوق لیز درج بالا ورثاء کے نام نتقل کر دیئے جا ئیں گےاور بعدازاں کوئی اعتراض

قابل آبون نین مولات ملٹری اسٹیٹس آ فسر کوھاٹ سرکل کوھاٹ کینٹ

Tessori, Omani delegation discuss investment opportunities

KARACHI (PPI): Sindh Khanjari, and a six-member of a highly educated, expebusiness delegation at the rienced, hardworking, and Governor House.

According to a state-can prove to be a sign ment by the Sindh cant asset for investors. Governor House today, He assured the delegation

During the meeting, Facilitation various sectors.

S.# Name of Work

AOM&R / Emergency Repair of all

Tessori highlighted that Governor Kamran Khan several sectors in the Sindh Tessori met with the Consul province are highly attrac-

He assured the delega-Investment Special Council detailed discussions were (SIFC). The Omani Consul held regarding investment General stated that Omani opportunities in the investors are deeply inter-

Governor Kamran Khan Tessori has taken serious General of Oman, Engineer tive for investment. He notice of the decision to Abdullah Al- emphasized the availability shift to online classes at Sindh University due to a water shortage. He has youthful workforce, which sought a detailed report can prove to be a signifi- from the acting Vice Chancellor of the university.

Expressing concern over renowned Omani business- tion that all possible facili- the decision, Tessori directman Abdul Razzaq Hariani ties would be provided to ed immediate measures to was also present on the investors through the address the academic disruption faced by students. He emphasized the importance of continuing educational activities and instructed the university province. The delegation ested in investing in variadministration to arrange expressed keen interest in ous sectors of the alternative solutions to resolve the issue promptly.

province. **GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA COMMUNICATION & WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Last date &

ubmissio

of Bid

17-02-25

Date & time

of opening

of Bid

Period of

Tender

Form

C&W DIVISION, SOUTH WAZIRISTAN UPPER - Tel: No. 0963511999 NOTICE INVITING TENDERING/E-BIDDING

(Single Stage Single Envelope E-Bidding System)

eligible Firms/Bidders having proper PEC Code in accordance with the KPPRA Procurement Rules-2014 and Enlisted with C&W Department and Pakistan Engineering Council having valid renewal for Financial Year 2024-25 on Single Stage Single Envelop procedure for the following works:-

Duty

2% of

Required

category

1	Government Buildings for the year 2024-25, South Waziristan Upper.	C-6 & above	E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
2	ADP No. 275/200073 Reconstruction of Damaged Schools in Merged Districts (AIP)											
ı	Reconstruction of Damaged GMS Nargosa Tehsil Ladha (Solarization 03-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
II	Reconstruction of Partially Damaged GGPS Nazari Nar District South Waziristan (Solarization 03-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
3	ADP No. 276/200074 Reconstruction of Partially Damaged Schools in Merged Areas.											
I	Reconstruct/on of Partially Damaged GGPS Nargosa Tehsil Ladha (Solarization 01-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost + S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
11	Reconstruction of Partially Damaged GGPS Anar Gul Kot Tehsil Ladha (Solarization 01-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
4	ADP No. 277/200076 Establishment of 100 Primary Schools in Merged District (ADP).											
ı	Establishment of GPS Khair Zaman Kot Touda China Tehsil Makeen (Solarization 03-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
II	Establishment of GGPS at Shaheed Jamshed Kot Tehsil Ladha. (Solarization 03-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
III	Establishment of GGPS at Muhammad Karim Kot Tehsil Sarwekai (Solarization 03-KVA).	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					
5	ADP No. 103/191175-180048 Construction / Rehabilitation of Office / Residential Accommodation for FATA Employees in Tribal Districts											
I	Construction of Office / Residential Accommodation for Building / Highway officials at Ladha (Solar Pumping Machinery)	PK-C6 & above EE11	2% of E/Cost+ S/Duty	0.03% of E/Cost	17-02-25 12:00 PM	17-02-25 12:30 PM	As per Work Order					

website (www.kppra.gov.pk) before the submission time.

02. The Percentage of Bid Security shall be 2% of the engineer estimate in shape of Call Deposit.

03. The Contractor quoting their bids upto a limit of 10% below Engineer Estimate shall submit bid security @2% only of Engineer The contractors quoting their bid more than 10% below upto 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their

Bids 8% Additional Security of Engineer Estimate cost in addition to 2% bid security. If the bid is not accompanied with the required amount of additional security then it will be considered as non-responsive and the 2% bid security shall be forfeited in favour of Government and the second lowest bidder and so on will be considered accordingly vide KPPRA Notification No. S.R.O(14)/Vol:1-24/2021-22 dated 10.05.2022. 05. (Similarly, a contractor quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with his bid an additional security on

Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's Estimate along-with details rate analysis). In case of more than 20% below bids, if the bid is not accompanied by the detailed rate analysis and/or required amount of additional security, then the said bid shall be considered as non-responsive. All the securities submitted along-with such non-responsive bid shall be forfeited in favour of Government and the 2nd lowest bidder and so on will be 06. In case detailed rate analysis submitted with the bids is, in view of the Procuring Entity, not convincing, the Head of the

Procuring Entity may declare such bid as Non-Responsive. 07. All the bidders are required to be registered with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority, established under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Finance Act, 2013 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XXI of 2013), for works, consulting and non-consulting services a listed in Schedule-II of the Act ibid.

08. If the evaluated electronic bid costs of two or more than two bidders are equal then the successful bid will be declared through 09. All the bidders are required to deposit the bidding entry fee Rs: 0.03% on Tender Cost by each participating contractor online along-with earnest money which will be non-refundable vide C&W Secretariat letter No.SO(B)/1-102/CMD/CS/PBC/2020-

The undersigned has the authority to reject any E-Bid or all the E-Bids assigning valid reason. $11. \ \ Venue \ of \ bids \ opening \ is \ of fice \ of \ the \ Executive \ Engineer, C\&W \ Division, \ South \ Waziristan \ Upper \ at \ Tank.$

12. Any further information, terms & conditions etc regarding bidding may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on any **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, C&W Division, South Waziristan Upper**

		-					
کرنے مارے فیکس	نیل <i>ا کنزر</i> وینسی سروسز فراهم	شڈول ٹیس پرائے میا				. **	
		موبائل د کان ہول سیر	66	لمريشن صواني	ونسيل الحمنسة	وويخصا م	
-/10000روپيسالانه	0/-			مرية ف محوالي ا	يوچ ايد سم	بسر ۵۰۰۰	ויענ
-/5000روپيسالانه	0/-	موبائل دکان <i>ار بیر</i> ئنگ	67	•			
-/10000روپيسالانه	0/-	میڈ یکل سٹورہول سیکر	68				*
-/5000روپيسالانه	0/-	میڈ یکل سٹور	69	مرا لواس	175	1 / 1 2	ا سا
		میڈیکل سنٹر		مالناس			
-/30000روپيسالانه	0/-		70	J		·	
-/120000روپے سالانہ	0/-	میٹرنٹی ہوم اسپتال	71	سٹریشن صوالی اپنی آمدن بردھانے	ماهاتا سأتخصيل مونيل ماثمة	نذار مذامر خاص وعامركوطلع ك	يني بداشن
-/5000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	BHU'sسنٹر	72				
-/15000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	RHC'sسنثر	_	اندراختيارلوكل گورنمنٹ ايک	ذرائع آمدن کے نئے مواقع	ائیم اے صوائی کی حدود میں	کیلئے تی ا
				ول03 کے تحت موجود فیکس ہاہے	نُن42سب سيكشن _ ااورشيرُ ا	زمیمی ایکسے2019 کی ^{سییڈ}	2013
-/30000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	تخصيل ہيڈ کوارٹر سپتال	74	بس الگانے جاہتی ہے کہ جس کیلئے	_		
-/40000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	ڈسٹر کٹ ہیڈ کوارٹر ہیتال	75				
-/50000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	باجاخان میڈیکل کمپلیکس	76	س ہذامطلوب ہیں پندرہ دن کے	مدر ميعاد پندره بعداز مشتهری نوگ	ں سے تجاویز واعتر اضات ان	عوام الناا
-/60000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	محوخان میڈیکل کالج	77		نہیں ہوگا۔ ا	نے کے بعد کوئی عذر قابل قبول	گزرجا_
				مجوزه شیژول ریش		نامآتتم	
-/5000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	گورخمنٹ پرائمری سکولز	78		كوچزاويگن ابائی ايس وغير لكوچزاويگن ابائی ايس وغير	S.c	
-/45000دوپے سالانہ							
-/10000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	گورنمنٹ مُڈل سکولز	79	-/800روپے ٹی ٹرپ	-/300روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بی ٹو پیٹا ور	01
-/90000روپيسالانه				-/450روپے فی ٹرپ	-/100روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني تومردان	02
	0/-	گورنمنٹ ہائی سکولز	80	-/150رويے في ٹرپ		صوابی ٹوٹو یی	03
-/15000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	ورست ہاں عور	80			صوابی ٹو مرغز	
-/120000روپيسالانه				-/200روپے ٹی ٹڑپ		-	04
-/20000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	پرائیوٹ سکولز	81	-/300روپے فی ٹرپ	-/150روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بی ٹو بو نیر	05
-/200000روپيسالانه				-/500روپے فی ٹرپ	-/250روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابي ٿوا يبٺآ باد	06
	0/-	گورنمنٹ ڈگری کالجز پرائیویٹ ڈگری کالجز	82	-/300روپے فی ٹرپ	-/100روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو جہا نگیرہ	07
-/25000دوپے ماہانہ		1,000					
-/80000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	پرائیویٹ ڈ کری کا مجز	83	-/100روپے فی ٹرپ	-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹوشیوہ اڈ ا	08
-/300000روپے سالانہ				-/150روپے ٹی ٹرپ	-/90روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو چشکلئی	09
-/60000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	فیکنکل ایج کیشن ادارے	84	-/600روپے فی ٹرپ	-/300روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابي توشيكسلا	10
-/250000روپے سالانہ				-/1100روپے فی ٹرپ	-/600روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹو لا ہور	11
		. t	0.5				
-/30000روپے ماہانہ	0/-	يو نيورسٹيز	85	-/500روپے فی ٹڑپ		صوا بې ٿو مينگوره	12
-/300روپے ماہانہ	0/-	دکا ندارتمام کینگریز	86	-/800روپے فی ٹرپ	0/-	صوا بی ٹوسوات	13
		ارين اريا		-/800روپے فی ٹرپ	0/-	صواني ٹو باجوڑ	14
-/50000روپيسالانه	0/-	موبائل ٹاورز	87	-/700روپے فی ٹرپ		صوا بی ٹو مانسہرہ	15
-/25000روپيسالانه	0/-	پیٹرول ڈیزل/	88	-/1500روپے فی ٹرپ	0/-	صوابی ٹو چتر ال	16
		CNGکپس		-/1500روپے فی ٹرپ	0/-	صوابی ٹو دیر لوئز،اپر	17
-/40000روپے ماہانہ یا	0/-	پیرامیڈ یکل اینڈ ہیلتھ	89	, · · ·	بسين مختلف روثز		
-/320000-يالانہ		انسٹیٹیوشن		13			40
				-/100روپے فی ٹرپ		صوانی ٹو پشاور	18
-/60000روپے سالانہ	0/-	تمرشل بينكس	90	-/400روپے فی ٹرپ	-/200روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹو مردان	19
-/50000روپے سالانہ	0/-	ہول سیلزتمام کیفگریز	91	-/400پوپے فی ٹرپ	-/200روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني ٿو جہا تگيره	20
-/50000روپے سالانہ	0/-	پرائيوٺ کميٹيڏيينز	92				
			32		-/100روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابي ٿو ٿو پي	21
	برائے میونیل افی ایم اے پرا			-/200روپے فی ٹرپ	-/100روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بي ڻو چنگلا ئي	22
-/100000روپے فی	0/-	دكان تحبد يدمعامده	93	-/1500روپے فی ٹرپ	-/1000روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بي ڻو لا ہور	23
معامده فی دکان					-/2000روپے فی ٹرپ		24
12% حالانہ	0/-	كرابيهين سالانداضافه	94				24
					پاڈاٹن <i>اسوز</i> وکی <i>ار کشدوغی</i>		
% 30اضافه موجوده کرایه پر	0/-		95	بمطابق ایک سواری کا کرایی	-/60روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹومردان(رکشه)	25
		کی صورت میں کراہیہ			-/30روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني ٹوشيوه آ ڈه	26
		میںاضافہ			4.0	(رکشه)وغیره	
ہر تنین سال بعد	0/-	كرابيدمين ماركيث	96				
2.000.//	0/-	ر بیٹ کے مطابق تبدیلی	30	الينا	-/10روپے تی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو گوہاٹی (رکشہ)	27
						وغيره	
	بُرول ٹرانسفر برائے رکشہ لوڈر			الصِناً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹومہاجر کیمپر کشہ	28
-/1000روپے فی پرمٹ	0/-	ٹرانسفرفیس برائے رکشہ	97	اليفا	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹوسلیم خان رکشہ	29
		لوۋر					
	ین ان مخصا میانی			الضاً	-/40روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو چنگلئی رکشہ	30
(C.)	ئےاتوربازار بخصیل صوابی کی ہ -/0	سيدون برا.		الصِناً	-/20روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني ٹو حبصنڈا	31
% 2 فروخلگی پر	0/-	موثر سانتكل فروستكي	98	الصِناً	-/20روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بي ڻو يا بني	32
		50 ہزارتک		اليفار_	-/20روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو جہانگیرہ	33
% 4 فروختگی پر	0/-	موثرسائكل فروختكى	99				
**		1 لا كھ تك		اليفار_	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني ٿو حچھوڻالا ہور	34
(5' t				ايضاً	-/0روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بی ٹو انبار	35
% 6 فروختگی پر	0/-	موثرسائكل فروختكى	100	الصِناً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صوا بی ٹو زیدہ	36
		1 لا كھے اوپر		الضاً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ -/10روپے	صوابی ٹو کنڈہ موڑ	37
%0.5 فروختگی پر	0/-	موٹر کارفر وختگی	101				
% 3 فروختگی پر	0/-	دیگر کنیگر پر		الفا	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹوشاہ منصور	38
		هدا ، رفکسه بادوره	.02	اليضاً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	صوانی ٹو پنج پیر	39
	<i>ىوثر</i> زاينڈموثرسائن <u>ک</u> ل پارکنگ ^خ			الضاً	-/10رويے في ٹرپ	صواني ٹو کالا در ہ	40
-/50000روپے فی	0/-	فیکسی سٹینٹ N O C	103	الفِنا	-/20روپے فی ٹرپ	صواني ٹو ٹوي	41
NOC		فيس					
-/25000دوپے سالانہ	0/-	^ش ىكىسى سىنىنە	104	الضاً	-/0روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹوباجا	42
*		ں پیر NOC تجدیدی فیس		اليضاً	-/0روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹو بام خیل	43
NOO!			-	-/2000روپے ماہانہ	-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	^{خیک} سی کار	44
/50000روپي 50000	0/-	رکشه شینهٔ NO C فیس	_	-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	-/10روئي في ٹرپ	تانگه، گدها/ ہتھگاڑی	45
-/25000روپے سالانہ	0/-	ركشة شينڈ			• •	لادر کشه	
		NOCتجدیدی فیس		-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	-/0روپے فی ٹرپ		46
-/30رويے في دن	0/-	موٹرسائیل پارکنگ فیس		-/300روپے فی ٹرپ		سوزوکی ڈمپر 4ویلر	47
		مورسائیل یارکنگ موڑسائیل یارکنگ		-/500روپے فی ٹرپ	-/0روپے فی ٹرپ	ٹرک <i>امز</i> دہ جو کہاشیاء کی	48
-/100روپے فی دن	0/-	*	108		. *	رسل کرتے ہیں	
		برائے24 گھنٹے		-/800روپے فی ٹرپ	-/0رويے فی ٹرپ	دس ویلرژک جو کهاشیاء	49
-/50روپے فی دن	0/-	موٹرکار پار کنگ	109	-/٥٥٥روچي رپ	- الاوپي رپ		70
-/200روپے فی دن	0/-	4.	110			کی ترسیل کرتے ہیں	
		روه د پارست برات 24 گھنٹے			جزل بس شينڈ زيدہ		
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			-/700روپے فی ٹرپ	-/300روپے فی ٹرپ	زيده ٹوپشاور	50
	ئے فراہمی واٹر ٹینکر <i>ا</i> ٹر یکٹر NA			-/700رويے فی ٹرپ		زیده نوراولینڈی	51
-/2000روپے فی دن	0/-	والرثينكرخالى					
-/4500دويے فی دن	0/-	والرثينكر يانى بهرائى	112	-/400روپے فی ٹرپ		زيده تومردان	52
	0,-	دور رپان ورا کیساتھ		-/1500روپے فی ٹرپ	-/1000روپے فی ٹرپ	صوابی ٹو لا ہور	53
1		میسا کھ واٹر ٹیئکر خالی فراہمی	,	-/2200رويے في ٹرپ		موانی ٹو کراچی صوانی ٹو کراچی	54
-/4000روپے فی دن	0/-		113		٢٥٥٥٠ دروپ وي پاڈاڻس اسوز دکي ار کشدوغي		
		بذریعA M کڑیکٹر				•	
-/6000روپے فی دن	0/-	واٹرٹیئکرفراہمی یانی	114	بمطابق ایک سواری کرامیه	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	زيده تومرغز	55
7		بھرائی کےساتھ بذریعہ		اليفاً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	زيده ٹوانبار	56
		بران کے ماط بدرید T M A ٹریکٹر		اليفا	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	زيده ټو چپوڻالا ہور	57
				ر ایضار	-/10 روپي رپ -/10روپے نی ٹرپ	رېيره رو چېانگيره زيده نوجهانگيره	
	کی تاریخ	,					
18/02/2025	ئى كى ڪلى ساعت كى تاريخ	اه <i>بزااعة</i> اضات برفنانس ^{كم} ي	02_تجا	اليفاً	-/10روپے فی ٹرپ	زىدەڻوڻوپى	59
	ں من من من من من مارس ٹی کی حتمی سفار شات کی تاریخ			-/2000روپے ماہانہ	-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	^ش ىكىسى كار	60
19/02/2025				-/50روپے فی ٹرپ	-/10رويے فی ٹرپ	تانگه، گدهاام جه گاڑی	6
	بابت منظوری مذکوره مجوزه ا						
20/02/2025		ند وشیسه: کی تاریخ	تجويز كنة	-/50روپے فی دن	-/0روپے فی دن :	لوڈر کشہ	62
	ر بزیلیرُنوٹیفیکیشن اجراء کی تاریخ			-/300في دن	-/0روپے فی دن	سوزوکی ڈمپر 4ویلر	63
Z 1/0Z/2025	ز ينيدلو ^{سييس} ن ا براءن مارن	وبای خلومت نو ن سنورن و	05	-/500روپے فی ٹرپ	-/0 روپے فی ٹرپ	ٹرک <i>امز</i> دہ جو کہاشیاء کی	64

64 أرك امزده جو كهاشياء كى ا-10روپے فی ٹرپ

65 دس ویلرٹرک جو کہاشیاء |-01رویے فی ٹرپ

تر میل کرتے ہیں

کی ترمیل کرتے ہیں

-/500روپے فی ٹرپ

-/800روپے فی ٹرپ



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur witnessing MoU signing ceremony to launch Life Insurance Scheme.

PHC flays police's probe in transgender viral video case

Humayun Khan

transgender named Ayan the complainant. alias Dolphin, on Friday.

emphasizing the need for tion. timely and thorough investigations, similar to slight discrepancy in the those conducted in for- investigation, it benefits eign countries, which the accused. I have been

Investigation, saying, and correctly.' You were called to court didn't your investigation government's responsibilofficer complete the ity, highlighting that in

F.P. Report

crackdown on begging rack-

ets under the supervision of

Commissioner Peshawar

Mehsud, six contractors

involved in exploiting beg-

gars have been arrested,

while raids are underway to

apprehend 18 more contrac-

tors. The operation, led by

women and children.

Riaz Khan

Commissioner

PESHAWAR: During

Division

Deputy

the accused?

The DSP Investigation elderly Peshawar High Court replied that the main (PHC) Justice Shakeel accused, Ijaz Baghi, was Ahmad has expressed dis- initially unknown but was satisfaction over the inad- later nominated, and that equate police investiga- a reconciliation agreetion into a case involving ment had been reached the viral obscene video of between the accused and

During the hearing, expressed dissatisfaction all relevant authorities.

Justice Shakeel Ahmed with the investigation, The Addition remarked that the police saying, "There are many investigation was flawed, flaws in your investiga-

When there is even a include DNA testing. saying repeatedly that he will not work with Justice Shakeel Ahmed you should conduct such people in the future. questioned the DSP investigations on time

PHC stressed that pro-

Peshawar Sarmad Salim Peshawar Club Chowk and Pull, Dabgari

tractor up to PKR 12,000

Akram, has resulted in the Pir Zakori Pull Chowk, Chowk

gars, including a majority of required to pay their con-

identification parade of protecting the rights of children, women, and the

PHC's Justice Shakeel Ahmed ordered the relevant officers to submit a report, warning that it protection is not provided, the IG and other officers will be summoned. The court also directed Justice Shakeel Ahmad that the report be sent to

> Additional Advocate informed the court that the accused is nominated in 12 other cases. Justice Shakeel Ahmed suggested that the accused be made to swear an affidavit that

PHC has postponed the hearing, seeking a report from the relevant authorifor several reasons. Why tecting transgender is the ties and observed that the court will issue an order in this regard which will vestigation? foreign countries, special be communicated to the Did you conduct an consideration is given to concerned officials.

Crackdown on begging rackets in

Peshawar continues

detainment of over 300 beg- where each beggar is Mandi, Inner City Markets, soon. Once all contractors

The detained beggars daily. Other high-income Peshawar Saddar Bazaar, tions, including their loca-

revealed that the most prof- areas identified include and Karkhano Market, tions and further insights,

itable locations for begging University Road, Phase 3 where significant amounts will be shared with the in Peshawar include Chowk, Ghari Qamardin of money are collected media.

Raihana sheds light on challenges to women in inheritance rights F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Ms. Raihana Tabassum, an M.Phil. scholar at the Department of Social Work at the University of Peshawar, has taken a bold step by shedding light on a pressing yet often overlooked issue in her thesis, "Challenges to Women in Seeking Inheritance Rights in District Chitral Lower." Guided by Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, her research focuses on the struggles women face when trying to claim their rightful inheritance in a society where male dominance over property is the

The Thesis was examined Dr. Farhat Ullah, Assistant Professor of Social Work at Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST).Chitral, with its breathtaking mountains and simple traditions, stands apart from other districts in Pakistan. Here, weddings are modest, free from the burden of dowries, and the community thrives on hard work despite limited resources. Yet, women in Chitral are often excluded from land ownership, a critical source of economic security, due to deeply rooted cultural norms and a lack of awareness about their rights.Through interviews with women, men, and legal experts, Ms. Tabassum revealed how pursuing inheritance often strains family relationships and drags women into lengthy, expensive legal battles. Many women hesitate to fight for their rights, fearing societal backlash and familial discord.Her research emphasizes the need to educate communities about women's inheritance rights, ensuring they can claim what is rightfully theirs without conflict. Ms. Tabassum's work is a call for change—one that aims to empower women and pave the way for a more just

The professional beggars

are transported to these

locations by contractors in

vehicles every morning and

are taken back to their resi-

dences late at night.

Commissioner Riaz Khan

Mehsud expressed satisfac-

tion with the operation's

progress and issued instruc-

tions to provide all possible

facilities to the detained

beggars. He also assured

that the remaining 18 con-

tractors would be arrested

Khyber are apprehended, complete

Bazaar, details of the gang's opera-

Rs10mn aid distribution for Kurram victims held at Governor House

Governor Pakhtunkhwa

The event was attended from Sindh province.

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Kurram. Zardari, Syed Kumail
Haider Shah presented a check worth 10 million rupees to Governor Faisal
Karim Kundi, for the victims of Kurram district.

Kumail Shah also would provide additional merged districts Imran aid worth Rs20 million for Wazir Advocate, and other

Khyber that another 10 million Faisal rupees would soon be Karim Kundi on Friday handed over to the Khyber chaired a ceremony held at Pakhtunkhwa chapter of the Governor House on the Red Crescent Society, Friday to provide aid to which would further disthe victims of Kurram tribute the assistance in Kurram.

Kumail Shah emphaby Syed Kmail Haider sized that the aid was a Shah, Chairman of the moral duty, in line with the District Council Sukkur instructions of Chairman and President of the Local Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Association, and assured that the assisalong with his delegation tance would be channeled through the Red Crescent On the instructions of Society to directly benefit Pakistan Peoples Party the affected people of

Pakhtunkhwa, Khyber Vice Chairman Farzand announced that the Local Wazir, Chairman of the Association Red Crescent Society for and stressed the provincial faced by local govern-

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi thanked Syed Nasir Hussain Shah the founder of the Association, Syed Kumail Haider Shah, and Local Council

Association for their gener-

ous contribution, describ-

ing the humanitarian aid as

a prime example of brotherhood and solidarity. He also expressed gratitude to Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari for his special instructions to provide

assistance to the victims. Governor Kundi further acknowledged the support from the provincial governments of Balochistan, Sindh, and Punjab, who

government's commitment ments and finding soluensuring complete tions to their problems.

that efforts had been made to organize a Jirga in Kohat and an All Parties Conference Governor House to restore peace across the province.

He emphasized that all political parties, including the provincial government, should work together for the restoration of peace in Kurram and other

parts of the province. Looking Governor announced that a conven-Pakhtunkhwa's councils and local representatives would be held at stood with the people of the Governor House in Kurram during difficult Peshawar in the second week of February. The He said that peace was being restored in Kurram addressing the challenges



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Higher Education, Meena Khan Afridi being briefed during his visit to Government Degree College Nahaqi.

Journalists bodies reject amendments to PECA Act

Khyber Union Journalists (KhUJ) and outside the building. Peshawar Press Club have rejected the amendments leaders, Electronic Crimes Act (PTI) MPA and former media (PECA) approved by the federal demanding their immedi- Amjad, and Minister for the Pakhtunkhwa Assembly under the leadership of Khyber
KhUJ President Journalists Kashifuddin President M. Awan, Usman General Secretary Arshad able. They criticized the not just social media but and vowed to continue Ali, and Press Gallery PECA Amendment Bill also digital platforms of their protest until the bill President Gulzar for criminalizing dissent electronic

Muhammad, Journalists and called on the govern-media with the aim of staged a walkout from the ment to suspend the bill criminalizing PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the Senate if it intends of Assembly and protested to consult stakeholders. hasty approval of this

to the Prevention of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf federal government's anti-Speaker Mushtaq Ghani, government, Provincial Minister Dr. ate withdrawal. In this Labor Fazal Shakoor, restrictions on freedom of regard, a protest was joined the protest to expression. organized yesterday out- express solidarity with Khyber the journalists.

During the protest, Union Syed, Kashifuddin Syed and accusing it of attempting amendments. Peshawar Press Club Peshawar Press Club to silence public opinion Riaz, President M. Riaz stated through oppressive laws. General Secretary Tayyab that legislation without KhUJ consultation is unaccept-

Prominent provincial rushed introduction of the

including amendments reflects the stance demanded the immediate withdrawal of the bill, which they said imposes

Provincial including Mushtaq Ghani, Dr. Amjad, and Fazal

They argued that the They argued that the amendment reinforces the perception that the federal government is determined to suppress voices of truth and and justice. Meanwhile,

President Kashifuddin Syed and Peshawar Press Club President M. Riaz expressed gratitude to the leaders, provincial government for passing a resolution Shakoor, also criticized Pakhtunkhwa Assembly President the federal government, condemning the PECA

They reaffirmed that the PECA Amendment They stated that the Bill 2025 poses a serious PECA amendments target threat to press freedom and print is withdrawn.

Quorum and its impact on legislative efficiency

N a parliamentary democracy, elected representathe legislative duties of debating and passing laws, a criti- Opposition. cal process governed by established rules and regula- of the Constitution of Islamic tions. Among these, quorum Republic of Pakistan and the holds special significance as it Rule 5 of the Rules of determines the minimum Procedure and Conduct of number of members required Business in the National conduct its business. Quorum one-fourth of the total member**ensures** the **legitimacy**, ship of the National Assembly accountability, and efficiency of parliamentary systems quorum is lacking, the Speaker worldwide by mandating sufficient participation for decision-making.

The primary purpose of quo- not be met. rum is to guarantee that deci- Constitution, Article 100 is the several Asian and African sions reflect the involvement of power of the Houses to act a reasonable number of repre- notwithstanding the absence of sentatives, preventing undue a influence by a small group. It Constitution specifies that oneserves as a safeguard against tenth of the total membership decisions being made without of the House should be present adequate deliberation or over- to constitute a quorum. sight, upholding democratic According to the 41(1) principles and the integrity of Standing Orders of the House legislative processes. Ensuring quorum is generally seen as the Kingdom requires 40 members responsibility of the ruling party or coalition, as they man-including the Speaker. age governance and legislative ernment, or emphasize key Constitution, which states that and the Standing Orders of

quorum deficiencies, particularly when dissatisfied or durduring session requisite by According to Article 55(2)

(84 out of 336 members). If must suspend proceedings until the required number is present or adjourn the session if it can-In Indian quorum. The Indian of Commons, the United in the House of Commons,

continuity. However, opposi- Representatives, a quorum is Lanka, the quorum is the minition parties frequently raise the minimum number of mem- mum number of members quorum issues as a political bers required to conduct busi- required to conduct its busistrategy to highlight inefficienness, as specified in Article I, ness. According to Article 73 of cies, exert pressure on the gov-

ernment members point out stitutes a quorum. A quorum is members, including the quorum deficiencies, particu- generally assumed to exist Speaker. The quorum of the unless challenged by a member, tives are entrusted with ing internal disagreements or at which point a quorum call may be ordered to verify the count. While certain activities, such as debates, can occur without a quorum, voting on legislation requires According to Section 39 of the Australian Constitution, the quorum is one-third of the total to be present in the House to Assembly, 2007, the quorum is number of members in the Australian House Representatives, while in the Canadian House of Commons, the quorum is 20 members, including the Speaker (According to Section 48 of the Constitution Act, 1867).

Garden,

Peepal

Yadgar,

Qissa Khwani,

Bazaar, Shoba

Quorum requirements in further illustrate nations diverse practices. In the House Malaysian Representatives (Dewan Rakyat), the quorum is the minimum number of members required to conduct business. According to Standing Orders of the Dewan Rakyat 13. (1), the quorum is 26 members, including the Speaker. Singapore sets quorum at onequarter of the total member-In the U.S. House of ship. In the Parliament of Sri

Senate or of the House of Representatives shall be onethird of all the members of the legislative house concerned according to the Section 54(1) of the Constitution of Nigeria.

According to Article 96 of the Turkish Constitution, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey shall convene with at least one-third of the total number of members for all its affairs, including elections it

Unless otherwise stipulated in the Constitution, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey shall take decisions by an absolute majority of those present; however, the majority for decision can, under no circumstances, be less than one plus a quarter of the total number of members. In the Jatiya Sangsad (National Parliament) Bangladesh, the quorum is 60 members, including the Speaker, according to Article 75(2) of the Constitution of Bangladesh.

In the French National Assembly, there is no fixed quorum required for regular debates or general proceedings. However, for certain decisions, such as passing legislation or constitutional amendments, specific quorum rules apply. For example, in the case of con-

majority of both houses of Parliament (National Assembly and Senate) is required during a joint session in Congress.

According to the Rule 45 of Rules of Procedure of the German Bundestag and Rules of Procedure of the Mediation Committee, a quorum of the Bundestag shall exist when more than one half of its Members are present in the Chamber. Similarly, the same rule follows in the Russian State Duma i.e. The procedural provisions for the sessions of each of the Chambers of the Federal Assembly are established by their Standing Orders. Of greatest importance in this respect is the matter of quorum, ensuring legitimacy to the sessions and the activities of the Chambers.

According to the Standing Orders of the Council of Federation and the State Duma their sessions are considered competent, if they are attended by more than a half of the total number of Members of the Council of Federation and the Deputies of the State Duma.

Ouorum requirements across countries highlight variations in legislative procedures and and Singapore both set their quorum at one-fourth of the total membership, reflecting and accountability through stitutional amendments under similar legislative frameworks their quorum rules, tailored to democracy.

Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal issues. Occasionally, even gov- a majority of each House con- ernment members point out stitutes a quorum. A quorum is members, including the Constitution, a three-fifths presence. India, with its one- stitutional needs. tenth quorum rule, allows for greater flexibility in legislative ciencies not only disrupt legfunctioning compared to islative business but also Pakistan and Countries like the U.S., to parliamentary sessions. Germany, and Russia empha- Strengthening enforcement of size the presence of a majority attendance rules, introducing for business, demonstrating digital attendance tracking, and stricter enforcement for legislative legitimacy. The U.K. and Canada, by contrast, have rela- Furthermore, tively lower quorum thresholds consistent member participa-(40 and 20 members, respection and fostering a culture of tively), signifying a pragmatic responsibility can improve legapproach to accommodate islative effectiveness and presmaller parliamentary settings or expedite proceedings. In other countries, the quo-

rum diverges based on historical, legal, and structural consid-Malaysia erations. and Bangladesh emphasize moderate thresholds (26 and 60 members), ensuring sufficient representation while avoiding excessive disruptions. Turkey's nuanced quorum system accounts for both attendance political tool to disrupt proand decision-making thresholds, reflecting a dual-layered approach to parliamentary integrity. Conversely, France lacks a fixed quorum for regular debates, relying instead on specific rules for critical decisions, like constitutional governance principles. Pakistan amendments. These diverse work ensures that elected reprepractices illustrate how nations sentatives fulfill their duties, balance legislative efficiency

In Pakistan, quorum defi-Singapore. squander public funds allocated penalizing absenteeism could ensure greater accountability. incentivizing vent waste of resources.

Quorum is more than a procedural requirement; it embodies accountability, democratic representation, and the legitimacy of legislative processes. While the ruling party is primarily responsible for maintaining quorum, the opposition's role in holding the government accountable is crucial. However, using quorum as a ceedings undermines the insticredibility. tution's Pakistan, the way forward lies in learning from global practices, addressing systemic challenges, and prioritizing national interest over partisan agendas. A robust parliamentary frameupholding the trust of the electorate and the principles of

F.P. Report

posed pension reforms. The

strike was held on the call

Employees Grand Alliance

protest against the govern-

Talking to local journal-

was on one page and would

continue its struggle until

CCTV cameras' train-

ing: A month-long CCTV

tion with the youth affairs'

its demands were met.

(AĠEĠA).



In brief

APCA hold protest F.P. Report

KARAK: All Pakistan Association (APCA) Karak protested against shelling and baton charging government employees in Peshawar by provincial government, on Friday. APCA Central Vice Malik President Khattak Mushtaq recorded the protest by tying black bands on the arms of government employees of all departments and announced the protest of February 10. I also announced full participation in. They went to various offices across the district and tied black bands on the arms of clerks and class four employees and gave instructions to go on strike by giving up their pens and work. In addition, in a special conversation with the media, they strongly condemned the incident and announced the February 10 protest in Islamabad. announced a full participation. Meanwhile, the accused who desecrated the grave of a martyr and the Pakistani flag in the Sabirabad area of Karak were arrested and a case was registered. According to the details, two accused Khan and Gulzar Khadim Gul, residents of Lawaghar Chanikhel, were arrested. The accused had desecrated the grave of martyr Hazratullah son of Arlan Badshah, resident of Lawaghar Chanikhel, and attacked him with stones. The Pakistani flag was uprooted and bouquets

Upgradation of schools F.P. Report

TOBA TEK SINGH: The series of measures to improve the quality of education and the building condition of the schools is going on in this regard, CEO Education Toba Tek Singh Aqeela Intkhab sited various schools on Friday. On this Occasion, Deputy District Education Officer Mustafa Igbal Assistant Lak, Education Officers Muhammad Zubair and Shajeeh-ul-Hassan were also with him. The CEO Education distributed school uniforms to the children expressed satisfaction over the renovation works in the schools and appreciated the performance of officers, head teachers and teachers. AEOs are doing well in monitoring. She further said that all the officers and teachers need to work together as a team to raise the quality of education further. CEO Education assured that the provision of facilities and quality in educational institutions will improved resources will be used to create.

Mega farmers' day held F.P. Report

HAFIZABAD Agriculture department held Mega Farmers Day to provide necessary advises to growers for getting better yield of wheat and other crops at village Kassoki. Addressing the gathering of farmers, agriculture officers and experts said that Kisan Cards and Green Tractor Scheme of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif would pave a way not only to increase record per acre agriculture yield but also socio-economic condition of growers also be improved in the province. They said that agriculture sector was backbone of national economy that is way the government was focusing on providing maximum facilities to farmers for increasing agriculproduction for achieving destination of self-reliance in food as well as providing raw material to industrial



PESHAWAR: People holding a walk to mark 'World Education Day'.

Abbaseen Foundation College to prioritize marginalized community

F.P. Report

NOWSHERA: Chief Executive Abbaseen Foundation Pakistan Professor Dr Mukhtiar Zaman is delighted to announce the inauguration of the Abaseen Foundation Degree College, soon to become the Abaseen Foundation University, the first of its kind to be established in a remote village like Shamshatoo, in Nowshera of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

Professor Dr Mukhtiar Zaman, Chief Executive, the Abaseen Foundation Pakistan. The Abaseen Foundation UK and Pakistan is a partnership that supports some of the poorest people in the world who live in rural North West Pakistan, to find a path out of poverty that can take them on a journey to a better future. The two foundations have worked together to provide education, health, nutrition, and humanitarian relief for more than 20 years.

Prof. Dr. Mukhtiar Zaman said, "Our services are only possible through the donations of our generous supporters in the UK, Pakistan and other parts of the world and the pace to develop the Degree College has been accelerated through a very generous donation from Dr Qadir Bakhsh MBE and Rukhsana Bakhsh, who are longstanding supporters of the work of Abaseen Foundation.

Prof. Dr. Mukhtiar Zaman welcomed Mrs. Rukhsana Bakhsh, an Educationalist, and guest of honour from the United Kingdom, to the inauguration ceremony. He expressed deep gratitude on behalf of the Abaseen Foundation UK Trustees, fit from the degree college for the to provide higher education at the Pakistan.

Shafi Ullah

MINGORA: The Swat Press Club

and District Bar Association have

agreed to collaborate on addressing

regional issues and advocating for the

rights of the oppressed. A meeting

was held between the two organiza-

tions, chaired by Swat Press Club

President Niaz Ahmed Khan and

The meeting was attended by

Swat Union of Journalists President

Syed Shahabuddin, and former

President Fahim Naeem Advocate.

District Bar Association Swat present.



very generous donation and encouragement to go faster to develop and open the college. He also expressed deep gratitude for the support of all the donors, both in Pakistan and in

Mrs. Rukhsana Bakhsh responded by saying 'I am delighted and feel privileged to have been invited to the inauguration and unveiling of the plaque ceremony of the Abaseen Foundation Degree College, soon to become the Abaseen Foundation University, Insha' Allah.

We, as a family, have always felt honoured to have been associated with 'Team Abaseen Foundation', Shamshatoo and its residents. Two aspects of the Abaseen Foundation, are unique. Their altruistic and visionary leadership has developed and pioneered a 'whole village approach' in terms of: Firstly, catering for the needs of all of the communities of the village, from children, through to youth and elderly, both male and female, on the backdrop of abject poverty.

Secondly, developing and providing a wide range of services and facilities, including education, school meals, health, housing, vocational training, employment, welfare and supporting the wellbeing of orphans. Their aspiration to establish a univer-

Swat Press Club and District

Bar Association join hands

The joint agreement aims to

prominent figures, including General two institutions and tackle regional community in shedding light on

Secretary Muhammad Shafiullah, issues. Fahim Naeem Advocate regional problems and the difficul-

doorstep of Shamshatoo children girls in particular.

The "Shamshatoo Project" should be emulated and copied in all remote areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and indeed the whole of Pakistan. We are also proud to have supported some of the following initiatives so far:

Supporting the Degree College and the proposed University initiatives. Contributing towards the construction of 2 out of 9 houses for local residents, dedicated to Rukhsana's and Qadir's parents. Contributing towards the extension of a classroom dedicated to the late Miss Taj Bakhsh.

Sponsoring a girl for two years (£500 per year) towards her degree education. Providing small donations as and when during Ramadhan appeals.' Helen Bingley, OBE, Chief Executive of the Abaseen Foundation in the UK, extended her personal appreciation and gratitude to Dr Qadir Bakhsh MBE and Mrs Rukhsana Bakhsh on this occasion and said 'thank you to both of you for pushing us faster than we imagined was possible to deliver this very important project, and for your generous donation that enabled this.

Helen also said 'thank you to the selfless volunteers, generous donors and passionate fund raisers in the UK who raise hundreds of thousands of Board of Governors Members in Sity in this remote village is unique, pounds every year, for various proj-Pakistan and the girls who will bene-unrivalled and incomparable, aiming ects in Shamshatoo, KPK, in

Police arrests 7 including dacoits, arms recovered F.P. Report

LARKANA: Police conducted targeted operations against robbers in different areas of Gello, Ghouspur, Gehalpur Kashmore, Kashmore and Kandh Kashmore districts and other areas of the Larkana

According to details, seven alleged robbers involved in various crimes including looting, dacoity police encounters, thefts terrorism were arrested along with weapons. The arrested robbers include Dhani Bakhsh Mazari Muhammad Iqbal alias Balu Mazari, Muhammad Yousuf Mazari, Shaukat Ali Malik, Bojala Mazari, Baqar Mazari, Ghulam Mohiuddin alias Shikari Mazari. Meanwhile, the Kashmore district police is conducting targeted opera-tions in different areas in which armored vehicles, all SHOs, CIA, Madadgar Fighters and Rapid Response Teams are also participating.

Deputy Inspector General of Police Range Larkana Nasir Aftab Pathan appreciated the perform ance of the range police and said that we have resolved to eradicate the robbers throughout the range, for which all police parties have been formed and we firmly believe that soon the law and order situation will be improved by cracking down on criminals in the range police.

Law, order situation flayed F.P. Report

BANNU: District Association has expressed serious concern over the poor law and order situation in Bannu. The closure of the main gates of the inner city and Sadar police stations after evening and their being confined to police stations is a question mark and leaving the public at the mercy of thieves, robbers and bandits is a clear proof of the failure of the police officers.

Due to the incidents in the city and adjoining areas every day, not only have the citizens stopped coming out of their homes after night but they have also started preferring to offer Isha prayers at home. Bannu should not be allowed to become Karachi under any circumstances. Police officers should come out of their bungalows and offices and ensure the safety of the public and senior police officers should be posted in police stations.

These views were expressed by the General Secretary of the Bannu Bar Association, prominent lawyer Shoaib Khan Saduzai Provincial Advocate, General Secretary of the Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party, Malik Haroon Khan Advocate, Aurangzeb Kaki Advocate and other senior lawyers and leaders while

Govt employees observe pen-down strike in Dir were awarded with certifi-LOWER DIR: The governcates during a function. The ment employees of differdeputy director information ent departments observed a technology finance departcomplete pen-down strike ment Kiramat Shah, Nawab and boycotted duties for the ud Din of finance departsecond consecutive day in ment, district youth officer protest against the pro-Malik Shahzad Tariq and

Principal Muhammad Ilyas

distributed

All Government among the trainees. Speaking on the occa-sion Malik Shahzad said The visitors suffered the youth affairs departhard due to government ment would arrange such workers' strike in various courses on tehsil level to offices. The All Pakistan equip youths with the latest Clerks Association (APCA) technology. He asked district president Sehat Jan youths to get technical along with Alamgir Khan knowledge as it was imporand drivers' association distant for getting jobs inside trict president Muzzamil and outside the country. The guests were also given Shah visited various offices and asked the employees to

boycott their duties in Facilities demanded: The residents of Dherai Denjari in Jandol sub division on Friday complained ists, Sehat Jan said the KP that they had no electricity government had already and clean drinking water reduced pension of governfacilities in this modern ment employees in 2022. He said the government against wanted to reduce world. Led by social activist Haji Said Muhammad, the residents the commuted pension on the dictation of IMF. He said the road connecting their village with the marsaid the AGEGA leadership ket had turned to ruins.

They said the natural springs had dried up due to prolonged dry spell. The residents said that they had to fetch water from distant Cameras' installation trainplaces. They said that seving arranged by the district eral houses had no power administration in collaborasupply. They demanded a water supply tube well, department concluded at repair work on the link the district assembly hall. A road and installation of total of 80 students partici-solar system in the village pated in the training who graveyard.

World education day observed

F.P. Report

KOHAT: Like other parts of the province, the "World Education Day" was also observed in Kohat on the special directions of the tions. Commissioner Kohat Division and Deputy Commissioners with the theme "Leveraging Digital Education System" for the year 2025 on Friday.

tions in several tional institutions with the Commissioner the prosperity of the socie- office today.

ty.

The officers of the education department and heads of educational institutions in their addresses mentioned the educationfriendly policies of the Pakhtunkhwa and said that authorities concerned. the present provincial govthe services and tireless responsibilities

administration, especially the Commissioner Kohat the Commissioners for the promotion of education and strengthening the institu-

Special walks were also held on this occasion and prayers were also offered for the integrity, solidarity Solutions for equitable and prosperity of the beloved country.

Arrangements Education reviewed: In light of the Department organized var- orders of the Khyber ious events and competi- Pakhtunkhwa government, an important meeting was ment and private educa- held with the Deputy aim of highlighting the Abdul Akram Chitrali in importance of education the chair on conducting and the role of education in mass marriages in his

The meeting besides others, was also attended by the Tehsil Chairman Sajid Iqbal, Gumbat Assistant Commissioner Lachi, District Social Welfare Officer, District government of Khyber Zakat Officer and other

The meeting was briefed ernment is providing all in detail on the arrange-possible facilities to the ments so far made for conteachers and the education ducting the mass marriages department to improve the and certain important deciquality of education. In this sions were taken in this regard, they appreciated respect. In the meeting, departments and institu-

General Secretary Fazal Khaliq giving voice to the oppressed. He strengthen the collective efforts of Khan. Lawyers Arshad Khan expressed hope that journalists will journalists and lawyers in advocatefforts of the MNAs, assigned to all the relevant Advocate, Akbar Ali Swati Advocate, continue to strive for justice and solu- ing for justice and human rights in briefing the media represen-MPAs, elected representaand Ashraf Khan Advocate were also tions to the problems faced by the Swat. tatives after the meeting. tives and the district tions in this regard. Strategies for improving ease of business in Pakistan

The District Bar Association

Ghazala Anbreen

in our country there are ment targets. many challenges and hurdles to face starting their business. dissuades rather than attracts and foreign levels.

ratio reached13.1 percent in operations. Pakistan ranked 108 2024 and it has been facing among 190 economies in the numerous challenges in attract- ease of doing business. In 2018 ing good investments which are this ranking was 136. essential to revive economic growth. For inviting the Business investors, both at private and international level, it is necessary to understand the nature of challenges and identify what can be Construction permits, getting

identifying investment opportunities in Agriculture, Industry, ing across borders, enforcing labor, Manufacturing and IT sectors. There is also a need to discuss impediments in the growth has performed better are starting of these sectors in Pakistan with a business, dealing with con-Government for promoting investment. There are different policy and regulatory frame- ders works for investments in Pakistan for example, Pakistan Investment Policy 2023, Special Economic Zones Act, 2012 and by introducing reforms for SIFC 2023. IMF estimated that attracting foreign and domestic Pakistan's annual Financial Gap investor.

of economic growth. Sadly, overcome to meet its develop-

Ease of Doing Business is an that the business people have index which is published by the World Bank measuring how easy A long chain of bureaucratic it is to conduct a business in a **procedures is involved which** country. It ranks economies from 1 to 190. The higher rankings the investors both at domestic indicate a more facilitating environment to carry out a business Pakistan's investment to GDP in some country for business

Index evaluates economies on the basis of ten indicators as for instance, starting a business, dealing with the sector specific investments. electricity, registering property, There is a need to focus on getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, tradcontracts, resolving insolvency The indicators where Pakistan tricity, registering property, paying taxes and trading across bor-

Pakistan Investment Policy, 2023 intends to enhance the investment climate in Pakistan For transforming SIFC 2023. for achieving the SDGs is Pakistan business environment, approximately \$3.72 b for the bringing efficiency and trans- of investment in Pakistan are contributions reveal that its con- sector, we would know that it flourish in our country.

highlights the significant finan- eralization, investment facilita-NVESTMENT is an engine cial challenges the country must tion and retention, investment Committees, Punjab Board of promotion, investment protec- Investment and Trade (PBIT) inclusive growth

enhance mutual relations between the assured full support from the legal

praised Swat journalists for their role ties faced by marginalized groups.

in highlighting regional problems and This partnership is expected to

Mission) is to transform structure Pakistani economy by the year Investment Department proachieving sustained indigenous and inclusive growth, developing World Bank's Ease of Doing human and social capital, govermodernization of the public sector, energy, water and food security, private sector and entrepreneurship led growth, developing investments in mining, energy a competitive knowledge economy, modernizing transport infrastructure.

The key Features of Strategic Trade Policy Framework (STPF) include enhancement of exports, product diversification, trade related investment, realistic Project. This position reflects incentives introduced by the struction permits, getting elec- exchange rates to support significant legal and institutional exports. By attracting FDI Pakistan can boost economic both domestic and foreign growth, create jobs and increase investment, primarily due to contechnological expertise. There cerns over ineffective dispute are different policy and regulator resolution and regulatory inconry frameworks for investments in sistencies which collectively cre-Pakistan for example, Special ate an unfavorable business envi-Economic Zones Act, 2012 and ronment.

Provincial Investment

supports. Sindh bridges, water supply.

and energy sectors. Baluchistan Board of Investment and Trade (BBOIT) intends to attract and fisheries. Gwadar Port Development is an initiative for rate. boosting trade and investment in the region.

Pakistan ranked 129 out of 142 countries in rule of law according to the World Justice challenges that directly hinder

period from 2020 to 2030. It parency through investment lib- Board of Investment (BOI), tribution to GDP is 24%. contributes to 13.58% of energy \$8 billion and it generates tion, focus on high quality focuses on sectors like agricul- employment at the rate of 42% of investments and sustainable and ture, manufacturing and services. the labor force. The weaknesses Punjab has established many include lack of value addition, competition, export potential Special Economic Zones by low productivity, water short-redundant technology, Lack of The aim of Pakistan Vision Special Economic Zones by low productivity, water short-(2025) (One Vision, One offering tax incentives and infra- ages, less growth because of deficient prospects of modern farming. Among opportunities 2047 into one of the top ten motes investment in sectors like are latest scientific techniques economies of the world and to energy, infrastructure and agri- and Agro-processing. The threats achieve the upper middle-income status by 2025. The key pillars of this vision include pioneer in projects like roads, agement. In like manner the analysis of the industry sector KP Board of Investment and reveals that it Contributes to 20% Trades (KPBOIT) focuses on of the GDP. Among weaknesses nance, institutional reforms and investment in tourism, mining are slow progress for productivity enhancement, not going for product diversification, high duties and taxes, energy shortages, dearth of technological advancements, volatile exchange Sector strengths Labor

include - 12% of skilled labor force, 15% interest rate, 25% of direct exports, export earnings as billion and this sector employs about 42% of the labor force. However, there are certain shortcomings as well. For instance, almost 40% electricity generated through imported fuel. There is a skill mismatch. Among opportunities are included technical advancements and emerging industries. Threats can be in the form of depreciation of until these hurdles are removed, FC 2023. The aspect details of Pakistani currency. Coming to we cannot ensure a conducive The institutions for promotion Agriculture Sector as regards its the analysis of manufacturing environment for the business to

Contribution to Direct Exports is and has a share of 60% of 25% while export Earnings are Pakistan's total exports. It employs 16.1% of the country's labor force. Threats which are posed are outages Zones (SEZs) technological upgradation, economic instability.

The analysis of the IT sector shows that among its strengths are the fact that Pakistan offers a huge market with193 million mobile users, 138 million broadband subscribers and 142 million internet subscribers and a booming freelancing industry. Among the grey areas are concentration of IT exports, skills mismatch, ease of doing business issues and no regulatory framework. The prospects include the premise that it is financially attractive and has a 2.7% contribution to GDP. It can be a global destination for investment. Among hazards are intense competition from other markets and fluctuating economic conditions predominantly.

Summing up the entire discussion it can be conjectured that among major reasons for low investments in Pakistan are bureaucratic hurdles, judicial inefficiency, infrastructural constraints, energy crisis and high taxation and contractionary monetary policy and most importantly security issues. Unless and







WEST BANK: Palestinian women sitting across from rubble of a house where two Palestinians were killed during an Israeli raid in Burqin village near Jenin.

Syria's new leaders turn to Islamic law in effort to rebuild Assad's police

DAMASCUS (Reuters): Syria's new faction now in power plans to revise, infractions. The extent of public authorities are using Islamic teacha move officers say aims to instil a sense of morality as they race to fill a security vacuum after dismantling ousted president Bashar al-Assad's notoriously corrupt and brutal security forces. Police they brought into Damascus from their former rebel enclave in the northwestern region of Idlib are asking applicants about their beliefs and focusing on Islamic sharia law in the brief training they offer recruits, according to five senior officers and application forms seen by Ensuring stability and winning the

trust of people across Syria will be crucial for the Sunni Muslim Islamists to cement their rule. But the move to put religion at the centre of policing risks seeding new rifts in a diverse country awash with guns after foreign governments they have been trying to woo, regional analysts warn. There are many Syrians who will think tank, when asked about Reuters' findings. "Not just minorities -Christians, Alawites, Druze - but also quite a lot of Sunni Muslims in places emy in Idlib before transferring to

ested in religious law.' big a role Islam might play in Syria's dents who ended up tortured or killed and welcomed applications from peo-

you have a fairly large secular, cos-

mopolitan population that's not inter-

said one diplomat, who was not ings to train a fledgling police force, authorized to speak publicly on the matter. "It's not a good sign, but it also depends on how strictly it will be implemented," the diplomat told

Syria's de facto leader, Ahmed al-Sharaa, has sought to reassure Western officials and Middle Eastern governments worried about their own Islamist movements that his faction has renounced its former ties to al Qaeda and will rule with moderation, including protecting minorities.

The group, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), has a track record of pragmatism, backing away from enforcing some strict interpretations of Islamic law in areas it controlled during the war. Syria's Interior Ministry, which oversees police, and Information Ministry did not respond to questions about the focus on religion in police 13 years of civil war and alienating recruitment and training, or whether there are plans to incorporate Islamic law into the legal code.

The senior police officers interfind this concerning," said Aron Lund, a fellow at Century International, a Middle East-focused viewed by Reuters said the intention was not to impose it on the general population but rather to teach recruits ethical behaviour.

Hamza Abu Abdel Rahman, who helped set up the group's police acadlike Damascus and Aleppo, where Damascus, said an understanding of religious matters, "what is permissible and what is not", is crucial for recruits to "act justly". Assad's myri-The religious foundations of the ad security forces were widely feared constitution, which the former rebel to demanding bribes to resolve minor ple of any faith.

anger against them was evident in the days after Assad was toppled on Dec. 8. Most of the capital's police stations were ransacked by looters, with equipment and records pillaged or destroyed. Police said half of the roughly 20 stations have since reopened, but they are each staffed by around 10 officers, mostly brought in from Idlib, instead of their previous complement of 100-150

At three stations visited by Reuters in late December, a handful of exhausted officers was trying to deal with a welter of issues, from complaints of rampant crime to a garbage collector who brought in two bags of hand grenades he found on the street. When the rebels seized power, they announced they were disbanding Assad's Interior Ministry and security forces, including the police. More than 200,000 people have registered to join a new police service they are establishing, said Hesham Hilal, who is leading courses for recruits at a police academy in Damascus.

Police who defected to the rebel side before Assad's fall are welcome to apply for the new force, the senior officers told Reuters. Those who did not have been asked to complete a 'reconciliation" process, including signing a document accepting the change of regime and handing in their gun. It is not yet clear whether any will be allowed to join the new force. Seven officers who manage police police training are also making for tyrannical and predatory behav- stations or are involved in recruit-Western governments wonder how iour, ranging from arrests of dissi- ment said they needed more members

Teen fatally shoots a female student and himself at school

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP): Henderson" as they work to he heard the gunfire. high school cafeteria left a said in a statement. female student dead and Investigators at this point another student wounded, have not established a connearly two years after nection between Henderson another deadly school and the victims, and police ignited an emotional debate been random, according to about gun control in the statement.

shot and killed himself with Aaron said. They were not a handgun, Metro Nashville in the immediate vicinity of Police spokesperson Don the cafeteria and by the Aaron said during a news time they got down there conference. Police identi- the shooting was over and John Drake said the shooter has about 2,000 students "confronted" Josselin Corea Escalante, borhood about 10 miles (16 16, in the cafeteria and opened fire, killing her.

The wounded student was grazed by a bullet. He close to a hospital, officials Facebook. Adrienne Battle, was treated and released helped shocked parents from the hospital, Drake reunite with their children. said. Another student was Dajuan Bernard was waittaken to a hospital for treat- ing at a Mapco service stahappened during a fall, a 10th grader, who was and state agencies are first heard of the shooting detection software, shatter- community organizers, examining "very concern- from his son, who "was a ing online writings and little startled," Bernard

A shooting in a Nashville establish a motive, police shooting in the city that said the gunfire may have

Two school resource The 17-year-old shooter, officers were in the buildwho was also a student at ing when the shooting hap-Antioch High School, later pened around 11 a.m., fied him as Solomon the gunman had killed him-Henderson. Police Chief self, Aaron said. The school student and is in Antioch, a neighkilometers) southeast of downtown Nashville.

At a family safety center

"He was OK and let me know that everything was measures were not enough OK," Bernard said. "This to stop this tragedy," Battle world is so crazy, it could happen anywhere," he said. 'We've just got to protect right to prevent them from even doing this. That's the hardest part. Fonda Abner said her

granddaughter had called anyone in the community process, and find comfort," the church said on schools have implemented

resistant film for glass, and families, protesters and othsecurity vestibules that are ers pleading with lawmak-

"Unfortunately,

to stop this tragedy," Battle said. She said there are questions about whether stationary metal detectors the kids, and raise the kids should be considered. "While past research has shown they have had limitations and unintended consequences, we will continue to explore emerging her a couple of times but technologies and strategies that she only heard commo- to strengthen school safetion and thought it was a ty," Battle said. In October pocket dial. They spoke a 16-year-old Antioch High briefly before being cut off. School student was arrested 'It's nerve-racking waiting after school resource offiout here," Abner said. cers and school officials United Family Fellowship, discovered through social a church in Antioch, was media that he had taken a hosting a vigil night "for gun to school the day prior. When he was stopped the who needs a space to pray, following morning, officials found a loaded gun in

his pants, police said. School shooting comes superintendent of Nashville nearly two years after a schools, said that public shooter opened fire at a separate Nashville private a "range of safety meas- elementary school and ment of a facial injury that tion to reunite with his son, ures," including partner- killed six people, including ships with police for school three children. The tragedy Metro being held in the auditori- resource officers, security prompted a monthslong Nashville Police, federal um with other students. He cameras with weapon- effort among hundreds of social media posts connected to 17-year-old Solomon said. His son was upstairs a barrier between outside ers to consider passing gun to 17-year-old Solomon from the cafeteria but said visitors and the main control measures.

Trump revokes protections for former Secretary of State publication the

WASHINGTON (AP): offer an explanation. They whose President Donald Trump said that Pompeo and Hook White has revoked government were told of the loss of prosecurity protection for for- tection and that it took mer Secretary of State effect at 11 p.m. that night. Mike Pompeo and his top It's another sign of steps aide, Brian Hook, who have Trump is taking just days faced threats from Iran into his return to the White since they took hard-line House to target those he has stances on the Islamic perceived as adversaries. Republic during Trump's first administration.

change, but neither could Bolton later wrote a book operation.

discuss personal security national security adviser saga bore the hallmarks of details, confirmed the during his first term. a "Russian information

fully sought to block on saying publicly that he grounds that it disclosed would play no role in his national security informa- new administration. In a tion. Bolton, who has been social media post this targeted for assassination by Iran, said in a statement his presidentially appointthat he was disappointed ed position on the board of but not surprised by the the Wilson Center, a think A day earlier, Trump, a decision. Trump also tank. Asked about the deci-Republican, revoked the revoked security clear- sion to end Pompeo and A congressional staffer security clearance and ances for dozens of former Hook's security, Trump and a person familiar with Secret Service protection intelligence officials who replied to reporters: "Do ances for dozens of former Hook's security, Trump the matter, speaking on the from John Bolton, who signed a 2020 letter saying you want to have a large condition of anonymity to was fired as Trump's the Hunter Biden laptop

Trump had soured on White House unsuccess- Pompeo some months ago, week, he fired Hook from detail of people guarding people for the rest of their lives? I mean, there's risks to everything.

China says it will work with Netherlands

International

HONG KONG (Reuters): China's Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang said at a meeting with Dutch King Willem-Alexander in The Hague that China stands ready to increase mutual trust and that it would work together to maintain stability and smoothness of the global supply chain.

The meeting was reported by China's foreign ministry. It comes days after the Dutch government said it would expand export controls on advanced semiconductor equipment from April 1. Dutch national export licence requirements for semiconductor equipment were first introduced in 2023 under pressure from the United States to limit shipments to China, and they have been expanded several times.

Ding said that despite the changing international situation, the relations between the Netherlands and China have always maintained a good momentum. "China is ready to work with the Netherlands to enhance understanding and mutual trust, strengthen exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and promote the continuous development of the open and pragmatic comprehensive cooperative partner-

ship," Ding said. China an and Netherlands have their own advantages in different parts of the global production and supply chain and there is "great potential for strengthening cooperation, which is in the interests of both sides and conducive to peace, stability,

development and progress," he said. Ding said China stands ready to work with the Netherlands to jointly "maintain the stability and smoothness of the global production and supply chain." Computer chip equipment maker ASML has said it did not expect the Dutch government's expansion of export controls to impact its busi-

People leave NZ in record numbers

WELLINGTON (Reuters): Zealand hit record levels in the 12 months to November 2024, in another sign of the weakness in the country's economy that moved to a technical recession in the third quarter.

Data released Statistics New Zealand showed that 127,800 people left the Pacific nation in 12 months to November, up 28% on the prior 12-month period. This was provisionally the highest number of people leaving in an annual period ever, according to the statistics bureau. Of those leaving, more than 50% were New Zealand citizens. according to the data.

New Zealand, which has a population of just 5.3 million, has seen its economy struggle over the last couple of years as the central bank increased the official cash rate to dampen historinflation. ically high Michael Gordon, senior economist at Westpac, said that a lot of people come to New Zealand for work opportunities and when

these dry up people leave. "It's about work opportunities, especially here (New Zealand) versus Australia. Australia's economy is still running reasonably strongly," Gordon said. "There are more opportunities over there now so we are seeing quite high outflows of Kiwis." However, people leaving does continue to be offset by inward migration. Statistics New Zealand said net migration - the number of people moving to New Zealand permanently minus those leaving New Zealand was at 30,600 in the 12 months to November 2024. Net migration peaked in the 12 months ended October 2023 at 135,700.

Gordon added that net migration was now back at historic averages and that over the longer term net migration would support the country's econo-"It's something to keep in mind, that for a big chunk of the world, New Zealand is an attractive place to live, but also for us (New Zealanders) there are also places that look more attractive like Australia, or going to the US or the UK," Gordon said.

US SC removes hurdle to anti-money laundering law

(Reuters): The US Supreme Court declined to block enforcement of an antimoney laundering law that forces millions of business entities to disclose the identities of their real beneficial owners to the Department, Treasury though it still will remain on hold and its fate could be decided by President Donald Trump. The justices put on hold

ssued on Dec. 3 by Texasbased US District Judge Amos Mazzant who, at the behest of small businesses, concluded Congress overstepped its powers under the US Constitution in passing the Corporate Transparency Act in 2021. The law's enforcement remains blocked and companies still are not required to report information as a result of a separate order issued on Jan. 7 in another case by Texas-based US District Judge Jeremy Kernodle.

Lawyers at the conservative Center Individual Rights, representing the small businesses in the Supreme Court case, cited the other ruling in saying it was now up to the new Republican president's administration to decide what to do. Trump returned to the presidency. 'We remain confident that the law's invasive reporting requirements and draconian penalties will be ruled unconstitutional," Gaziano, the center's presi-

injunction to take effect ahead of a Jan. 13 deadline Financial Department's Crimes Network, known as FinCEN. Democratic former President Joe Biden's administration had asked a nationwide injunction the Supreme Court to stay

the injunction. It said millions of entities had already complied with the reporting requirement before Mazzant's ruling that blocked the law's enforcement nationally even though the small businesses did not ask for that Conservative Justice Neil Gorsuch agreed that

the injunction should be put on hold but said he would go a step further and take up the case now to decide if an individual judge in one state may issue such a nationwide injunction. Liberal Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented, saying she saw no indication why a further delay in implementing the law would harm the government, which she said had itself delayed enforcement for nearly four years after its enactment.

injunction was obtained by the National Federation of Independent several small businesses challenged the law through the Center for Individual that affect interstate com-Rights. A beneficial owner merce.

the New Orleans-based 5th who directly or indirectly US Circuit Court of owns or controls a compa-Appeals allowed the ny. This law required corporations and limited liability companies, or LLCs, that most companies had to report information confaced to submit their initial cerning their beneficial reports to the Treasury owners to FinCEN, which collects and analyzes infor-Enforcement mation about financial transactions to combat money laundering and other crimes.

The measure's supporters

have said it was designed to

address the growing popularity of the United States as a venue for criminals to launder illicit funds by setting up entities like LLCs under state laws without disclosing their involvement. "The act's reporting requirements are important to the government in preventing, detecting and prosecuting crimes such as money laundering, tax fraud and the financing of terrorism," the Biden administration's Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar wrote in a brief to the Supreme Court. Mazzant ruled that Congress has no authority under its powers to regulate commerce, taxes and foreign affairs to adopt "quasi-Orwellian statute" and that it likely violated the rights of states under the Constitution's 10th Amendment. Prelogar, in her brief to the Supreme Court, argued that the judge's ruling was too sweeping and wrong, citing the authority of Congress Business, which along with under the Constitution's socalled Commerce Clause to regulate economic activities

Italy's top court upholds Amanda Knox's conviction

court confirmed a slander conviction against US defendant Amanda Knox for accusing an innocent man of murdering her British flatmate 17 years ago in a sensational case that polarized he said. trial watchers on both sides of the Atlantic.

European Court of Human Rights ruling that said her rights had been violated by police failure to provide a lawyer and adequate translaquestioning just days after 21-year-old Meredith Kercher's murder in the uni-

versity town of Perugia. Judge Monica Boni read the verdict aloud in a courtroom that was empty except for a few reporters and guards. The lawyers for both Knox and the man she wrongly accused, Patrick Lumumba, had gone home during deliberations. The ruling seemingly ends a 17year legal saga that saw Knox and her Italian exboyfriend convicted and acquitted in flip-flop verdicts in Kercher's brutal murder, before being exon-

erated by the highest Cassation Court in 2015. The slander conviction multiple appeals, and Knox employed her at a bar in the Ivory Coast, was eventually charge in June after the town of Perugia, during a DNA was found at the crime

trial. Reached by telephone, Lumumba said he was satisfied with the verdict. "Amanda was wrong. This verdict has to accompany her for the rest of her life,?

Dalla Vedova told reporters in the courthouse by phone. "This is totally unexpected in our eyes, and totally unjust for Amanda." Knox tor during a long night of called it a "surreal" day in a post on X. "I've just been found

guilty yet again of a crime I didn't commit," her post said. "And I was just awarded the Innocence Network Impact Award, 'created to honor an exonerated person who raises awareness of wrongful convictions, policy issues, or assists others postrelease." Speaking recently on her "Labyrinths" podcast, Knox said: "I hate the fact that I have to live with consequences for a crime I did not commit." She said consequences included difficulsome countries because of a criminal conviction.

she accused Lumumba, a another European court ruling long night of questioning scene.

ROME (AP): Italy's highest cleared the way for a new and under pressure from police, who they said fed her false information. The European Court of Human Rights found that the police deprived her of a lawyer and provided a translator who acted more as a mediator. Knox's lawyer, Carlo Knox, now 37, does not risk Dalla Vedova, expressed any more time in jail. She Knox had appealed the surprise at the court's deci-conviction based on a sion. "We are incredulous," four years during the investigation, initial murder trial and first appeal. But Knox had continued the legal battle with the aim of clearing her name of all criminal wrongdoing.

Knox returned to the United States in 2011, after being freed by an appeals court in Perugia, and has established herself as a global campaigner for the wrongly convicted. She has a podcast with her husband and has a new memoir coming out titled, "Free: My Search for Meaning." Knox was a 20-year-old student in Perugia when Kercher was found stabbed to death on Nov. 2, 2007, in her bedroom in the apartment they shared with two Italian women. The case made ties in obtaining visas to global headlines as suspicion quickly fell on Knox and her boyfriend of just Her defense team says days, Raffaele Sollecito. But man, against Knox had survived Congolese man who Hermann Guede, from the was reconvicted on the central Italian university convicted of murder after his

160 national security staffers are sent home

WASHINGTON (AP): President Donald Trump's national security adviser sidelined about National Security Council aides, sending them home while the administration reviews staffing and tries to align it with Trump's agenda. The career government commonly employees, referred to as detailees, were summoned for an all-staff call and told they will be expected to be available to the council's senior directors but would not need to report to the White House. The council provides national security and foreign policy

advice to the president. Brian McCormack, chief of staff to national security adviser Mike Waltz, delivered the news in a twominute phone call, telling the detailees they "are directed to be on call and report to the office only if contacted by the NSC leadership." "As anyone who

dous honor to support the executive office of the president and the presidency itself," said McCormack, according to a recording of the call obtained by The Associated Press. "We also know that every president is entitled to have a staff and the advisers that they need to implement the goals that the American people elected him to pursue.

Trump, a Republican, is sidelining these nonpolitical experts on topics that range from counterterrorism to global climate policy at a time when the United States is dealing with a disparate set of complicated foreign policy matters, including conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East. Such structuring could make new policy experts brought in to the NSC less likely to speak up about policy differences and

concerns. Waltz had signaled has had the privilege of before Inauguration Day working here in the White that he would look to return

House knows, it's a tremen- holdover civil servants who worked in the council during President Joe Biden's administration to their home agencies. That was meant to ensure the council is staffed by those who support Trump's goals.

By the end of the review, Waltz will look to have a 'more efficient, flatter' NSC, one official said. The officials declined to comment on the ultimate number of personnel - nonpolitical detailees as well as political appointees - whom Trump and Waltz would like to see as part of the council once the review is completed.

Officials said they have already begun bringing detailees from agencies with expertise that the new administration including some who had served during the first administration. Trump Some directors have made decisions to inform detailees they will be sent back to their home agencies.

The Frontier Post Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late) Founder Bilal Shah Afridi Chief Executive Jalil Afridi

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Tulsi's secret meeting with Syrian dictator

ULSI Gabbard's team scrambled to minimize the appearance of her 2017 meeting with former Syrian President Bashar Al Assad, The Washington Post reported Tuesday. Donald Trump's pick for director of national intelligence has repeatedly come under fire for her defense of violent authoritarians, including Assad, the brutal dictator who fled Syria for Russia after opposition forces overtook Damascus in December.

Gabbard's two meetings with Assad during her three-day trip to Syria in January 2017 were not originally on her itinerary delivered to the Ethics Committee. In fact, her schedule included no meetings with any Syrian politician or official. Apparently, Gabbard's team was also kept in the dark about her meeting, according to correspondence and files reviewed by the Post. Four staffers involved in discussions about the meeting told the Post that they were surprised to learn that Gabbard had met with the Syrian president at all. One of the staffers, who opposed the meeting, said that they had a difficult time getting Gabbard to provide answers about the details of her sched-

Gabbard has claimed that while her meeting with Assad was not originally planned, she couldn't pass up the opportunity once it arose. One of Gabbard's meetings with Assad on January 16, 2017, was scheduled to begin at 12:15 p.m. Her next appointment was with Assad's wife at 3 p.m., according to a timeline reviewed by the Post. This differs from the report delivered to Congress, which detailed that her meeting with Assad had lasted only 90 minutes and her face time with Assad's wife began at 2

Once her staff learned about her meeting, they knew that it looked bad. Gabbard's deputy chief of staff had warned that her meeting with the dictator seemed "rather long" and urged that "formalities" be skipped to "cut down on the time that it appears you two sat and talked." Gabbard's press secretary pitched grouping her meeting with others so it could "appear more like" one of many "protocol meetings." One of Gabbard's former staffers recalled that the ex-representative's first meeting with Assad was listed as "somewhere around three hours." "I remember thinking, 'That's insane,'" the staffer told the Post. "What do you talk about for three hours in a supposed unplanned meeting?

Gabbard's confirmation hearing is still forthcoming, but this report draws into sharp relief the efforts of nearly 100 former US diplomats and intelligence and national security officials who urged Senate leadership to review the government's files on Gabbard behind closed doors. Officials said in December that her past actions "call into question her ability to deliver unbiased intelligence briefings to the President, Congress, and to the entire national security apparatus.

Genius plan to force Russia

ONALD Trump repeatedly promised during his presidential campaign to quickly end Russia's war with Ukraine. It appears his plan to do so involves the threat of sanctions against the country. In a Truth Social post Wednesday morning, Trump called out Russian President Vladimir Putin by name, saying that if 'we don't make a 'deal,' and soon, I have no other choice but to put high levels of Taxes, Tariffs, and Sanctions on anything being sold by Russia to the United States, and various other participating countries."

Although Trump began by praising Russia and the Russian people, as well as touting his close relationship with Putin, the rest of the post contains possibly some of his toughest language to date against the country and its leader. Some of Trump's threats are already in place, however: Sanctions have been in place against Russia since the early days of the Ukraine war, hurting the country's economy. Trump repeatedly bragged on the campaign trail that he could end the Russia-Ukraine War in "24 hours," but after he won the election, Russia threw cold water on that idea, even boosting its troop levels less than a week later. Lt. Gen. Keith Kellogg, the new president's choice for special envoy for Ukraine and Russia, a post solely focused on ending the war, has suggested withholding aid for Ukraine in order to force negotiations with

Kellogg has already backtracked on a quick end to the war, suggesting that Trump never really had a concrete plan to quickly end hostilities as he promised. The fact that the president is now bringing up sanctions when only four months ago, he decried their use against Russia, seems to indicate that his threat is a bluff and he's making up a plan on the fly. Russia is probably not going to respond in the way Trump wants.

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Foreign policy for American Imperium

Dr. Adam McConnel

N Jan. 20, US President-elect Donald Trump will face time with the new they simply demanded that be inaugurated as the 47th US President, and only the second US presi- are filled with commentary offer them aid in a manner dent to serve two non- remarking on the "extraorconsecutive terms, the dinary" or "abnormal" [3] scending, European gov-Grover character of this scene, it ernments would not take up Cleveland in the late 19th has been a long time in the an initiative that was so making. Simply, this is the clearly to their advantage.
The unusual manner American Imperium laid Naturally, US interests

being

which

earned a second term, by

this time, should not sur-

oddities. He earned his first

term without winning the

popular vote, an oddity; he

he depended on family, in-

dations, and ideological

media warriors like Steve

Bannon to cobble together

his first administration - in

ty. His administration then

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As Trump embarks upon

his second term, however,

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Republican Party, so he set

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Trump's

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▼HE second Trump

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through

"decider." [2] Even though European governments act the world's editorial pages in a certain manner, or even than might appear conde-

Musk, in this context, apparently prise as Trump's entire fulfills the Klipspringer role.

political career is a list of Various Grand Flat 1 Various figures from global politics and business are now streaming to had no political experience whatsoever when he Trump's "royal court" at Mar-awhatsoever when he assumed America's highest Largo in order to get face time with political office, an oddity; the new "decider." [2] Even though laws, cronies, recommenthe world's editorial pages are filled with commentary remarking on the "extraordinary" or "abnormal" [3] American politics, an oddicharacter of this scene, it has been a long time in the making. Simply, for the next four years as this is the American Imperium laid grace, or disgraced them- bare, with its profound ideological rhetoric abandoned and its fine republican clothes cast off.

ting candidates for various can clothes cast off.

Trump is the result of long term US socio-politiafter the ballots were counted in November. The more cal trends. A direct line can than 100 executive orders be drawn from Trump's that he will sign on his first behavior back through Sarah decades, key piece of business. [1] Palin, through Newt Trump now controls the Gingrich Rush and Limbaugh, through Dan Quayle and David Duke, to work directing his through Ronald Reagan, back to Richard Nixon's Or, rather, "agenda" - emergence on the national Trump has a notoriously stage after World War II, short attention span and and to Senator Joseph tends to establish the day's McCarthy's demagoguery

political docket with early in the same era. For example, the US social media network now leadership conducting forowned by his comrade, eign policy after World War II were carefully respectful Florida estate, Mar-a-Lago, of foreign governments' will clearly function as sensitivities. Although no 'White House South" dur- post-World War II state was ing the next four years and even remotely as powerful Gatsby's mansion, where he State George Marshall sive context, apparently fulfills his name at a commencement address which, norare now streaming to President Harry Truman, Trump's "royal court" at Marshall, and other US

he is clearly more prepared bare, with its profound ide- would also be preserved vinced to make compromisfor the task. Unlike the first ological rhetoric abanthrough the Marshall Plan, es remain unclear, time around, he began vet-doned and its fine republibut leaving the choice to So, in respons join to each individual government's preference was essential. [4]

Today, Trump simply announces or tweets, outof-the-blue, that he wants to annex Canada, buy Greenland, re-appropriate the Panama Canal, and that "all hell will break loose" if an agreement is not reached in Gaza. [5] Meanwhile, the Republican-dominated Congress rushes to pass the necessary legislation. [6] One imagines that Roman emperors would have felt

jealousy. If we compare Trump's activities since Election three key questions: "Does Day to the foreign policies he pursued while he was president, few differences strike the eye. He still sees America more prosper China as the preeminent ous?" [11] That is the threat to US global interhas taken on the aura of Jay as the US, Secretary of ests, but maintains a passtance 'dispenses starlight to casu- announced the initiative Moscow; he still thinks one other essential guideal moths." Musk, in this that would eventually bear other NATO members are line, that President Trump living off of American will establish foreign poli largesse; he still is vehe- cy, and Various figures from mally, the press would not mently anti-immigrant and Department will simply global politics and business have paid any attention to. casually insults various implement it. Thus, we wil global societies. He still wait for President Trump to believes that import tariffs tweet US foreign policy at a Mar-a-Largo in order to get officials understood that if are the answer to America's time of his choosing.

The only surprising

development is Trump's disposal of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. [8] That was especially interesting given Trump's professed admiration for Zionism, his staunch support for the State of Israel, and his generally pro-Zionist choices for foreign policy positions. such as his secretary of state candidate, Republican Florida Senator Marco Rubio. Was Trump's impul siveness at work in the anti Netanyahu outburst? At the moment, it is difficult to know, so Trump's interactions with the Israeli leader ship in the coming months will provide more insight into developments in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Trump has already come out with an even stronger anti-war stance than during his first term. In addition to his demand for a Gaza ceasefire, he stated several times over the past year his desire for the Ukraine conflict to be wrapped up. But whether Putin will see eyeto-eye with him, and whether Ukrainian Prime Volodymyr Minister Zelenskyy can be con-

question of "quo vadis?, the answer is, most likely helter skelter. Trump will go after whatever issue he believes pleases his base, at whatever time. Beyond MAGA, [9] Trump has no ideology, no platform, no blueprint for foreign policy: his only vade mecum is his understanding of what benefits America at any partic ular juncture. During his Senate con-

firmation hearings on Jan 15, Marco Rubio [10] asserted that President Trump will base his administration's foreign policy on it make America safer? does it make America stronger?; does it make essence "America First" approach towards But Rubio also emphasized

Fires consuming Los Angeles are just beginning

Forest, fighting what's commonly known as the This includes a variety of for-Jennings Creek fire. I was est management practices, only on the line for a day, including reducing invasive but rotating crews battled that monster for two weeks. In the end, it burned 5,000 acres - the largest and most that adds to the fire fuel load destructive fire in the and opens canopies that pre-Hudson Valley in recent vents

electric chainsaw, felling them before they could become fuel bridges, allowing the fire to escape. I was shocked to learn that New York State Parks officer Dariel Vasquez was killed by a falling tree shortly after I came off the line, and wondered if he had died doing similar work.

For the rest of the time the Jennings Creek fire burned, I ran local calls for other fire companies whose crews were denuded working in the forest. Complaining to a friend that I couldn't do more (I'm a volunteer who serves when I'm not working my day job), he replied, "Don't worry, with climate change, you'll get another chance and sooner than you think." Indeed, this mirrored a warning I sounded just six months

And then Los Angeles burned, and I realized that we're just getting started. Worse, I discovered that so much of the discourse around what to do to prevent this in the future is pointed in the wrong direction. When last we had an update, the death toll in the Los Angeles fires stood at 27, with 40,000 acres burned and the largest portions of the blaze still not contained. The number of people under evacuation orders at one point stood at nearly 200,000. With more 17,000 structures destroyed so far, this fire has "jumped the wildland urban interface. This means the fire moved from the wildland fuels that built and grew it and consumed structures

where urban meets rural.

That didn't happen in the

Jennings Creek fire, but this "was a miracle," per a local town supervisor. Jennings Creek wasn't even close to being as wind-driven as what's happening in Los Angeles, but there were cerfrom the flames, the wind would pick up briefly, and within seconds, I'd be standing in them. Fires like these, starting in the wildland and threatening habitations, need to be addressed - and urgently. The press is rife with recriminations. President Trump has blamed California Gov. Gavin Newsom (calling him "Newscum") for the disaster. A lot of hay is being made of the fact that Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, who promised not to travel internationally while serving, happened to be in Ghana at a state event when the fires

broke out. Newsom has ordered an investigation into why hydrants ran dry. Foreign countries have sent help, and rich folks are hiring private crews. Manpower and water dominate the headlines, and those things are important for combatting fires, but I am not seeing much conversation about fire prevention, specifically about building the kind of resilient forests that will prevent fires from taking off like this in the first place.

"In some parts of the for-Deschutes the

about its capabilities. Ironically, 18F was found-

ed in 2013 to respond to the

HealthCare.gov. Over time,

it has become another

launch

THREE months ago, I past the point of allowing worked the fireline in nature to take its course. New York's Sterling These forest stands need our help to get back to health." species that burn more readily than native plants, thinning to remove thick underbrush "crown-to-crown" spread of fire through the I spent most of my time treetops. Fire suppression cutting trees with a small efforts in wildlands are necessary in many cases, but they also run counter to the natural ecosystem that depends on fire (there are species of pine and oak that require it) to maintain balance. Big meadows, cleared by fire, become overgrown, adding to fuel load and allowing for more rapid spread.

Prescribed or controlled

burns, where humans deliberately simulate the natural spread of fire, can help mitigate this, but it requires funding, skill, and care. Even then, they're still risky. In 2022, a controlled burn leapt its bounds to become the worst wildfire in New Mexico's history. In fact, some are arguing that forest management is the real culprit behind the Los Angeles fires, but these are fringe voices sometimes tied to climate change denial, and drowned out by the focus on bodies, water and gear. Back here in New York, there are multiple projects like the Deschutes Collaborative. There's the Black Rock Forest Consortium, just down the road from me. There's the Hudson Valley Alliance for Housing and Conservation, which strikes a balance rare attempting conscious management of ecosystems alongside the need to provide affordable housing to the region's growing population. The Audubon Society runs a healthy forests initiative in the state that helps create the kind of wildland resilience that might help prevent the next Jennings Creek disaster, or at least make it more manageable. All of these efforts, like Deschutes, are nonprofit, heavily dependent on community involvement, volunteer labor and public funding.

You can't even call the Los Angeles fires a warning shot. Rather, they are merely the tainly moments. I'd be work- latest episode in a rapidly ing the fireline a safe distance unfolding story. With climate and the increasingly populated intersection between wildland and urban environments, we can expect more of the same unless we address it urgently. Part of that move should absolutely be the tools firefighters need. more hands to do the hard work, more water to "put the wet stuff on the red stuff,' more and better gear. But the longer, slower and more patient work of managing the wildlands where these things start is going to be a critical part of that fight, demanding volunteers, activists and, of course, lots and lots of money.
What's more, it demands

political courage and deft communication to sell the slower and more complex solution to a public who, as the current news cycle and social media conversation shows, have short attention spans consumed by outrage. As we reckon with what is still unfolding around Los Angeles, we need to be thinking about the full range of solutions to employ to move toward a time where this becomes a moment in histo-Collabortive notes, "we are ry, and not the new normal.

If DOGE wants to find waste oversaw Login.gov and lied

Emily Murphy

lenge of cutting govern- tion on the character or ment spending. With competency of government annual interest on the US ing \$1 trillion, the admin- with a genuine sense of istration's DOGE initia- public service. Instead, it is tive couldn't be more a reflection of a broken systimely. Led by Elon tem that values process over Musk, this "Department efficiency. The General Government Services Administration, Efficiency" promises to which I led during the first save taxpayer money and Trump administration, manstreamline our bloated ages the federal government's real estate and pro-I am rooting for their curement, including how success. One of my proud- the government buys everyest accomplishments during thing from paper clips to my years leading a federal courthouses. Although GSA agency was to save \$21.6 reports roughly \$40 billion

billion - far short of in revenue, the agency over-DOGE's \$2 trillion savings sees over \$100 billion in goal. I know how hard it is annual government conto change the government tracts and 360 million in ways that deliver mean- square feet of office space. ingful savings. As the Prioritizing efficiency Trump administration pre- and savings at GSA can pares its agenda, I have a lead to billions of dollars of renewed support for effi-After decades in governciency and a supportive said his agency refused to

workers, many of whom are within GSA's own profederal debt alone exceed- talented and hard-working grams and operations. An agency cannot be a champion of government efficiency when it tolerates internal waste and inefficiency. example,

should sunset Login.gov - a program that is redundant, over-budget and behind schedule. Taxpayers have spent more than \$300 million to build this website, which verifies people's identities online. It is competing with the private sector, including companies that sell to the government using GSA's own contracts. Recent government reports show that 40 percent of agencies using Login.gov report technical problems. The program is failing to meet its performance tarfew recommendations on savings for taxpayers. With gets. Biden's former IRS commissioner has publicly

ment, I know how hard it Congress, GSA could delivuse Login.gov due to its can be to identify and cut er greater savings than ever security flaws. Login.gov is not just within GSA that built and DOGE should consider waste. This is not a reflec- before. One place to start is

but fraudulent. In 2023, GSA's own internal watchdog discovered the program's leaders were actively lying about meeting the government's highest security standards. This security risk also meant the program knowingly overcharged public agencies for its services, which has led to bipartisan congressional investigations. As DOGE's leaders look for programs to cut, there is no better

expensive and ineffective

of swindling American tax-DOGE should not stop there. It could save even more money by eliminating most of GSA's Technology Transformation Service. This is the parent organization of Login.gov and includes 18F, the group

program that has wasted

hundreds of millions of

example of a government program run amok. Ăt its launch, 18F was promised as a small, lean operation that would be fully funded by the revenues it provided to agen-Instead, cies. candidate than a redundant

disastrous

Technology Transformation Service has failed to fully recover its annual costs and has a track record of mismanagement. Last year, it lost \$179 million, and since dollars with a track record 2021, it has spent nearly \$1.3 billion to lose \$533 million. Despite its inability to cover its costs as promised, the Technology Transformation Service plans to grow by 30 percent by 2027. Given that much government agencies like

the US Digital Service,

simply eliminating all nonessential elements of the organization and significantly reducing its budget.

FedRAMP's greatest challenge is that it lacks the capacity to process all companies seeking certification, so investing here could increase competition and ultimately result in lower prices across the government. The Trump administration has a real shot at making government work better for taxpayers. It's not just about slashing budgets; it's about focusing on making government work well in the modern era.

Programs like Login.gov and organizations like TTS highlight how waste can spiral out of control, while successes like FedRAMP demonstrate that smart, focused initiatives save money and cut red tape. If DOGE can focus on cutting what doesn't work and doubling down on what does, it could do more than just of it is duplicative of other reduce spending. It could show Americans that the government can actually

Trump's immigration policies will sow chaos

immigration advocates in ing up with calls from immigrant farmworkers. The messages said the US Border Patrol was conducting an indiscriminate dragnet in the area, pulling over vehicles presumed to be carrying immigrants to work and taking dozens into custody.

To the advocates, this didn't seem right. The Border Patrol - a unit of US Customs and Border Protection - had not been seen operating in anyone's memory in Bakersfield, some 300 miles from the patrol's California offices in El harvest citrus.' Centro, a few miles from the Mexican border.

tion centers in Bakersfield run by ICE - Immigration and Customs Enforcement - none of the detainees could be found in either one. The Border Patrol, a sister agency of ICE, staged its raids not at ICE installations, but out of a parking lot at a facility of the Interior Department, which has border security. The Border Patrol undocumented immigrants with criminal records, ultimately detaining 78 individuals mostly for crimes such as drug trafficking, burglary and child abuse.

familiar with the immigration ecosystem in Kern County, where Bakersfield is located - not immigration lawyers, United Farm Workers officials or employers believes a word of this. The UFW and other sources estimate that some 200 people were detained in just the first two days, and 1,000 in all may have been detained and released. Rather than "targeted" enforcement, the Border Patrol conducted "random stops of vehicles exclusively founded on racial raids occurred as the harvesting of profiling of individuals," Ambar Tovar, director of legal services for the UFW Foundation, told me.

The officers raid locations where they knew they would find farmworkers gathering - such as at a Home Depot, where immigrant laborers come to seek day work, and along California Route 99, the highway traveled by immigrant farmworkers heading to their jobs. At some spots, where they were asked to show warrants naming targeted individuals, the officers simply drove away without answering.

OES Russia's president

operation"

military

army at bay for three years.

than 800,000 dead or wounded,

and at the current rate of attrition -

roughly 1,500 per day - it will soon

approach a million. Thousands of

Russian tanks, artillery systems

and aircraft have been destroyed.

Russia's refineries, gas, petroleum

cally degraded, forcing Moscow to

rely on North Korea for weapons

and soldiers. Parts of Kursk

Ukrainians, and the Russian econo-

my is headed for a disastrous per-

Bakersfield began light- day laborers," said Casey Creamer, of fields, everyone seemed to know president of California Citrus about the arrests," my colleagues Mutual, the trade association for citrus growers.

Creamer said there have been no Kern County were responsible for born here" and consequently are a wave of violent crime, the ostensible justification for the raids. "The people who got targeted get up to go to work at 5 or 6 a.m.," he said. "They work hard and then go home to their families. That's incompatible with violent crime. Drug dealers aren't going out to

One aspect of these raids elicits broad agreement: Their effect was Although there are two detento sow fear. "It's had a very chilling effect on the whole community, said Antonio De Loera-Brust, a spokesman for the UFW. "There's a lot of fear, a lot of anxiety for everyone with an undocumented loved one, which is a significant portion of the Latino community in Kern County." Creamer estimates that about 25% of immigrant worknothing to do with immigration or ers in the area stayed home from work in the first day of the raids, eventually asserted that it had con- and 75% afterward. That continued ducted a four-day "targeted until Jan. 10, when word spread enforcement" operation aimed at that the Border Patrol had left the county and gone back to El Centro. Until then, he said, "the raids sent shock waves through the entire Central Valley," the breadbasket of California and of the entire coun-It's fair to say that almost no one try. At the Mercado Latino Tianguis outside Bakersfield, a popular shopping spot for the Latino community, customers all but disappeared during the raids and about one-third of the businesses closed. The Border Patrol didn't respond to my request for further information about the raids.

It's hard to overestimate the impact that raids like these could have on California agriculture, which, like other states, is highly dependent on immigrant labor. The California oranges, mandarins and lemons was entering a peak period for fresh fruit. California accounts for about 90% of the domestic supply of oranges, mandarins, lemons

and grapefruit. About 20% of the estimated 24,000 citrus farm employees in California work in Kern County, Creamer says. In this case, he adds, the immediate impact was muted because the raids occurred over including all its major cities. only four days and the schedule of citrus harvesting can be somewhat

Rachel Uranga and Andrea Castillo reported, "sowing fear among migrant families, many of whom indications that immigrants in had children or spouses that were American citizens.

> Pupils from immigrant families stayed home from school. About 1 million children in California -10% of the school-age population have least one undocumented immigrant parent and about 115,000 are themselves undocumented. The Homeland Security Department hasn't disclosed who authorized the raids and why they took place. Although they were launched before Donald Trump's presidential inauguration, they impressed many as a harbinger of attacks on immigrants to come during his administration. They hint at Trump's preoccupation with illegal

> immigration. The raids caught the community's elected representatives flatfooted. "I have received numerous calls from constituents expressing fear for their families' safety, and I do not support inciting concern," Rep. David Valadao (R-Hanford), said in a statement issued the Monday after the raids ended. "We can all agree known criminals should be expelled from the United States, but it is crucial that future operations are communicated clearly to avoid causing any further alarm among our farmworkers."

> Gregory Bovino, chief of the Border Patrol's El Centro sector, boasted on social media about what he called "Operation Return to Sender," stating that 60 agents had been deployed in marked and unmarked vehicles. Bovino further asserted that his sector's 'responsibility" stretches from the Mexican border north to the California-Oregon state line. That's true, up to a point. The Border Patrol claims the right to stage warrantless searches within 100 air miles of any external boundary of the US, including national boundaries and shorelines. That's a zone in which twothirds of the US population lives, encompassing all of Florida, Hawaii, Maine, New Hampshire and Michigan; most of New York and more than half of California,

What struck immigrant advocates about the raids was the sheer flexible. Yet "in the small farming thuggishness of the operation, tify the agent and explain his con-"They definitely seemed to be tar-geting agricultural workers and stations and in the miles and miles uncompromosing rhetoric about

immigration sounded by Trump during his campaign and in his inaugural speech Monday. Agents detainees transported Bakersfield to El Centro, a drive that can take as long as six hours, instead of processing them locally where they would be available for local legal advice and representation. Detainees said they were released in El Centro without trans-

portation home. Two UFW members were pressured into signing a form attesting to their voluntary departure from the US, then shipped over the border from El Centro to Mexicali, De Loera-Brust says. "That effectively waived their rights to a hearing or due process or legal representation, and allowed the Border Patrol to dump them in Mexicali," he said. "At that point, there's not much we can do. By the time we got our members a lawyer, they were already in Mexico and there was no case for our lawyers to argue." The union says neither individ-

ual had a criminal history or an outstanding criminal warrant. 'They were undocumented, but they were otherwise completely law-abiding, hardworking folks, the primary breadwinners for their families, leaving behind undocumented spouses and US citizen children who were born in this country," De Loera-Brust said. Agents in an unmarked car pulled over Ernesto Campos, the owner of a Bakersfield gardening service who was naturalized as a US citizen more than 10 years ago. According to a video Campos shot on the scene and that was aired on Bakersfield TV station KGET, the agents demanded that Campos' passenger, an undocumented employee step out of the truck. Campos informed them that the passenger already had an asylum hearing scheduled. Campos shut off his engine and gave the agents

his driver's license. Nevertheless, according to an exchange captured on the video, an agent slashed Campos' truck tires, which can be seen deflated on the video. When Campos asked why the agent had immobilized his vehicle, the agent replied, "I'm not going to argue with you, bro. You did what you did, I did what I did." He verified that Campos was a US citizen, but he was arrested on suspicion of "alien smuggling." Campos was released about four hours later. The border Patrol didn't respond to my request to iden-

The Los Angeles Times

What does Trump's withdrawal from WHO mean for global health?

his long-standing feud with the World Health Organization (WHO), signing an executive order to pull the US out of the global health body.

The decision, reminiscent of similar actions during Trump's first term in 2020, takes on renewed significance in light of current global health challenges. It marks a dramatic shift for Washington, which has historically been the WHO's largest donor and a key partner in international health initiatives. Trump has long criticized the WHO, accusing it of mis-managing global health efforts and failing to adequately represent American interests. His stance has not

wavered. World Health ripped us off. Everybody rips off the United States, and that's it. It's not going to happen anymore," Trump said at the signing of the executive order. The order cited the WHO's "mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic" which originated in China, as well as its "failure to adopt urgently needed reforms" and "inability to demonstrate independence from the inappropriate political influence of WHO member states.'

This criticism mirrored grievances Trump expressed in 2020 during his first term, when he also sought to exit the WHO, citing its handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. He accused the organization of failing to adequately obtain, vet, and share information about the virus promptly and transparently. He also claimed that, through mid-January 2020, the body echoed Chinese authorities' misleading assertions that there was no human-to-human transmission of the virus, despite mounting evidence.

Alleging that the WHO displayed "an alarming lack of independence" from China, he criticized its opposition to travel restrictions, saying it "actually fought" US efforts to limit the spread of the virus. Trump's initial bid to leave the WHO was reversed under President Joe Biden, Critics argue the move reflects a broader shift toward prioritizing domestic policies over global

The US' prominent role within the WHO makes this decision even more consequential. Washington has

cooperation.

amounting to hundreds of role. millions of dollars annually. These funds have sup- the WHO is planning an ported critical initiatives, responding to health emergencies in underserved regions. Trump's order also took issue with the US' organization,

N his first day back in the Oval Office, President served as a cornerstone of of cial and leadership void, Donald Trump revived the WHO since its founding this shift could alter the in 1948. As the organiza- agency's priorities, potention's largest single donor, tially steering focus away the US contributed 18% of from areas where US influthe WHO's 2023 budget, ence once played a key To mitigate the impact,

> investment round to diverfrom eradicating diseases to sify its funding base, seeking more sustainable contributions from member states and private Jasarevic leading role funding the Domestically, the US could calling also face consequences. A Washington's financial con- withdrawal might leave tributions "unfairly oner- Americans more vulnerable

> The sudden funding shortfall could jeopardize key health programs such as vaccination campaigns, disease surveillance, and emergency responses - many of which depend heavily on US support. The departure could also weaken international coordination against global health threats, particularly in lowincome regions reliant on WHO assistance.

ous" and "far out of propor- to global health emergendecade, past Washington's member dues and voluntary funding far surpassed those of other

member states. 2024-2025 stands at \$6.8 billion, with US contributions accounting for 22% of the mandatory funding - far outpacing any other donor. "Together, we ended smallpox, and together we have eradication,'

spokesperson Tarik Jasarevic said in response to US' decision. "American institutions have contributed to and benefited from membership in WHO." If the withdrawal proceeds, its effects could ripple across the global health landscape, weakening international coordination, shifting alliances, and impacting Americans in return.

but this renewed action key health programs such able to sustain its mission underscores enduring polit- as vaccination campaigns, without its largest donor or 2022 is arguably is one such ical tensions between the disease surveillance, and if the decision will prompt US and the UN health body, emergency responses - other nations to re-eya departure could also weaken international coordination against global health threats, particularly in low-WHO assistance.

While other countries

tion with other countries' cies, as reduced internaassessed payments." Over tional cooperation could hinder efforts to contain outbreaks before they cross borders.

The withdrawal process not immediate. It The WHO's budget for requires formal notification to the UN, followed by a transition period of up to a year, according to the WHO. Following the signing of the executive order, the WHO expressed hope that the US would reconsidbrought polio to the brink of er its decision, highlighting decades of partnership and

shared achievements. In the meantime, the organization plans to diversify its funding sources to maintain stability. As the world grapples with urgent health challenges - ranging from pandemics and climate-related diseases to healthcare inequities - the US withdrawal raises critical questions about the future of global health gov-The sudden funding ernance. It remains unclear shortfall could jeopardize whether the WHO will be many of which depend their commitments to mulheavily on US support. The tilateral health cooperation. The coming months will shed light on the repercussions of this dramatic move - not just for the WHO, but income regions reliant on for the global health landscape as a whole.

Three possible explanations for Putin's bravado

Alexander J. Motyl

formance in 2025, as even Russian officials acknowledge.

against Ukraine has turned into disaster for Russia? Or does he Things are no less critical on the really think that he's winning? international front. Sanctions have Russia has failed to reach its crippled certain Russian economic intended goals - the so-called sectors, NATO has expanded to 'de-Nazification'' of Ukraine include Finland and Sweden and is and its transformation into a making serious noises about admitdemilitarized Russian vassal. In ting Ukraine, Syria's pro-Russia dictatorial regime has fallen, Iran fact, the exact opposite has occurred. Ukraine remains firmhas been crippled and China has ly committed to democracy and effectively become Russia's lord sovereignty. Ukrainians have and master.

become intensely patriotic and None of this looks like winning. anti-Russian. Their armed forces Indeed, it looks like losing. And yet are now arguably Europe's best, Russian President Vladimir Putin of his own over-centralized syshaving managed to keep Russia's continues to assert that all is going well. There are three possible Worse, Russia has suffered more

explanations for his bravado. First, he could be lying, as he, like so many politicians, is wont to do. Conditions are terrible and there's no one you can blame for the disastrous state of affairs. So, obviously, you pretend that retreat is advance and that defeat is victoand ammunition depots and critical ry. Soviet and Russian policymak-infrastructure are being systematiers, not to mention agents of the secret police such as Putin, were from the actual reality, he will especially adept at constructing obviously and inevitably make Potemkin villages that created the serious errors of judgment that Province are still occupied by illusion of normality amid death and destruction.

assumes that the public is too foolish to see the reality around it - legless soldiers, rampant inflation and the like. But Putin may not care whether his lies are believed. He may, like the late Soviet leadership, be concerned only with telling people what to say in public, so as to reinforce the Potemkin illusion. Second, it is possible that Putin doesn't know the true extent of the damage the war has wrought. Having constructed a "power vertical" with himself at the apex, he has almost certainly become victim temic designs.

Typically, in such systems, underlings have a strong incentive to sugarcoat bad news as it moves up the ladder. Outright falsification and padding were typical of the Soviet system Putin knew so well. As a result, he may be reading reports and getting advice that paint a far rosier picture than the reality merits. If Putin's perceptions of reality deviate too much could, either individually or cumund destruction.

Lying has its pitfalls, as it ful decision to invade Ukraine in

instance, especially since he truly appears to have believed the invasion would be a cakewalk.

Third, Putin could be deluded, living in a parallel universe of his own, in which whatever he believes is true must be true. This would not be the first time a tyrant was so psychologically unbalanced and solipsistic in his regard of the Naturally, a deranged Russian leader, especially one armed with nuclear weapons, would be bad news for Russia, but also for Ukraine and the world. That Putin permits his sidekick Dmitri Medvedev to regularly threaten the West with incineration may suggest that the delusional explanation is not as outlandish as it at first appears.

What does this analysis imply for possible future negotiations with Russia? That Putin will play it tough, insisting that he has the upper hand. But his interlocutors should not be impressed. They will have to play it even tougher. Unfortunately, any hope of progress will require Putin to admit to Russia's weakness. That won't be easy, as it will require Putin admitting that he's a liar or has been lied to - in other words, that

Election exposed Republicans' worst weakness **Wesley Donehue** dollar gift.

HE dust has settled on the 2024 election,

Republicans remain gleeful about their opponents' struggles. One source of Republican glee is the now-infamous financial mismanagement of the Kamala Harris presidential campaign.

In just 15 weeks, the Harris-Walz campaign burned through \$1.5 billion, only to lose convincingly in seven out of seven battlegrounds. From glitzy fundraisers to millions of dollars on a single celebrity endorsement, the Harris spending spree was historic for all the wrong reasons, and more details are emerging by the week that will live in infamy long after election 2024.

Democrats are now left wondering how they became "the party of the elites," to quote The New Yorker. Republicans, on the other hand, can celebrate a Trump campaign that was drastically outspent but outperformed Harris in every single battleground state.

But now is the time to tread carefully. There is such a thing as humility in victory, knowing that the pendulum of politics swings back and forth. Even better, there is such a thing as learning from victory, so that weaknesses can become strengths in the years ahead.

Let's be clear: A red wave in 2026 is not a foregone conclusion because something like that just happened in November. Nor is 2028 a given for JD Vance or any other Republican nominee (still to be determined).So

how can Republicans learn from their red wave? It's the money, stupid.

Yet again, the 2024 elecvulnerability Republicans that leaves

them exposed in the 2026 midterms and beyond, and that is low-dollar fundraising. Although welcome allies, Republicans have come to rely far too heavily on individual donors like Elon Musk. The hero worship of Musk's mobilization in battleground states such as Pennsylvania - which was pivotal - masks the fact that an overreliance on mega-donors like him can spell long-term trouble.

If Musk had not flooded the zone with critical soft dollars to get out the vote in Pennsylvania, the 2024 election could have turned out very differently, and there would be no reason for Republicans to celebrate. Without Musk, Harris's \$1.5 billion spending spree may have looked like a prudent investment. There is no guarantee of sustained is extremely engaged in Senate and House races,

mobilization from Musk or other highdollar sources come 2026, let alone 2028, and Republicans must prepare accordingly. My company and Republicans are often three-to-one outraised among low-dollar donors. This failure stems from a struggle to engage with everyday voters who can only contribute \$10 or \$25 to a campaign. Even if such voters are highly motivated by a once-in-a-generation candidate like Donald Trump, that doesn't necessarily translate to a low-

low-dollar donors and speak in their terms, even if it translates to "only" \$5 here and \$5 there. Most tion exposed a troubling voters are with Republicans on issues like the economy and immigration, but candidates and campaigns still need to go out of their way to bring them into the fold. On the left, there is much talk about economic populism and Democrats embracing the Bernie Sanders model for presidential politics in future races. But Republicans can and should take their own

cues from the Sanders cam-

paigns of 2016 and 2020,

Republicans must figure

out how to engage with

when the Vermont senator used low-dollar fundraising to become a national sensation. The Sanders campaign relied primarily on donations under \$50 a pop, attracting millions of voters who feel alienated by the Washington, D.C. establishment and seek attention from political forces like Sanders or Trump.

Despite the 2024 victory, it is not sustainable going forward for Republicans to trail Democrats by a threeto-one margin in any metric. Losing to a \$1.5 billion candidate is a short-term win, but what does it say about the long run? What happens if the Democrats get similar funding, but put up a much stronger nominee? The Republican Party must focus on building deeper relationships with small dollar donors and drawing new donors into the GOP so we increase the number of new donors. The foundation for low-dollar success needs to be laid now - before victory turns into inevitable defeat. Will Republicans learn in time?

Marco Rubio: Trump's China hawk pick for secretary of state

Serdar Dincel

HE US Senate voted on Monday to confirm Senator Marco Rubio as the nation's new secretary of state, making him the first official in Donald Trump's administration to be approved since his return to the White House. The vote, just hours after Trump's swearing-in, was unanimous.

Rubio will take the post amid multiple global crises and conflicts, including Russia's war against Ukraine as well as ongoing wars in Gaza and Lebanon involving Israel. Rubio, a Republican senator from Florida since 2011, garnered bipartisan support for his nomination, with Senate Democrats praising his qualifications. Once a Trump rival, Rubio has since become an ally and will now take on a significant role in Trump's new administration.

Rubio, who ran for president in 2016 before dropping out and endorsing Trump, was also considered for Trump's 2024 vice presidential shortlist, according to media reports. Following his failed 2016 Republican Party presidential received by Senate Democrats, bid, Rubio bolstered his foreign with Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, the top policy expertise as the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign

Intelligence Committee, fostering bipartisan relationships. Poised to become the first Latino secretary of state, he is firmly against normalizing ties with Cuba, the communistruled island some 145 kilometers (90 miles) from Florida, and is known for his hard-line stance on China, Iran, and Venezuela. Florida has a large Cuban American community, one fiercely opposed to the

island's communist government. He is also a staunch supporter of Israel, and has consistently adopted hard-line positions. Earlier this Biden of appealing to antisemites in the Democratic Party by criticizing Israel's actions in Gaza and urged the administration to revoke visas for foreign students involved in pro-Palestinian protests, labeling them "terrorist sympathizers." Following an Iranian missile attack on Israel last October, he encouraged a strong Israeli response. Rubio's nomination was warmly

Republican on the powerful Senate Relations Committee, praising him during his confirmation hearing as well-qualified. He affirmed his strong support

for NATO, citing a bipartisan law he co-sponsored which states that the US cannot leave the alliance without Senate approval or congressional action, a stance differing from that of Trump, known as a NATO-skeptic. Rubio also stressed the importance of taking a firm stance on China, calling the Chinese Communist Party a "potent" and "dangerous" adver-"They're a technological year, he accused President Joe adversary and competitor, an industrial competitor, an economic competitor, geopolitical competitor, a scientific competitor now, in every realm, it's an extraordinary challenge and one that I believe will define the 21st century," he

> "We've allowed them to get away with things, and frankly the opposed pushing Kyiv to negoti-Chinese did what any country in ate a deal, saying such a decision the world would do given these must come from Ukraine itself. opportunities, they took advantage Trump himself is widely expectof it, so now we're dealing with the ed to cut or entirely eliminate aid ramifications of it." On Russia's to Ukraine.

war in Ukraine, Rubio called it "unrealistic" for Ukraine to fully reclaim territory lost since the February 2022 invasion but stressed that the US should prioritize ending the war. (Trump previously promised to end the war just after taking office.)

Rubio noted his alignment with Trump on the need for a resolution and criticized the Biden administration for lacking a clear "end "What (Russian President) Vladimir Putin has done is unacceptable, there's no doubt about it but this war has to end, and I think it should be the official policy of the United States that we want to see it end," he added.

Last week, Rubio testified that both Russia and Ukraine must make concessions to resolve the conflict. He voted against \$95 billion in Ukraine aid in April and has called on Ukraine to negotiate a peace deal with Russia. The Biden administration for president, assuming Democrats learn their own lessons and correct course by moving to the middle



Promoting access to universal education by 2047 **Hashoo Foundation** launches Pakistan 100 for 100' initiative

Deputy Chairman and decades-long commit-community development, ISLAMABAD: The CEO Hashoo Group and ment to education and with impactful partner-Hashoo Foundation, in Chairman collaboration with Foundation; Sunbeams, proudly Qayyum Khan, CEO of leaders of tomorrow. launched the transforma- Hashoo Foundation; and tive Pakistan 100 for 100 Ainee Movement (PK100). The movement aims to of Sunbeams, alongside the urgency of this initia- tunities that transform

sal education for every cymakers, and governcitizen in Pakistan by its ment officials. centennial in 2047.

Foundation is building on "The Pakistan 100 for 100 tion over three decades of Movement is a natural "According to recent dren across Pakistan. dedicated efforts to pro- extension of Hashoo reports, over 25 million Since its inception 10 mote inclusive access to Foundation's mission to children aged 5-16 are not years ago with a single education, marking a sig- leverage knowledge as attending school, making school in Lahore. nificant milestone in the capital for socio-econom- Pakistan home to the sec- Sunbeams has expanded nation's journey towards a ic uplift. PK100 repre- ond-largest number of to 150 schools across 12 brighter future.

Islamabad, with a Union Council- tem. level approach and gradually expanding to a dis-tiative, trict-wide model.

This phased rollout Hashoo will provide a replicable shared:

brought together eminent

Founder and Chairperson

As the technical lead Qayyum Khan, CEO Prime Minister's declara- zation committed to pro-Hashoo Hashoo Foundation, said: tion of a national educa- viding quality education sents a major leap for-The PK100 pilot proj-t will launch in vision of an inclusive and lamabad, beginning equitable education sys-

Hashwani, "Hashoo framework for nation- Foundation has always wide implementation, been at the forefront of laying the groundwork social development, with for universal access to a legacy built on empowquality education across ering individuals through Foundation has pioneered poverty and uplift entire education, skills, and knowledge-based

Hashoo aligns with our vision to ships with the UN

of Sunbeams, highlighted promote access to univer- leading academics, poli- tive, emphasizing the lives and communities. need to address the challenge of out-of-school

> out-of-school children districts, globally," she said.

"These alarming statistics underscore the criti- Sunbeams launched the Reflecting on the ini- reforms, infrastructural tiative, a bold mission to Murtaza advancements, and target- achieve 100% literacy in Chairman ed interventions like the Islamabad by 2027 and Foundation, Pakistan 100 for 100 nationwide by 2047. Movement."

About Foundation:

The launch event opportunities. progress across Pakistan. Join us in building a cought together eminent This project is particular. Its initiatives span edubrighter, more literate including larly close to my heart, as cation, health, climate Pakistan.

Haris invest in the youth, the INGOs, government entities, and the private sec-Ainee Nasir Jamy, tor. Through its holistic Nasir Jamy, Founder and Chairperson approach, the foundation continues to create oppor-

About Sunbeams: Sunbeams is a transfor-At the event, Haris children in light of the mative non-profit organiemergency. to underprivileged chilimpacting 15,000 children.

On January 1st, 2025 cal need for systemic Pakistan 100 for 100 ini-

Through affordable Hashoo education, essential supplies, and community Since its establishment empowerment, Sunbeams in 1988, the Hashoo aims to break the cycle of communities.



KARACHI: Muhammad Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Chairman FPCCI and Advisor on Trade and Investment Pak-Vietnam, and Ahmed Kapadia, Chairman PAA after a meeting to discuss future collaboration plans between the two organizations. Ahmed Kapadia also presenting his book Executive Doodles to Ghazanfar Ali Khan.

AmEx beats revenue expectations on holiday season spending

(AXP.N), opens new tab on Friday beat Wall Street revenue expectations, as more consumers swiped its cards during the holiday season for travel and online shop-

A strong holiday season against the backdrop of a falling rate environment helped AmEx sustain spending volumes.

AmEx, which mostly caters to wealthy consumers, has been able to better navigate economic uncertainty compared to some of its peers, as higher-earning individu-

York-based AmEx's revenue rose 9% to \$17.18 billion in the three months ended Dec. 31, edging past expectations of \$17.16 billion, according to data compiled by LSEG.

Billed business, a measure of spending on AmEx cards, rose 8% to fourth quarter.

PPL achieves significant increase in gas production



F.P. Report KARACHI: Petroleum Limited (PPL) has successfully increased bbl/d, demonstrating PPL's ing service provider to gas production from its expertise in optimizing deploy the acid-soluble als are less sensitive to Gambat South Block, resource recovery. inflation and elevated Sindh. This significant achievement was made possible through an innovative water shut-off operation, marking a first for the Gambat South Block, as well as the introduction

Following the operation, Shahdad X-1 has surged commissioned \$408.4 billion in the from 2.2 MMscfd to 8.4

over 280%. In addition, water production has been Pakistan dramatically reduced, from 3,000 bbl/d to a mere 26

2012 and brought into pro-X-1 was initially produc- underscores PPL's techniwell experienced a signifiof acid-soluble cement cant decline in production technology—a first for due to an increase in water production, caused by inter-layer crossflow. To the gas flow rate from address this issue, PPL

from 2.2 MMscfd to 8.4 Production Logging Tool MMscfd, an increase of (PLT) survey in August

2024, which confirmed the need for remedial action. response,

worked with a coiled tub-Shahdad X-1 well in the well performance and cement technology, effectively isolating the water-Originally drilled in producing zones and restoring optimal gas flow. duction in 2015, Shahdad This successful operation ing 26 MMscfd of gas. cal innovation, operational However, by 2024, the excellence, and commitment to enhancing production from its mature fields.

Lost & Found

I Zarghuna Altaf W/o Altaf Qadir khattak, Resident of Hayatabad Peshawar. I have lost my DHA Peshawar plot allocation letter. File no. B/RES/4608. size 500 sq yds phase 1. If someone found the Document please Contact: 0334 8297709

Court Notice

In the Court of Abdul Haleem Civil Judge V/Ilaqa Oazi Buner at Daggar.Suit No 299/1. Institution 2/12/ 2024. Date of hearing. 8/2/2025. Perdad Khan VS Amir Akbar Notice to No .5.Anwar Ali. 7.Aman Ali sons.8.Mst Nasem Akhtar d/o Fazal Akbar resident of Bajkatta tehsel Gagra district Buner.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 8/2/2025 the proceeding will be taken exparte. Given under my hand

Public Notice Public at large in informed

and seal of this Court.

that Pir Muhammad Khan S/O Muhammad Akram Khan is the owner of plot No 53 sector 4 C/V 1-kanal zone 4 Regi Model Town Peshawar. He has lost original documents of the said plot .If some one found he shall informed the undersigned .Moreover ,if any person attorney holder or any financial institution has any objection on it,he /it should contact the undersigned on given phone cell number ,after publication of this advertisement with in 15 days. Otherwise duplicate papers shall be issued & later on no claim shall be entertained.

Housing officer (HO) phone / cell No: 03005875733 Regi Model Town zone 4 PDA Peshawar

Expansion and upgradation of airports across Pakistan in full swing: DG PAA Issues discussed includ- PAA's role as the steward of

F.P. Report

reconstructing the second runway at Karachi's Jinnah REHMAN and Directors International (JIAP), as it has lived its useful life. The project is passenger concerns and well underway and aims to operational enhance operational effi- reaffirming PAA's commit-Pakistan's busiest airport.

Simultaneously, extensive expansion and upgradation projects are in progress at Sukkur, Skardu and Dera Ghazi Khan Airports to enable operations of larger aircraft and better passenger experi-

Furthermore, a new greenfield airport is in the planning phase for Dera Ismail Khan, marking a significant step in advancing Pakistan's aviation infrastructure.

These announcements were made during the second e-Kacheri presided over by Acting Director

Marshal Zeeshan Saeed.

Sadiq Airports Airport from key directorates.

services and infrastructure. resolution, emphasizing excellence

ed improving the queue airport operations, dedicat-KARACHI: The Pakistan He was accompanied by management system at ed to delivering safe, effi-Airports Authority (PAA) is Deputy Director General Islamabad International cient, and passenger-friend-UR Airport, improving motor- ly facilities.

The session addressed Airport, and operational queries for Hyderabad and challenges, Parachinar Airports.

DG PAA issued specific ous improvement in service

cycle parking facilities at Multan International tude to participants for their

valuable feedback, stating that passenger insights are integral to driving continuciency and safety at ment to enhancing airport instructions for immediate delivery and operational



Wall St set for lower open with focus on economic data

Wall Street's main stock China and the European indexes were set to open Union could be announced lower on Friday, with on Feb. 1, but analysts say investors staying cautious major plans could be ahead of economic data, announced on April 1 - the while planemaker Boeing date by when federal agendropped after issuing a cies are expected to comquarterly profit warning.

At 8:42 a.m. ET, Dow E-trade issues. minis were down 105 down 37 points, or 0.17%.

that it expects a fourth- leave expected to report quarterly year. results on Tuesday.

weakness in its renewables overstated. segment.

will assess a preliminary from certain tariffs and private survey on manufacturing and services activity for January and the University of Michigan's final estimate on consumer sentiment.

Tariffs are high on vestors' minds after investors' President Donald Trump referred to the policies multiple times at separate events this week but did little to lay out entire details of the surcharges he plans to impose on trade partners

of the United States. The president has said plete reviews of a range of

Investors have negativepoints, or 0.23%, S&P 500 ly reacted to reports about E-minis were down 10.75 potential tariffs, on worries points, or 0.17%, and that they could spark a Nasdaq 100 E-minis were global trade war, add to inflation pressures and slow In premarket trading, the pace of interest rate cuts Boeing (BA.N), opens new by the Federal Reserve. The tab lost 1.6% after warning central bank is expected to interest rates quarter loss of about \$4 bil- unchanged next week at its lion. The company is first policy meeting of the

However, Ross NextEra Energy Mayfield, investment (NEE.N), opens new tab strategist at Baird, said "our dropped 1.6% after report- view has been from the ing a decline in its fourth- beginning that the concern quarter profit, hurt by about Trump inflation was

Later in the day, markets upward pull on inflation week.

WASHINGTON (Reuters): tariffs on Mexico, Canada, maybe from immigration Instruments policies leading to higher opens new tab dropped wages, but there's also a downward pull from deregulation and more pro energy policies.

Învestors were also taking a pause after the benchmark S&P 500 (.SPX), opens new tab closed shares, however, fell 0.6%. Thursday's session at a record high for the second time in over a month after opens new tab was up 0.9% prices and interest rates to fourth-quarter subscriber be lowered at the World additions. Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

On a weekly basis, Wall Street's main indexes are Microsoft set for their second straight opens new tab, Meta week of advances, with the (WELA.O), opens blue-chip Dow (.DJI), Apple (AAPL.O), opens task for new tab and Tesla its biggest weekly jump since October 2022, aided by Trump's artificial intelligence investment plans, JD.Com rose 3.1%, Xpeng signs of cooling inflation added 2.7% and Alibaba and robust earnings from climbed 1.1% after Trump "There could be a slight big banks in the previous

4.4% after forecasting firstquarter profit below analysts' estimates.

American (AXP.N), opens new tab reported a 12% jump in fourth-quarter profit. Its e r i z o r

Communications (VZ.N) Trump called for taxes, oil on higher-than-expected

The following week will see quarterly reports from megacaps (MSFT.O), (TSLA.O), opens new tab.

U.S.-listed shares of Chinese companies such as JD.Com rose 3.1%, Xpeng suggested in an interview that tariffs against China



Weekly inflation goes down by 0.77pc

by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), went down groups during the week of Statistics (PBS) report- percent respectively. ed on Friday.

According to the PBS data, the SPI for the week under review in the abovementioned group was decreased and 25 (49.0 recorded at 320.21 points items remained stable. as compared to 322.71 points during the past week.

As compared to the corresponding week of last included year, the SPI for the com- (32.99%). witnessed an increase of 0.52 per cent.

base year 2015-16 =100

consumption group of up bananas (2.70%), garlic 2.5kg (14.54%) and fireto Rs 17,732 witnessed (0.60%), rice basmati browood (0.13%).

ISLAMABAD (APP): The decrease of 1.04 per cent ken (0.47%), vegetable weekly inflation, measured and went down to 311.47 ghee 1 kg (0.33%), pulse points from last week's

314.75 points. by 0.77 percent for the combined consumption tion groups of Rs 17,732 to 22,888; Rs 22,889-29,517; ended on January 16 and Rs 29,518-44,175 and decelerated to 0.52 percent above Rs 44,175, declined on year-on-year (YoY) by 0.97 percent, 0.83 perbasis, the Pakistan Bureau cent, 0.80 percent and 0.70

> During the week, out of 51 items, prices of 14 (27.45%) items increased, (23.53%)decreased and 25 (49.02%) The items, which

recorded major decrease in their average prices on a week-on-week basis tomatoes year, the SPI for the combined consumption group in the week under review (7.37%), LPG (2.70%), potatoes (44.30%), pulse pulse gram (1.61%), chicken (1.00%), pulse mash The weekly SPI with the (0.76%) and gur (0.50%).

The commodities which covers 17 urban centres recorded major increase in and 51 essential items for their average prices on (16.28%), gas charges for all expenditure groups. week-on-week basis q1 (15.52%), shirting The SPI for the lowest included sugar (2.93%), (14.83%), vegetable ghee

ghee 1 kg (0.33%), pulse moong (0.25%), cooked daal (0.21%), rice irri-6/9 (0.15%) and firewood (0.13%).

On-year basis, the commodities that witnessed decrease included onions (51.59%), eggs (39.15%), tomatoes (37.43%), wheat flour (36.29%), chilies powder (20.00%), electriccharges for q1 (18.11%), pulse masoor (11.01%), pulse mash (10.27%), rice basmati broken (8.56%), diesel (5.47%), lpg (1.79%) and petrol (1.18%).

The commodities which recorded an increase in their average prices on gram (37.98%), pulse moong (32.67%), dered milk (25.89%), beef (22.37%), vegetable ghee (16.87%), garlic

Cutlery exports increase 9.43% to \$30.901 in 1HFY2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): The exports of cutlery witnessed an increase of 9.43 percent during the first half of fiscal year 2024-25, as against the exports of the corresponding peri The cutlery exports from the country were recorded at US \$30.901 million during

July-December (2024-25) against the exports of US \$28.239 million during July-

December (2023-24), according to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). Meanwhile, year-on-year basis, the cutlery exports witnessed a nominal decline of 1.82 percent dur ing the month of December 2024 as compared to the same month of last year. The exports of cutlery from the country during December 2024 were recorded at US \$4.756 million against the exports of US \$4.844 million in December 2023.





In brief

Marathon to take place on

Jan 26 ISLAMABAD (APP): Founder of the Islamabad Run with Us community, Qasim Naz announced on Friday that the fifth Islamabad Marathon will take place on January 26, with the participation of over 3,000 athletes from across Pakistan and abroad. The marathon has been divided into five categories: a full marathon, a half marathon, a children's race, a family race, and a senior race, said a press release, adding that the event has been gaining internarecognition tional recognition since its inception in 2020. He also stated that a prize of one million rupees has been allocated for winners in all categories. The marathon would be started from New Iran Enclave at 9 am, with the route extending to GT Road before returning to the starting point, the organizer said. He also added that a pitch system would be introduced to ensure transparency, enabling real-time tracking of athletes and accurate identification of winners. He said that the purpose of organizing the event is to showcase Pakistan's soft image and highlight the country's beauty to the world. The arrangements of medical and other facilities for participants would also be made, with full cooperation from the district administration and police to ensure the race runs smoothly, Naz said.

Sharma flops in Ranji **Trophy**

NEW DELHI (INP): Indian skipper Rohit Sharma's struggles with the bat continued as he failed to play a big inning in his first outing in Ranji Trophy after nine years. The right-handed batter returned to domestic cricket following his dismal outing in the Test home series against New Zealand last year, followed by his disastrous run against Australia in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Rohit Sharma could amass just 31 runs across five innings of the series at an average of 6.2. He played three out of the five Border-Gavaskar Tests, having missed the first due to personal reasons while he 'opted out' of the final Test due to his form woes. India lost the five-game Border-Gavaskar Trophy series 1-3, leading the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to make allround changes in its cricketing structure. Among the newly-introduced measures, the BCCI made it mandatory for players participate domestic cricket to be considered for selection in the Indian national Following the BCCI measures, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and other top Indian confirmed players their availability for the second half of the ongoing Ranji Trophy. The Indian captain made his first appearance for Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy nine years after his last appearance in the tournament. However, Rohit Sharma disappointed in his first outing in his team's game against Jammu and Kashmir at BKC Ground, Mumbai. The Indian captain could manage to score just three runs off 19 deliveries before he was dismissed by young bowler Umar Nazir. Nazir bowled a length delivery, leading Rohit Sharma to got after him, however, the ball got a lead-

ing edge to hand Paras

Dogra a simple catch

at mid-off.



Sports

MULTAN: Pakistan Test interim head coach Aqib Javed addressing a press conference ahead of the second Test Cricket Match against West Indies at Multan Cricket Stadium.

Pakistan stick with spin as they chase West **Indies series sweep**

MULTAN (AFP): Head insisted the spin assault Athanaze the only one to coach Aaqib Javed brushed would continue. "We found reach a half century. coach Aaqib Javed brushed criticism Pakistan's reliance on spin bowling as they seek a clean sweep against the ed that and will do that say you need to believe in West Indies in the second Test starting on Saturday.

Pakistan completed a days in the opening Test, with spinners Sajid Khan taking nine wickets, Noman Ali six and Abrar Ahmed five for their third straight win at home.

West Indies left-arm spinner Jomel Warrican also grabbed a career-best 7-32 as 34 of the 40 wickets in the match went to spinners.

The second Test will also

be played on a dry and grassless pitch in the central city of Multan. Former Pakistan players and analysts hit out at the spin-heavy strategy, saying the team would struggle on away tours where pitches may not be as conducive to spin.

Aaqib, a fast bowler from

season forced the club to

squad sooner than expected.

cessive title has crumbled

locked in a desperate bat-

tle just to qualify for next

League. City's astonishing

decline has prompted

Guardiola and the club's

hierarchy to launch a com-

prehensive rebuild of his

team in a bid to get back

spenders in the January

signed Uzbekistan defend-

er Abdukodir Khusanov

from Lens, teenaged

Marmoush from Eintracht

Instead of chasing yet

in shocking fashion.

season's

on track.

Normally

City's bid for a fifth suc- team,"

of that the West Indies have a weakness in dealing with the bat in the last game," spin bowling, so we exploit- Brathwaite said. "I would again," Aaqib told a news

conference on Friday.

127-run win inside three Kraigg Brathwaite had no eighth and the West Indies qualms about Pakistan's tactics. "Pakistan are playing at home and if they believe spinning pitches are their could see the hosts rise to strength then that's fine and that's how cricket is played," Brathwaite said. "I have played on pitches which took turn from day one but not England, their 11th straight like this, which had cracks

> 'Believe in your plan' -West Indies will be with-Jayden Seales, who took

from day one," he said.

than expected: Guardiola

LONDON (AFP): Pep £123 million (\$152 million) can start with the situations

Guardiola has admitted in combined transfer fees we have at the back. He

Manchester City's injury and opened the door for comes for many years, not

Kyle Walker's imminent

After winning the do much (in the transfer dling tough, fast players.' Premier League six times market) with the excep- Wednesday's 4-2 defeat at

in the past seven seasons, tional qualities of this Paris Saint-Germain, in

more glory in the title we decided to do it here nation ahead of their do-

race, Guardiola's side will with the amount of injuries or-die showdown with

Doku, Guardiola said

'Two finals'

Guardiola

'They will make us

woes and dismal form this unsettled City right-back just for now.

reporters

start an overhaul of his loan move to AC Milan.

host Chelsea on Saturday and problems we have.

Champions

cautious

transfer window, City have Etihad Stadium.

"It was a difficult pitch to your plan from ball one and nference on Friday. not think of the third or West Indies skipper fourth ball." Pakistan are ninth and last on the World Test Championship table.

seventh. Pakistan were forced to make radical changes last year after losing the first of three Tests against home Test without a win.

The Aaqib-led selection panel dropped out-of-form batter Babar Azam and out injured pace bowler rested pace spearheads Jayden Seales, who took Shaheen Shah Afridi and

Akram and Waqar Younis, their two innings, with Alick final," Aaqib said.

"Khusanov has already

settled because he played

Wednesday's 4-2 defeat at

Club Brugge next week.

also secure Champions

would be a step in the right

"We can make it. Why

"Last season, we didn't in the French league, han-

'Normally we would wait team in danger of

three of four months, but Champions League elimi-

strong and I'm pretty sure should I think differently

that the club decided for I think it is going to hap-

these prospective players pen," Guardiola said defi-

for the future and many antly of City's hopes of years." With City ham-reaching the Champions

pered by fresh injuries to League play-off round.

Ruben Dias and Jeremy Fifth-placed City must

for Chelsea's visit to the fourth-placed Chelsea

With City ham- reaching the Champions

direction.

Guardiola told which City blew a two-

on Friday. goal lead, left Guardiola's

and Roger Federer, hinted MULTAN (APP): West

Brathwaite

aims for strong

comeback in

2nd test against

Pakistan

Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite is determined to bounce back in the second Test against Pakistan, vowing to level the series.

Speaking a press conference at Multan Cricket Stadium, Brathwaite emphasized the need for his team to show resilience and confidence despite the challenges posed by spin-friendly pitches. He said that the team will try to put up a bigger score this time.

that veteran pacer Kemar Roach has been added to the team, bringing experience to their bowling Man City overhaul started sooner attack. He acknowledged Pakistan's strategic use of spin-friendly home conditions but maintained optimism. "Pakistan was capitalizing on their home advantage with these spinning tracks and it works well for them, however, we have prepared for this challenge," he maintained.

Brathwaite praised leftspinner Jomel arm Warrican for his exceptional performance in the first Test and expressed confidence in his ability to shine again. "Warrican bowled brilliantly in the first Test and we expect him to deliver once more. We were also prepared for another spinning track as we have worked on tackling spinners during our practice sessions."

The West Indies will look to adapt and overcome the tough conditions as they aim to turn the series around and leave Pakistan with a hard-fought draw.

Marmoush, Khusanov and League qualification for tant. We are close in the Reis would be available next season and beating table, even with the big problems we have had. The next two games are finals. Chelsea and after that City would go above Brugge," Guardiola said. helsea with a victory, but "Chelsea hav

Marmoush, who will bol- Chelsea with a victory, but have Brazilian defender Vitor ster City's attacking Guardiola is well aware of Reis from Palmeiras and options, has an "exception-the threat posed by his for-Egypt forward Omar al future". He added: "Vitor mer assistant Enzo improved a lot under Enzo. I recognised it from Enzo day one when we played in is young, a huge personali- Maresca in the Italian's the summer. I was lucky to ty, but he needs time. He is first season in charge of the work with him in the last That trio cost around here with us. Of course he Blues. "It's really impor- years."

up Zverev final MELBOURNE (AFP): Novak Djokovic retired injured from his Australian Open semi-final against Alexander Zverev on Friday and left the court to boos, with defending champion Jannik Sinner to face the German for the title. Top-ranked Sinner blew

Djokovic exits

Melbourne to

boos as Sinner sets

6-2, 6-2 despite some late title he needs to surpass cramp in the second semifinal in Melbourne to set up a Margaret Court's 24 and meeting between the Italian become the all-time leader.

what is coming Sunday."

'Stop blaming Novak' Djokovic had been omi-

nously warming to the task

muscle tear during his vic-

tory over Carlos Alcaraz in

the quarter-finals.

and second seed Zverev. In the other semi-final, The Rod Laver Arena Sinner had to save two set crowd jeered Djokovic, who points in a tight opening act played with a heavily taped that lasted a marathon 71 leg, when he called it a day minutes and he suffered in after losing a gruelling first set against Zverev, leaving the latter stages after long rallies against his highhis bid for a record 25th octane American opponent.

Grand Slam crown in tatters. "I had some tension today, slightly cramps," Sinner admitted. "But he The 37-year-old Serbian great shook hands after going down 7-6 (7/5) and was also suffering today a said he had been hampered little bit in his legs." Once Sinner grittily snared the by a muscle tear. Djokovic, the last of the "Big Three" following the opening set on a tiebreak he took only another 85 minretirements of Rafael Nadal utes to win the next two sets

that he may have played his "For three sets, two and a last Australian Open. half hours is quite a time. So happy to finish today in three," the Italian said. "There is a chance. Who knows?" Djokovic said when asked if he may have graced "But, you know, as I said, for the last time the I'm very happy to be back in Melbourne Park courts where the finals and then we see

he is a 10-time champion. "I normally like to come to Australia to play. I've had the biggest success in my career here. So if I'm fit, healthy, motivated, I don't see a reason why I wouldn't come," he added. Djokovic

past Ben Shelton 7-6 (7/2),

as I played the last 12 months," he said of his run at the first major of the year, where he had old rival Andy Murray in his coaching corner for the first time.

'I liked my chances if I was physically fit and ready to battle." Zverev leapt to the defence of the Serb after some in the crowd made clear their feelings about his premature exit.

"I think we should stop olaming Novak," he said.

'Novak has absolutely everything he could on the tennis court in the last 20 years," he added.

Sinner is on the cusp of a first successful Grand Slam title defence after winning his maiden major crown in Melbourne last year.

He had won the last four of his five career meetings with Shelton. The Italian was not at his best in the opening set, dropping his serve twice and having to dig deep to save two set points with Shelton serving against 22-year-old Shelton. at 6-5. But the 23-year-old easily took control of the tiebreak to move a set ahead.

He broke Shelton right at the start of the second and ran away with it. The American roused himself for one last effort in the third, lashing running forehand winners in an attempt to turn the tide. Sinner was not moving freely by now, before he suffered a leg but he saved two break points and when Shelton then dropped his serve to go 3-2 down, the Italian has now gone five Grand

"I actually thought I upped the ante ar Slams without winning the played really well, as well to the finish line. upped the ante and sprinted

guides Thunder to Big Bash final The pitch in the previous three wickets in the first Naseem Shah. The tactics worked on the match was very difficult, match and will be replaced spin-friendly pitches in Rawalpindi and Pakistan but the players need to trust by the experienced Kemar Roach. Pakistan are unlikely themselves and play courawent on to win the series 2geously adding that the aim to make any changes. Brathwaite said his bat-1. "If we had taken these was to win this match and ters need more faith after the decisions earlier we would level the series. an era dominated by the first Test, in which his team have been in the race for The skipper confirmed great pacemen Wasim managed just 137 and 123 in World Test Championship



SYDNEY (Agencies): Sam Billings led Sydney Thunder to the Big Bash final with a four-wicket victory against city rivals Sydney Sixers in the Challenger.

The Kent and England wicketkeeper ended 42 not out from 29 balls to complete an anxious chase of 152 with seven balls to spare. Thunder, who finished

bottom of the table last season, will travel to Hobart Hurricanes for Monday's final. Hurricanes - who have never won the Big Bash topped the table, while Thunder have reached their first final since lifting their only title in 2016.

Sixers, with advantage at the Sydney Cricket Ground after finishing a place higher than Thunder in second, were indebted to Jordan Silk for their 151-7. After the home side were reduced to 76-5 in the 13th over, Silk made 43 not out from 30 balls, supported by 30 from Ben Dwarshuis, to

keep Sixers competitive. chase, particularly against liantly this year.

Yorkshire leg-spinner Jafer Chohan, who conceded only one boundary in his 1-22.

With 19 needed from 18 balls, Billings whipped Hayden Kerr over the leg side for six then Nathan McAndrew took two fours and a winning six off Dwarshuis to complete the victory.

"It's brilliant," Billings. "I don't think we played a perfect game, but hopefully we're saving that for Monday

Billings had praise for Thunder captain David Warner, the leading runscorer in the tournament following his retirement

from international cricket. "It's infectious, his attitude, and the way he approaches the game," said

Billings. "As Englishman saying that, a few people back home will be questioning me.

To play alongside him, you learn every day and see why he's one of the best players to have ever played this format of the game. To have that experience and Thunder stuttered in the leadership, he's played bril-

England's Billings Frankfurt sign Wahi as Marmoush replacement

FRANKFURT (AFP): Eintracht Frankfurt have found a replacement for forward Omar Marmoush, Bundesliga announcing on Friday the signing of Marseille's France U21 forward Elye Wahi until 2030.

Marmoush, who scored 15 goals and laid on 10 assists in 17 league games for Frankfurt, departed the club for Premier League side Manchester City on Thursday for a reported fee of 68 million euros (£59 million (\$72.6 million)).

Frankfurt did not disclose how much they paid for Wahi, but German media reported he arrived for a fee of 20 million euros, rising to 25 million with bonuses.

The 22-year-old Wahi has three goals and an assist in 13 Ligue 1 games this season. He joined the French giants from Lens in August 2024.

"I wanted to take the chance and come here,' said Wahi. "I want to repay the trust that has been placed in me with good performances and goals."

In recent seasons, Frankfurt have had a strong record of replacing departed forward talents. Randal Kolo Muani, Luka Jovic, Sebastien Haller, Jesper Lindstrom and Andre Silva have all left the club on bigmoney deals over the past five seasons.

Frankfurt, who sit third in the league, play away Hoffenheim

Shaheen, Rauf and Saim make to ICC ODI Team of the Year 2024

LAHORE (APP): The terrific trio of Shaheen 64.37 and strike rate of 105.53 with the highest Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Saim Ayub have been score of 113 not out. He scored 3 centuries and rewarded for their consistent performance one half-century during the period. throughout the year and inducted into the Men's ODI Team of the Year 2024, announced by the

International Cricket Council (ICC) on Friday. The ICC is due to announce the honors amongst men and women cricketers in all three formats during the next five days from January 24 to January 28 during. The ICC announced winners of the Men's ODI Team of the Year, Women's ODI Team en ODI ton in Zimbabwe shortly after.

of the Year and Men's Test Team of the Year today. Four Sri Lankan, three Pakistani, Three Afghani and one West Indies cricketers are amongst the ricketers to make a place in the eleven.

ICC Men's ODI Team of the Year 2024: Saim Ayub, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis (WK), Charith Asalanka (C), Sherfane Rutherford, Azmatullah Omarzai, Wanindu Hasaranga, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf, AM Ghazanfar.

matches and scored 515 runs at an average of the international level.

The ICC wrote, "What a breakout season it's been for the Pakistan southpaw, capped off by selection at the top of the order in the ICC Men's ODI Team of the Year. Saim only debuted in November, but arrived immediately, scoring a combined 125 runs from three One-Day Internationals in Australia, before scoring a maid-

Three of his last five innings have produced centuries, including two in South Africa in December, a three-match series that saw him average 78.3." The left arm pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi played only 6 ODIs during the year but bagged 15 wickets at a bowling average of 17.6 with the best bowling of 4-47. Acknowledging Afridi's big impact, the ICC defined him as the one "Possessing one of world cricket's best bowling strike rates, he continued to prove him-The rising opening batter Saim Ayub played 9 self as one of the most consistent performers at

While Haris Rauf grabbed 13 wickets in 8 matches at an average of 22.4 with the best bowling figures of 5-29 and was praised by the ICC for "finishing 2024 firing on all cylinders, taking 10 wickets across Pakistan's three-ODI series in Australia, which included his five-for in Adelaide – a contest the touring team ended up winning comfortably.

No Pakistani cricketers could make to the ICC Men's Test Team of the Year 2024 and the Women's ODI Team of the year.

The ICC will announce awards in the following four categories tomorrow (Saturday) including Women's T20I Team of the Year, Men's T20I Team of the Year, ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year and ICC Women's T20I Cricketer of the Year. Babar Azam will compete for the coveted ICC

Ien's T20I cricket of the Year 2024 award. ICC Men's Test Team of the Year:

Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ben Duckett, Kane Williamson, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Kamindu Mendis, Jamie Smith (WK), Ravindra Jadeja, Pat Cummins (C), Matt Henry, Jasprit Bumrah. ICC Women's ODI Team of the Year:

Smriti Mandhana, Laura Wolvaardt (C), Chamarti Athapaththu, Hayley Matthews, Marizanne Kapp, Ashleigh Gardner, Annabel Sutherland, Amy Jones (WK), Deepti Sharma, Sophie Ecclestone, Kate Cross.

The remaining 10 individual awards will be announced in the following sequence between January 26 and January 28.

Sunday 26 January ICC Umpire of the Year

ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year ICC Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year ICC Emerging Men's Cricketer of the Year

ICC Emerging Women's Cricketer of the Year

Monday 27 January ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year

Tuesday 28 January Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC

omen's Cricketer of the Year Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Men's

Cricketer of the Year.

Capital



In brief AIOU celebrates int'l day

of education SLAMABAD (APP): "Education is essential for peace and development. Peace is inherent in human nature, and education refines it. All religions, values, and societies in the world are balanced," expressed Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University, as the chief guest at an event held to mark the International Day of Education. He remarked, "If hatred begins with words, peace begins with education. What a person learns in this world changes their perspective, and it is through education that we determine how to interact with others." The theme for this year's International Day of Education is Artificial Intelligence Education, and Allama Iqbal Open University, leveraging its modern educational system, is incorporating contempo-

country's progress. The event was attended by Prof. Dr. Fazal Rahman, Dean of the Faculty of Education, along with all faculty members. A cake-cutting ceremony was held to commemorate the day, and Assistant Professor Dr. Afshan Huma presented post-doctoral

rary programs into stu-

dent curricula. This

ensures that Pakistani

students do not lag

behind in the race with

developed nations and

can contribute to the

Police capture 9 criminals

research on the subject

of Peace Education.

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Rawalpindi Police, its actions against criminals on Friday, captured 10 accused including drug peddlers, liquor suppliers and illegal arms owners. According to a police spokesman, six accused were held with more than 6 kilograms charas. The Saddar Baruni Police recovered 1.7 kg charas from accused Saqib, while the Wah Saddar Police arrested the accused Arsalan Siddique with 1.42 kg of the contraband item and the Banni Police nabbed accused Amjad Noor with 1.303 kg charas. Likewise, the New Town and Ganjmandi recovered 560 grams each charas accused Nazakat and respectively, Ehsan while the City Police arrested accused Zohaib with 540 grams of contraband item. Similarly, the Sadiqabad Police netted accused Sajid for having a 30 bore pistol and ammunition, Abdul Rehman with 15 litres of liquor. The Mandra Police also held accused Shahzeb with a 30 bore pistol and ammunition, while Bani Police recovered 5 litres of liquor from Bilal.

Police organize awareness walk

RAWALPINDI (APP) Rawalpindi police on the directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Syed Khalid Hamdani here on Friday organized a walk to sensitize the masses regarding the hazards and prevention of kite flying. The awareness walk was conducted in the areas of Wah Cantt and Taxila Police Stations. A large number of traders, students, citizens and Station House Officers (SHOs) participated in the awareness walk. The aim of the walk was to provide awareness to the citizens about the harms of the kite flying and its prevention. Special awareness pampĥlets were distributed during the walk and awareness banners were also displayed at different points. The kite flying is a dangerous game and it's a crime. After the amendment in the law, kite flying is a nonbailable crime, which could be punished with imprisonment from 03 to 07 years and a fine of Rs 500,000 to 5 million.

Minister reviews plan for upcoming events to be held on Kashmir **Solidarity Day**

ISLAMABAD Baltistan and SAFRON self-determination, (States and Regions) Engr Amir Muqam on Friday said Nations Kashmir Solidarity Day (UNSC). would be observed on February 5 to express wholehearted support of the Pakistani nation to the just struggle of Kashmiri people for their inalienable right to

provincial coordination meeting for Kashmir that thousands of Kashmiris have lost their lives and thousands more are languishing in Indian jails.

However, atrocities and humiliations have not deterred them from a cause cased on their legitimate aspiration of their right of self-determination enshrined in the UN and UNSC Charter Resolutions.

tribute Paying Kashmiri martyrs, he said the entire nation will observe Kashmir Solidarity hensive plan for the upcom- observing February 5 as

Engr Ami Muqam said

the incumbent government Solidarity Day. under the leadership of In his Prime Minister Muhammad Convener All Shehbaz Sharif was high- Hurriyat lighting the Kashmir issue at (APHC)

Solidarity, the minister said all walks of life to partici- Pakistan before burial. pate on the occasion of the Kashmir cause.

> moral and diplomatic support to the people of never bow to India.
> Kashmir till they achieve the right to self-determina- organize special events on to tion as per UN resolutions.

Day with a renewed com- ing events to be held on Kashmir Solidarity Day.

Federal Minister for struggle of Kashmiris for Solidarity Day. Federal Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit their inalienable right to ministries, all four provinas cial governments including Frontier enshrined in the relevant Azad Jammu Kashmir and resolutions of the United Gilgit Baltistan briefed the Nations Security Council meeting regarding the preparations and arrangements

remarks, Conference self-determination.

Addressing the third inter-ministerial and interprovincial coordination

Addressing the third inter-ministerial and interprovincial coordination

He asked all parliamen
AGPHC)

Girdian (AFHC)

Muhammad Safi said that Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan. He said Kashmiri martyrs are tary parties and people from wrapped in the flag of

> Safi underscored the Kashmir Solidarity Day on determination of the February 5 to give a strap- Kashmiri people to continping message to India that ue their struggle against the government and people Indian illegal occupation of Pakistan were united on Despite India's conspiracies and atrocities, they He said Pakistan would declared that the spirit of continue to extend political, the Kashmiris remains strong and they would

> February 6 to express grati-The meeting discussed tude to the people and govand reviewed the compre- ernment of Pakistan for



ISLAMABAD: Azerbaijan's Minister for Defence Industry, H.E. Vugar Mustafayev, visits Pakistan Monument Museum on the occasion of Pakistan-Azerbaijan 8th Joint Commission Meeting. —APP Photo

Senate refers key bills to standing committee for review

Deputy Chairman Senate and Syedaal Khan on Friday Commission referred the key bills Minorities Bill, 2025 were suspend the question hour. tion, directing the commit- Nazeer Tarar. tee to submit their reports within three days. Additionally,

Organization) motion seeking the per-Pakistan in the House.

the

including the Prevention also referred to the respecof Electronic Crimes tive committees for fine-for Law, Justice and (Amendment) Bill, 2025 tuning and detailed Human Rights Azam and the Digital Nation review. All the bills were Nazeer Tarar presented the Pakistan Bill, 2025, to the moved by the Federal bill namely the Federal relevant standing commit- Minister for Law, Justice, Board of Intermediate and tee for further examina- and Human Rights Azam

Earlier, the proceedings the Rehman, Parliamentary clause (2) of Article 89 of P a k i s t a n Leader of Pakistan the Constitution of the Telecommunication (Re- People's Party moved a Islamic Republic of

(APP): (Amendment) Bill, 2025 mission of the House to National suspend the question hour. for The House consented to

Meanwhile, Minister

Secondary Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 (Ordinance No. IX of began with Senator Sherry 2024), as required by

Administration up for strict action against illegal slaughtering

RAWALPINDI (APP): The involved in it. He directed the down on restaurants violating take strict action against substandard and illegal slaughtering to ensure the quality of the meat.

This was decided in a meeting of the Meat Board and Slaughterhouse members, which was held here on Friday with Dr Hassan Waqar Cheema, DC Rawalpindi in the chair.

According to the details, was informed in the meeting that an average of 250 animals are slaughtered daily in the Rawalpindi slaughterhouse. Discussions were also held on the meat supply chain and animal health and hygiene.

The participants presented suggestions from their respective institutions so that a coordinated strategy could be developed to improve the quality of meat and eliminate illegal slaughtering. Addressing the participants, the deputy commissioner said that no compromise would be made on the quality of meat.

He clarified that illegal slaughtering must be discouraged and strict legal action will be taken against those

local administration will concerned agencies to effectively monitor the slaughterhouses and ensure full implementation of the principles of cleanliness. The Deputy Commissioner also emphasized that illegal slaughtering is harmful to the health of the public and is against legal and moral requirements. He said that the slaughter-

expert staff and a detailed notices to 15 food businesshealth inspection of all animals must be carried out. During the meeting, rep-

resentatives of the Livestock Department said that they rant was sealed after inspecwere taking all necessary tors discovered it was using steps to improve the quality of meat. It was also decided Heavy fines were levied in the meeting that a daily against two other establishreport of the slaughterhouses ments for significant breachwould be prepared to ensure es of food safety regulations. complete transparency.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy highlighted several violations Revenue Commissioner Nabil Riaz, Additional These included unsanitary Deputy Commissioner kitchen conditions with General Dr Hassan Tariq, insects present, improper and representatives of the

Livestock Department. unhygienic restaurants: The previous IFA instructions, Islamabad Food Authority

food safety regulations, sealing one popular fast food establishment and heavily fining two others, on Friday.

According to press release issued here on Friday, The IFA also destroyed over two maunds (approximately 160 lbs) of substandard oil and expired food items. During inspections across the city, houses should be run by the IFA issued corrective es, requiring them to improve their hygiene and food handling practices.

> One well-known restaucontaminated oil for frying. Tahira Siddique,

Deputy Director of the IFA, found during the inspections. These included unsanitary food storage, the use of rusty utensils for food prepara-**IFA takes action against** tion, failure to comply with and disregard for basic (IFA) continued its crack- hygiene principles.



Inter-Ministerial and Inter-Provincial Coordination meeting for Kashmir Solidarity Day (5th February).

Awais urges WB to provide funds for installation of Smart Meters

Minister for Power Sardar Awais next on the privatization list. Ahmed Khan Leghari Friday urged the World Bank (WB) to provide funds and investment for the installation of Smart Meters at Distribution Level Transformers to bring transparency and cater for unjust load management due to losses at a micro level.

"Smart meters are currently being installed at both domestic and grid levels, which has proven to be beneficial in many ways," the minister expressed these views during a meeting with World Region, Martin Raiser, who, along with a delegation, met him here, according to a news release. Federal Minister for Petroleum Division Dr. Musaddiq Malik

former level the desired efficiency and just load management for a particular area cannot be ensured as right now the entire feeder has to face equal load management providing no solace to efficient consumers. He said that these smart meters can also help Charges are almost being finalized. manage peak load demand.

service providers. He informed that estates and special economic zones achieving efficacy and discipline.

He informed the delegation that

due to the 'Bijli Sahulat Package' there was 7% increase in Power Consumption in the industrial Sector in December 2024 as compared to last year for the same period indicating an appetite and appreciation by the consumers for any future auction of surplus electricity in the country.

The Minister also shared initiatives undertaken by the Power Division in the sector leading toward Bank Vice President for the South Asian efficiency, financial discipline, autonomy in decision making and reduction in power tariffs for domestic and industrial consumers.

He informed that the Power Sector also participated in the meeting.

However, he said, without installing smart meters at the transhas already been stopped to make any further agreement in this regard.

The principle of competitiveness and affordability will govern the Power Sector generation and distribution, he added. In this regard, Wheeling meeting that the World Bank Team

Awais Leghari also appraised the holders. Mr. Martian

(APP): Federal these Distribution Companies are eliminating the monopoly and intervention of Distribution Companies' employees at all stages. The meeting expressed satisfaction over the current World Bank's portfolio of the Power Sector with an agreement to further expedite the utilization of funds at the Distribution Companies level.

The meeting also agreed to further increase the level of interaction at technical levels to provide the Power Sector with data necessary for better policy making and its implementation. The meeting agreed that longerduration electricity packages will give the private sector enough time to plan their businesses accordingly.

The World Bank's Vice President for the South Asian Region while appreciating various reform initiatives undertaken by the Power Division stressed the need for timely utilization of funds earmarked for various projects by the Bank.

He also supported the Installation of a Smart Meter at the Distribution Level Transformers and informed the can work its details with the stake-Awais Leghari also invited the delegation about the recent initiatives expressed the commitment of the World Bank to invest in Public for providing one-point electricity World Bank to continue working with Private Partnership mode in the smart connections with distribution and the Power Division and provide assismetering in LESCO and MEPCO as billing collection rights to industrial tance in various sub-sectors for

Climate Ministry, ICESCO to host girls' green education conference

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of Climate Change and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) have announced their collaboration to hold a conference focusing on climate education with an emphasis on green skills for girls in Pakistan.

The decision was made during a meeting between the Coordinator to the Prime ment representatives, as Minister for Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam, and Dr. Haddy Jatou Sey, the her on Friday to discuss key actions for the event.

through education that integrates green skills, highlighting that Islam advocates for the right of aide revealed that she is and inheritance.

'National Educational Framework for Girls in the Islamic World," partnership will focus on shared efforts to tackle climate, including collaboraand will bring together federal and provincial governand adaptation, she added. tions such as ICESCO. tion with global organizations such as ICESCO. tion with global organizations climate change and empowers tions such as ICESCO.



well as stakeholders, to participate in the event. The primary aim of cli-

head of ICESCO, who met mate education is to prepare citizens for the future and actively involve them in During the meeting, building a climate-resilient Romina Khurshid Alam nation with a special focus underscored the signifi- on strengthening the cance of empowering girls resilience and adaptive capacity of women, especially young girls," Romina said.

The Prime Minister's women to access education working on the Africa House initiative in collabo-She expressed that the ration with Rwanda, which apcoming conference will will serve as a gateway for fulfilling its climate change be held under the theme Pakistan to connect with Climate African countries. This shared efforts to tackle cli- mate, including collabora-

with the distribution of hygiene kits among them.

Romina

Romina also highlighted the successful implementation of the She Power project, which has been funded by China and benefitted 20,000 girls in Balochistan during its first phase. The second phase of the project is set to extend its support to 50,000 girls,

The meeting emphasized the vital role of education, science, and culture in addressing climate change.

reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to obligations and emphasized the country's ongoing efforts

Dr. Haddy Jatou Sey reiterated ICESCO's dedication to supporting climate educa-tion, noting the importance of cooperation between international organizations, governments, and local communities to foster a global response to climate change. She expressed that ICESCO, with its extensive network of educational, scientific, and cultural resources, stands ready to contribute to empowering girls through green education.

Both leaders expressed a strong commitment to work together to create a sustainable future by leveraging education, innovation, and cultural exchange. They also agreed to establish a framework for future joint projects, which will include climate education programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development and climate resilience in the region.

The meeting concluded with a shared resolve to strengthen collaboration between ICESCO and Pakistan's Ministry of Climate Change, focusing on global efforts to combat

British Dy High Commissioner visits SCBA head office

ISLAMABAD its longstanding bilateral relations with the United Kingdome with great pride. rights and the rule of law. What is even more satisfying is that government-to-government ties but

also stem from people-to-people inter-British High Commission, Islamabad, on his visit of the head office of the SCBA here Friday. The Deputy High Commissioner

was accompanied by senior officials that includes Hashim Chaudhary, Crown Prosecution Service, Liason Advisor and Fahad Qaisrani, Senior Adviser Security and Justice. The 27th Cabinet of the SCBA.

The Deputy High Commissioner congratulated the President and the securing comprehensive victories in settled in the UK and its contribution fundamental human rights.

Supreme Court Bar Association SCBA against their respective posi-(SCBA) Mian Muhammad Rauf Atta tions. He hoped that the incumbent has underscored that Pakistan viewed cabinet, led by its President, would work to uphold fundamental human

The meeting saw the discussions these relations are not only based on encapsulating a range of topics that include initiatives to enhance future cooperation between the legal frateraction, he said while talking to Mr. Matt nities of both countries to foster Cannell, Deputy High Commissioner, mutual and robust relationships, proposals for initiating joint efforts for sustainable legal development programs and bilateral exchange propractices, and innovations through study tours and organizing tion, and other sectors joint workshops. While appreciating the aforesaid proposals, the Deputy DHC and his team was warmly High Commissioner termed the same received by the President and the as beneficial for the legal fraternities wishes to everyone present at the of both countries and assured his full

support in this regard. Members of the 27th Cabinet for over 1.6 million Pakistani diaspora of the Constitution and adherence to

(APP): President the recently held election of the to the progress and development of the UK that deserves equal recognition and admiration. It goes without saying that Pakistanis are the most peaceful and harmonious people and have paid a very heavy price in the war against the menace of terrorism. Having said that, we disapprove and denounce terrorism, racism, and violence in all its forms and manifestations, anywhere and everywhere in the world, the President opined. The Deputy High Commissioner acknowledged Pakistan's sacrifices in the war against terrorism as well as grams to provide the opportunity to the contributions of the Pakistani learn from each other's legal systems, diaspora to the UK progress, particularly in technical expertise, educa-

> The honorable guest assured his full cooperation and, on behalf of the British Embassy, extended good meeting. He expressed hope that this Association would continue to pro-Both sides recognized the role of mote the rule of law, the supremacy

Fire breaks out at Kabul shoe factory

KABUL (Amu Tv): A large fire broke out at a shoe manufacturing factory in the Qabil Bai area of Kabul's Ninth Police District on Friday afternoon, according to local sources. Details about potential casualties or the extent of damage caused by the blaze remain unclear. Taliban have yet to comment on the incident or provide further information. Fires in industrial areas of Kabul are not uncommon, often attributed to inadequate safety measures and outdated infrastructure

The Frontier Post Rajab 25, 1446 — Saturday, January 25, 2025

Minister meets Qatar Charge d'Affaires

KABUL (BNA): Mawlavi Mohammad Yaqoob Mujahid, the Acting Minister of National Defense of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, held a meeting with Mirdef Alqashouti, the Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Qatar in Kabul. During the meeting, Ministr Mujahid praised Qatar as a "friend and partner country," highlighting the impor-tance of strengthening and maintaining robust relations between the two the countries

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

UN: Taliban denying education to 1.5 million girls

Coordination of Humanitarian (OCHA) has condemned the Taliban's ongoing ban return to power in August on secondary education for 2021, sweeping restrictions girls in Afghanistan, saying have been imposed on it has deprived 1.5 million girls' education, barring girls of their fundamental right to learn.

International Education widespread international Day, OCHA emphasized condemnation, that education is "a human experts warning that it right, a public good, and a jeopardizes the educational shared responsibility." The and social future of milorganization called for an lions of Afghan girls.
end to the restrictions, Alongside the U.N. statewhich have now entered ment, a social media camtheir third year.

education for girls in and #LetAfghanGirlsLearn Afghanistan, now in its third has gained traction, rallying

KABUL (Amu Tv): Former a society's President Hamid Karzai has well-being"

country's development and

called for the immediate scored its importance in

reopening of schools and achieving freedom and

universities for Afghan progress for Afghanistan. girls, emphasizing the criti-

cal role of education in the prosperity and flourishing of

In a statement marking come dependency on for-

International Education eign powers and attain its cant

society,'

KABUL (Amu Tv): The year, has denied 1.5 million global support for Afghat United Nations Office for girls their right to learn. This girls' right to education. blatant violation must end," Affairs the statement read.

Since the Taliban's them from attending school beyond the primary level. In a statement marking The decision has drawn

r third year. paign using hashtags like The ban on secondary #InternationalEducationDay

Karzai calls for immediate

reopening of schools for girls

growth and

and under-

'Afghanistan can only over-

Day, Karzai described edu- rightful place in the global Afghanistan's social and

exam phase set for January 2025

cation as "the key driver of community through knowl- economic development.

said.

The international community has repeatedly urged the Taliban to reverse these restrictions and ensure equal access to education for all. The United Nations and human rights organizations have stressed that education is a fundamental human right that should never be denied.

Activists have said that the ban not only violates the rights of Afghan girls but also poses a major obstacle to the country' social and economic devel opment. They warn that the long-term consequences could be devastating for future generations

edge and understanding."

He expressed hope that

the necessary conditions

would be created for all

Afghans to access education and urged all stake-

holders to take immediate

steps to reopen education-

Karzai's remarks come

as the Taliban's ban on

girls' education remains in

place, affecting secondary

schools, universities, and

other higher education insti-

tutions. The restrictions

enforced since the Taliban

regained power in 2021

have sparked widespread

condemnation both domes

tically and internationally.

restrictions not only consti-

rights but also pose signifi-

tute a violation of human

barriers

ongoing

Experts warn that the

educational

al institutions.

international community. In response, Zakir expressed the Taliban's desire for "positive relations" with the international community, asserting that Afghan soil posed no

The meeting comes amid growing concerns among regional and international stakeholders over the potential use of Afghanistan as a base for terrorist organizations. While the Taliban have repeatedly denied these allegations, the issue remains a major point of contention between the group and the

Despite ongoing engage the United Kingdom, has

reopening of Schools

KABUL (TOLONews): On

Allama Iqbal scholarships: Second their higher education. Beheshta, who was a

> Samira, another student, told TOLOnews: "The past three years have been heartbreaking for us because we couldn't reach our goals.' The European Union has also emphasized that education is essential for Afghanistan's

> The EU delegation in Afghanistan stated on X: 'Quality education for all, regardless of gender, is essential for the prosperity & self-sufficiency of Afghanistan. The EU stands in solidarity with all Afghans as they strive their fundamental right to education & a prosperous future.

UK diplomat dialogue to address issues with Taliban

British chargé d'affaires for Afghanistan, Chatterton Dickson, has called for resolving issues with the Taliban through dialogue, according to a statement released by the Taliban-run Arg.

urges

KABUL (Amu Tv): The

During a meeting with Zakirullah Zakir, chief of staff for the Taliban's political deputy office, Dickson reiterated the United Kingdom's commitment to continuing humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. He also pledged support for addressing the country's

climate change challenges. The statement quoted Dickson as emphasizing the importance of resolving problems through negotiations and encouraging Afghanistan to rejoin the

threat to the world.

global community.

ment, no country, including officially recognized the Taliban rule since it seized power in August 2021.

Girls demand

the occasion of the International Education Day, girls who have been deprived of education in the country are calling to be allowed to return to their

This day arrives while girls above grade six have been banned from attending school for more than three years, and female university students are also prohibited from continuing

10th-grade student when the Islamic Emirate regained power, said: "Unfortunately, all schools in Afghanistan are closed. We request the Islamic Emirate reopen schools for girls in the coming year so that we can achieve our dreams.

self-sufficiency.

Taliban reject ICC arrest warrant as 'politically motivated'

Taliban government said on Friday an detainee, said the ICC "can't scare us". arrest warrant sought by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for its leaders was "politically motivated".

Afghanistan over the persecution of women -- a crime against humanity. "Like many other decisions of the

(ICC), it is devoid of a fair legal basis, is a matter of double standards and is politically motivated," said a statement from the Foreign Ministry posted on social media platform X. "It is regrettable that this institution

has turned a blind eye to war crimes Taliban' and crimes against humanity committed by foreign forces and their domestic allies during the twenty-year occupation of Afghanistan.

It said the court should "not attempt to impose a particular interpretation of human rights on the entire world and ignore the religious and national values of people of the rest of the world".

2021 after ousting the American- Islamic dress, have been barred from backed government in a rapid but largely bloodless military takeover, imposing a severe interpretation of Islamic law, or sharia, on the population and heavily restricting all aspects that Supreme Leader Haibatullah

"If these were fair and true courts, they should have brought America to the court, because it is America that has It comes a day after the ICC chief caused wars, the issues of the world are prosecutor said he was seeking war- caused by America," he said at an rants against senior Taliban leaders in event in eastern Khost city attended by an AFP journalist.

He said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has overseen a war in Gaza sparked by Hamas attacks, should be brought before the ICC, which issued arrest warrants last year for the Israeli leader and three . Hamas officials.

'Unconscionable persecution by

Afghanistan's government claims it secures Afghan women's rights under sharia but many of its edicts are not followed in the rest of the Islamic world and have been condemned by Muslim leaders. It is the only country in the world where girls and women are banned from education. Women have been ordered to cover their hair The Taliban swept back to power in and faces and wear all-covering parks and stopped from working in government offices.

ICC chief Karim Khan said there were reasonable grounds to suspect of women's lives. Afghanistan's deputy Akhundzada and chief justice Abdul its 125 member states to carry interior minister Mohammad Nabi Hakim Haqqani "bear criminal respon- warrants -- with mixed results.

KABUL (AFP/APP): Afghanistan's Omari, a former Guantanamo Bay sibility for the crime against humanity of persecution on gender grounds".

Khan said Afghan women and girls, as well as the LGBTQ community, were facing "an unprecedented, unconscionable and ongoing persecution by the Taliban". "Our action signals that the status quo for women and girls in Afghanistan is not acceptable," Khan said. ICC judges will now consider the application before deciding whether to issue the warrants, a process that could take weeks or even months.

'Crucial step' -

Women's rights activist Nilofar Ayubi, who lives abroad, told AFP it was "a historic moment for the women of Afghanistan and a positive step forward in our fight". Amnesty International said it was a "crucial step to hold accountable all those allegedly responsible for the gender-based deprivation of fundamental rights".

It also renewed calls for the ICC prosecutor to reconsider his 2021 decision to deprioritise investigations into war crimes allegedly committed by the US military, CIA personnel, and other international forces in Afghanistan.

The ICC, based in The Hague, was set up to rule on the world's worst crimes, such as war crimes and crimes against humanity. It has no police force of its own and relies on its 125 member states to carry out its

CSTO to begin Tajikistan-Afghanistan Border strengthening plan



MOSCOW (Amu Tv): January announced that a program 2025. He noted that the to strengthen Tajikistan's draft plan to fortify the border with Afghanistan will begin in 2025. Tajik-Afghan border was reviewed and agreed upon

He stated that this pro- by CSTO member states in gram involves specific 2024. measures aimed at ensur-

The CSTO has frequenting the security of CSTO ly expressed concerns over mentioned that agreements

Undocumented Afghan:

23, Afghanistan to Central Imangali Tasmagambetov, Tasmagambetov highlight- Asia. According to the Secretary-General of the ed CSTO's achievements agreed plan, member states Collective Security Treaty in 2024 and outlined the are tasked with allocating Organization (CSTO), organization's plans for resources necessary to safeguard the Afghan border. Tasmagambetov empha-

reviewed and agreed upon sized that achieving peace and stability requires collaborative efforts among all member states. He also

have been signed. Russian media reports

indicate that the program to strengthen the Tajik-Afghan border will be implemented in three phases over a five-year period. This phased approach reflects the complexity and importance of the initiative in maintaining regional security.

CSTO member states and Central Asian nations, particularly Tajikistan, are increasingly concerned about the presence of ISIS in the region. The potential spillover of violence and radical ideologies poses a significant threat to the stability and security of these countries.

The CSTO's initiative to fortify borders and enhance security is a crucial step in addressing these threats. However, member states must also focus on long-term strategies, such as countering radicalization and promotmember states.

The past three years about During a meeting in the risk of extremism Moscow on Thursday, spreading from and military equipment Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and regional cooperation, to ensure sustainable peace and stability in Central Asia and region and stability in Cen ing regional cooperation,

Mohammad Representative Afghanistan, stated on X that the second phase of the in-person and online participate online. exams for the Allama

and 26, 2025. ly 21,000 Afghan students dents in Afghanistan will (both male and female) participate in an online have registered for these scholarships.

have registered for these set," said Sadiq Khan.

He added that the regis-

According to Sadiq tration process for these in early March 2025.

(TOLONew): Khan, Afghan applicants Sadiq, residing in Pakistan will Special take the exam in person in for the cities of Quetta and

be located in Peshawar and He mentioned that near- Quetta. Meanwhile, stu-

scholarships began in October 2024, and a total of 20,806 applications were submitted, out of which 15,791 were from male applicants and 5,015 from female applicants.

The provided numbers

indicate that 14,244 applications were received for undergraduate programs, 5,946 for master's programs, and 616 for doctoral programs. According to Pakistan's

Special Representative. the exams and interviews will be conducted under the supervision of three evaluation committees to Peshawar, while students ensure a fair and transparliving in Afghanistan will ent selection process.

rticipate online. Sadiq Khan also men-"For Afghan students tioned that accepted stu-Iqbal Scholarships will residing in Pakistan, the dents will commence their be held on January 25 physical test centers will preparatory academic programs at the National University of Technology (NUTECH) and the National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES FAST)

Sahibzada engages in key railway



KABUL(BNA): Mawlavi of Afghanistan, visited Mohammad Sahibzada, the Deputy invitation of the Uzbek

Minister of Public Works government.

awlavi of Afghanistan, visited On the first day of his Trans project and empha-Ishaq Uzbekistan at the official visit, Deputy Minister sized the need for swift Deputy invitation of the Uzbek Sahibzada held fruitful discoordination in launching

from Uzbekistan Railways Director Nurzulov Zafarghiasevich Deputy Director Hekmatullah Kahmatov.

The Islamic Emirate expressed delegation appreciation

Uzbekistan's ongoing sup-port in railway coopera-tion. The talks focused on enhancing trade and exports via the Hairatan-Mazar-e-Sharif railway line, a crucial conduit for economic exchange.
In addition, the Deputy

Minister met with Uzbekistan's Minister of Ilham Transport, Mukhamedov, where both sides explored the implementation of the Afghancussions with key officials practical work.

Iran issues arrest warrants for 18 property owners



of providing housing to were sent to prison. The undocumented migrants, according to their involvement and

deputy prosecutor of stay of what he termed undocumented, reside in "unauthorized" foreign the country, with a majorinationals. "Those who ty being Afghan citizens. facilitate the entry and resto three years in prison," Zamani said.

through military and secu- ly registered as group Afghan migrants following rity operations in the refugees, most of them the Taliban's return to Nosratabad district of Afghan nationals. power in Afghanistan.

Authorities in Iran have lords were apprehended, issued arrest warrants for judicial cases were opened 18 property owners accused against them, and they Afghan suspects have admitted Iranian media reports. expressed regret for the Bahram Zamani, the actions," Zamani noted. expressed regret for their

Iran's interior ministry Zahedan, announced that estimates that nearly six the property owners face million foreign nationals, charges for facilitating the both documented and

idence of undocumented adviser to Iran's interior individuals could face one minister and head of the the presence of foreign Bureau Foreign for Citizens and Migrants, dis-He added that the sus- closed that 593,775 indipects were identified viduals have been official-

fication cards, known as Amayesh cards Afghans and identity cards for Iragis

YarÂhmadi refugees who have not yet updated their registration to visit foreign nationals' residence and employment service offices by January 30, 2025, to ensure their information is up to date and to obtain identification cards.

The arrests underscore Nader YarAhmadi, an the Iranian government's ongoing efforts to regulate nationals, as the country grapples with economic challenges and the impact of a prolonged influx of Afghan migrants following

Over 100 gas poisoning cases reported

HERAT (Khaama Press): Officials at Herat Regional Hospital in western Afghanistan have reported 123 cases of gas poisoning in the province over the past two months.

Farhad Afzali, the chief physician at Herat Regional Hospital, stated on Thursday, January 23, that three individuals have died as a result of gas poisoning during this period.

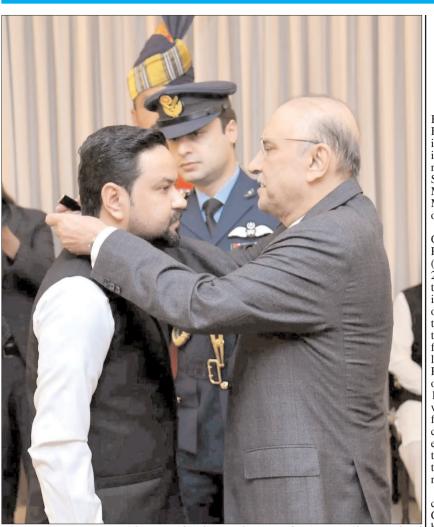
According to among the reported cases, 68 were women who were transferred to the hospital due to gas poisoning. Two days ago, three

young individuals in and Parwan provinces also lost their lives due to gas poisoning incidents. Each year, with the onset

of winter, gas poisoning incidents claim the lives of citizens provinces across the country, highlighting a recurring seasonal issue.

This comes amid the winter season, harsh cold weather, and a lack of electricity and heating in the country.

The rise in gas poisoning cases underscores the need for increased public awareness about safe heating practices, particularly during the winter season. Preventive measures and public education campaigns can help reduce these incidents and save



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari conferring civil award of Sitara-i-Imtiaz upon Asif Bashir, in recognition of his valuable services in the field of public service.

Experts discuss social media impacts on youth

F.P. Report

LAHORE: The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Lahore, hosted a roundtable discussion titled "Digital Minds: Navigating Social Media and Mental Health" on 23 January 2025. The roundtable brought together prominent social media and psychology experts to deliberate on the complex health, with a particular social media, the psycho-

session, Ms Nidaa Shahid, tion becoming a leading Associate Director CASS cause of psychological Lahore, discussed how stress. Social media platsocial media has emerged forms are designed to as a game-changer in the increase this addictiveness 21st century, offering in order to create more revconnectivity, enues. immense while simultaneously posing serious mental health Director challenges.

content they agree with, challenges. thus reinforcing biases and creating echo chambers. session, participants active- the importance of aware-Ms Fatima Aslam, a clini- ly contributed their per- ness, education, and collabcal psychologist, provided spectives on digital starva- oration in mitigating the insights into the psychological impact of social media addition and impacts of social media.



focus on its effects on logical issues being pre-younger generations. sented in youth have Setting the tone for the changed, with tech addic-

Institute Applied The first discussant, Mr Punjab University high-Fahd Husain, President Aik lighted the four most com- youth. News Network, probed the mon stressors of social complexities of social media which includes com- internet users in Pakistan, media stating that it has parison with people's social media-induced anxiblurred the lines between online personas, usage of truth and false. He further likes and comments as ty crises require urgent said that social media social currency, fear of attention. He stressed the rewards emotional content missing out and online need to promote digital litover logical arguments. harassment. The youth of eracy and use social media Additionally, the algo- today have become addict- as a force for positive rithms ensure that people ed to the quick dopamine change. are only exposed to the rush despite facing these

relationship between social on adolescents. She said the need for balanced polimedia usage and mental that since the advent of cymaking to regulate social media usage. It was highlighted that pace of technology is unlikely to be curtailed, therefore human psyche has to adapt to these changes concluding his

remarks, Air Marshal Asim Suleiman (Retd), President CASS Lahore, emphasised nues. that while social media
Prof Dr Rafia Rafique, connects and empowers, it also contributes to rising Psychology mental health challenges, particularly among the

With over a 100 million ety, depression, and identi

The roundtable concluded with a strong consensus During the interactive among all participants on psychological

US military aircraft deport migrants Troops from the 82nd mer.

US military C-17 aircraft Airborne division are usual- Mexico," said Zazai. "And I began flying out migrants ly prepared to deploy at can't go back to my country on orders from President short notice for crises Donald Trump on Friday, as around the world, typically the Pentagon prepared to in conflict zones rather than send even more troops to to the United States' border southern border, including with Mexico. from the Army's elite 82nd reported earlier this week Airborne division. Trump in that there had been informal his first day in office discussions about sending declared illegal immigration as many as 10,000 troops a national emergency, task- over time, though a final figing the US military with aid- ure had not been determined ing border security, issuing a and troop numbers would broad ban on asylum, and depend on several factors, taking steps to restrict citi- including impact on military zenship for children born on readiness. American soil.

troops as necessary to obtain week of the United States.'

White House military. begun," Karoline spokesperson Leavitt said on a post on X. On Friday, two US military aircraft, each carrying about a US official told reporters.

the military was preparing to send a second wave of troops to the border with refuge elsewhere, or waiting Mexico as early as next indefinitely in Mexico. week, which would likely include troops from the 82nd Airborne. The official living at the Assabil shelter said the additional troops in Tijuana, the only such could number in the thou- refuge in Mexico specificalsands but a formal decision ly for Muslim migrants, had not been made.

Reuters

Meanwhile, Naser Zazai,

His Jan. 20 executive 29, had planned to reunite instructed the with his mother and brother Pentagon to send as many in the United States this after fleeing "complete operational con- Afghanistan, where he says trol of the southern border he was threatened and attacked because his brother "Deportation flights have had once worked for the US

Instead, he is now stranded in Mexico after US President Donald Trump on Monday abruptly canceled 80 migrants, flew from the all asylum appointments for United States to Guatemala, migrants waiting in Mexico including Zazai's, sched-Earlier this week, the uled for Jan. 22. The med-Trump administration said ical doctor is one of thouthe US military would be sands of migrants who had sending 1,500 additional expected to start their new active-duty troops to the lives in the US this week, border with Mexico. US only to find themselves sudofficials told Reuters that denly faced with the prospect of returning to their

> But for Zazai and the dozens of other migrants

> home countries, seeking

"I can't stay where I could be killed."

An increasing number of migrants from Asia, the Middle East, and Africa begun migrating have through Mexico en route to the US in recent years. But Muslim migrants face a series of additional challenges in Mexico, human rights experts say, from language barriers to misconceptions about those who follow a religion with scant presence in Mexican socie-

According to 2020 census data, there are fewer than 8,000 Muslims living in Mexico, representing less than 0.01% of the population. "They have a very particular situation due to their culture and religion," said Soraya Vazquez, of the human rights group Al Otro Lado. "There is a lot of stigma against the Muslim community." Many migrants who travel to Mexico from other continents hoping to ultimately reach the US have to pay smugglers thousands of dollars for the lengthy journeys. This puts them at risk of extortion and violence, Vazquez said especially if they are unable to pay off the hefty debts because they are stuck in Mexico.

Reuters spoke with five Afghan migrants in Tijuana who all had their US asylum appointments canceled Like Zazai, they said they could not return to Afghanistan, but that staying in Mexico felt like a perthese choices are even grimilious option, too.

SBP injects Rs10.31tr in market F.P. Report

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) injected Rs10,317.5 billion in the market through reverse repo purchase and Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market Operations (OMO) on Friday.

The SBP conducted

Open Market Operation, Reverse Repo Purchase (Injection) on January 24, 2025 for 7-day and 28-day tenors and, as per results issued, accepted an amount of Rs9,611.5 billion offered through 30 bids. The central bank received 30 bids for 7-day tenor cumulatively offering an amount of Rs9,611.5 billion at the rate of return ranging between 13.04 to 13.10 percent while no bid was received for the 28-day tenor. The central bank accepted the entire amount offered through 30 quotes for 7-day tenor at 13.04% rate of

Meanwhile, SBP also conducted Shariah Mudarabah Compliant based Open Market Operation for the 7-day and Market 28-day tenors and further injected Rs706 billion into

he market. The central bank received 5 bids for 7-day tenor quoting an amount of Rs906 billion at the rate of return ranging between 13.08 to 13.12 % while no bid was received for 28-day tenor. The SBP accepted an amount of Rs706 billion offered through 5 quotes for 7-day tenor at 13.08% rate of return. Total amount offered at 13.08% was Rs600 billion out of which SBP accepted Rs400 billion on pro-rata basis.

KP dispatches medicines to Kurram

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has dispatched another shipment of 1500kg of medicines to Upper Kurram via helicopter, stated Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Friday.

The CM emphasized his personal supervision of all relief activities in Kurram, ensuring that essential supplies were promptly delivered according to the needs of the affected areas. A total of 1,500 kilograms of medcines were being sent to Parachinar via helicopter, he announced, with the shipment handed over to the Medical Superintendent of Parachinar. The consignment included antibiotics. syrups, painkillers, and medicines specifically for children, ensuring comprehensive medical aid to the region.

CM Gandapur further assured that until ground access to Kurram was restored, medicines and other essential supplies would continue to be delivered via the Chief Minister's helicopter. He also stated that additional supplies, as per the requirements of the area, would be sent in phases to ensure ongoing relief efforts.

Pakistan Navy Ships visit Oman F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Navy Ships TABUK and RAH NAWARD visited the Port Sultan Qaboos, Muscat, Oman. Upon arrival at the port, Pakistan Navy ships were warmly received by the Omani authorities.

During the visit, Mission Commander, along with the Commanding Officers, held meetings with naval leadership of Oman, according to a statement issued by the Directorate General Public Relations (Pakistan Navy), Naval Headquarters, Islamabad, on Friday. He called on Director General Ops and Plans Royal Navy of Oman, Commander Maritime Security Centre and Commandant

Said Bin Sultan Naval Base. During these interactions, matters of mutual interest, Navy-to-Navy engagements, and cooperation in maritime security were discussed. Ambassadors, diplomats and Military Attaches of various countries also visited the ships.

Pakistan Navy Ships were opened for visitors, wherein large number of Pakistani community including students from Pakistan School, Muscat visited onboard PN ships. Following the port call, PNS TABUK conducted a Passage Exercise with a Royal Oman Navy ship AL SHAMIKH.

PHC directs ECP to decide on Senate elections

Humayun Khan

(PHC) has directed the Election by the given deadline and to submit a Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to report on the progress made. decide on Senate elections in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa within 60 days.

As per details, the decision came Ateeq Shah, in a six-page verdict, ordered the ECP to make a decision on the Senate elections by the law. The petition was filed in response to the ECP's decision to postpone the Senate elections in the province due the oath to elected women on reserved seats.

The ECP had cited a pending case before the Supreme Court regarding reason for the postponement. However, the PHC has now directed the ECP to decide on the Senate elections within the stipulated timeframe. Earlier, a petition was filed in Peshawar High Court seeking an order for the Senate election in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

"The Senate has been incomplete without representation of Khyber also been directed to submit daily Pakhtunkwa province," petitioner's progress reports on the disposal of lawyer said in the high court. "If the detailed judgment of the Supreme It is worth noting that the Court in special seats case, has been Peshawar High Court had last year asked the lawyer. "The decision has been released but not being impleto move ahead. "A senator has six-year tenure but KP's senators are yet cases up to 2020. to be elected," petitioner's lawyer

Court seeks district judiciary progress report on block cases: The Peshawar High Court (PHC) has set a deadline of 1st May for the disposal

According to the Peshawar High Court, Chief Justice Peshawar High Court has directed all district and sesin response to a petition filed by a sions judges to dispose of all pending candidate for the technocrat seat in cases since 2015 by May 1, without the Senate elections. Justice S.M. any delay. The judges have also been directed to submit a report on the disposal of these cases to the Monitoring and Implementation Team (MIT) of the Peshawar High Court.

The Chief Justice has emphasized that delays in justice erode people's to a dispute over the administration of trust in the judiciary, and that timely disposal of cases is essential to restore the trust. To ensure the timely disposal of cases, the Chief Justice has assigned a special task to the MIT the allocation of reserved seats as the and the District Judiciary Secretariat to monitor the progress made and submit reports to the Peshawar High

Following the receipt of these directions, all sessions judges have instructed their respective courts to dispose of all pending cases since 2015 on a priority basis, without any delay or negligence. The judges have iese cases.

issued," Chief Justice Ishtiaq Ibrahim reduced the summer vacations of judges and fixed all pending civil cases since 2015. The court had also mented," the lawyer replied. The constituted special benches to clear election commission's lawyer told the the backlog of old cases, resulting in court that a review petition has been a 90% reduction in the backlog of old filed to seek the court's advice, how civil cases. The court has now started working on disposing of old civil

sought progress report from the Provincial Home Department and the Inspector General of Prisons on the implement the decisions made during of all pending cases in district judici- implementation of decisions made the meeting.

ary since 2015. The court has direct- during a high-level meeting held on ed all district and sessions judges to 2nd November, 2024, regarding PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court ensure that these cases are resolved reforms in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's prisons and jails, on Friday.

The meeting was chaired by PHC's senior Judge Justice Ijaz Anwar, which attended by Additional Chief Secretary Home, IG Prisons, and other officials. During the meeting, it was decided that high-profile prisoners in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's jails would be transferred to . Mianwali and Sahiwal jails in Punjab.

The Registrar of Peshawar High Court, in a letter addressed to the Additional Chief Secretary Home and IG Prisons, stated that the court seeks a report on the progress made so far regarding the implementation of the decisions made during the meeting. The letter further stated that the report should include details of the actions taken to transfer high-profile prisoners to Punjab's jails.

The meeting on November 2, 2024, also decided that prisoners from other provinces being held in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's jails would be transferred. Additionally, it was decided that the construction of Phase II of Peshawar Jail would be expedited, and prisoners being held in Nowshera Jail would be transferred to Mardan Jail due to overcrowding.

The Peshawar High Court has sought a comprehensive report from the relevant authorities regarding the progress made so far in implementing these decisions. The report will be presented before Senior Peshawar . High Court Judge Justice Ijaz Anwar for further action.

During the meeting on November 2, 2024, the Senior Peshawar High Court Judge had directed the relevant PHC sought progress report on authorities to take immediate action prison's reform implementation: to address the issues faced by prison-The Peshawar High Court (PHC) has ers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's jails. The letter had also ordered the stake-

KP CM directs MPs to closely monitor projects

PESHAWAR: The Gover- initiatives. nment Pakhtunkhwa is targeting to stressed the importance of jack up the volume of the Provincial Development dards and urged cabinet portfolio to over Rs. one members to closely monitor trillion within the next four

Government as meeting was attended by province. the cabinet members. Chie Secretaries, Board Member of Revenue, and

directed that all development and welfare projects be completed on merit and

The Chief Minister

maintaining quality stanprojects in their respective districts and regions. All this, is being made Highlighting the signifipossible by the measures cance of sustainable develtaken by the Provincial opment and employment Government as was generation, the Chief revealed during a meeting Minister stated that these of the Cabinet held here on factors play a crucial role in Friday under the chairmanthe eradication of terrorism ly approved the extension

Administrative Secretaries. title of Strategic High-The Chief Minister Impact Flagship Targets (SĤIFT).

These initiatives are dedicated to advancing incluin a transparent manner sive, equitable, and sustainwithin the stipulated time- able development agenda, frame to achieve the with a core focus on elevatdesired results. He directed ing the living standards of the cabinet members to citizens-especially those in make every effort for the review departmental per-formance regularly and and underserved regions of Merged Districts.

oversee the the Province. progress of development moment it included 51 projects of social, infrastructure and urban, economic development, environmental sustainability, governance and public administration and

integrated approaches but more and more such projects will be continuously added to it with the passage of time. The total financial worth of these schemes is Rs. 500 billion at the moment. The Cabinet conditional-

ship of Chief Minister Ali and ensuring long-term sta- of Special Forum till June, Amin Khan Gandapur. The bility and peace in the 2027, subject to the release of funds by the Federal Government, in order to Secretary, Additional Chief meeting, the cabinet was ensure optimum oversight Senior briefed in detail about the and effective management progress on development of the ongoing and recently schemes arrayed under the approved projects under permanent reconstruction. The permanent reconstruction project is aimed at rehabilitating the Temporary Displaced Persons Districts. In this respect, the Chief Minister emphasized that his government will

lost their lives on that day.

should be prioritized.

needs.

Education:

year's theme,

The president, in his mes

sage on the International Day

of Education being observed

on the day, said that AI-based

tools could help tailor the

learning process to individual

Human Agency in a World of

Automation," he called for

utilizing education to achieve

Highlighting this theme, "AI and

Preserving

Asad Qaiser contacts **Fazl**

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Asad Qaiser held a telephonic call with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman to discuss the country's political situation.

Former Assembly speaker Asad Qaiser reached out to Maulana Fazlur Rehman. During the conversation, they exchanged views on the current political sce-nario and deliberated on their upcoming meeting.

Asad Qaiser stated that he would meet Maulana Fazlur Rehman next week to discuss political matters in detail. PTI leaders are expected to meet Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Monday or Tuesday to discuss the formation of an opposition alliance.

According to the sources, during the meeting, a message from PTI founder Imran Khan will also be conveyed to Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

Baloch terror leaders surrender

F.P. Report

QUETTA: Two most-wanted terrorist commanders, Najeebullah alias Darwaish Meanwhile, President Asif and Abdul Rasheed alias Ali Zardari calling for the Kamash, have surrendered responsible use of artificial their weapons. At a joint intelligence to revolutionize press conference in Quetta the education system, said on Friday, attended by that in the AI world, human provincial ministers and DIG CTD, both terrorists will, creativity, critical thinking and decision-making announced their decision to join the national mainstream.

Talking to the media, terrorist commander Najeebullah thanked the Pakistan Army for providing him with the opportunity to integrate into the national fold. Najeeb said, "Seeing the handlers' true motives removed the blindfold of socalled freedom from my eyes. The Baloch liberation movements have devolved into gang wars.'

He further revealed, "The so-called fighters in the mountains don't even have two proper meals a day, while terrorist commanders live lavishly abroad and ignore us. Our survival and security lie in the welfare of the state." Another terrorist commander, Jangez Khan, said, "Commander Miraj instructed me to fight against the army and promised money and weapons in return. Jangez Khan also revealed that he was offered Rs 100,000 and a motorcycle, but he regrets choosing the wrong path.

On the occasion, provinal minister Zahoor Ahmed Buledi said, "A heinous game of terrorism is being played in Balochistan. Misguided individuals fighting their own institutions must return to the right path."

President confers Nishan-i-Imtiaz award on Asif

F.P. Report

Asif Ali Zardari on Friday conferred the Nishan-i-Imtiaz award on Asif Bashir standing services in the field unacknowledged. of public services.

The award was conferred at a special investiture ceremony held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr and attended by and parliamentarians. As per the citation read out at the ceremony, Asif Bashir, who is currently Deputy posted as Commissioner in Peshawar, was selected by the federal ministry of religious affairs as a Moavin-i- Hajj (Hajj Assistant) for the previous year's Hajj operation.

51.8 degree due to which Tragically, 1300 people also several pilgrims had to face ISLAMABAD: President extreme difficulties. During such situation, the Haji Moavineen perform extraordinary and appreciable servin recognition of his out- ices which often remain

> The Moavineen basically are responsible for providing facilities to the Pakistani Hujjaj (pilgrims), however they also provide possible facilities to the pilgrims belonging to other countries as well. Asif Bashir during Hajj days was serving as a Moavin in Mina where tents of the pilgrims belonging to different countries including India were present. On 9th Zil Hajj, several Pakistani, Indian and British elderly weather. progressive Pakistan.

During the Hajj operation, Hujjaj got fainted due to a prosperous, inclusive and the temperature soared to extreme hot weather. progressive Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD: Students from Pakistan School Muscat visiting Pakistan Navy Ship in Oman.

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