Passenger van hijacked F.P. Report

ZHOB: A passenger van traveling from Duki to Quetta was hijacked by unidentified armed individuals near Zhob on Tuesday. The armed men intercepted the vehicle, forced the passengers to disembark, and took control of the van, identified by its registration number LDS-356. Local authorities have initiated an investigation into the incident, seeking leads on the identity and motives of the perpetrators.

Frontier Post

KP budget on 13th F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The annual budget for the fiscal year 2025–26 will be presented in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on June 13 (Friday) at 3:00 P.m. According to a press release issued by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Secretariat on Tuesday, the announcement has been made under Rule 33, sub-rule (1) of the KP Rules of

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F.P. Report

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on

Tuesday affirmed the immense sacri-

fight against terrorism, and said the

federal government would stand by

the province until the complete eradi-

Commission (NFC) Award as its one

percent share allocated for anti-ter-

enhance the capacity of law enforce-

cent of the NFC Award for KP, agreed

by all provinces, was just and appropriate decision, as KP has remained

the frontline province in the war

against terrorism," he said.

Highlighting the province's unwaver-

Pakistan, the prime minister said that

KP's people had voted in favour of

are deeply revered and will be remembered in golden words," he

"The decision to allocate one per-

ment agencies, he added.

Addressing a representative jirga,

cation of the menace.

Prime

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PESHAWAR: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif addressing a Jirga.

CM asks Centre to release KP dues

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Chief taxes on the erstwhile Minister Khyber Pakhtu- FATA and PATA regions, another province's sharenkhwa, Ali Amin Khan arguing that the local popu-Gandapur, while addressing lation is not financially a jirga in Peshawar, extend- capable of bearing such ed felicitations to the entire burdens. "These areas have nation for a befitting been severely affected by response to Indian aggres- the war on terror and sion and said that founding require significant investchairman PTI Imran Khan, ment," he emphasized. despite being unjustly Highlighting the sacri-imprisoned, united the fices of people from

ing Pakistan. national demonstrated ences for the sake of the ian casualties. country's sovereignty and

entire nation against Indian merged districts, the chief hostilities-proving himself minister urged the federal government to fulfill all Expressing his gratitude promises made to them. He to Imran Khan and his supdemanded immediate porters, Ali Amin Gandapur release of compensation said their unwavering stand funds for displaced persons was instrumental in defend- from these regions and "We have called for an end to drone Khyber strikes in unity above political differ- Pakhtunkhwa, citing civil-

The Chief Minister also the merged districts' share tions incomplete.

called on the federal gov- in the National Finance ernment to avoid imposing Commission (NFC) award. "We are not asking for we're demanding our right-

ful due," he said. The Chief Minister further urged the federal gov ernment to release all pending dues owed to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including net hydel profits and the province's full share in the tobacco cess. "These are the rightful entitlements of

our people," he asserted.

In his address, the Chief Minister urged the reinstatement of the traditional jirga system to sustainably resolve disputes in the merged districts. He also demanded Khybei Pakhtunkhwa's inclusion in peace talks with neighboring Afghanistan, warning He also demanded for that excluding the province the immediate inclusion of would render the negotia-

Attacks in Bannu, Bajaur repulsed F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Inspector General (IG) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Zulfiqar Hameed here Tuesday said that the police have thwarted terrorists attacks in Bannu and Bajaur tribal districts.

He said police not only foiled the attacks of Fitnaul Khwarij but are also continuing to pursue the terrorists in order to dismantle their network. In a statement, he said that late at night, the police stations in Loi Mamund in Bajaur and Miryan Bannu came under attack by Fitna-e-Khawarij terrorists. The police fought back courageously and forced the attackers to retreat. IGP has announced commendation certificates and rewards for the brave personnel who stood their ground against the terror-

Earthquake shakes Karachi areas

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Karachi's Malir and Korangi districts were hit by series of earthquakes over the past two days with a total of 11 tremors felt in both districts and other areas over a span of 48 hours.

Affected areas included

Quaidabad, Malir, Landhi, Sherpao, and surrounding localities where terrified citizens rushed out of their homes. According to the National Seismic Monitoring Center, the first tremor was felt at 9:57 AM on Tuesday, with the epicenter in the northeast of Malir. The earthquake had a magnitude of 2.8 and occurred at a depth of 40 kilometers. In the late hours, calls to prayer were heard from various mosques and

in most areas citizens spent

the night under the open sky

teachers who lost their lives in the Minister brutal incident.

War against terrorism

KP people rendered

immense sacrifices: PM

Speaking on recent security developments, Prime Minister Shehbaz General of Police. The participants fices rendered by the people of Sharif said Pakistan had given a Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) in the strong response to last month's unpro-Sharif said Pakistan had given a voked Indian aggression under the leadership of Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir. He reiterated that Pakistan's decisive retaliation had frustrated India's the prime minister said that KP has nefarious plans, adding that "India received Rs700 billion since 2010 will never forget this decisive under the National Finance response of Pakistan."

The prime minister further shared that during recent visits to Turkiye, rorism efforts. These funds were Iran, Azerbaijan, and Tajikistan, leadreleased to strengthen the provincial police force, develop the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD), and against India. He said that the Indian Prime Minister Modi was left "frustrated and in a state of panic" after the

1960, the prime minister asserted that India cannot deprive Pakistan of its rightful share of water and suspend the treaty unilaterally. He emphasized ing commitment and support to the need to expand existing water required increased water storage and storage capacity and accelerate work on major dam projects, including

the country during the referendum and had stood by the armed forces

Calling for national unity in Calling for national unity in the through all challenges. face of external threats, PM Shehbaz
"The sacrifices of KP's people who Sharif appreciated the people of KP laid down their lives and sustained for offering special prayers for the injuries for the defence of Pakistan country's success against India. The jirga was attended by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim added. Referring to the tragic Army Kundi, Chief Minister Ali Amin

ter paid tribute to the students and and provincial ministers, senators, parliamentarians, Commander Peshawar, Chief Secretary KP, and the Inspector offered Fateha for the martyrs of Pakistan, paying tribute to both civilian and military personnel who have laid down their lives for the nation.

Shehbaz directs removing impediments for early completion of Diamer Bhasha Dam: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, calling the country's self-reliance linked with affordable electricity and agriculture, directed the authorities concerned to ensure early completion of Diamer Bhasha Dam by removing all impediments.

The prime minister, chairing a meeting on the construction of Diamer Bhasha Dam and the other matters of water resources, said that building new dams was crucial to Reaffirming Pakistan's rights enhance water storage capacity, under the Indus Waters Treaty of ensure water supply for agriculture, and prevent floods.

He said that the country's selfdependence was linked with affordable electricity and agriculture, which efficient water usage. The prime minister directed prioritizing the completion of projects like Diamer Bhasha Dam to establish an effective system for energy production and abundant water storage. The meeting was attended by federal ministers Ahsan Iqbal, Engineer Amir Muqam, Azam Nazeer Tarar, and Moeen Wattoo, Adviser to Prime Minister Rana Sanaullah, Chief Minister of Gilgit-Public School (APS) attack on Gandapur, Chief of Army Staff Field Baltistan Gulbar Khan, and relevant December 16, 2014, the prime minis- Marshal Syed Asim Munir, federal senior government officials.

Security forces kill 7 India-backed terrorists

RAWALPINDI: The security forces killed seven terrorists belonging to Indian proxy, Hindustan terrorists were Fitna al Hindustan, in two successfully neutralized. separate operations Balochistan on June 2.

issued by the Inter-Services Fitna al Hindustan terrorists, Public Relations (ISPR) on who remained actively Tuesday, an intelligence involved in numerous terrorbased operation (IBO) was ist activities. "Security forces conducted in general area of Pakistan are determined to Mach, Kachhi District on eliminate the menace of reported presence of Fitna al Indian sponsored terrorism Hindustan terrorists.

operation, own troops effec- resolve to bring the perpetratively engaged the Fitna al tors of Indian sponsored ter-Hindustan terrorists' location, rorism and their facilitators to and after an intense fire justice", the ISPR statement exchange, five Indian spon- concluded. sored terrorists were sent to said, in another IBO conduct- Sharif have applauded secu-

ed in general area Margand, rity forces on successful Kalat District, a Fitna al Hindustan terrorist hideout was busted and two Fitna al

It said weapons, ammuni-

tion and explosives were also According to a statement recovered from the killed from the country, and reaf-"During the conduct of firm the nation's unwavering

President Asif Ali Zardari hell", the statement said. It and Prime Minister Shehbaz

operation against Fitna al Hindustan in Mach and Morgand, Balochistan.

In a statement, President said India is terrorism spreading Pakistan through its proxies. He said security forces are conducting operations to eliminate Fitna al Hindustan He said our resolve to eliminate terrorist elements and defend the country will

remain unwavering. In his statement, the Prime Minister said we will continue the war against terrorism until this scourge is completely eradicated from the country. He said the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the Armed Forces to foil the nefarious Fitna designs of Hindustan.

Gaza officials say Israeli forces killed 27 heading to aid site GAZA STRIP (AP): Palestinian health entire area is an Israeli military zone

officials and witnesses say Israeli forces where journalists have no access outside killing at least 27, in the third such inci-"near a few individual suspects" who records department. left the designated route, approached its forces and ignored warning shots.

says is designed to circumvent Hamas. new system, saying it doesn't address allows Israel to use aid as a weapon. The Israeli military said it was looking into reports of casualties on Tuesday.

It previously said it fired warning away from the aid distribution hub. shots at suspects who approached its forces early Sunday and Monday, when health officials and witnesses said 34 people were killed. The military denies opening fire on civilians or blocking them from reaching the aid sites. The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which Israeli military was investigating whether civilians were wounded "after moving beyond the designated safe corridor and into a closed military zone," in an area that was "well beyond our secure distribution site."

(1,000 yards) from one of the GHF's Israeli forces "fired at us as we were distribution sites in the now mostly returning." 3 Israeli soldiers killed in uninhabited southern city of Rafah. The northern Gaza

fired on people as they headed toward of army-approved embeds. At least 27 an aid distribution site on Tuesday, people were killed early Tuesday, killing at least 27, in the third such incident in three days. The army said it fired head of the Gaza Health Ministry's

The near-daily shootings have come Cross, said its field hospital in Rafah fter an Israeli and US-backed founda- received 184 wounded people, 19 of tion established aid distribution points whom were declared dead on arrival area. Israel ended the ceasefire in March inside Israeli military zones, a system it and eight more who later died of their after Hamas refused to change the wounds. The 27 dead were transferred The United Nations has rejected the to Nasser Hospital in the city of Khan Younis. Yasser Abu Lubda, a 50-year-Gaza's mounting hunger crisis and old displaced Palestinian from Rafah, said the shooting started around 4 a.m. in the city's Flag Roundabout area, around one kilometer (1,000 yards)

He said he saw several people killed or wounded. Neima Al-Aaraj, a woman from Khan Younis, gave a similar account. "There were many martyrs and wounded," she said, saying the shooting by Israeli forces was "indiscriminate." She said she managed to reach the hub operates the sites, says there has been no but returned empty-handed. "There was violence in or around them. On no aid there," she said. "After the mar-Tuesday, it acknowledged that the tyrs and wounded, I won't return," she

"Either way we will die." Rasha Al-Nahal, another witness, said "there was gunfire from all directions." She said she counted more than a dozen dead and several wounded along the road. She The shootings all occurred at the said she also found no aid when she Flag Roundabout, around a kilometer arrived at the distribution hub, and that

The Israeli military meanwhile said Tuesday that three of its soldiers were killed in the Gaza Strip, in what appeared to be the deadliest attack on Israel's forces since it ended a ceasefire with Hamas in March. The military said the three soldiers, all in their early 20s, Hisham Mhanna, a spokesperson for fell during combat in northern Gaza on the International Committee of the Red Monday, without providing details.

Israeli media reported that they were killed in an explosion in the Jabaliya agreement to release more hostages sooner. Israeli strikes have killed thousands of Palestinians since then, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Hamasled militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took 251 people hostage in the Oct. 7, 2023, attack into Israel that ignited the war.

They are still holding 58 hostages, a third of them believed to be alive, after most of the rest were released in ceasefire agreements or other deals. Israel's military campaign has killed over 54,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not say how many of the dead were civilians or combatants.

The ministry is led by medical professionals but reports to the Hamas-run government. Its toll is seen as generally reliable by UN agencies and independent experts, though Israel has challenged its numbers. Israel says it has killed around 20,000 militants, without providing evidence. Around 860 Israeli soldiers have been killed since the Oct. 7 attack, including more than 400 during the fighting inside Gaza.

Bilawal urges global community to act against Indian aggression

F.P. Report

NEW YORK: Representative/Ambassador France to the United Nations, Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont, met with the high-level parliamentary delegation of Pakistan, led by former Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

following India's recent military combat terrorism were well recogaggression and unilateral actions. Bilawal Bhutto apprised him of the depoliticize the issue of terrorism. grave consequences arising from India's baseless attribution of the Pahalgam attack to Pakistan without any credible investigation or evidence. He condemned India's unilat- Council resolutions for durable peace eral military strikes against civilians leading to deaths and injuries and damage to civilian infrastructure in Pakistan, the arbitrary holding in Indus Waters Treaty, and initiation of abeyance of the Indus Water Treaty, and India's persistent belligerence actions that violate international law and threaten the fragile strategic balance in the region.

conduct in the face of Indian provoresponse was guided by the principles of international law and the UN Charter. He warned against India's attempt to impose a so-called "new

The Permanent holds in a nuclearized region like South Asia. He highlighted that highest num-

ber of terrorists' attacks had been taking place in Pakistan and the country itself was the biggest victim of terror-Foreign Minister of Pakistan Mr. ism. He underscored that Pakistan was fully committed to eliminating The delegation briefed the French terrorism, including the one funded Ambassador regarding the alarming and supported from India. He stressed security developments in South Asia that Pakistan's role and sacrifices to everywhere and in every meeting. A nized and there was a need to

> Bilawal underscored the imperative of a peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with relevant UN Security and stability in South Asia. He urged France to play a role in ensuring a sustained ceasefire, revival of the a comprehensive dialogue between Pakistan and India.

The Permanent Representative of France expressed his country's supce in the region.

port for regional peace and stability
The head of the Pakistan parliaand need for bilateral dialogue mentary delegation emphasized between India and Pakistan. He reit-Pakistan's responsible and restrained erated the importance of restraint, dialogue, and adherence to internacations, adding that Pakistan's tional obligations. Members of the parliamentary delegation namely, Hina Rabbani Khar, Sherry Rehman, Dr Musadik Malik, Khurram Dastgir Khan, Jalil Abbas Jilani, Tehmina UN Security Council resolutions is must also change its posture and

the serious implications such conduct Faisal Subzwari were also present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, speaking from Washington D.C. as part of Pakistan's high-level diplomatic delegation led by Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Senator Sherry Rehman stated that Pakistan's principled and responsible position is gaining traction across key international forums. "Right now, Pakistan's narrative is being accepted new space is emerging for it—one that Pakistan's strategic maturity has unlocked—particularly in the context of engagement with India. That door is opening even wider now," she said.

Senator Rehman shared that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and the delegation have held multiple meetings in New York. "In each one—whether it was with China, Russia, the United States, members of the E10 —Chairman Bilawal adopted a multidimensional approach. He spoke about Pakistan's strategic restraint, addressed every concern, including those around the Indus Waters Treaty, and managed to satisfy interlocutors.

She emphasized that Chairman Bilawal raised Kashmir as the core issue—the reason for persistent instability—and stated unequivocally that if we truly desire lasting peace, which normal" of arbitrary strikes, noting Janjua, Bushra Anjum Butt and Syed essential. "Chairman Bilawal not only engage in dialogue with Pakistan."



advanced this point," Senator Rehman noted, "he underlined it boldly."

Senator Rehman stressed that Chairman Bilawal emphasized multilateralism and the international legal rules or norms, India continues to set dangerous precedents. For them, war is our ultimate goal, then the resolu- has become a permanent theatre. If tion of the Kashmir issue according to peace is genuinely desired, then India

Senator Rehman underscored that even on the issue of terrorism-India's constant refrain—Chairman Bilawal made it clear that Pakistan has made immense sacrifices and has frameworks and military codes that transformed. "Since the martyrdom are being flagrantly violated in of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Modi's India. "With no regard for Bhutto, Pakistan has become a frontline state in the fight against terrorism. Our military has a generation that has witnessed urban warfare, the loss of friends and brothers. We stand

in this fight against terrorism.

Senator Rehman noted that Chairman Bilawal also called out India's politics of propaganda, misinformation, and constant vilification of Pakistan, calling it unsustainable and dangerous. "It only escalates tensions and ignores the reality that both countries are nuclear powers," she said. "What direction does India want to push this region in?"

She added that Chairman Bilawal raised critical questions about the internal and external posture of Modi's India. "Why has this 'new India,' built on identity politics, created enemies both inside and outside its borders—especially targeting minorities, particularly Muslims, at home, while promoting hostility abroad? This is becoming a militarized state that thrives on perpetual conflict.' Senator Rehman confirmed that

the delegation also highlighted how unarmed civilians have been targeted, and even critical motor infrastructure attacked-actions unheard of anywhere else. "Particularly with the Indus Waters Treaty, India has opened up a new and illegal front of war," she said. Concluding her remarks, Senator Rehman called for urgent international attention. "The international community must take note, raise its voice, and stand with Pakistan's principled position—because if such actions are left unchecked, they could open the door firmly today having given everything to dangerous precedents and a major crisis in South Asia.



Murad Inaugurates Rehabilitation Centre for **Children with Disabilities**

Ali Shah on Monday inau-

lies across the province.
The new facility — The
The new facility — The Centre for Rehabilitation of demic and cognitive growth, Children with Physical and Behavioural Therapy to sup-Neurodevelopmental port adaptive functioning, Disabilities — is a joint ini- Occupational tiative between the Marie focusing on daily living Adelaide Leprosy Centre skills and sensory integra-(MALC) and the Sindh gov- tion, A Sensory Room for ernment's Department of sensory regulation and Empowerment of Persons exploration, Paediatrician with Disabilities (DEPD). services for medical assess-"This centre stands as a ments and developmental

commitment to support inclusive play and children facing physical Audiometry Services for and neurodevelopmental early detection and intervenis clear — to provide these admitted on the first day. children with the care, therapies, and opportunities they need to thrive and lead fulfilling lives."

markets

dismantled, 25

cases registered

LAHORE (APP): The dis-

trict administration, under

the leadership of Deputy

Commissioner Syed Musa

Raza, has taken decisive

measures to ensure the

smooth functioning of cattle

markets and eliminate illegal

sale points across the city in

preparation for Eid-ul-Adha.

ment campaign, 13 illegal

removed, 25 FIRs regis-

tered, and 4 premises

sealed to curb unauthorised

activities. The crackdown

is part of a wider strategy to

maintain order and safe-

guard public convenience

during the festive season.

clock vigilance and swift

cles, manned by special mon-

itoring teams, are patrolling key areas of the city to ensure

compliance and take immedi-

ate action against violations. The campaign is being

jointly executed by the

Metropolitan Corporation

and

Administration, with active

Assistant Commissioners.

Field teams have remained

on duty late into the night to

Lahore

participation

Commissioner

Metropolitan

Regulation,

Additional

District

Deputy

Officer

all

General,

and

To guarantee round-the-

În an intensive enforce-

markets

were

response, the administration | delivered throughout the

Chief Minister Syed Murad ty offers a wide range of established such centres in integrated services delivered gurated a state-of-the-art by a multidisciplinary team rehabilitation centre dedi- of professionals. These cated to children with physical include, Physiotherapy to ical and neurodevelopmen- enhance mobility and physital disabilities, calling it a cal development, Speech "beacon of hope" for fami- Therapy to improve commu-

Therapy beacon of hope and a testa- care, Special Play Area with ment to our collective adaptive equipment for

challenges, including contion of hearing impairments. inauguration. "Our vision children had already been

announced plans to expand against leprosy. "Her legasimilar rehabilitation centres cy continues through the to various districts across centre and MALC's ongoand Abid Hussain.

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa Emergency

Rescue Service (Rescue

1122) continues its mission

of providing timely and effi-

cient emergency services to the public across the

province. Director General

Rescue 1122, Shah Fahad,

announced impressive oper-

ational statistics for May

2025 during the organiza-

tion's monthly performance

review meeting held at the

chairmanship, the meeting

comprehensively assessed

the emergency services

responded to a total of Cases

13 illegal cattle | Rescue 1122 responds to

Rescue Headquarters.

Under DG Shah Fahad's aster or unforeseen emergency across the province."

has deployed 10 trucks and province last month. Accidents 1,993, Fire with all necessary resources 10 motorcycles. These vehi-

and Nawabshah. More are on the way," he said.

In a major development, being a central focus. Shah revealed that the Sindh persons with disabilities.

"This Inclusive City will general hospital, neuropsy-chiatry ward, and residential facilities," Shah stated. A 20acre park designed for children with special needs and a building to house welfare including DEPD Secretary organisations will also be Taha Ahmed Farooqi, part of the project.

hildren had already been Imitted on the first day.

The chief minister also

The chief minister

over 17,000 emergencies

cross KP in May

the newly merged districts.

minutes and 45 seconds.

stated DG Shah Fahad.

"Our teams are on high

aster or unforeseen emer-

Breakdown

Emergency

17,647 emergencies across Collapses 37, Crime-

all 34 districts of Khyber Related Incidents 396,

Crucially, the service main- interventions, Rescue 1122

tained an outstanding aver- personnel provided vital

age response time of just 6 medical aid and safely trans-

unwavering in its commit- Tragically, 511 individuals

ment to the people of succumbed to their injuries Khyber Pakhtunkhwa," despite rescue efforts.

alert 24/7, fully prepared to 1122 and acknowledged the

respond to any natural dis- provincial government's sup-

(May 2025), Medical Government is committed to

Emergencies 13,866, Traffic providing the Rescue service

"Rescue 1122 remains to hospitals for further care.

Pakhtunkhwa, including Other Emergencies, 611.

Answering media ques-Karachi, Gambat, Larkana, tions, CM announced that Tando Muhammad Khan, the Sindh provincial budget will be presented on June 13, 2025, with agriculture

Home

He also stressed the government has allocated need for provincial repre-100 acres of reclaimed land sentation in the managenear the Malir Expressway ment of K-Electric and in Karachi to develop an other power distribution Inclusive City — a compre- companies, citing conhensive environment for sumer interests and constitutional responsibility.

'The Sindh government feature inclusive schools, is interested in running rehabilitation complexes, HESCO and SEPCO under vocational training centres, a a public-private partnership model," he said, adding that discussions with the federal government are ongoing.

The event was attended several dignitaries, Special Assistant Rajveer "This city will be a Singh Sodha ditions such as autism and Down syndrome," said the chief minister during the chief minister dur

During these critical

ported 17,275 individuals*

ed the essential role of Rescue

port: "The services rendered

by Rescue 1122 are crucial

of for public safety. In recogni-

Responses tion of this, the Provincial

Building operational capabilities.

despite rescue efforts. DG Shah Fahad highlight-



LAHORE: Labourers are busy unloading iron bars from a trailer using a crane at their workplace. -APP Photo

Minister joins Italian Řepublic Day festivities

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Haroon, Minister of State/Special Assistant to celebration marking the National Day of the Italian Republic this evening at the Embassy of Italy in



The event, hosted by H.E. Marilina Armellin, Italy's Ambassador to Pakistan, brought together senior government officials, diplomats, business leaders, and members of communities. Mr. Haroon ment of Italy on the occa-sion of Festa della is committed to fulfilling The meeting Repubblica, which comthe Italian Republic on

"It was a pleasure to be part of this celebration," said Mr. Haroon. "Pakistan and Italy enjoy a long-standing friendship rooted in mutual respect, shared values, and meaningful cooperation. Events like these are a reminder of our growing partnership and the promise it holds for the future."

Pakistan and Italy have enjoyed over decades of diplomatic relations, with expanding collaboration across trade, education, climate action, innovation, and cultural exchange. Mr. Haroon also thanked Ambassador Armellin for her warm hospitality and reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to deepening bilateral ties

CM Maryam approves up to 40 pc relief in power tariffs in Punjab

Fahd LAHORE (APP): Punjab women voters, who turned The Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif chaired the the Prime Minister on Digital Media, attended the cial cabinet, here on Tuesday, where 101 agenda items were taken into consideration.

In a landmark decision,

the CM announced a reduction in electricity tariffs, offering up to 40 percent relief to consumers in the province. The initiative makes Punjab the first province to voluntarily reduce power tariffs. Acting on the Chief Minister's directives, the cabinet approved reduc-tions in electricity rates for Quaid-e-Azam Thermal Power Private Limited and Punjab Thermal Power Private Limited, aiming to ease the financial burden on citizens and lower electricity bills across the board.

During the meeting, the CM said that the people of Punjab have reposed their the cultural and media full trust in the leadership and governance of the this trust through perform- informed that Rs. 5,000 memorates the founding of ance-driven governance. per acre subsidy had Labour Department. The cabinet also congratulated the party on its 514,000 farmers, with payresounding victory in the recent Sambrial by-election, where the PML-N secured an overwhelming majority in 80 per of the rural constituencies. The victory was attributed to

out in large numbers.

lauded Provincial Minister Zeeshan Rafique and for the agriculture sector. Special Assistant Zeeshan Malik for their dedicated efforts in the election camprojects played a key role in mobilizing support. The cabinet was also briefed on several significant development initiatives across various sectors.

take necessary steps for the establishment of a medical commending the recent improvements in hospitals and road infrastructure in the region. A grant-in-aid of Rs. 400 million was approved for the Punjab Journalist Housing Foundation to facilitate payment to RUDA for the Lahore Press Club Housing Scheme Phase II.

In a major step for agriextended warm greetings to the people and govern-Nawaz (PML-N). She said culture, the CM announced a substantial support packculture, the CM announced

already been paid to ments to another 500,000 and Resource Centre farmers underway follow- Lahore Act 2025, with ing the completion of the clear instructions to admit verification process. Under all children without dis-Kisan Card initiative, Rs. ment of Nawaz Sharif 63 billion has been diswidespread public support, bursed, with farmers hav- was also approved, with

at in large numbers. approved the Chief CM Maryam Nawaz Minister Wheat Program 2025 to strengthen support

In the transport sector, the cabinet approved the launch of Punjab's first paign, noting that the "Air Punjab Private party's public welfare Limited" and set a one-year timeline for its commencement. Approval was also granted for the introduction of electric buses across nine divisions of Punjab, along with the construction of The CM directed the charging stations in major departments concerned to cities. Additionally, the cabinet endorsed the construction and upgradation college in Layyah, while of bus shelters in Lahore and the establishment of depots at Thokar Niaz Baig and the Railway Station.

The CM took serious notice of worker safety and directed the Labour Department to ensure the provision of safety gear for workers, especially those involved in high-risk jobs such as construction and sewer cleaning. She ordered strict implementation of safety protocols and approved the issuance of ration cards to workers and miners registered with the

The cabinet approved the Punjab Autism School the second phase of the crimination. The establish-Medical City in Lahore especially from the farming ing purchased fertilizers the transfer of land spancommunity, youth, and worth Rs. 18 billion so far. ning 5,000 kanals.

Thousands of workers to protest pension reforms, privatization

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR Muhammad Iqbal, Chairman of Pakistan Hydroelectric Workers Khyber Union Pakhtunkhwa, Provincial Secretary Noorul-Amin Haiderzai stated that on June 10, officials, workers, and thousands of

maintain oversight. Illegal cattle sale points have been swiftly removed from multiple locations including Shanghai Road Kamahan, Misri Shah, laborers from unions affiliated with All the Government Employees and Kotli Shadbagh, Ghasi. In addition to Coordination Council and the WAPDA Hydro Union enforcement, the district will fully participate in a administration has ensured high-quality facilities at authorised cattle markets. front of Parliament House,

pension reforms, privatiza- reconsider its decision to tion of national institu- privatize national institutions, the lack of job secu- tions, including WAPDA WAPDA rity for employees hired on as it is not in the country's a lump-sum salary, and the or the nation's interest. failure to increase wages for part-time workers.

They expressed these views during a meeting employees' salaries by with various delegations at 200% in line with inflathe Iqbal Labor Complex tion. on Ring Road, Peshawar,

the previous day.

They further stated that PESCO, HAZECO would join the sitprotest rally and sit-in in in Islamabad on June 10. Provincial Chairman

lamabad. Haji Muhammad Iqbal The protest is against urged the government to

government: Increase government

He demanded that the

Regularize employees hired on a lump-sum basis.

- Increase the wages of thousands of workers from part-time workers, similar TESCO, and to other companies. He warned that the sit-

in would continue until their demands are met.

Sindh wows support for **Motorway Police**

Chief Secretary Syed Asif Hyder Shah on Tuesday reaffirmed Sindh government's commitment to ensuring road safety, law enforcement, and protection of the public assets.

He assured the National Highway and Motorway Police (NHMP) of the Provincial government's full support and directed relevant provincial departments to coordinate closely with NHMP and NHA.

He expressed these views while chairing a meeting with Inspector General of National Highways and Motorway Police (NHMP) B.A. Nasir, who was accompanied by officers from the National Highways and Motorways Police South Region.

The meeting was also attended Secretary Excise Taxation, Secretary Transport, Works Implementation Coordination Department,

a communique said. The meeting focused on

enforcing the Axle Load Control Regime (ALCR) enhancing the vehicle inspection and certification process, and addressing the safety and operational challenges on national highways and motorways, particularly in Sindh.

During the meeting, one of the major issues raised was the illegal use of escape routes by transporters to avoid weighment at stations. NHMP shared that such routes, once identified, are

KARACHI (APP): Sindh reported to regional authori- included mandatory physical ties to block these loopholes. To counter resistance and ensure smooth enforcement, it was stressed that deployment of district and local police at weigh stations is essential. In response, the chief secretary informed that the provincial government is in the process of establishing 32 new weigh stations across various routes in Sindh.

meeting The reviewed the registration and follow-up of FIRs under NHSO-2000 and PPC sections 279 and 431 against vehicles violating axle load limits. Strict and consistent legal action was deemed essential to create deterrence and promote long-term compliance. The modernization of

vehicle fitness certification also came under discussion. Provincial transport authorities have been advised to adopt the VICS (Vehicle

inspection prior to certification, pasting of visible fitness stickers with OR codes and expiry dates on windscreens, and restricting old or mechanically unfit vehicles from entering highways. Another point of concern

was road blockades caused by political or social groups. The CS highlighted the economic and safety threats posed by such disruptions and directed the local administration to act swiftly in preventing or removing such obstacles.
The NHMP also raised

concerns about vandalism and theft of protective fencing installed along motorways. These fences are critical to preventing accidents by stopping stray animals and unauthorized access to carriageways. The need for stronger local police cooperation was emphasized, including the

children and their families. Parental Inspection and Certification registration of FIRs and Secretary training, counseling, and consistent Services, and Secretary System) model. Key points recovery of stolen materials. ents receive continuous guidance

TENDER NOTICE No. 01/2025 01. Sealed bids are invited from the firms registered with FBR & other Govt. Departments, for supply of Stationery and Hygienic Items on FOR Atomic Energy Cancer Hospital (DINAR), D.I.Khar 02. Complete/detailed specifications and terms and conditions of the bids are available in tender documents, which will be ssued upon written request & provision of NTN/ GST registered firms. The tender documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office timings from 0800 to 1400 hours (Monday to Saturday) on payment of Rs.500/- being tender fee non-refundable) in cash or bank draft in the name of Head

AO, DINAR, D.I.Khan. 03. The sealed bids must reach the undersigned on or before 25-06-2025 upto 1130 Hrs. and will be opened at 1200 Hrs on same day. The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders.

> Incharge Procurement, DINAR Ph: 0966-747127

Paraplegic Center celebrates recovery of over 5,000 Children

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Paraplegic Center Peshawar (PCP) marked World Clubfoot Day with a simple, impressive and emotionally moving ceremony.

It was attended by children undergoing treatment, their parents, medical experts and support staff. On this occasion Dr. Syed Muhammad Ilyas, CEO PCP, distributed gifts and sweets among the children as chief guest and cut a special cake with a young girl who had recently completed treatment. The cake symbolized the recovery of 5,071 children who have been successfully treated for congenital clubfoot deformity.

Dr. Ilyas Syed paid glowing tributes to the dedication, professionalism and compassionate spirit of the medical and technical teams working in the Clubfoot Clinics. He emphasized that PCP is not merely a medical institution but a great mission of humanitarian service, an embodiment of hope. "Nations that understand their problems and seek lasting solutions progress," he remarked, "and PCP is a living example of this very philosophy."

was initiated in 2018 with the supof the Red Cross (ICRC) and later geons and trained staff, while par-



expanded in 2022 through a partnership with the global organization MiracleFeet. This collaboration not only enhanced the standard of care to international levels but also paved the way for establishing multiple new centers across the country. He explained that PCP has developed a comprehensive system, aligned with global standards, for the treatment of

children born with clubfoot. The treatment is provided completely free of cost, including travel expenses for families coming from remote areas. The highly successful Ponseti Method is employed, which in most cases avoid surgical inter-He said that the Clubfoot Program vention. Each child is individually assessed by a team of pediatricians, port of the International Committee physiotherapists, orthopedic sur-

and education throughout the treatment process.

Dr. Ilyas also announced the expansion of services, stating that two new Clubfoot Clinics are being established in Gilgit and Bannu with the support of MiracleFeet. These new centers will enable local children to receive timely and quality care without burdening families with the cost and difficulty of longdistance travel. He further noted that Clubfoot Clinics under PCP's supervision are operating successfully in multiple cities including Peshawar, Abbottabad, Haripur, Swat, Swabi,

Islamabad and Azad Kashmir. These centers have become a beacon of hope for children suffering from this deformity, offering not just

support to families as well. Dr. Ilyas Syed shared his vision to replicate this model in more districts of KP and in major cities across Pakistan, ensuring that every child, regardless of region, has the opportunity to live a dignified, disability-free life.

Dr. Aamir Zaib, Director

medical treatment but psychological

with Italy.

Rehabilitation and Program Coordinator, highlighted that PCP gives equal importance to physical rehabilitation and the emotional and psychological strengthening of both follow-up are distinguishing features of PCP's Clubfoot Clinics. Parents attending the event

expressed heartfelt gratitude to PCP and MiracleFeet, stating that the gift of saving their children from lifelong disability is beyond words They prayed for the continued success, growth and well-being of the institution and its staff, and said they consider the center an extension of their own family.

In this spirit, the World Clubfoot Day celebration at Paraplegic Center Peshawar was more than just an annual event, it was a reaffirmation of the center's unwavering resolve to set children's feet straight and lead them toward lives of dignity, building a Pakistan free from disability.



Peshawar City The Frontier Post

Kundi lauds Rotary Club's welfare initiatives

emphasizes collaboration for polio eradication

Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday praised

The delegation briefed the Governor on Rotary's wide-ranging initiatives the critical need for clean including promotion of drinking water in the education through school renovation, provision of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, paruniforms, bags, and furniticularly in the Daman ture for students, maternal areas, and termed water filand child health programs, tration projects essential training of lady health for the area. workers, and tree planta-

Special focus was given Boolani, ship programs, and revital- empowerment, across the province.

mended Rotary's contribu- ties. tions and emphasized the need to engage all seg- ciated Serena Hotels' ments of society in the efforts in promoting social

fight against polio. tance of adopting a strategy able progress is impossible that encourages parents to without including women voluntarily vaccinate their and youth in the national children and proposed mainstream. improving health centers to He hig make them more effective importance of cultural ini- Balochistan and members MPA Ali Madad Jatak, and

approach, the Governor's stressed the need to utilize approving a resolution to their support.

(APP): House has appointed a every platform to promote rename paigns across the province. ty.

Governor Kundi also the efforts of Rotary Club welcomed enhanced coop-International in the fields eration between Rotary of health, education, and Club and the Red Crescent, social welfare during a aiming to develop a strong meeting with a Rotary del- and sustainable partnership egation led by Shabbir that can be expanded to Malik at the Governor other social welfare pro-

> He further highlighted southern districts

Meanwhile, CEO of Serena Hotels, Aziz met with to Rotary's role in the Governor Faisal Karim ongoing polio eradication Kundi at the Governor campaign, empowerment House to discuss mutual of women through fellow- interests including women ization of basic health units engagement in national development, and the pro-Governor Kundi com- motion of cultural activi-

Governor Kundi appredevelopment and harmony, He stressed the impor- emphasizing that sustain-

He highlighted the Chief tiatives in fostering unity of To ensure a coordinated and interfaith harmony, and Assembly for unanimously Balochistan Assembly for

focal person for polio cam- Pakistan's cultural diversi-

Aziz Boolani briefed the International Airport. Governor on Serena Hotels' ongoing social and cultural collaborate on future joint Raza

programs and events. Khan Miankhel, MNA termed an injustice. Noor Alam Khan, former Federal Najmuddin Khan, and joining

discussed key including the recent visit of that the federal government Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal General Hafiz Syed Asim Munir to Peshawar, the overall law and order situation in the province, ongo- February 20, 2025. ing political activities, and

interest. backing renaming of resolution. Islamabad Airport after

Benazir Bhutto Governor Pakhtunkhwa, Karim Kundi, on Tuesday Provincial Minister Bakht expressed gratitude to the Muhammad Kakar who Chief Minister of presented the resolution the

International Airport as Shaheed Benazir Bhutto

In a statement, Governor Kundi recalled that in projects and 2008, then Prime Minister expressed willingness to of Pakistan, Syed Yousaf Gillani,

announced the renaming of Similarly, Governor Islamabad International Faisal Karim Kundi in a Airport in honor of the late meeting with Chairman of Benazir Bhutto for her the National Assembly services to the nation. Standing Committee on However, the name was Defence Sardar Fatehullah later changed, which he

praised Minister Balochistan Assembly for Šindh the MPA Iqbal Wazir at the Assembly in passing a Governor House Peshawar unanimous resolution, callissues ing it a "national voice' Minister must heed. Governor Kundi had

Cardiology (PIC).

F.P. Report

previously made this demand in a written letter to the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan on

He also discussed the other matters of mutual matter with Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Governor KP thanks Bugti during a recent meet-Balochistan Assembly for ing, urging support for the

Lauding the step taken on May 26, Governor Khyber Kundi thanked Chief street crimes especially targeting journalists in the Faisal Minister Sarfraz Bugti ing, vehicle and motorcycle in the city. thefts, and other forms of armed robbery. Balochistan all members of the



PESHAWAR: KP Advisor on Health, Ihtesham Ali, paid a detailed visit to the Peshawar Institute of

KhUJ expresses concern

They revealed that journalists are frequently being The union reported that deprived of their mobile numerous journalists have phones, cash, motorcycles, fallen victim to such inci- and cars, with no arrests or dents this year, yet police recoveries made by law authorities have shown no enforcement agencies to tangible progress in appredate thus sparking wide-hending the culprits or spread concern across the

recovering stolen property.

In a joint press statement

The union issued by KhUJ President revealed that on Tuesday Kashif-ud-Din Syed and street criminals snatched General Secretary Irshad the mobile phone of Nasir Ali, the union highlighted Naeem, General a recent protest organized

provincial capital, includ- the rising frequency of Secretary of the Video ing mobile phone snatch- attacks against journalists Journalists' Association, and fled the scene.

President Kashif-ud-Din Syed stated that journalists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, particularly in Peshawar, are increasingly becoming the targets of both criminal gangs and influential groups.

He criticized the apparent inaction of law enforcefurther ment agencies, describing it

as a serious failure. ment mentioned that during

the Pakistan Peoples Party, a video journalist's motorcycle was stolen. In other incidents earlier this year, two journalists had their vehicles stolen, while several others were robbed at gunpoint of cash and valuable belongings-yet none of the perpetrators have been brought to jus-

The KhUJ has called on the Inspector General of Pakhtunkhwa, the Capital Police Officer (CČPO), and the SSP Operations to take immediate action.

They demanded the prompt arrest of all those involved in these crimes, including those who target-Additionally, the state- ed Nasir Naeem, and the recovery of the stolen valu-

PHC seeks response against poor sanitation services

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: A two-member bench of Peshawar Sabzali Town on Warsak High Court (PHC) compris- Road, on Tuesday. ing Justice Naeem Anwar has sought a response from while the Government, CEO WSSCP, court that the residents of Tehsil Municipal Officer, Sabzali Town are facing

The writ petition filed by Local Advocate, informed the

petition filed over the poor debris due to excavations no action has been taken, sanitation conditions in for water and gas pipeline forcing the petitioner to replacements, posing health approach the court. risks to the residents.

and Justice Farah Jamshid, Muhammad Riaz Advocate argued that it is the respon- notices to the respondents, petitioner's sibility of the authorities to seeking their response and the provincial government, lawyer, Umar Farooq ensure a clean and healthy directing them to ensure environment for their citi-

and Deputy Commissioner severe sanitation issues, multiple representations to a risk of spreading diseases.

Peshawar regarding a writ and the area is littered with the concerned departments,

After hearing the initial The petitioner's lawyer arguments, the court issued cleanliness and a healthy environment in the area, as He stated that despite the current conditions pose

Education Dept applauded for dialogue with youth leaders on girls education

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: A meeting was convened today at the Pakhtunkhwa Secretariat between the Elementary and Secondary Education Department (E&SED) and members of the Rise and Shine Girls' Education Leadership Network. The engagement riences and concerns regarding access to quality tion sector. education.

department,

Muhammad Alam



provided a platform for the firming the government's girl leaders from secondary commitment to inclusive schools to voice their expe-policy dialogue and youth participation in the educa-

During the session, girl Key officials from the students of secondary level including who are members of the Special Rise and Shine network Secretary (Establishment), highlighted critical barriers Minister, Fiaz Alam - school infrastructure gaps, engagement: Special Secretary (Reforms teacher shortages, and gen-Implementation), der-sensitive facilities.

The

interventions to improve infrastructure, school strengthen teacher recruit-

alized

Development Goal Quality Education. Abdul Basit, Special Ijaz Muhammad Khalil - to girls' education in their Secretary (Establishment), Planning communities, including emphasized the depart-Officer/Advisor to the lack of transportation, ment's openness to youth

ment and training, and

'Today's dialogue is a Girls' strong reminder that girls Leadership E&SED team are not just beneficiaries of Planning Officer, and briefed the students on the policy but critical partners thanks to the department Shahabullah Khan - Senior department's priorities and in shaping it. Their voices for creating a space where Planning Officer, were in-line policy directions for must remain central to our young girls could speak Planning Officer, were in-line policy directions for must remain central to our present and actively listened to the students, reaf
Which include targeted reform processes."

which include targeted reform processes."

which include targeted reform processes."

young girls could speak openly and be heard with respect.

digital marketing, e-com-Alkhidmat Foundation's kakakhel, Director Bano unteers, and partner organimerce, and web development. The program aims to Khalid Waqas, presided Izzat, provincial head Islami tive possible.

Ijaz Muhammad Khalil. Senior Planning Officer Advisor to Minister, added:

We are committed to translating young people's insights into tangible insights into tangible action. These interactions strengthen our resolve to make policy more responsive and data-driven.'

Quratulain, a member of the Rise and Shine Girls' Education Leadership

Network, said: "It was powerful to be heard by those in charge of expand access for margincommunities-all education policy. Our lived aligned with Sustainable experiences carry solutions, and we hope the department will walk with us to turn challenges into opportunities for all girls in

> At the close of the meeting, the Rise and Shine Education Network extended a heartfelt vote of

Registrar Endocrinology at HMC Humayun Khan

PESHAWAR: Khyber Tribunal has halted the writ petition filed by Dr. final appointment of

A three-member tribu- nation in 2007.

response from the hospi- er has an excellent med-Peshawar Board exami- ered.

alleged that despite being not an expert in diabetes. Specialist Registrar During the hearing, the most suitable candi-Endocrinology at her lawyer, Barrister date, Dr. Sana's applica-Hayatabad Medical Huzaifa, informed the tion for the Specialist Complex and sought a tribunal that the petition- Registrar Endocrinology administration to halt the tal administration regard- ical career and secured a hospital administration ing the matter, on prominent position in the in 2024 was not consid- Endocrinology

Barrister

He claimed that the them.

nal, headed by Chairman She later joined hospital administration's MTI Tribunal Justice Khyber Medical College intention was to appoint The Retired Abdul Shakoor, and obtained FCPS their preferred candi-Pakhtunkhwa comprising members degrees in Medicine in dates, and to achieve Teaching Mansoor Tariq and Abdul 2021 and Endocrinology (MTI) Ghafur Qureshi, heard the in 2024. members degrees in Medicine in dates, and to achieve Huzaifa interview panel who was

> post advertised by the final appointment of Specialist sought a response from

Over 10,000 students complete online courses

MTI Tribunal halts appointment of

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: In a major step toward combating youth unemployment, more Khyber Pakhtunkhwa successfully completed digital skills training under the of Alkhidmat tiative Foundation.

The first phase of the Bano Qabil centers. four-month program concluded this week, with stu-

equip young people with in- over the event. Mr. Jamiat Talaba, and Mr. demand skills for the online economy.

the course completions were than 10,000 students across held across the province in cities such as Peshawar, Abbottabad, Swat, Buner, Bannu, Dir (Upper and Bano Qabil program, an ini- Lower), and Charsadda. These events were organized at Alkhidmat's local

A major ceremony took place at the Khyber Union dents receiving training in Hall of Islamia College 16 online courses, including University Peshawar, where

Zareefulmani, Managing Owais Bilal, Principal Ceremonies celebrating Foundation, attended as the

chief guest. The event aimed to recthousands of young participants who completed marskills courses, all provided free of cost.

Final exams were also nomic independence. conducted during the cere-

Director Khyber Education Professional Academy of Commerce (PAC).

Speakers emphasized the critical role of youth educaognize the achievements of tion in national development. They praised the Bano Qabil program for ket-relevant IT and digital empowering the next generation with practical skills and opening doors to eco-

The graduates were conmony for the students. gratulated on their success, Among the notable guests and special thanks were were Mian Sohaib ud Din extended to the trainers, vol-

UoP hosts final year Project Innovation Summit 2025

Summit 2025 was held on tions and pitching ses-Tuesday under the aussions. A total of 27 inter-Incubation Center (BIC) at presented, spanning fields University Peshawar. The event show- Artificial creativity, Green research capabilities, and entrepreneurial spirit of EdTech, and Sustainable graduating students.

The Chief Guest on the occasion was Abdul Karim the projects based on inno- ing in the Gujjar Garhi Shaping a Sustainable Tordher, Special Assistant vation, feasibility, sustainto the Chief Minister ability, and social impact. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on

The one-day summit

of such AgriTech, Intelligence, Circular Economy, Design.

Expert panels evaluated

In his address, Mr. Tordher emphasized bridg-More than 500 particiing the gap between acadepants including students, mia and industry, especialfaculty members, industri- ly in the face of rapidly development evolving technological experts, and government trends.He noted that uni- provincial government is social impact was presentofficials attended the sum- versity students can play a mit, which took place pivotal role in this regard tating cottage industries Prominent attendees Dr. Hashim within the premises of the by turning their creative and small businesses included Mr. Sajid Hussain educationist), Incubation work into practical solu-

form for students to exhib- tion as a key to success in government, he affirmed, PESHAWAR: The Final it their final year projects the modern age, stating recognizes and appreciates Year Project Innovation through live demonstra- that despite decades of youth-driven innovation in adversity and terrorism, science and technology the youth of Khyber and is committed to pices of the Business disciplinary projects were Pakhtunkhwa continue to encouraging such initiawork hard and serve their tives. province across all sectors. He encouraged students to a welcome address by Dr. Construction, leverage their skills and Shakeel Khan, Head of the academic qualifications for Business real-world impact.

area of Mardan, Mr. Future,' Tordher highlighted the panel need for collaboration "How Industry Can between PhD scholars, Benefit from University actively working on facili- ed.

provided a high-level plat- importance of digitaliza- islation. The provincial

The event also featured Center. A keynote speech Referring to highly was delivered on "The skilled technicians work- Role of Innovation in followed by a discussion titled engineers, and local crafts- Talent." Additionally, a men to modernize machin- documentary video showery and enhance productiv- casing selected student ity. He noted that the projects and their potential

He underscored the Social Responsibility leg- Dr. Taza Gul (Director, Executive



attendees Dr. Hashim (renowned Mr.

Abdur

Science & Technology), Chamber of Commerce), Group), Mr. Irfan (Dosti Consultant), among others. Rehman Foundation), Mr. Waleed Ms. (Islamic Relief), Mr. Paracha (Director, Arfa ects were awarded cash through loan programs, as Shah (Director General, Quratulain (CEO, AIN Faheem Hayat (District Karim Incubation Center), prizes of PKR 30,000, well as drafting Corporate Science & Technology), Consultants and former Youth Officer), Mr. Ayub and Ms. Karishma PKR 10,000, and PKR Member, Zakori (CEO, Zakori Zakaullah (World Bank 10,000 respectively.

Three outstanding proj-



In brief

Woman killed officer injured F.P. Report

gunmen shot and seriously injured PPHI admin officer Nabi Bhutto for resisting during a robbery in Sachal Colony, Sachal Police Station limits of Larkana city. On receiving information, the police reached the spot and ascertained the details and shifted the injured to the trauma center for treatment, where he was given medical assistance When contacted, Sachal police said that the PPHI admin officer had been robbed. An investigation has been started into the incident. The culprits will be arrested soon and brought to court. On the other hand, in the limits of Haidari Police Station, near village Ghulam Bhutto in Larkana city, gunmen opened fire on a car of relatives returning from Vanwah to their village, resulting in the death of a weak woman, Badar-un-Nisa, while a young woman, Safia Bhutto, was seriously injured due to the gunshot wound and was shifted to the trauma center for treatment. Meanwhile, residents of different areas of Larkana city protested strongly outside the Empire Sub-Division office against electricity load shedding and sat on a sit-in after raising

Ex-police officer martyred F.P. Report

slogans against the SEPCO administration.

SIALKOT: In the area of Kotli Gul Muhammad, within the jurisdiction of Kamonki Sadar Police Station, gunfire was exchanged between the Anti-Narcotics Force and drug dealers, resulting in four deaths. A retired police officer, Tanveer, was caught in the crossfire while leaving his residence with his sister. He was fatally shot on the spot, while his injuries. During the exchange of fire, three dealers were killed, while three of their accomplices managed to escape. A large contingent police Gujranwala

arrived and secured the

TikToker Sana's killer arrested F.P. Report

FAISALABAD: The accused involved in the killing of popular TikToker Sana Yousuf in Islamabad has been arrested by the police from Faisalabad on Tuesday. The police have also succeeded in recovering the weapon (a pistol) from the custody of the accused person. As per the channel report, on the complaint of the mother, an FIR has already been registered at Islamabad's Sambal Police Station in the tragic murder case of popular TikToker Sana Yousuf. According to the FIR, around 5 PM, an unidentified man forcibly entered the 17-year-old social influencer's home in Islamabad. He was dressed in a black shirt and trousers and was armed with a pistol. Sana Yousuf's mother stated that at the time of the incident, her husband was not at home, and her 15-year-old son had travelled to Chitral village. She reported that the intruder entered room Sana's opened fire with clear intent to kill. The assailant shot Sana twice before fleeing the scene as the family raised the alarm. Sana immediately rushed to the hospital in a neighbour's car, but she succumbed to her injuries en route. The grieving mother noted that her daughter was a well-known social media influencer with a strong following.

Emergency Care Day observed at KUST



Sahibzada Afridi

KOHAT: Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST) observed Emergency Care Day with the aim of highlighting the impor-tance of timely response, basic first aid, and awareness in emergency situations.

Chancellor Professor Dr. Syed Zafar Ilyas emphasized the need for immediate and effective action during emergencies and stressed the importance of first aid training. Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Naseeruddin noted that such initiatives not only provide practical knowledge but also cultivate a sense of social responsibility among students.

Chairman of the Department of Emergency Care Technology, Dr. Fawad Ali, stated that this day serves as a reminder faculty and students. that every individual can

lives through timely action. The event was organized under the supervision of Dr. Fanous Hayat, Lecturer and Event Department of Emergency Care Technology, who

ready to assist at all times. campus: Kohat University administration and faculty of Science and Technology (KUST) Vice Chancellor ing staff, he listened to their Professor Dr. Syed Zafar concerns, suggestions, and Ilyas, paid a detailed visit to the university's Hangu

remain alert, calm, and

Administration Habib, Protocol Officer and other critical matters-Asim Shah, and Director would be addressed on a Works Altaf Hussain. The priority basis. Dr. Zafar purpose of the visit was to review academic and commitment to working administrative activities with local representatives and to engage directly with to elevate the Hangu

play a vital role in saving Chancellor was warmly the future.

received by the Director Hangu Campus, Dr. Waheedullah, who briefed the delegation on various Manager, departments, academic Emergency progress, and ongoing developmental initiatives at encouraged participants to the campus.

During his visit, the Vice ady to assist at all times. Chancellor appreciated the VC visits KUST Hangu efforts of the campus In a meeting with the teachviews on the future of the campus. He assured them Campus. He was accompa-nied by Registrar Mr. Rauf as salaries for contract-Director based faculty, engagement Asad during summer vacations, Ilyas also expressed his Campus to the status of a Upon arrival, the Vice full-fledged university in

Public support for Pak Army echoed in Jirga

Haleem Asad

LOWER DIR: A combined Malik jirga of local elders, officials and personnel of for the armed forces.

Commandant Brigadier jirga as a special guest. Participants raised powerful slogans in support of the Pakistan Army and marked the occasion as a moment of national pride and cele-

former nazim Habibur would continue. A special resolved promptly.

Malik Fazl Nawab, and the safety of the country Malik Aftab Hayat and the protection of the Aftab expressed unwavering sup- armed forces. port for the armed forces. Pakistan army was held in They pledged to stand ed: Residents of Danwa Khal, to celebrate Pakistan shoulder to shoulder with staged a protest against pro-

Army's success against the military in defending longed power outages and India in Operation Bunyan the country and maintain- low voltage, bringing trafun Marsos. The event ing peace in the region. The fic to a halt on the main brought together local eld- elders emphasized their Timergara-Chitral Road. ers and representatives of commitment to resisting various political parties in a terrorism and ensuring that the show of unity and support no disruptive elements would be allowed to disturb Dir the local peace.

public in supporting security efforts. "With the cooperation of the local people, Speaking on the occa- adding that the collabora-

Rehman, Malik Faramosh, prayer was also offered for

Power outages protest-Chanting slogans against

Peshawar Electric Supply Company (Pesco), the demonstrators blocked the road for some time, Brigadier Sanaullah, in refusing to clear the way Sanaullah, attended the his address, acknowledged despite repeated requests the vital role played by the from drivers and commuters

The protest leaders later held negotiations with the the security forces have local administration, after restored exemplary peace which the protesters dis-in Lower Dir," he said, persed peacefully. However, they warned that sion, local elders including tion between security they would return to the Malik Muhammad Zaib, forces and the community streets if the issue was not

Almost 60 projects displayed at Air University Kamra

ATTOCK: As many as 60 innovative projects developed by undergraduate students from diverse academic disciplines, includ-Aviation Management, Business Administration, Computer Science, Cyber Security, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering were showcased during the first open house of Air University Aerospace and Aviation Campus, Kamra. The event witnessed vibrant participation from all departments and provided students with an invaluable opportunity to network directly with industry leaders. It served as a platform for future collaborations, internships, and employment opportunities.

The event drew participation from over 100 representatives of leading companies, industries, and organizations, providing a dynamic platform for students to present their innovative ideas and research-driven solutions to potential employers, entrepreneurs, and technical experts. The exhibition was honoured by the presence of Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd), CEO Aerospace Design and Innovation Center Kamra, as the chief guest. He was accompanied by the Chief of Pakistan Aeronautical Complex Kamra and various Managing Directors and CEOs from different factories and companies. Following the arrival of the distinguished guests, the exhibition was formally inaugurated.

In his welcome address, Campus Director Air vice Marshal Shams ul Ĥaq (Retd) highlighted the achievements of Air University Kamra Campus and emphasized the importance of strengthening the connection between academic innovation and industry needs. He expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu for introducing the Triple Helix Model as a significant initiative to promote strong academia-industry linkages in Aviation City Kamra. "The purpose of Aviation City Kamra. "The purpose of Sheikh Fakhar Hassan, Mumtaz Hussain, today's exhibition is to provide our graduating students with a platform to display their employee Muhammad Saeed Siddiqui, and creativity and problem-solving capabilities other staff members were also present.

to the wider academic and professional community," he noted. He also shared that more than 900 students are currently enrolled across various faculties, benefiting from state-of-the-art academic and research facilities.

In his address, Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd) expressed his appreciation for the quality of education and technical proficiency demonstrated by the students. "This open house exhibition reflects the high standards of academic and technological excellence that Air University strives to uphold. The creative and research-oriented projects displayed here are a testament to the students' potential to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan's socio-economic progress. All students and faculty should benefit from the unique close proximity of the aviation industry, R&D set-up and academia" he said.

Pakistan Post signs MoU: Director General of Pakistan Post, Samiullah Khan, has stated that Pakistan Post will soon implement revolutionary changes across all post offices and branches in the country as a result of an agreement with a Korean bank. These changes will not only provide better facilities than private courier services but also offer various other services to citizens. He said that Pakistan Post will compete with private companies in sectors including com-

He expressed these views during his first official visit to Attock after being promoted to Grade 22 and assuming charge as DG of Pakistan Post, Islamabad. On this occasion, Postmaster General Northern Punjab Circle Rawalpindi Faisal Tahseen, Senior Postmaster GPO Attock Fida Hussain, Deputy Postmaster Counter GPO Attock Haji Azizullah, Deputy Postmaster National GPO Attock Imtiaz Ahmad, Deputy Postmaster Delivery GPO Attock Altaf Hussain, Deputy Postmaster Savings Tahir Khan, GPO Attock's Sheikh Aamir Latif,

SNGPL to provide uninterrupted gas to domestic consumer F.P. Report

HAFIZABAD: District Incharge of Sui Gas, Adeel Ashraf, has announced that, in accordance with the directives of the govern-ment and Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL), uninterrupted gas supply will be ensured for domestic consumers throughout the three days of Eid ul-Adha.

He stated that gas will be available without disruption during the key hours of morning, afternoon, evening, and night, allowing households to carry out their Eid-related cooking and other domestic activities with ease and conven-

District In-charge of Sui Gas added that the initiative is part of SNGPL's commitment to facilitating its domestic consumers by providing maximum utility support during national and religious occasions. He assured that gas supply will remain consistent and reliable across the Eid holidays to prevent any inconven-

SNGPL officials have also reiterated their readiness to address any technical issues that may arise, with monitoring teams and emergency staff on alert throughout the holiday period.

Mock operation for flood season held: To ensure readiness for potential flooding during the monsoon season, the district administration of Hafizabad, along with Rescue 1122 and other relevant departments, conducted the second mock flood response drill in the River Chenab area.

Deputy Commissioner Abdul Razzaq inspected the exercise and reviewed the emergency equipment, relief supplies, and pre-paredness of all depart-ments. District Emergency Officer Muhammad Adnan Nawaz stated that all departments are fully prepared to deal with any flood emergency. Rescue 1122 is equipped with boats, life jackets, tents, and other essential gear, while the health and livestock departments have adequate stocks of medirines and supplies.

Kuli Katcheri held : In line with the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, an Court (Khuli Open Katcheri) was held at the District Complex Hafizabad to address public grievances related to revenue matters. Deputy Commissioner Hafizabad Abdul Razzaq, presided over the session and attentively listened to the complaints presented by citizens, issuing on-the-spot orders for their prompt resolution.

Also present at the event were Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Tanveer Yaseen, Assistant Commissioner Salman Akbar, along with officials the Revenue from Department, Land Record Center, and other concerned departments.

Commissioner chairs meeting F.P. Report

KOHAT: Commissioner Kohat Syed Motasim Billah Shah held a highlevel meeting to consider comprehensive arrangements related to law and order, cleanliness and public facilities on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioners. District Police Officers and officers of the concerned departments of all the five districts through Video Link. Commissioner Kohat

directed all the Deputy Commissioners and DPOs to take special measures on various important issues on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, including establishment of law and order. effective implementation of Section 144, security of Paradigm Eidgahs and Mosques. improvement of cleanliness in Bazaars and Parks and availability of staff and supply of medicines in the hospitals. He further directed that implementation of transports government fares, fitness certificate for parks and uninterrupted communities. supply of petrol should be made possible at petrol pumps during the Eid

Holidays.

Cheques of Shuhada package distributed



F.P. Report

LANDI KOTAL: A police martyr package of ten million rupees and half million rupees as medical aid were embraced martyrdom in distributed among the deserving ones here in police line, Shahkas, Jamrud district last day.

In this connection a simole gathering was organized in the office of District Police Officer (DPO) Khyber that was attended by DPO Rai Mazahar Iqbal official and eligible police the police and their families on merit.

The district police high-up gave away a cheque of ten million rupees to the heir of a Shaheed police who Tirah Valley and 0.570 million rupees to a number of police officials from across the district in the form of medical aid.

in the form of health and education. He maintained that all initiatives would be adopted for the wellbeing of the police to make them free of their families' anxiety so that they could execute their duties without fear and dedication.

Heirs of martyrs were part of the police depart-Speaking on the occament and they would sion DOP, Rai Mazhar never be left alone, he Iqbal said that welfare of vowed. He appreciated the the police officials was the efficiency of the police priority of the department welfare disk, Khyber and as chief guest besides relatives of a martyred police port would be extended to directed them to ensure dealing of all applications

Section 144 imposed to ensure public safety

Anees Takar

MARDAN: The Deputy Commissioner of Mardan, Dr. Azmat Ullah Wazir, has enforced Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.) across the district to prevent any untoward incidents during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha celebrations. This emergency order, issued notification comes in response to a formal request from the District Police Officer of Mardan citing security and safety concerns.

The official order outlines a comprehensive ban on several activities considone-wheeling and overspeeding on roads, pillion riding on motorcycles, use of tinted glasses on vehicles, the sale of toy guns and firecrackers, the movement of suspicious vehicles and the public display of

weapons. Deputy Commissioner emphasized that these measures are necessary to maintain peace and security during the Eid holidays when large gatherings and increased public movement are expected. The notification warns that anyone found violating this order will face legal action under Section 188 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), which deals with disobedience to lawful orders issued by public authorities.

effect and will remain in modern,

Eid-ul-Azha 2025. Copies of the order have enforcement officials, the including Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

Commissioner Regional Police Officer of Division, the Police Officer, Mardan District Assistant Commissioners of Mardan, Takht Bhai, Katlang and Rustam, as well as the Assistant Director of Information to ensure wide publicity of the

ered potentially harmful to reiterated his commitment tions. public order and safety. to ensuring a peaceful and These include the setting up safe Eid for the residents of the community during the festive season. Several solarization

projects inaugurated at govt offices: Member National Assembly (MNA) Ali Muhammad Khan formally inaugurated the project of installing solar energy systems in various offices and police stations of Mardan Police. District Police Officer Mardan was also present on the occa-The inauguration cere-

inaugurated the mony solarization of DPO Office Mardan, Control Room Police Lines Mardan, Takht Bhai Police Station and Shergarh Police Station. The aim of these projects is The ban takes immediate to make the police system environment-

gy problems. MNA Ali Muhammad Khan said that been dispatched to key the installation of solar administrative and law energy systems is an important step to improve the performance of Mardan Police and bring it in line with modern requirements.

DPO Mardan said that providing reliable sources of energy for the police force was a major requirement, which is now being practically fulfilled. He said that the solar system will keep offices and police stations functional 24/7, which will ensure continuity and effective surveil-Dr. Azmat Ullah Wazir lance in anti-crime opera-

Mayor chairs LG members meeting: A meeting of of illegal cattle markets, Mardan. He urged citizens aerial firing, swimming in to cooperate with the rivers, dams and ponds, authorities and respect the by Mayor Mardan restrictions which have Himayatullah Mayar, disbeen put in place to protect cussed the construction of 80-kilometer-long sewer lines in 6 union councils of Mardan City (Hoti, Gali Bagh, Bari Cham, Bicket Gunj, Muslimabad and Roriya) a sewage treatment plant connected to Bacha Khan Road Mayar at a cost of about Rs 12 billion, which will solve the longstanding problem hygiene and cleanliness.

> for the houses will be met from the sewer line while funds will also be provided and approval will be taken from the relevant forums to separate the water and gas pipelines from the sewer lines. In this way, the ongoing work will be completed before Eid, so that the public does not suffer. The remaining work will

The expenses of KP SEP

Students should amplify voices for Kashmir

F.P. Report

MIRPUR: Former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and senior diplomat Sardar Masood Khan has urged students to leverage digital technology to become powerful advocates for justice in longstanding global conflicts like Kashmir and Palestine. Speaking at a packed auditorium at the Mirpur University of Science and Technology (MUST), Khan emphasized the need for an informed and strategic approach to international human rights and diploma-

Addressing a conference titled "Wayforward to Resolving Kashmir and Palestine", organized by Association, Khan highlighted the pivotal role of youth in the digital era. He called on students to critically examine global issues, develop a deep understanding of international law and human rights, and act as strong voices for oppressed

In a wide-ranging address, Khan provided historical context and analysis of current geopo-

Kashmir and Palestine, al affairs. shedding light on military occupations, human rights violations, and the erosion stressed the urgent need for peaceful, intelligent, and strategic diplomatic and academic efforts to resolve these crises.

"Universities must rise ing capable, visionary leaders who not only understand global complexities but are also prepared to engage in constructive dialogue," Khan stated. He urged educational institutions to cultivate leadership qualities, promote intellectual engagement, and prepare students to become responsible global citizens.

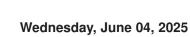
Khan praised the efforts of Paradigm Association President Abdullah Qureshi and his team for nurturing social awareness and intellectual development among students. In his welcome remarks, MUST Chancellor Brig. (R) Prof. Dr. Muhammad Younus Javed, S.I. (M), underacademic events in broadening students' perspec-

litical developments in both cal thinking on internation-

The event concluded with a dynamic Q&A seswhere students sion, of civil liberties. He engaged in thought-prodialogue voking Kashmir, Palestine, diplomacy, and youth leadership. Khan responded to each question with insight and depth, providing clarity on to the challenge of produc- complex issues. He was later presented with a commemorative shield by the university as a token of appreciation.

intellectually This enriching gathering served as a powerful reminder that youth are not only capable of shaping global discourse but can also become symbols of international solidarity in the quest for justice and peace.

In a separate interview with a private Pakistani television channel, Khan emphasized the importance of international response to India's aggressive actions in Kashmir. He noted that Pakistan's diplomatic mission is currently engaging with the Organisation of scored the importance of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) United and Security Council members tives and encouraging critito highlight its stance.





GAZA STRIP: People looking for survivors after an Israeli attack that hit the home of the al-Bursh

Ukraine's drone attack sends critical message to Russia

KYIV (BBC): It's hard to exaggerate the sheer audacity - or ingenuity - that an incredible figure." It is hard to follows." very least, a spectacular propaganda

it with other notable military successes since Russia's full-scale invasion, including the sinking of the flagship of Russia's Black Sea fleet, the Moskva, and the bombing of the Kerch Bridge, both in 2022, as well as a missile attack on Sevastopol harbour the following year. Judging by details leaked to the media by Ukraine's military intelligence, the SBU, the latest operation is the most operation said to have taken 18 months to prepare, scores of small drones were smuggled into Russia, stored in special compartments least four separate locations, thou-

told Ukrainian TV. "These strategic bombers are capatold Svyatoslav, "is that the telling Russia, and the Trump adminble of launching long-range strikes Americans have convinced themistration, not to dismiss Kyiv's

went into Ukraine's countrywide assess the damage, but Ukrainian milassault on Russia's air force. We can- itary blogger Öleksandr Kovalenko not possibly verify Ukrainian claims says that even if the bombers, and that the attacks resulted in \$7bn command and control aircraft were (£5.2bn) of damage, but it's clear that not destroyed, the impact is enor-"Operation Spider's Web" was, at the mous. "The extent of the damage is such that the Russian military-industrial complex, in its current state, is Ukrainians are already comparing unlikely to be able to restore them in the near future," he wrote on his Telegram channel. The strategic missile-carrying bombers in question, the Tu-95, Tu-22, and Tu-160 are, he said, no longer in production. Repairing them will be difficult,

replacing them impossible. The loss of the supersonic Tu-160, he said, would be especially keenly felt. "Today, the Russian Aerospace Forces lost not just two of their rarest elaborate achievement so far. In an aircraft, but truly two unicorns in the herd," he wrote. Beyond the physical damage, which may or may not be as great as analysts here are assessing, Operation Spider's Web sends anothaboard freight trucks, driven to at er critical message, not just to Russia but also to Ukraine's western allies. sands of miles apart, and launched My colleague Svyatoslav Khomenko, remotely towards nearby airbases. writing for the BBC Ukrainian "No intelligence operation in the Service website, recalls a recent world has done anything like this encounter with a government official before," defence analyst Serhii Kuzan in Kyiv. The official was frustrated. 'The biggest problem," the official against us," he said. "There are only selves we've already lost the war. And prospects so easily.

Ukrainian defence journalist Illia Ponomarenko, posting on X, puts it another way, with a pointed reference to President Volodymyr Zelensky's infamous Oval office encounter with Donald Trump. "This is what happens when a proud nation under attack doesn't listen to all those: 'Ukraine has only six months left'. 'You have no cards'. 'Just surrender for peace, Russia cannot lose'." Even more pithy was a tweet from the quarterly Business Ukraine journal, which proudly proclaimed "It turns out Ukraine does have some cards after all. Today Zelensky played the King of Drones." This, then, is the message Ukrainian delegates carry as they arrive in Istanbul for a fresh round of ceasefire negotiations with representatives from the Kremlin: Ukraine is still in the fight.

The Americans "begin acting as if their role is to negotiate for us the softest possible terms of surrender,' the government official told Svyatoslav Khomenko. "And then they're offended when we don't thank them. But of course we don't because we don't believe we've been defeated." Despite Russia's slow inexorable advance through the battlefields of the Donbas, Ukraine is

UN assembly elects Germany's ex-foreign minister as next president

overwhelmingly elected proved her incompetence, Germany's former foreign extreme bias and lack of Baerbock to be the next principles of diplomacy.' head of the 193-member world body in a secret-ballot vote demanded by Russia. Baerbock got 167 votes, almost double the 88 doubt that as General votes needed to win, while Assembly president she high-ranking German would be "able to act in the high-ranking diplomat Helga Schmid interests of peace and diareceived 7 votes as a write- logue." in and 14 countries

abstained. Schmid for the assembly overwhelming majority of presidency but replaced her member states have voted with Baerbock after she lost in favor of my candidacy States on Gaza. Baerbock her job as the country's for-eign affairs chief in the work with all member speech that the theme of her our institutions and strucrecent election. The decistates together in these sion drew some criticism in challenging times," she Germany. When Baerbock said. Baerbock will replace appeared before the assem- current assembly president tightrope of uncertainty" in "This is a moment for us to bly to discuss her candida- Philemon Yang, a former very challenging times. The unite, to forge common cy on May 15, Russia's prime minister deputy UN ambassador Cameroon, at the start of on the ashes of World War action to confront these Dmitry Polyansky lashed the 80th session in II "reminds us: We have challenges.

Annalena understanding of the basic Polyansky accused her of having pursued an "anti-Russia policy," which he said gave Russia reason to

Baerbock brushed off Russia's request for a secret

UNITED NATIONS (AP): into her, saying: "Ms. September She will preside lived The UN General Assembly Baerbock has repeatedly over the annual gathering times over the annual gathering times before," she said. of world leaders in late September and anniversary events marking the founddency of the General another reminder that the Assembly rotates region.

> spotlight in reacting to the wars in Ukraine and Gaza. That's because any action by the UN Security Council veto power of Russia on Ukraine and the United sions and mistrust.

"And it is up to us to take these challenges.' Baerbock pointed to more ing of the United Nations in than 120 armed conflicts 1945. The one-year presi- around the world today as by UN's primary mission, "to save succeeding genera-The assembly, which is tions from the scourge of the UN's most representa- war," remains unaccomtive body, has taken the plished. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Baerback will take the presidency as the world faces not only "conflicts, Germany had nominated ballot. "I am grateful ... the has been blocked by the climate catastrophe, poverty and inequality" but divi-

"Aid and development presidency will be "Better tures still reflect the world Together," stressing that the of yesterday, not a vision world is "walking on a of tomorrow," he said. of birth of the United Nations solutions, and to take

Thailand's stalled cash handout scheme sours voters on ruling party

52-year-old

Rungthiwa Pimphanit waited months for a long-promised cash handout of 10,000 baht political risk, say analysts. (\$307) from Thailand's ruling party, which she backed in 2023 elections, but now the Thanaporn Sriyakul, director scheme to stimulate a stalling of the independent Political economy has been put on ice. and Policy Analysis Institute.

from the northeastern can't do what they said, it's province of Nong Bua Lam over." The government still Phu, who had counted on the has time left in its term, said money to pay for her son's school supplies. "There's no Houngsub, reiterating that way I will vote for them the scheme had only been

ered last month after news time, if the economy is good, that the scheme, a key electhere may even be something tion plank of the ruling Pheu more than this programme," Thai party, would be delayed, fuelling doubt about any Shinawatra blamed steep targovernment's flagship pro- would be angered if it was sumption, mainly because late January

already spent 174 billion baht (\$5.3 billion), poses a major "No one will believe any-

thing they say," said "The government must keep and angry," said the 34-year-old government employee during the campaign. If they spokesperson Jirayu gain." postponed. The next polls are Rungthiwa's hopes with- two years away. "By that

he told Reuters. The handout scheme is recovery in southeast Asia's popular across Thailand, with second largest economy after its continuation backed by years of tepid growth. Prime about 60% of 1,310 respon-Paetongtarn dents in a May survey by the National Institute of iffs proposed by the United Development Administration, launch, the stimulus plan had States, but the delay to her while about 46% said they been unable to boost con-

who had planned to use the funds to buy a washing machine. "I don't think they'll do it again. The economy is Asia's highest, at 88.4% of bad." The Pheu Thai party's failure to fully implement the credibility, said political anahasn't worked," he added. 'People hoped they would get it and they waited for it, but didn't get it." The remaining 16 million people registered

for handouts should be noti-

Phuvanatnaranubala, deputy

leader of the opposition

Thirachai

said

Palang Pracharath Party. "The government should tell the truth to these people that it actually won't be able to continue the programme due to budget and technical problems," he said in a statement. Three months after its

(Reuters): gramme, on which it has scrapped. "I'm upset," said the handouts were sometimes Sathanee used to pay down debt, cen-Siriphonchaikul in Bangkok, tral bank Governor Sethaput Suthiwartnarueput Reuters this year. Thailand's household debt is among gross domestic product.

On the campaign trail, the scheme had damaged its party floated the scheme as a multibillion-dollar initiative lyst Sukhum Nuansakul. to kick-start Thailand's pan-The digital wallet project demic-hit economy and reach annual growth of about 5%. Yet, the \$550-billion economy expanded by just 2.5% last year, lagging regional peers, and this year looks even worse. Since launching the scheme last September, after numerous adjustments and delays, the government has distributed just over a third of the earmarked 450 billion baht (\$14 billion). The first tranche of billion baht in 144.5 September went to welfare cardholders and people with disabilities, with a second phase of 29.9 billion baht delivered to senior citizens in

NATO east flank backs Ukraine membership

VILNIUS Nordic, Baltic and central European NATO members are committed to Ukrainian membership of the military alliance, the leaders of Poland, Romania and Lithuania said following a summit of the so-called B9 and Nordic countries.

NATO allies declared their support for Ukraine's "irreversible path" towards membership at last year's Washington summit. But President Donald Trump has since said that prior US support for Ükraine's NATO bid was a cause of the war and has further indicated that Ukraine will get membership. Russian President Vladimir Putin's conditions for ending the war in Ukraine include a demand that Western leaders pledge in writing to stop enlarging NATO eastwards, and lift a chunk of sanctions on Russia, Reuters reported last week.

Poland, Romania and Lithuania said, after a meeting of Nordic, Baltic and Eastern European leaders in the capital of Lithuania, that the region remains committed to the path towards Ukrainian NATO membership, and called for further pressure on Russia, including more sanctions. "We stand firm on Allied decision and commitment regarding Ukraine's irreversible path to full Euro-Atlantic integration, including NATO membership. Ukraine has the right to choose its own security arrangements and to decide its own future, free from outside interference," they said in a joint statement released on behalf of all meeting participants. The meeting, held ahead of a NATO summit at The Hague later this month, included Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Slovakia, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

More than 700 believed dead in devastating Nigeria floods

MOKWA (BBC): The offi- BEIJING (BBC): A Harvard's international users, on the other hand, floods hit the Nigerian town of Mokwa has risen to more than 200, officials say. Another 500 people are still missing in the town in the central Niger State however, local official Musa Kimboku told the BBC that rescue efforts had ceased because authorities no longer believe anyone could still be found alive.

The floods, said to be worst in the area for 60 years, swept through the Mokwa districts of Tiffin Maza and Anguwan Hausawa after torrential rains. In an effort to prevent disease in the area, authorities will soon start to dig out corpses buried underground, Mokwa's district head Muhammadu Aliyu said. Recounting scenes of catastrophe, local residents told the BBC that they saw their homes and family members get washed away. One man, Adamu Yusuf, lost his wife and newborn baby. "I watched helplessly as water washed away my family. I survived because I could swim," he told the BBC. Another resident, Saliu Sulaiman, said the floods had left him homeless and destroyed some of his cash business profits. "I lost at least \$1,500 to the floods. It was the proceeds from the sale of my farm produce the previous day. I contemplated going back into the room to get it, but the pressure of the water scared me.'

Some local residents have said that the flooding was so devastating because a nearby dam had burst, however the authorities have not confirmed this. Residents said the pressure of the floodwater was so intense that bodies had been washed up in the town of Rabba, at least an hour's from Mokwa. drive Mokwa's Deputy Vice-Chairman Musa Kimboku said they had told neighbouring villages to bury 'any corpse that they find.' District head Mr Aliyu said some bodies were unrecoverable because they had gone "through the River Niger". The National Emergency Management Agency (Nema) announced it had started the process of providing relief packages to people affected.

punitive terms at talks with Kyiv (Reuters): the Russian document, on require Ukraine to cease which he offered no imme- military redeployments and diate comment. Ukraine accept a halt to foreign prohas proposed holding more talks before the end of lite communications and

Moscow sets out

Russia told Ukraine at peace talks that it would only agree to end the war if Kyiv gives up big new chunks of territory and accepts limits on the size of its army, according to a memorandum reported by Russian media. The terms, formally presented at negotiations in Istanbul, highlighted Moscow's refusal to compromise on its longstanding war goals despite calls by US President Donald Trump to end the "bloodbath" in Ukraine. Ukraine has repeatedly

tions as tantamount to surrender. Delegations from the warring sides met for barely an hour, for only the second such round of negotiations since March 2022. They agreed to exchange more prisoners of war focusing on the youngest and most severely wounded and return the bodies of 12,000 dead soldiers. Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan described it as a great meeting and said he hoped to bring together Russia's Vladimir Putin and Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskiy for a meeting in

rejected the Russian condi-

Turkey with Trump. But there was no breakthrough on a proposed ceasefire that Ukraine, its European allies and Washington have all urged Russia to accept. Moscow says it seeks a long-term settlement, not a pause in the war; Kyiv says Putin is not interested in peace. Trump has said the United States is ready to walk away from its mediation efforts unless the two sides demonstrate progress towards a deal.

Ukrainian Defence Minister Rustem Umerov, who headed Kyiv's delegation, said Kyiv - which has

many issues of contention, Umerov said. Zelenskiy said Ukraine presented a list of 400 children it says have been abducted to Russia, but that the Russian delegation agreed to work on returning only 10 of them. Russia says the children were moved from war zones to protect them. The Russian memoran-

dum, which was published

by the Interfax news agency, said a settlement of the war would require international recognition of Crimea - a peninsula annexed by Russia in 2014 - and four other regions of Ukraine that Moscow has claimed as its own territory. Ukraine would have to withdraw its forces from all them. It restated Moscow's demands that Ukraine become a neutral country - ruling out memguage and enact a legal ban on glorification of Nazism. Ukraine rejects the Nazi charge as absurd and denies discriminating against Russian speakers. Russia also formalised its terms for peace settlement, presenting two options that both appeared to be non-starters

for Ukraine. Option one, according to the text, was for Ukraine to start a full military withdrawal from the Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Russia fully controls the

vision of military aid, satel-June, but believes only a intelligence. Kyiv would meeting between Zelenskiy also have to lift martial law and Putin can resolve the and hold presidential and parliamentary within 100 days. Russian delegation head Vladimir Medinsky said Moscow had also suggested a "specific ceasefire of two to three days in certain sections of the front" so that the bodies of dead soldiers could be collected.

According to a proposed roadmap drawn up by Ukraine, a copy of which was seen by Reuters, Kyiv wants no restrictions on its military strength after any peace deal, no international recognition of Russian sovereignty over parts of Ukraine taken by Moscow's forces, and reparations. The conflict has been heating up, with Russia launching its biggest drone attacks of the war and advancing on the battlefield in May at its fastest rate in six months. Ukraine said it launched bership of NATO - and that 117 drones in an operation it protect the rights of codenamed "Spider's Web' Russian speakers, make to attack Russian nuclear-Russian an official lan- capable long-range bomber planes at airfields in Siberia and the far north of the country.

Satellite imagery suggest ed the attacks had caused substantial although the two sides gave any ceasefire en route to a conflicting accounts of the extent of it. Western military analysts described the strikes, thousands of miles from the front lines, as one of the most audacious Ukrainian operations of the Russia's strategic war. bomber fleet forms part of the "triad" of forces - along Kherson regions. Of those, with missiles launched from the ground or from subfirst but holds only about marines - that make up the drawn up its own peace 70% of the rest. Option two country's nuclear arsenal, the roadmap - would review was a package that would biggest in the world.

Harvard Chinese grad speech draws praise and ire

divided world, delivered classmates to 'aggressively" Chinese students' visas, has sparked mixed reactions in the US and her home country. "We don't rise by proving each other wrong. We rise by refusing to let one another go," Jiang Yurong said, the same day a US federal judge blocked the Trump administration's ban on foreign students at

Harvard. Her speech went viral on the Chinese internet, with some saying it moved them to tears. However, others said her elite background is not representative Chinese students. In the US, some have flagged her alleged links with the Chinese Communist Party. In their efforts to restrict Harvard from enrolling foreign students, US authorities had accused the institution of "co-ordinating with the Chinese Communist Party". Ms Jiang, who studied international development, was the first Chinese woman to speak at a Harvard graduation ceremony. In her address, Ms Jiang President Kamala Harris.

emphasised the value of Some Chinese social media and change others.'

days after the US vowed to through each other's tradirevoke tions" and "carry the weight of each other's worlds". "If we still believe in a shared future, let us not forget: those we label as enemies they, too, are human. In seeing their humanity, we find our own," said Ms Jiang, who spent her final two years of school at in Wales before going to Duke University in the US for her undergraduate degree. A conservative X account, with the handle @amuse, criticised Harvard for choosing a graduation speaker who is 'a representative of a CCPgovernment organisation", alleging that her father works for a non-government organisation that "serves as a quasi-diplomatic agent for the [party]". The account, which has 639,000 followers, has previously posted pro-Donald Trump content, such as the US leader fighting Darth Vader and sexualised imagery of former Vice-

speech calling for unity in a that taught her and her Ms Jiang's father works for "dance is backed by prominent American companies and foundations.

The BBC has not independently verified these allegations. "This is why she could get a scholarship to go to the UK for high school, and later also to Harvard," wrote a user on China's X-like platform, Weibo. Others called for her Cardiff Sixth Form College to stay on in the US, with comments that reeked with sarcasm. should be left to the United States," one wrote. "I hope she will continue to glow abroad and stay away from us!" read another. But Ms Jiang's vision of a "shared humanity" also struck a funded and monitored non- chord. "That she is able to stand on an international stage and speak the heart of Chinese students has moved me to tears," wrote a user on Red Note, another Chinese social media platform. Another user defended Jiang by hitting back at those who criticised her: "You may not have changed them, but they've heard you... As more and more people speak out like you, you will eventually move

Why monsoon rains wreak havoc annually in India's cities

BANGALURU "Who is responsible for this mess?" The question recently echoed across India's financial capital Mumbai as thousands of residents once again found themselves stranded, soaked and frus-

trated. Heavy rains brought the city to a standstill, and this was before the monsoon had even begun in full swing. Roads turned into rivers, vehicles broke down midcommute and low-lying neighbourhoods were waterlogged within hours. Even a newly-built underground metro station could not withstand the heavy downpour as photos and videos of the station flooded with muddy water went viral.

The pre-monsoon deluge once again exposed the city's fragile infrastructure and sparked widespread outrage on social media.

Brihanmumbai Municipal rapid unplanned urbanisa-Corporation (BMC), one of India's richest civic organisations responsible for maintaining Mumbai's infrastructure, initially blamed the problem on rubbish clogging the drains and debris from metro construction, The Hindustan Times newspaper reported. Following criticism, the BMC installed dewatering pumps in floodprone areas and began manually clearing waste from drains to prevent further waterlogging. But for many residents, the action came too late. The crisis is neither new -

nor is it unique to Mumbai. Bengaluru in the south, India's biggest cities flood every monsoon season. Roads collapse, drains overflow, infrastructure is overwhelmed and traffic grinds designing to a halt. Experts blame

tion, poor infrastructure and years of environmental neglect as the root causes of this problem. "The pace of urban expansion has far exceeded the evolution of supporting infrastructure, particularly in water and drainage systems," says Dikshu Kukreja, an architect and urban planner based in Delhi. "Many cities rely on outdated systems designed decades ago. And in the process of unchecked expansion, natural drainage channels, wetlands and water bodies that once absorbed excess rainwater have been built over or neglected," he adds. From Delhi in the north to Experts say there's no onesize-fits-all solution as each city faces unique challenges and factors such as geography, population and climate must be considered when

The Frontier Post Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late)

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Europe-US power struggle in Asia-Pacific

HE annual Shangri-La Dialogue that Singapore hosts is a gathering of security and defence experts of south, south-east and east-Asia, along with the United States, European Union countries and China. It is a meeting point where new worldviews are enunciated if not new spheres of influence are carved out.

At this year's Shangri-La, China stepped back as it were. There can only be speculation why it did so. India and Pakistan delegations represented by highest military personnel were present, avoiding running into each other in the corridors of the hotel.

It was the Americans and the Europeans who seemed to have crossed swords at the conference. US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth has spelt the American position with regard to European powers. He said, "We would much prefer that the overwhelming balance of European investment be on that continent...so that as we partner there, which we will continue to do, we're able to use our comparative advantage as an Indo-Pacific nation to support our partners here.'

In plain language, Hegseth is saying that Europe has no place in the Indo-Pacific, even if it had in the earlier period colonialism in the 19h and early 20th centuries. Americans believe that they are victors in the Second World War in the Asian region, and therefore they have the right to assert Asia-Pacific to be its sphere of influence. It is blunt language indeed, characteristic of the Trump Administration.

Surprisingly, Hegseth says that the American commitment in Europe will continue, and the Americans will continue to support the European countries. This is in contrast to the rhetoric of President Donald Trump that Europe must take care of itself, and America is not interested in leading NATO.

Trump has been flip-flopping quite a lot, about tariffs and about security commitments. Unable to persuade Russian President Vladimir Putin to agree to a ceasefire with Ukraine, Trump feels that America has no option but to oppose Russia in Europe.

The European counter to Hegseth formulation was ready. Kaja Kallas, the Estonian politician and European Union's High Representative for foreign affairs and security policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, said, "It is a good thing we are doing more (in Europe), but what I want to stress is that the security of Europe and the security of the Pacific is very much interlinked." She went on to say, "If you are worried about China, you should be worried about Russia."

French President Emmanuel Macron emphasized that France remains an Indo-Pacific power. He referred to the French presence in New Caledonia and French Polynesia, and the 8,000 French soldiers in the region.

Macron gave a political twist to the China factor, by countering the American approach of gathering all anti-China forces of the Indo-Pacific region. He said, "We are neither China nor the US., we don't want to depend on either of them. We want to cooperate with both as far as we can, and we can cooperate for growth and prosperity and stability for our people and the world order, and I think this is exactly the same view of a lot of countries and a lot of people of this region." It is not surprising that the Americans are not comfortable with the European presence in the Indo-Pacific region. But the Europeans see both economic and defence opportunities in Asia.

An International Institute of Strategic Studies (ISS) of London in its report noted, "European companies including Airbus, Damen, Naval Group and Thales have a long-standing presence in Southeast Asia, and other European actors have established themselves in the market in the last decade, including Italy's Fincantieri and Sweden's Saab.

There is competition now between Europe and America. China can watch the contest with amusement.

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Gaza Humanitarian Foundation a smokescreen for control

Ramzy Baroud

the so-called Gaza cially operating inside the Gaza Strip, its execnot fulfilling various legal utive director, Jake obligations. Wood, resigned. The In its ori

UST one day before

ly adhering to the human- carry," CBS reported. principles of itarian humanity, the statement.

in effect?

the American contractor Rahma Worldwide. may not have known the accountability.

looked into the matter and Israel. reported last Thursday nally applied for registra- Avigdor and was officially registered on Feb. 12.

In its original applica**statement confirmed** that it "pursues exclusivewhat many already sus- ly charitable philanthroppected: the organization ic objectives for the beneis not a humanitarian fit of people in need.' endeavor but the latest Strangely, the entity that

The promise of "psyweek corralled into cages This raises the ques- in extremely high tempertion: why had that realiza-tion become "clear" to tiny amounts of food that, Wood, even though the according to Ramy Abdu, aid operation was not yet head of the Geneva-based The rest of the statenent offers some expla
a US-based above to the state of th ment offers some expla- a US-based charitable

Amid several da until later. But he knew Gaza, where at least 49 Israeli newspaper Haaretz it. In fact, a probe by revealed that opposition Swiss authorities had leaders argue that the any aid mechanism that the genocide. already begun. The US funds for the operation would sustain the status news network, CBS, are coming directly from quo that existed prior to

that the foundation origi- and Knesset member sion of defeat. Lieberman tion in Geneva on Jan. 31 claimed that the money, estimated Washington Post to be However, Swiss authori- \$100 million, "is coming ties quickly began notic- from the Mossad and the ing violations, including Defense Ministry.'

Humanitarian that the Swiss branch of Foundation began offithe Gaza Humanitarian go to all this trouble when rapporteurs. In July last vear, the Israeli Knesset it could, at no financial cost, simply allow the massive shipments of aid UNRWA a that are reportedly rotting organization.' text of his resignation tion, the foundation stated on the Egyptian side of

famine? In Netanyahu's mind, the aid mechanism is part scam by Israeli Prime promised to provide of the war. In a video Minister Benjamin "material, psychological message, he last month Israel's intention is to Netanyahu to control or health" services to described the new aid dis- "entirely destroy" Gaza. Netanyahu to control or health," services to described the new aid dis-the Gaza Strip after 600 famine-stricken Gazans, tribution points, to be However, there is no condays of war and geno- found it necessary to manned jointly by the tradiction. Having failed de. employ 300 "heavily Gaza Humanitarian to conquer Gaza through "It is clear that it is not armed" American con- Foundation and the Israeli military force, Israel is possible to implement tractors, with "as much army, as "parallel to the trying to use this scheme this plan while also strict- ammunition as they can enormous pressure" Israel to capitalize on the Palestinians — as exemneutrality, chological" support was plified by Israel's "masimpartiality and inde- the most ironic, as des- sive (military) entrance Luring people to "dispendence," Wood said in perate Gazans were last (into Gaza)" — with the tribution points," the all of Gaza.'

nation, as it suggests that organization known as and international aid countries.' groups operating in Gaza, UN-linked

Prominent politician equivalent to an admis-

campaign against UN war crimes in Gaza.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and year, the Israeli Knesset went as far as to designate

Still, it may seem to be the border to enter Gaza a contradiction that the and stave off the threat of likes of extremist Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich would agree to such an "aid" scheme just

days after declaring that Humanitarian to conquer Gaza through putting on the famine it has deliberately engineered over course of months.

aim of "taking control of Israeli army is trying to concentrate the popula-In Netanyahu's own tion of Gaza in areas that words, all this — the mil- can be easily controlled itary-arranged aid and through leveraging food ongoing genocide — is with the ultimate aim of pushing Palestinians out, in the words of Smotrich, "in great numbers to third

The latest scheme is likely to fail, of course extent of the Israeli ploy chaos and violence in apparatuses, were fully like many other such aware that the secretive stratagems in the last 600 that a disaster was unfold- Palestinians were killed Israeli-US scheme was days. However, the inhuing — the kind that would and more than 300 predicated on bad inten-mane and degrading treat surely require investiga- wounded as they sought tions. This is why they ment of Palestinians furpossibly, aid and comfort, the wanted nothing to do with ther illustrates Israel' rejection of the growing In Israel's thinking, international push to end

For Israel to stop scheming, the interna Oct. 7, 2023, would be tional community must translate its strong words into strong action and This is why Israel hold not just Israel but labored to associate the also its citizens involved UN Palestinian refugee in the Gaza Humanitarian agency, UNRWA, with Foundation and other Hamas. This included the ploys accountable for launching of a virulent being part of the ongoing

In Gaza, aid

ODAY, wounded by Israeli fire starvation and genocide. near an aid distribution centre in the Gaza and aid organisations Strip's southern city of have lambasted the Rafah. The attack came weaponisation of humania day after Israeli tanks tarian aid while the situaopened fire on thou- tion was apparently too sands of desperate and much to handle even for hungry Palestinians at Jake Wood, the former the same site, killing at US marine sniper who least 31 people. One per- served as the GHF's execson was also shot dead utive director before his at another distribution recent resignation on the site near the Netzarim grounds that "it is not Corridor in central Gaza the same day.

There are currently only four such sites distributing food to Gaza's two million people, who pendence" for nearly three months were forced to contend with a full Israeli block-

Netanyahu mously opted to allow a resumption of "minimal" aid deliveries to Gaza, impending mass starvamight jeopardise the undying support of the US, Israel's traditional primary enabler of its slaughter.

And yet these mass killings suggest that the "minimal" arrangeeither die of starvation or die trying to obtain food – not, of course, that these are the only two options for dying in a genocidal war in which Israel has indiscriminately bombed hospitals, refugee camps can be bombed, killing more than 54,400 people.

The aid distribution hubs are run by a sketchy new outfit called the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), initially an Israeli a private aid organisation registered in both experience distributing lars in aid and weaponry.

three creating a "humanitarian" Palestinians have distraction from a continbeen killed and 35 uing policy of deliberate

The United Nations possible to implement this plan while also strictly adhering to the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, starving population of impartiality and inde-

The massacres of the past two days are not the first such incidents to ade that prevented the occur on the GHF's entry of all aid into the watch. Since the launch of the initiative in late On May 19, Israeli May, there have been Prime Minister Benjamin numerous killings of magnani- Palestinians near distribution points. According to Gaza's Media Office, the total having determined that number of people killed while seeking aid from tion was a "red line" that this scheme has reached 52 so far.

And yet the slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza partner in crime and the trying to engage in that most necessary human activity of eating is hardly new. Recall that on February 29, 2024, at least 112 desperate ment offers Palestinians a Palestinians were massadecidedly horrific choice: cred while queueing for flour southwest of Gaza City. More than 750 were wounded.

After that particular episode, President announced that the US would airdrop food into and everything else that Gaza, another costly PR spectacle incapable of providing even a drop in the bucket in terms of the humanitarian needs of the population. A more straightforward and efficient move would obvibrainchild that operates as ously have been to pressure the Israelis to cease blocking aid trucks from Switzerland and the US entering Gaza by land – state of Delaware. As The and for the US to, you newspaper know, cease bombarding noted, the GHF has "no Israel with billions of dol-

To reach the hubs, many Palestinians must walk long distances and cross Israeli military lines, further endangering their lives. No mechanism is in place to

distribute food to elderly, sick or wounded Palestinians – not to mention starving people unable to engage in such physical exertion in the hopes of putting something in their stomachs. Furthermore, the GHF initiative feeds into Israel's forced displacement scheme whereby surviving Palestinians will be concentrated in the south in preparation for their eventual expulsion, as per US President Donald Trump's plan for a reborn Gaza Strip largely devoid of Palestinians. In other words, the GHF is not in Gaza to alleviate

hunger or cater to the needs of its population; rather, the food distribution hubs are a lucrative PR stunt aimed at creating a "humanitarian" distraction from a continuing policy of deliberate starvation and genocide. The United Nations and aid organisations have lambasted the weaponisation of humanitarian aid

while the situation was apparently too much to handle even for Jake Wood, the former US marine sniper who served as the GHF's executive director before his recent resignation on the grounds that "it is not possible to implement this plan while also strictly adhering to the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

Now is the time to recognize Palestine

SRAEL'S blocking orders last of an Arab delega- Thursday, the ugly, nature of its ongoing occupation Palestinian lands.

of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Mahmoud the Israeli government closest allies in the West stepped in late on Friday to tolerate its actions. and announced that it would not allow the dele- mer Israeli prime minisgation to cross from ter, Ehud Olmert, last Jordan to the West Bank. week said that Israel was Saudi Foreign Minister committing war crimes in Prince Faisal bin Farhan Gaza. said this move showed the Tel Aviv govern- Israel is currently waging the least they can be June 17-20, jointly hosted ment's "extremism and rejection of peace.'

the ugliness of the occu- wrote in an opinion piece pation, especially given for Haaretz. the unfolding genocide in Gaza.

ly broke the ceasefire in Chancellor the Strip in March, hospi- Merz condemning its Gaza that ignited followtals have again been in its "violations" of interna- ing the horrific events of sights. After Al-Awda tional law. "To harm the Oct. 7. Hospital in Jabalia was civilian population to evacuated on

Faisal J. Abbas

Bank at the weekend, is north of Gaza. And let us fight against Hamas ter-yet another reminder of not forget that, last rorism," he said. "warning shots" in the followed a very powerful vicinity of a European speech from British A reminder here that immoral month, Israeli troops fired diplomatic delegation vis-The foreign ministers iting the West Bank.

Jordan, Qatar and the Prime Minister Benjamin ric coming from the likes biased UAE planned to take part Netanyahu and his coali- of Abbas in lation and making it ous. It is repellent. It is Ramallah on Sunday. But impossible for even its monstrous.'

It is telling that a for-"The government of

a war without purpose, without goals or clear Of course, there is no planning and with no inals. shortage of reminders of chances of success," he It

Since Israel unilateral- criticize Israel, with broke the ceasefire in Chancellor Friedrich Israeli such an extent, as has recall, or even acknowl- is a start.

Foreign Secretary David

Lammy, who More and more, Israeli Parliament that the rheto- of the war, of being

> Ben-Gvir and Smotrich ous questions. speak of Israeli forces 'cleansing" Gaza, "destroying what's left" and Palestinians "being relocated to third countries," then "extremist" is Personally, called. believe they are war crim- France at the UN head-

that Israel's ambassador to the UK was able to Last week, we even phenomenally identify saw Germany begin to exactly how many Hamas killed during the war on two-state solution. To

increasingly edge, the number of chil been the dren killed (the answer is tion, preventing it there were no functioning case in recent days, can more than 15,00 from entering the West health facilities in the no longer be justified as a according to UNICEF) despite being asked the same question 17 times

Morgan was unfairly told accused, at the beginning toward Israel Finance Minister despite him giving both in a meeting with tion of right-wing lunatics Bezalel Smotrich "is sides an equal platform. Palestinian President are increasing Israel's iso- extremism. It is danger- His latest interview with the Israeli ambassador was a masterclass in how Indeed, when National to conduct professional Security Minister Itamar interviews and ask seri

?However, the battle for Palestinian justice will not be won by column inches or on podcasts. The two-state solution summit is coming up on by Saudi Arabia and quarters in New York, and It is also very telling nations worldwide will find themselves facing the ultimate moral test. Needless to say, now is the time to recognize "terrorists" have been Palestine and support a skeptics, I say two things: better late than never. and, no, implementing it But she could not will not be easy, but this

food in a famine zone". It ernments and employs former US military and intelligence officers. bution in Gaza now transpires under the supervi-

sion of armed US security contractors at hubs conveniently located near Israeli military positions. The four sites that are currently operational are located in central and southern Gaza while a significant part of the enclave's population is in the north.

many Palestinians must walk long distances and Israeli military cross their lives.

No mechanism is in place to distribute food to elderly, sick or wounded Palestinians – not to menstarving people unable to engage in such hopes of putting some-

thing in their stomachs. Furthermore, the GHF initiative feeds into Israel's forced displacesurviving Palestinians weren't end will be concentrated in rel already. the south in preparation for their eventual expulsion, as per US President Donald Trump's plan for a reborn Gaza Strip largely devoid of Palestinians.

In other words, the tion; rather, the food distive PR stunt aimed at longer.

As it turned out, airdoes, however, have ties drops can be lethal too, to the US and Israeli gov- and just a week after Biden's announcement, five Palestinians were killed when a parachute So it is that food distri- attached to an aid pallet failed to open. To be sure, there are few things more abominably ironic than hungry people being killed by food aid literally crashing onto their heads. Call it humanitarian

slaughter. Then there was Biden's \$230m humanitarian aid pier, which shut down in July after a mere 25 days of service. It was heavily To reach the hubs, criticised by aid groups as another expensive, complex and ineffective means of getting food and lines, further endangering other aid into Gaza. But then again, effectiveness was never the point. Now, if the GHF's

Gaza debut is any indication, the militarised distribution of food will continue to provide opportuphysical exertion in the nities for mass killing as crowds of starving Palestinians around aid hubs. The phrase "shooting fish in a barrel" comes to mind ment scheme whereby as if the Gaza Strip weren't enough of a bar-

To be sure, the idea of luring starving people to specific geographical points to facilitate Israel's genocidal conquest is singularly diabolical. And as US the persists in GHF is not in Gaza to enabling Israel's fish-inalleviate hunger or cater a-barrel approach, any to the needs of its popula- remotely moral world would refuse to stomach tribution hubs are a lucra- the arrangement any

Violence in the name of Palestine is not just unacceptable, it will also harm the movement

wolf" attacks tarpossibility of hastening Israel-related political change. events in the past fort-Mohamed Soliman, an Egyptian Colorado, is alleged to dangerously argued that cause of growing anti- deny the legitimate feel- voices. have thrown Molotov the murders were a justicocktails at a group of fied response to the huge with Israeli being held by Hamas in ••••••••••••••••• Gaza. Eight of the demonstrators were injured. Mr Soliman, 45, is said to have shouted "Free Palestine" as he carried out his attack.

The same words were Rodriguez, who shot dead two young Israeli embassy staff members, Yaron Lischinsky, at an event at the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington on

The Washington attack provoked conflicting reactions. The way in which the attack itself and the subsequent reactions were viewed and used by pro-Israel organisations and a few pro-Palestinian advocates has been disturbing, and has perhaps set the stage for the public conversation that will inevitably follow what has just happened in Boulder.

There is no doubt that what Mr Rodriguez, the man who was charged with killing the two staff members, did was terrorism. It was certainly not They say that defenders of stifle anti-Israel or pro- humanity, strike out took the lives of two heroic, revolutionary or an act of justice.

The classic definition of mitted by that state. terrorism is the use of viorandomly shot and killed commit his crime. two people, not knowing

was an event at a Jewish ilous uncovered manifesto, he months, stopped the mass murders Israel's

THE US has seen in Gaza, maybe the shock two major "lone created by his act held the

The murders have gen-Sunday, erated commentary in arti-Sabry cles and on social media. are loathe to give any cre- Washington, pro-Israel likelihood of increased Egyptian A few outlier, pro- dence to the reality that advocates cruelly ignore intimidation and repres-Boulder, Palestinian voices have Israel's actions are the root Palestinian humanity and sion of pro-Palestinian hostages from Israel's war in Gaza. tions have worked hard to defending

denounce the growing Palestinians, and by accus- Israel only serves to stoke anti-Israel, pro-Palestinian ing the protesters of fos-Israel sentiment.

demonstrators who had loss of life and destruction opinion turning against suffering. Similarly, those charged with committing gathered in solidarity of properties resulting Israel, pro-Israel organisa- who, in the name of must be seen for what it

ings of solidarity the pro-

on against supporters those fears. And given the activism on campuses as if tering the environment imbalance of power, they it grew out of thin air, they that led to the killings in ultimately increase the

Given this, the crime With the tide of public testers have for Palestinian Mr Rodriguez has been Palestinian was - an act of murder that

The classic definition of terrorism is the use of violence or intimidation to create fear in order to accomplish a political objective. There can be no argument about this, as Mr Rodriguez himself acknowledged that this was his goal. There should also be no doubt that the act was anti-Semitic. He went to a Jewish event and randomly shot and killed two people, not knowing who they were or what they did. All he

knew was that it was an event at a Jewish museum and that his victims would most likely be Jews. And, as he allegedly made clear in a since-uncovered manifesto, he thought that while peaceful protests had not stopped the mass murders in Gaza, maybe the shock created by his act held the possibility of hastening political change. The murders have generated commentary in articles and on social media. A few outlier, pro-Palestinian voices have dangerously argued that the murders were a justified response to the huge loss of life and destruction of properties resulting from Israel's war in Gaza. They say that defenders of Israel can be held responsible for the crimes committed by that state. The other side, which has included many of the major institutional voices in the pro-Israel community, has used the murders to dangerously demonise the entire pro-Palestine movement, arguing that their anti-Israel rhetoric has fostered anti-Semitism creating the environment that led Mr Rodriguez to commit his crime. Though coming at the murders from radically different perspectives, both views engage in perilous reductionism.

Israel's policies are indeed grotesque and have horrified a generation of young people, who, for 19 months, have been witnessing this conflict play out in real time. While Israel's supporters denounce the growing anti-Israel, pro-Palestinian activism on campuses as if it grew out of thin air, they are loathe to give any credence to the reality that Israel's actions are the root cause of growing anti-Israel sentiment. With the tide of public opinion turning against Israel, pro-Israel organisations have worked hard to stifle anti-Israel or pro-Palestinian manifestations. They have used their influence with the White House, university administrators and allies in the US Congress to expand the definition of anti-Semitism to include criticisms of Israel, using this to silence protesters through intimidation, punishment and force, when possible. The reality is that there is a power imbalance in this debate over Gaza. Israel's backers have the wind in their sails. They have most elected officials and many university administrators with them. The pro-Palestinian activists do not. They can be arrested, suspended from school, silenced or cancelled, and have their diplomas withdrawn. By ignoring the legitimate outrage that spawned the protests against Israel's war on Palestinians, and by accusing the protesters of fostering the environment that led to the killings in Washington, pro-Israel advocates cruelly ignore Palestinian humanity and deny the legitimate feelings of solidarity the protesters have for Palestinian suffering. Similarly, those who, in the name of defending Palestinian humanity, strike out against any and all Jewish Americans who identify with the state of Israel, and denounce them as enablers of what many legal experts deem to be a genocide in Gaza, are also guilty of crude reductionism. In this context, the use of harsh rhetoric, threatening actions

or name-calling may provide some a momentary sense of empowerment.

Israel can be held responsible for the crimes com-

The other side, which lence or intimidation to has included many of the create fear in order to major institutional voices accomplish a political in the pro-Israel communiobjective. There can be no ty, has used the murders to argument about this, as Mr dangerously demonise the himself entire pro-Palestine moveacknowledged that this ment, arguing that their through intimidation, pun- ing actions or name-callwas his goal. There should anti-Israel rhetoric has also be no doubt that the fostered anti-Semitism possible. act was anti-Semitic. He creating the environment went to a Jewish event and that led Mr Rodriguez to

Though coming at the who they were or what murders from radically different All he knew was that it both views engage in per- and many university who use such tactics museum and that his vic- Israel's policies are indeed The tims would most likely be grotesque and have horri- activists do not. They can has shaped the Palestinian Jews. And, as he allegedly fied a generation of young be arrested, suspended identity, so too the trauma have caused death and made clear in a since- people, who, for 19 from school, silenced or of the Holocaust, the injury, damaged the cause thought that while peace- nessing this conflict play diplomas withdrawn. ful protests had not out in real time. While

House, university admin- denounce them as enablers Semitism to include criti- crude reductionism. cisms of Israel, using this to silence protesters of harsh rhetoric, threaten- the chant "Free Palestine"

is a power imbalance in end, it is counterproduc-Israel's backers have the the cause as much as it wind in their sails. They fosters deeper hostility perspectives, have most elected officials and polarisation. Those of Palestinian freedom and reductionism. administrators with them. ignore the fact that, just as have been wit- cancelled, and have their pogroms and the reality of

supporters mate outrage that spawned many Jewish Americans.

Palestinian manifestations. against any and all Jewish young people who, regard-They have used their influ- Americans who identify ence with the White with the state of Israel, and or what they believed, istrators and allies in the of what many legal experts they were at an event at a US Congress to expand deem to be a genocide in Jewish museum. Mr the definition of anti- Gaza, are also guilty of

In this context, the use ishment and force, when ing may provide some a momentary sense of shout it have abused this The reality is that there empowerment. But in the noble cause with an act of this debate over Gaza. tive and does not advance order to serve the narcispro-Palestinian the trauma of the Nakba anti-Semitism have taken and will be used to provide By ignoring the legiti- a toll on the psyche of justification for more

less of where they worked were shot to death because Soliman's actions should be seen in a similar light. In both of these contexts, is especially infuriating because the men who deplorable violence in sistic fantasy that they

change in policy. In the end, they have done neither. Their crimes they claimed to support

were advancing the cause

opening the way to a

2 key findings on Democrats' brand problem from the new CNN poll

HERE'S new evidence that the **Democratic Party's** reputation is in a bad the party is doomed, electorally speaking. There's plenty of reason to doubt that, given lots of history and its performance in the 2025 elections thus

cating factor for the party's path forward. And a new CNN poll conducted by SSRS provides insights into the party's problems. It's worth

a breakdown.

far — but it is a compli-

The poll, which was released Sunday, asked a battery of questions about how people view both parties. Perhaps most striking was that people were more likely to view Republicans Democrats as the party with strong leaders (40% to 16%) and even the "party of change" (32% to 25%).

Neither party won close to a majority in either category. But the former is notable because there is such a gulf between the two parties. And the latter is notable because the party that's out of power is usually viewed as the party of change. Not this time.

So what can we read into these findings? The GOP's edge on

strong leaders The "strong leaders" question might be the most troublesome finding for Democrats. Only about 1 in

Americans Democrats have stronger leaders than Republicans. As remarkably, only 39% of Democrats said that.

We've seen hints of this in previous polls. A March CNN poll found about 3 in Democrats Democratic-leaning voters couldn't name a single leader who best reflected the party's core values. An AP-NORC poll last month showed just 35% of Democrats said they were at least "somewhat" optimistic about the future of their party, compared with 55% of Republicans for their party.

This might not seem too surprising. We just said goodbye to a Democratic president (Joe Biden) who was a diminished figure office. And the Democratic slight she took over the ticket in say that. the 2024 race — and then

Aaron Blake

somewhat similar crossweren't as dismal. CNN/Opinion

Research Corporation poll asked the same question in 2006 — after John Kerry's unsuccessful emergence as Democrats' 2004 presidential candidate — and found a smaller 14-point advantage for Republicans. Back then, 63% of Democrats said their party had stronger leaders than said Republicans — 24 points higher than today.

One reason for the difference is that the 2025 and 2006 polls asked the question in a slightly different way, partly because one was conducted entirely by phone and the other mostly online. Today's poll gave people an explicit "neither" option, which the 2006 poll didn't (though some people volunteered that option back then). Nearly half of Democrats in the new poll (48%) chose that option.

That's still a remarkable finding. Combined with the 13% of Democrats who said Republicans have the stronger leaders, that's 6 in 10 Democrats this year who don't think their side has stronger leaders than a party led by a president whom a huge majority of them revile.

counterintuitive Democratic deficit 'party of change'

The other notable finding is on which party is the "party of change.' Americans chose Republicans, 32% to 25%.

That's not a big gap, but it is counterintuitive given Republicans swept the House, Senate and White House last fall. Historically speaking, it's almost always the party that's out of power that's viewed as the party of change.

Before the 2006 election, the same CNN-ORC almost poll mentioned above showed Democrats had a huge, 56% to 29% lead on this measure. Then, as now, Democrats didn't hold the presidency or either chamber of Congress.

But the numbers are very different today. Not only do Democrats trail on even when he was still in this measure, but only a majority nominee who replaced him Democrats themselves — (Kamala Harris) wasn't 51% — say their party is But if the Democratic Party exactly viewed as the the party of change. And wants to run up the score in future of the party when only 18% of independents 2026 and really chart a

about Democrats' failure to on its branding.

change agents, but also about what President when Democrats were at a Donald Trump is doing and about people not necplace. That doesn't mean roads, and the numbers essarily seeing "change" as a good thing.

However you feel about

the changes Trump is making, there is no question he is pushing lots of them. You see that in his and the Department Government Efficiency's rapid overhaul of the federal government and in Trump's historic efforts to expand executive power in ways that are often being

halted by the courts

because they go too far, too

It's possible that people just see Trump changing lots of things, whether for good or ill in their opinions, so the "party of change" mantle doesn't mean what it usually does. We already saw during the 2024 campaign that peodefinitions "change" were somewhat jumbled by unusual circumstances — i.e., Harris replacing Biden, and a former president running as the challenger.

But it's also pretty clear that Democrats have failed to make themselves into a viable and attractive alternative to the party in power.

The new CNN poll also asked which party people viewed as the "party that can get things done.' Republicans led on this by a nearly 2-to-1 margin, 36% to 19%. Only 49% of Democrats and 11% of independents picked the Democratic Party as the more formidable one.

There's also, of course, Republicans' big edge on the "strong leaders" ques-

None of this means Democrats are sunk in the 2026 elections — or anything close to it. History shows the party that doesn't hold the White House always midterm elections, in large because they're viewed as a check on the president. Democrats and liberal candidates have also been doing well in special elections and other races held since the 2024 elec-

In other words, being not-Trump could be good of enough to at least reclaim a very closely split House. path for the 2028 election, It's likely this is, in part, it has some real work to do

How exactly has Britain supported Israel's military assault on Gaza? The public has a right to know

air-dropped bombs. These bombs After 20 months of Israell bombardment, the death toll in Gaza has exceeded 54,000. As for the survivors, the were made by the United States and were dropped in a military campaign supported by the British government. Hussam and Muhammad were born in Baghdad and died in "The bomblet ripped off their legs and ultimately killed them,' according to Human Rights Watch. They were two of about 200,000 civilians who were killed in the Iraq

For years after that conflict, the government tried to resist several attempts to establish an inquiry into the policy making of British officials. However, it could not prevent the inevitable - and in 2016 we had the publication of the Chilcot inquiry. I was the leader of the Labour party when the report was published, and it found grave failings within the British government. After I had responded to the Chilcot inquiry in parliament that day, I then went over the road to Church House, where we had invited war veterans, Iraqis and the families of British solbehalf of the party for its had a change in govern- gramme. catastrophic decision to ment since 7 October astounded that the gov- transfer of arms to Israel go to war in Iraq. Today, 2023, but one thing has ernment openly admits it and the supply of milihistory is repeating itself remained constant: the is making an "exception" and a Labour government is making another Israel. Last year, between this an exception to its Akrotiri in December

grave mistake. Israeli bombardment, the more death toll in Gaza has licences to Israel than the government is still allow-you, and everybody back and accountability are would require the full to Israel? exceeded 54,000. As for Conservatives approved the survivors, the injured between 2020 and 2023. a nation whose leader is you." He added: "Quite a cy. The British public ment will face lifelong scars government's announce-tional criminal court for can't necessarily

ing alone. It has relied on

TUSSAM, 13, and for generations to come. ment of a part suspension a 1 l e g e d in September 2024. c r i m e s

cluster military, economic and tinued to express our dis-

Many of us have con- against humanity.

Amakobe Sande time ... We can't neces-

talked about plicity in crimes against involved in the decision- that should haunt us for all of the humanity.

That is why I am

making processes. We have also repeated- sarily tell the world what tabling a private mem- out: what arms have been

wiped out. Limbs strewn across the street. Mothers screaming for their children torn to pieces. injured and the bereaved – they will face lifelong scars for generations to come. Israel has not been acting alone. Doctors It has relied on military, economic and political support from governments around the world. Britain may have amputations

anaesthesia. Home by home, hospital by hospital, generation by generation. We have not been witnessing a war. We have been witnessing a genocide, livestreamed before the entire world.

ever. Entire families

performing

No one can pretend they did not know what was happening. In October 2023, we warned that we were witnessing the beginning of the total annihilation of Gaza and people. We said Palestinians were being collectively punished for a terrible crime they did not commit. We pleaded with political leaders to call for peace.

were Today, some politicians have finally started to backtrack, frightened by the consequences of their inhumanity. If they had any integrity, they would weep for the 54,000 Palestinians buried under the rubble by their moral and political cowardice. Today, schoolchildren are taught about history's worst crimes against humanity. In the future, our history books will shame those who had the opportunity to stop this massacre but instead chose to enable one of the greatest crimes of our

This issue is not going away - and we are not going anywhere. government must decide: will it support this inquiry, or will it block

had a change in government since 7 October 2023, but one thing has remained constant: the steady supply of arms to Israel. Last year, between October and December alone, Labour approved more arms exports licences to Israel than the Conservatives approved between 2020 and 2023. This was in spite of the government's announcement of a part suspension in September 2024. Many of us have continued to express our disgust over the continued supply of components to the F-35 jet fighter programme. I remain astounded that the government openly admits it is making an "exception" to its part suspension. Is this an exception to its legal obligations to prevent genocide? One thing is beyond doubt: this government is still allowing the supply of arms to a nation whose leader is wanted by the international criminal court for alleged crimes against humanity. We have also repeatedly asked for the truth regarding the role of British military bases in Cyprus, concerning the transfer of arms to Israel and the supply of military intelligence. When Keir Starmer visited RAF Akrotiri in December 2024, he was filmed telling troops: "The whole world is relying on you, and everybody back at home is relying on you." He

added: "Quite a bit of what goes on here can't necessarily be talked about all of the time ... We can't necessarily tell the world what you're doing here." What does the government have to hide? Our questions have been met with evasion, obstruction and silence, leaving the public in the dark over the ways in which the responsibilities of government have been discharged. Transparency and accountability are cornerstones of democracy. The British public deserves to know the full scale of the UK's complicity in crimes against humanity. That is why I am tabling a private members' bill tomorrow calling for a full, public, independent inquiry into the UK's role in

Israel's military assault in Gaza. This inquiry would seek to establish the truth about Britain's military, economic or political cooperation with Israel since October 2023. Any meaningful inquiry would require the full cooperation of government ministers - Conservative and Labour - who have been involved in the decision-making processes. This inquiry must find out: what arms have been supplied to Israel? Which of these arms have been used to kill Palestinians? What legal advice has the government received? Is RAF Akrotiri being used as a route for weapons to be deployed in Gaza? What video footage does the government have of the war zone? What intelligence has been passed to Israel? Over the past 20 months, human beings have endured a level of horror and

inhumanity that should haunt us for ever. Entire families wiped out. Limbs strewn across the street. Mothers

screaming for their children torn to pieces. Doctors performing amputations without anaesthesia.

After 20 months of alone, Labour approved arms

vent genocide? One thing telling troops:

remain Cyprus, concerning the tary intelligence. When steady supply of arms to to its part suspension. Is Keir Starmer visited RAF October and December legal obligations to pre- 2024, he was filmed exports is beyond doubt: this whole world is relying on discharged. Transparency meaningful ing the supply of arms to at home is relying on cornerstones of democra- cooperation of govern-

political support from gust over the continued ly asked for the truth you're doing here." What bers' bill tomorrow call-

been met with evasion, This inquiry would seek obstruction and silence, to establish the truth leaving the public in the about Britain's military, dark over the ways in economic or political which the responsibilities cooperation with Israel "The of government have been since October 2023. Any be scale of the UK's com-

the UK's role in Israel's Our questions have military assault in Gaza. inquiry ministers

have

who

supplied to Israel? Which diers who had lost their governments around the supply of components to regarding the role of does the government ing for a full, public, of these arms have been lives. I apologised on world. Britain may have the F-35 jet fighter pro- British military bases in have to hide? What legal advice has the government received? Is RAF Akrotiri being used as a route for weapons to be deployed in Gaza? What video footage does the government have of the war zone? What intelligence has been passed

Over the past 20 months, human beings and the bereaved - they This was in spite of the wanted by the interna- bit of what goes on here deserves to know the full Conservative and Labour have endured a level of our efforts to establish been horror and inhumanity





KARACHI: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry addressing during inauguration ceremony of 300KW solar plant at KPT Izhar Abbasi Hospital.

Minister inaugurates 300KW solar power plant

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Federal Mi- Junaid Anwar Chaudhry nister for Maritime Affairs, stated, "When Prime Min-Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, ister Shehbaz Sharif took inaugurated a 300KW solar over, there was a prevailing are more than capable of power plant at the Karachi sentiment that Pakistan was Port Trust (KPT) Izhar heading towards bankrupt-Abbasi Hospital, marking a key step toward energy efficiency and sustainable devalue and sustainable d elopment in the public sector. now moving in a positive

Speaking at the inaugu- direction." ration, Junaid Anwar aligned with vision of shifting towards not feasible at this point." renewable energy, ensuring long-term benefits for both vast coastline and the counthe institution and the envi- try's potential in the blue

is not only working to reality that Pakistan has are launching an education international maritime marfund focused on underpriv- kets. We are working aged to clear over 4,000 ileged children who are towards realizing this compelled to work during vision with dedication and the day and study at night. planning." KPT will sponsor their education to ensure their regarding transparency and studies are not disrupted, efficiency in governance, and they can complete saying, "My vision is clear:

tions and public relief, and deliver results.'

On the status of ongoing Chaudhry said, "The instal- KPT projects, the minister lation of this solar power commented, "All KPT plant will lead to a 75% projects are actively in Prime scope, providing a single Minister Shehbaz Sharif's timeline for completion is

Addressing Pakistan's economy, Junaid Anwar He further added, "KPT Chaudhry remarked, "It is a

He reassured the public

commitment to quality

tion regarding IMF condi-tions that are competent

When asked about the efficiency of ports, Junaid Anwar Chaudhry said, "We handling large quantities of cargo at various ports. As volume without affecting efficiency.

Commenting on the issue of illegal land occupation, he shared, "KPT management has successfully reduction in electricity progress, but since each has retrieved 100 acres of bills. This initiative is a different nature and encroached land, which is worth billions of rupees. This reflects our commitment to protecting national assets

On the issue of shipment clearance delays, Junaid Anwar Chaudhry stated, There were significant delays in container clearimprove port operations tremendous potential to ance due to issues at the but is also contributing to social development. We and make a mark in the discussions with the discussions with the Chairman FBR, we mancontainers, making port operations smoother.'

The event concluded with appreciation for KPT's progressive efforts and a renewed focus on clean their academic journey to ensure that professionals energy, transparency, and are hired strictly on merit. economic development in Responding to a ques- We want to build institu- line with national priorities.

committed to preventing decline within the industrial landscape. Highlighting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's vision, he emphasized the importance of boosting MG Pakistan reaffirms productivity Pakistan's industries.

However, he stressed the need for a comprehensive and detailed report explaining the rationale behind seeking protection for the the various measures being ness about tax responsibili- were also industry.

Engro

team meets

Haroon

delegation from Engro

Polymer and Chemicals

Limited on Tuesday met

with Special Assistant to

the Prime Minister (SAPM)

Haroon Akhtar Khan and

discussed pressing issues

The discussions centered

around regulatory duties,

tariff policies, protection of

the local industry, and the

impacts these factors have

on the sector's overall

health, said a news release.

During the meeting

Engro Polymer highlighted

several challenges, includ-

ing high electricity prices,

costly raw materials

increased PVC imports,

and the ongoing tariff war.

cerns and support domestic

manufacturers, the delega-

tion requested the imposi-

tion of a regulatory duty of

to 10 percent on PVC

Haroon Akhtar Khan acknowledged the difficul-

ties faced by local indus-

tries, affirming his aware-

ness that the sector is

already under significant

He assured the delega-

tion that the government is

imports.

To address these con-

affecting the industry.

He further Engro Polymer that, in collaboration with Engineering Development Board, a cost disadvantage analysis be prepared.

This report should also include an assessment of the volume-related losses currently impacting the industry, providing a clear picture of the challenges to be addressed.

SIMAP team visits WCCIS

SIALKOT (APP): A delegation from the Surgical Instruments Manufacturers and Association of Pakistan visited the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sialkot (WCCIS) to discuss collaborative opportunities for the upcoming Technology & Innovation

Summit (TIS-2025). trust, and confidence. The company emphasized that The delegation was led PHEV - True Hybrid Elec- that production is now run- its dedication to safety, by Suleman Ali Mughal, Senior Vice Chairman, SIMAP, and Salman Asif Awan, Chairman, Technology and Innovation Summit Committee and included Sabour Ahmed, Executive Committee Member & TIS Committee Member, and Muhammad Naeem, TIS Committee Member.

The primary objective of the visit was to encourage the chamber to set up a dedicated booth at TIS-2025, scheduled to take place on June 19, 2025, at View Marquee, Cantt Sialkot.

This initiative aims to promote women empowerment through entrepreneurship and innovation, providing a platform for women entrepreneurs to showcase their contributions to the business and

Mariam Nouman warmly welcomed the delegation and expressed her gratitude for the invitation. She assured the full support and active participation of the chamber in the event.

icant step toward strengthcollaboration region.

SCCI expects growth-oriented and industry friendly budget

F.P. Report

Business

Industry have pinned high hopes and the expectations that the upcoming budget 2025-26 will be growth oriented and industry friendly and tax-free.

vice president Shehryar into the tax net. Khan and members of the chamber executive comhere on Tuesday stated that and promote exports. the business community expects a comprehensive economic growth and development.

reports regarding slapping

that the government could PESHAWAR: The Sarhad refrain from taking steps Chamber of Commerce and that could further burden the existing taxpayers.

Office bearers said that SCCI has always been vocal and demanded that the tax net has to be broadened and in order to SCCI president Fazal meet the budget targets; Moqeem Khan, senior vice there is a need to bring president Abdul Jalil Jan, non-tax paying sectors

We expect that the Finance Minister will intromittee in a joint statement duce measures that support

The business leaders expressed strong desires to industrial package, which implement policies that is essential in sustainable promote macroeconomic stability, control inflation, and ensure a stable While quoting certain exchange rate.

new taxes in the upcoming conducive environment for enhance industrial competition of sales tax, and abolibudget, the senior office businesses to plan their tiveness, promote exports, tion of the additional sales bearers said that the busi- investments and operations broaden the tax base, and tax to reduce informality.

ness community believes effectively, they added.

Office bearers furthermore said that the business community expects the government to introduce policies and reforms aimed at improving the ease of doing business in Pakistan.

government must introduce investment incentives and measures that encourage both domestic and foreign investments.

This may include tax breaks or exemptions for specific industries, subsidies for research and credit facilities, and measneurship and innovation, Income Tax Ordinance. they elaborated.

This stability provides a emphasized the need to ter refunds, gradual reduc-

ciencies in the economic framework.

The business leaders noted that the SME sector, which serves as a backbone of economic activity and employment, continues to struggle due to limited They advised that the access to finance and an unsupportive regulatory framework.

SCCI office bearers urged the government to prioritise industrial growth and exports in the budget for FY26 by widening the tax base, capping business income tax at 25pc, aboldevelopment, access to ishing the Super Tax, and reversing recent controverures to promote entrepre- sial amendments to the

They called for a har-Senior office bearers monised GST system, fas-

FBR organizes tax awareness session at JIICS

F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), through Taxpayers Services Wing, organized a tax awareness session at Jinnah Institute of Informatics, Commerce & Science, Rawalpindi. The session was attended by Mr. Masood Sultan (Principal), Ms. Muniba Sultan (Head of Department university campus) & Zafar Waqas

Principal) and students. The FBR team included Second Secretary (Tax Education) Zafar Iqbal Khan, Inspector Salman Khaliq, Coordinator Zia Farooqi and staff Manzoor Hussain.



During the session, taken by FBR to enhance ties in their communities. Second Secretary (Tax the transparency and effiEducation) Zafar Iqbal ciency of the revenue col- with a detailed Q&A set

The session concluded with a detailed Q&A ses-Khan gave a comprehen- lecting system. In his brief- sion, where participants sive presentation on the tax ing, he urged students to asked questions and gathing of the tax system structure and overall work-become "Tax Ambassa- ered more information. On among youth and promote a ing of FBR. He highlighted dors" by spreading aware- the occasion, souvenirs

among the students This initiative is part of FBR's ongoing efforts to foster a better understand-

culture of tax compliance in distributed Pakistan.

PSX turns around to bullish trend, gains 1,573 points

100-Index of the Pakistan whereas the share price of Stock Exchange (PSX) 48 companies remained turned around to bullish unchanged. trend on Tuesday, gaining 1,573.07 points, a positive change of 1.32 percent, closing at 120,450.87 The three top trading three top tradin

the day as compared to Rs 2.35 per share. 497,940,020 shares the PIA Holding C

them recorded gains and 3,376.76

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 187 sustained losses,

points as compared to 5.32 per share, Faysal 118,877.81 points on the Bank with 26,656,029 last trading day. shares at Rs 53.77 per A total of 578,163,611 share and Invest Bank shares were traded during with 25,541,103 shares at

PIA Holding Company previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 26.827 billion against Rs 23.450 billion against Rs 23.450 billion at Rs35,543.19 whereas on the last trading day. runner-up was Khyber As many as 467 compa- Textile Mills Limited with nies transacted their shares Rs306.98 rise in its share in the stock market, 232 of price to close at Rs

witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs 57.89 per share price, closing at Rs 1,055.19, whereas the runner-up Rafhan Maize Products Company Limited with Rs 35.12

against US Dollar: The the US Dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 282.11 against the previous day's closing of Rs

However, according to dollar in the open market respectively.

Sapphire Fibres Limited stood at Rs 283.5 and Rs 284.4, respectively.

The price of the Euro increased by 06 paisa to close at Rs 322.12 against the last day's closing of Rs 322.06, according to the State Bank of Pakistan. decline in its per share price to Rs 9,883.90. The Japanese yen

remained unchanged and Rupee sheds 14 paisa closed at Rs1.97, whereas a decrease of Rs 0.60 was Rupee on Tuesday depre- witnessed in the exchange ciated by 14 paisa against rate of the British Pound, which was traded at Rs 381.42 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs

The exchange rates of the Emirates Dirham and the Forex Association of the Saudi Rival increased Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the at Rs 76.81 and Rs 75.20,

Standard Chartered Pakistan and Emirates forge strategic partnership

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Standard Chartered Pakistan and Emirates have entered into a strategic partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The collaboration offers significant benefits to Standard Chartered Credit Card holders, special fares on tickets purchased online through the Emirates website. Additionally, customers can opt to split their monthly installments of up to 12 months.

solidifies Chartered's position as the cials from both companies premier wealth advisory bank in the country and as the trusted banking partner for global corporations operating in the region. It further underscores the from Emirates. Bank's commitment to providing exceptional services mented on the partnership, and benefits to its clients.

The MoU was signed by with Emirates is a signifi-Rehan Shaikh, CEO and cant milestone in our mis-Head Standard

payments into convenient Pakistan and Mohammed Alhashmi, VP for Pakistan, Emirates. Also present at The partnership further the signing ceremony were slidifies Standard senior management offiincluding Saadya Riaz, Head Wealth & Retail Banking, SC Pakistan and Ashfaq Shah, Corporate Sales Manager - Pakistan

> This strategic alliance Coverage, sion to deliver superior Alhashmi, Chartered value and convenience to Pakistan, Emirates stated, added-value.'

our clients. By leveraging our global network and Emirates' renowned service Chartered Pakistan to proexcellence, we are able to vide incentives to their offer unique travel benefits customers We have a spethat align with our clients' lifestyle and financial Pakistan where we have needs. This collaboration been operating since 1985 not only strengthens our and, in partnering with a market position but also leading bank operating in exemplifies our commitment to fostering strong expand our customer base Rehan Shaikh, compartnerships that drive further. The incentives we

the banking sector." Commenting on the allow them to experience agreement, Mohammed our premium travel propo-

"We are delighted to partner cial relationship with the country, we hope to innovation and growth in are providing to Standard Chartered customers will for sition while enjoying

Minister discuss current state of tobacco sector

situation caused temporary

has reaffirmed its unwavering in minor delays in Division - MG Pakistaning commitment to quality select color variants and the "Our top priority is to

and customer satisfaction delivery of free 7KW ensure our customers by swiftly airlifting critical chargers. In light of these receive their vehicles with

"We are pleased to share

tric, Pakistan's first locally assembled plug-in hybrid. ning at full speed, and quality, and timely delivery remains stronger than ever.

vehicle components in challenges, MG Pakistan minimal disruption.'

Minister for National Food fair pricing for farmers was Security and Research, particularly appreciated. Rana Tanveer Hussain on Tuesday stressed the import he need to enhance the tance of focusing on value- Board's budget for research tobacco processing, packag-ing and exports in Pakistan tobacco varieties that can with global standards.

F.P. Report

the delivery of the MG HS

LAHORE: MG Pakistan shipment rerouting, result-

response to recent geopolit- responded decisively by

ical disruptions. These airlifting essential kits and

proactive measures were components to resume pro-

taken to minimize delays in duction at full capacity.

The minister held a national markets. meeting on sector, exports, challenges which

satisfaction over Pakistan's transparency in production. tobacco exports exceeding

The minister emphasized fetch better prices in inter-

The Chairman briefed Tuesday with the Chairman the minister on the Board's of the Pakistan Tobacco initiatives related to crop Board and discussed on the monitoring, traceability, current state of the tobacco and market regulation, to the Minister faced by farmers and the responded positively. He overall performance of the suggested expanding the board, said a press release. traceability system to addi-The minister expressed tional districts to ensure

The minister termed the \$100 million, terming it a Board's efforts in digital promising development for registration, data collection the national economy. He and farmer support said that the Pakistan schemes as a replicable Tobacco Board plays a vital model. He recommended and effective role in bridg- promoting initiatives like tobacco

(APP): Board's role in ensuring and access to agricultural loans to small farmers.

The ongoing geopolitical immediately," said Syed

Asif Ahmed

"Our top priority is to

MG Pakistan expressed

gratitude to its valued cus-

tomers for their patience,

Marketing

Manager

Board's new market exploration policy was regarded as a positive step towards added products to align and development, in order enhancing exports. The minister instructed that new investments be encouraged through public-private partnerships, and that sustainable agricultural practices be promoted to ensure environmental conservation along with the growth of the tobacco crop.

> Rana Tanveer Hussain lauded the overall performance of the Pakistan Tobacco Board and emphasized the need for stronger policy coordination between the ministry and the Board.

He reaffirmed the government's commitment to continue policy consistency for the stability of the industry and ing farmers, industry and the Kisan Card for provid- assured the Board of full export markets. The ing subsidies, input support support in its initiatives.

During the meeting, the

technology sectors.
WCCIS President Dr.

The visit marks a signif-

ening between industry stakeholders and women-led business initiatives in the





In brief

DG emphasizes to improve Badminton rankings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Director General of Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), Yasir Pirzada, met with a delegation of the Pakistan Badminton Federation (PBF) led by Wajid Ali Chaudhry. The meeting focused on proposed junior and senior badminton tournaments, equal opportunities for players, and matters related to obtaining NOCs for participation in international competitions, said a press release. Pirzada said that badminton, like many other sports, holds immense potential in Pakistan. He emphasized that with proper promotion, the sport can bring international recognition to the country, not just in Asia but globally. He added that improving Pakistan's badrankings requires transparent trials and providing talented players with opportunities at national and international levels. He further informed the delegation that PSB has launched an "E-Portal," through which all services—including the NOC process for international participation can now be accessed online. He said efforts are underway to make the NOC issuance process for players representing Pakistan abroad more efficient and transparent. The delegation also included PBF Secretary

PBSA Chairman meets Secretary

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The Pakistan Billiards

General Raja Azhar

and Treasurer Parvez

Habib Butt.

& Snooker Association Chairman, (PBSA) Alamgir A. Shaikh, met the Secretary Sports, Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani here at Pakistan Sports Board. Secretary Sports IPC assured all support to snooker sports /& Snooker federation, said a press release. Alamgir Shaikh requested the Secretary Sports IPC for the release of Annual and Special grant of the Pakistan Snooker Federation. Secretary Sports IPC assured the chairman that the above matter would be placed for consideration in the meeting of the Pakistan Sports Board, for approval and release of grants sooner rather Shaikh later. than thanked the Secretary Sports IPC for giving his precious time and positive response about the above said requests. The chairman also met DG PSB, Yasir Pirzada at his office and discussed the pending issues and problems faced by PBS, the DG PSB, heard the chairman about the issues faced association/federation and assure to resolve these. The Chairman was very optimistic

Boxing trials

about the outcome of

the above said meeting.

concluded ISLAMABAD (APP): Boxing Trials of Men & Women under Prime Minister Programme(PMYP) were concluded yesterday at the Azad Jammu & Kashmir University, Muzaffarabad. Chief Guest of the event, VC Azad Jammu & University Kashmir Muzaffarabad, Haider Nadeem Bukhari, while talking on the occasion, shared with the participants the importance of sports initiatives and announced plans to establish a multipurpose sports gymnasium. Dr. Ali Malik, Dep. Sect. PMYP informed the partici-pants about PMYP and its initiatives. He also talked about the ongoing Boxing Talent Hunt and Cricket upcoming

Talent Hunt, Phase-II of

the Talent Hunt project,

Championships and E-

Development.

E-Sports

Policy



Sports

LONDON: Saqib Mahmood bounced out Shai Hope for a first-ball duck, England vs West Indies, 3rd ODI.

Australia confirms tour to Pakistan next year

Cricket Australia (CA) Chief Executive Todd Greenberg has reaffirmed Australia's commitment to strengthening cricketing ties with Pakistan, both through bilateral tours and

Speaking to the jour- said nalists, Greenberg confirmed that Australia will ing for solutions. great for tour Pakistan next year "We would welcome the teams." for a white-ball series more and highlighted the Pakisi importance of this bilateral relationship.
"We're touring Pakistan

next year for some white-

Greenberg also He also emphasised that touched on the challenges nationality or origin Pakistani players face in should never be a barrier participating in the BBL in building a world-class because of no objection tournament. greater participation of certificate (NOC) restric-Pakistani players in the tions from the Pakistan best players to the BBL, Big Bash League (BBL). Cricket Board (PCB) but regardless of where they Cricket Board (PCB) but regardless of where they that

> high-profile lowings here in Australia, strong global footprint,

(DNA): and welcoming the envi-lia (CA) ronment was, and our comes together for this ve Todd players loved it," he said. upcoming BBL season."

"Our aim is to bring the Cricket come from. The inclusion Australia is actively look- of Pakistani stars would be great for the league and

Greenberg's comments Pakistani players in the come at a time when BBL. They have huge fol- Pakistani cricket has a especially among the local and Australia is looking Pakistani community," he to tap into that connection ball cricket, which I think stated. "There are conver- — both for the growth of will be great. The 2022 sations happening right the BBL and broader tour showed how warm now to attract players, and cricket diplomacy.

the opening match. In the second match, District Faisalabad edged out District Jhang with a narrow 1–0 win. In the boys' category, District Jhang overcame District Chiniot in a thrilling match by securing a 4–2 win.

PMLN leaders Khawaja Muhammad Islam and Rana Manawar Iqbal witnessed the opening ceremony as chief guests. They appreciated the efforts of young athletes and highlighted the importance of such tournaments in promoting sports culture across the province.

TTS and

Faisalabad win

matches

Faisalabad won their open-

ing day matches during

Inter-District Girls and Boys

Hockey Tournament organ-

ized at Hockey Stadium

Madina Town under the aegis of Divisional Sports

Department to prepare hock-ey teams for Chief Minister

(ČM) Punjab Summer

A spokesman for the

sports department said here

on Tuesday that in the girls'

category, Ďistrict Toba Tek

Singh delivered a dominant

performance and defeated

District Chiniot with a

resounding 7-0 victory in

Tek Singh and

(APP):

FAISALABAD

Games 2025.

Faisalabad and Chiniot secure

victories FAISALABAD (APP): Faisalabad and Chiniot secured victories by defeating their rivals during Inter-District Kabaddi held at Tournament

Malikpur Kabaddi Stadium as part of Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Summer Games 2025 activities. A spokesman for the

sports department said here on Tuesday that the tournament featured thrilling contests between the teams from various districts of Faisalabad division.

In the first match, District Faisalabad overpowered District Toba Tek Singh with a convincing score of 52–42 while the second match was a nailbiter where District Chiniot narrowly defeated District Jhang by 32–31 points.

Prominent political and sports figures including PMLN leaders Chaudhary Faqeer Hussain Dogar, Mian Abdul Mannan and Khawaja Muhammad Islam witnessed the tournament as guests of honor. Divisional Sports Officer Shah Manzar Fareed, former Sports Officer Chaudhary Tariq Nazeer, District Sports Officers Sajida Lateef, Muhammad Jameel, Provincial Coach Zarina Waqar, Sports Officers.

Babar, Rizwan can't be ruled out of T20I team, believes Salman Butt

tator, coach Salman Butt their Herculean performances with the bat in the past years, ace batters Babar Azam and Pakistan's T20I team.

'Babar topped the ICC T20I ranking charts for three years and is the leading run-scorer for Pakistan. He is the second leading run-getter in the T20Is in the world and only behind India's Rohit Sharma by a few runs' the former captain said in an interview with famous Pakistani cricket Youtuber and analyst Sanaullah on Tuesday.

Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan and Shaheen Shah Afridi were not considered for the recently concluded threematch T20I series against Bangladesh as Pakistan fielded a new-look T20I squad with the focus on playing 'fearless without being careless' cricket.

The former captain Salman Butt said if we dissect great players' professional careers, there are three or four years when they are at the ultimate peak and Babar has achieved this stature through his consistent performances with the bat.

Babar Azam is an outstanding run-getter for the country and this made him

Cricketer-turned commen- every part of the country.

has said that considering runs are not coming with flow and he is not managing to play big innings as he former opening batter them have made man Salman Butt said, adding come-backs to the team. Mohammad Rizwan cannot that, currently, he lacks be ruled out of the consistency as his bat has not been producing runs as he was in the past and the peak of his career but such phases of lean patch are common with great players and great player always make a comeback.

On the new-look T20I team, he said Babar and Rizwan came under the hammer for not being that aggressive in the first six overs of the power-play and, moreover, it was a common perception that they leave little space for the other batter when they play long innings.

Salman Butt was adamant that the PCB cannot completely rule out Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan, adding if a unit can be developed which is satisfying and more aggressive to replace Babar, there is good.

Salman said Pakistan T20I squad will need a player like Babar's stature to play sheet anchor role in challenging conditions. He said Pakistan T20I squad under Salman Ali Agha got exposed in the recent whiteball tour of New Zealand.

Salman Butt, however, disagreed with the interheartthrob of the nation and that Bangladesh team may world cup 2026.

(APP): he was on billboards in be called a young team but it would be unjust to "He is still young but call Pakistan team as young, adding the ICC T20I World Čup white-ball cricket over the used to do in the past," the in 2022 while the rest of them have made many

> On Pakistan's victory against Bangladesh, Butt believed Salman though it was a reasonable victory but it can not be taken as a big achievement to celebrate, adding that Bangladesh were a depleted side which lost T20I series against UAE recently. He most of Bangladesh senior cricketers had retired or were out of the Pakistan tour due to injury or personal reasons.

Salman Butt praised Mohammad Haris for his maiden century, adding it is a good omen that another consistent wicket-keeper batter will serve Pakistan cricket besides reliable Mohammad Rizwan.

On Pakistan bowling line-up in the series, Salman Butt said 'Politely but factually, it was not a series to judge Pakistan's bowling, adding that one needs to have a strong opposition to judge the bowling. He said Pakistan bowled with all-rounders in the series and still worked against the depleted Bangladesh side. He said Pakistan cricket team must play five front-line bowlers to make a difference in the viewer and reminded him upcoming ICC Men's T20I

Pakistani Hockey stars shine in Poland

WARSAW (DNA): Murtaza Tournament, reflecting his planning, and we are proud Yagoob, Ehtesham Aslam, all-around and Abdul Rehman, have made the nation proud by delivering an outstanding performance on foreign soil. final of the First Super League Hockey Cup held in Poland.

The final match of the prestigious Super League First Championship saw Siemianowice Slaskie Hockey Club emerge as champions, thanks in large part to the stellar performances of the three former international players from Pakistan. Their exceptional skills and teamwork captivated hockey fans in Europe and won hearts across the board.

Ehtesham Aslam was declared the Best Player of of the Final, and ultimately Best Player

Tournament, while Murtaza Representing Siemianowice Yaqoob was named the Best my parents, well-wishers, Slaskie Hockey Club, the trio Defender of the Tournament, and friends that we per-

> is a matter of great pride to thoughts, saying: "Being the ing with us and leading the is a great personal achievethe performance of our senbenefiting our juniors. Speaking on the occa-

Saudi Arabia football

congratulates Mohsen Gilani

ISLAMABAD (APP): extended his congratula-The Pakistan Football tions, stating, "On behalf President PFF Mohsen Federation (PFF) has of the Saudi Arabian Gilani expressed his grat-

received warm congratu- Football Federation, I itude saying, "Thank you latory message from the would like to extend our for your kind and

football leadership of sincere congratulations on thoughtful words regard-

Saudi Arabia following your election as President ing my election as the election of Mohsen of the Pakistan Football President of the PFF. The

Gilani as the new Federation. Your exten- longstanding relationship

In an official letter, ball will undoubtedly truly commendable, and

Yasser H. Almisehal, benefit the Pakistani foot- the PFF highly values the

the Semi-Final, Best Player League — we didn't lose a hockey talent on an internaresult of our hard work and and pride to the country.

brilliance to have raised our country's throughout the league. Abdul flag high." Ehtesham Aslam Rehman earned the honor of credited his success to his Top Goal Scorer of the loved ones and supporters: "It is due to the prayers of

played a key role in leading solidifying his status as a formed so well. Being their team to victory in the defensive powerhouse. The club's coach praised Tournament is a huge honor the performance of the for me." Top scorer Abdul Pakistani players, stating, "It Rehman also shared his have Pakistani heroes play- top scorer of the tournament club to championship glory. ment. Unfortunately, I had Their experience and game to miss a few matches due to skills are not only enhancing injury, but we all worked hard for our club, and today, ior players but also greatly by the grace of Allah, we are reaping the reward."

performance of sion, Murtaza Yaqoob these Pakistani players not expressed his pride: "Our only led their team to team remained undefeated championship victory but throughout the Super also showcased Pakistan's single match. This is the tional stage, bringing honor

ment extended by SAFF,

Sabalenka to face Swiatek in blockbuster semi-final



PARIS (Agencies): World number one Aryna Sabalenka will face three-time to keep the second set close. defending champion Iga Swiatek in a blockbuster French Open semi-final between two title contenders.

Sabalenka edged a tight quarter-final against China's Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen 7-6 (7-3) 6-3 on a blustery Court Phillippe Chatrier on Tuesday. Poland's Swiatek then came through 6-1 7-5 against Elina Svitolina to set up a fascinating lastfour encounter.

Belarusian Sabalenka replaced fifthranked Swiatek as world number one in October last year.

The pair have met 12 times, with Swiatek leading the head-to-head 8-4 - but they have not met at a major since the 2022 US Open semi-finals.

Swiatek has won four of the past five Roland Garros titles, while Sabalenka is bidding for her first Paris trophy. "Aryna has a game for every surface, so I need to focus on myself, do the work, be brave in my shots and just go for it," Swiatek said.

"It is going to be a tough match, but I'm nappy for the challenge.

A true battle' - Sabalenka advances For all that Swiatek has dominated the French Open in recent years, Sabalenka is the player to beat this time around. She has won three titles this year - including one on the Madrid clay - and reached two fur-ther finals, as well as strengthening her grip on the top ranking.

But her three-set defeat by Madison Keys in the Australian Open final stung - and she looks on a mission to avenge that loss.

Zheng had cause for optimism. She snapped a six-match losing streak to Sabalenka on the Rome clay in May and ultimately started the better of the two.

However, the mistakes were the difference, with Zheng committing 31 unforced errors to Sabalenka's 18 and winning just 39% of points behind her second serve. Sabalenka was visibly unimpressed

with the wind, her game and finding herself down an early break in the first set, but she generated enough rhythm to break back for 4-4.

The top seed dominated the eventual tie-break, taking it on a long whipped forehand from Zheng, and repeatedly battled back from 0-30 down in her service games

The pair exchanged breaks before Zheng played her worst game of the match to hurry Sabalenka along to a 4-3 lead.

Sabalenka's quality then shone through as, with Zheng 40-0 up and serving to stay in the match, she hammered winners past her opponent to seal the match as quickly

as possible. That was a true battle - I have no idea how I was able to get back into that first set," Sabalenka said. "I was ready to leave

everything I have on court to win.' 'Proactive' Swiatek sees off Svitolina Swiatek's struggles in the build-up to the French Open were well-documented, but there was always a chance her game

would click into place in Paris. Victory over Elena Rybakina in the fourth round, with Swiatek battling back from a set and a break down, will have been

a welcome confidence boost. Although the first set was closer than the scoreline suggested, once Swiatek broke there was an inevitability about it.

One of the best frontrunners, Swiatek saved break points in her first service game, broke and then reeled off five games in a row to deflate Svitolina.

Svitolina, who has added more attack to her game since her return from maternity leave, took a 3-1 lead with some powerful hitting early in the second set.

But Swiatek broke back in the next game and, just as Sabalenka did, capitalised on a wobbly Svitolina service game to regain the break lead and ultimately serve out the match.

'I wanted to be proactive and really lead in the game, so I'm happy I did that,' Swiatek added.

Ushna Suhail bags National Ranking Tennis C'ships title

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ushna maintained her momentum and title of the 1st edition of the Emerging Pakistan National Ranking Tennis Championships at the PTF-SDA Tennis

President of the PFF.

Arabian

Federation

President of the Saudi

Complex on Tuesday.
Top seed Ushna Suhail lived up to expectations, clinching the Ladies Singles title with a composed and dominant straight-sets victory over promising 4th seed

Zunaisha Noor of Islamabad. In a final that showcased high-quality tennis from both nals delivered high-octane players, Ushna's experience and consistency proved decisive.

ine and cross-court shots, but Ushna quickly asserted control, racing to a 5-2 lead before breaking Zunaisha in the eighth

game to seal the set 6-2.

Suhail claimed the ladies singles did not allow the young challenger to settle. Applying relentkey moments and dictated play, Tennis ultimately closing out the match with a convincing 6-2, 6-1 win.

ne Saudi ball community and support and encourage-Football beyond your borders." ment extended by SAFF

In response to the con-said a press release.

sive experience in foot- between our nations is

This victory reaffirms Ushna Suhail's position at the top of Zunaisha Noor's spirited performance highlights her potential as a rising star in the sport. The Men's Doubles semifi-

action and thrilling tennis, as experience clashed with youth The opening set saw both and top seeds faced fierce resist-players trading sharp down-the- ance in two gripping encounters. The seasoned duo of Aisam-

ul-Haq Qureshi and Aqeel Khan showcased their class and composure, overcoming top seeds Yousaf Khalil and Barkatullah in In the second set, Ushna a tense three-set showdown.

Barkatullah and Yousaf came in another exhilarating match. seed Muzammil Murtaza both triring, dominating the open-muzammil and Abdullah took booked their spots in the champiout firing, dominating the opening set with solid baseline play less pressure, she capitalized on and sharp shot selection, sealing it 6-3. However, the tide turned in the second set as Aisam and Ageel matched the top seeds shot for shot. The set went into a tiebreak, where the veterans held Pakistan's women's tennis, while their nerve to edge it 7-6(5), leveling the match.

In the decisive super tiebreak, Aisam and Aqeel raced to an 8-4 lead, but the top seeds clawed their way back to 8-all. At the crucial juncture, Aisam's experience came to the fore, helping the pair win the next two points and clinch a hard-fought victory, booking their spot in the final.

youthful pair of Ahmad Nael Qureshi and Abubakar Talha pushed second seeds Muzammil to feature a clash of titans as top and Abdullah Yousaf to the limit seed Ageel Khan and second

the first set 6-2, displaying superior court control. However, Ahmad and Talha responded ond set, showcasing aggressive baseline play and a series of stunning down-the-line winners. Their efforts paid off as they forced a tiebreak and won it 7-6(5) to force a super tiebreak.

Ahmad and Abubakar surged ahead 8-2 in the decider, but the experienced second seeds clawed back point by point, eventually leveling the score at 9-9. In a tense finish, Muzammil smashed powerful overhead and followed it up with a precise cross-In the second semifinal, the court winner to seal the match and secure their place in the final.

The Men's Singles final is set

seed Muzammil Murtaza both nals): Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi onship match with commanding semifinal victories. Both players displayed their class and domiwith fiery resilience in the sec- nance, securing straight-set wins over their respective opponents. Ageel showcased his trademark consistency and court craft, while Muzammil impressed with his powerful groundstrokes and tactical precision.

With both players in top form, the final promises to be an exciting clash as experience meets rising talent in a high-stakes battle for the Men's Singles title, scheduled for tomorrow at 4:00 PM. Men's Singles (semifinals): Ageel Khan beat Barkatullah 6-3 6-4, Muzammil Murtaza beat Yousaf Khalil 6-2 6-4.

Ladies Singles (final): Ushna Suhail beat Zunaisha Noor 6-2 6-1. Men's Doubles (semifi- Muhammad Muaz 4-2 4-2.

& Ageel Khan beat Khalil & Barkatullah 3-6, 7-6(5) 10-8, Abdullah Adnan & Muzammil Murtaza beat Abu Bakar Talha & Ahmad Nael Qureshi 6-2 6-7(5) 11-9.

Junior 18 & Under Singles (semifinals): Muhammad Salar beat Asad Zaman 6-4 6-2, Hamza Roman Vs AbuBakar Talha (in Progress).

Boys 14 & Under Singles semifinals: Muhammad Muaz beat Muhammad Umer 7-5 6-2, Muhammad Junaid beat Razik Sultan 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.

Boys 12 & Under Singles semifinals: Muhammad Aayan beat Muhammad Danyal 4-0 4-0, Muhammad Muaz beat M.

Faizan 4-1 4-1. Boys 12 & Under Singles final: Muhammad Aayan beat



In brief Drug paddler

jailed RAWALPINDI (APP): A local court has sentenced a drug peddler named, Sikandar Ali to 9 years rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs. 80,000.0 According to details, Gujjar Khan Police had arrested the accused in April 2024 after recov-Rawalpindi,

ering 1600 grams of charas (cannabis) from his possession. CPO Khalid Hamdani commended the investigation and legal teams for their effective handling of the case. "This conviction reflects our zero-tolerance policy against drug peddlers," he said The CPO further emphasized that the city police remains committed to eradicating menace of drug from society through strict legal action. "We will continue our crackdown on narcotics to protect our youth and maintain pubic safety," he added.

IRSA releases 242,921 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Tuesday released 242,921 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 187,416 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1472.92 feet which was 70.92 feet higher than dead level of 1402.00 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 91,700 cusecs and 156,600 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1163.40 feet, which was 113.40 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 34,395 cusecs and 25,000 cusecs, respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa , Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 153,583, 121,281 and 66,827 cusecs, respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 25,400 isecs of water released at Nowshera and 7438 cusecs released from

2,000 Kg of unsafe meat seized

River Chenab at Marala.

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a swift and vigilant operation, the Motorway Police on Tuesday recovered around 2,000 kilograms of unhealthy meat from two suspicious vehicles near Chakri during a routine patrol. According to the spokesperson of the Motorway police, the officers stopped two Suzuki carry vans after noticing suspicious activity during routine checks. On inspection, they found the vehicles were loaded with a large quantity of contaminated meat Officials from the Punjab Food Authority (PFA) Rawalpindi were immediately called to the scene. After checking, they confirmed that the meat was not safe for human consumption and could pose serious health risks. The drivers and the vehicles were handed over to the Punjab Food Authority for further action. Police from Chakri Station also reached the spot and initiated legal action.

23 outlaws arrested

ISLAMABAD (APP) Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police, A a b a r a Secretariat, Shalimar, Sangjani, Khanna, Kirpa, Humak, Bhara Kahu and Phulgran police station teams arrested 18 accused involved in different criminal activities and recovered 6443 gram heroin, 21 bottles liquor and 10 pistols from their possession on Tuesday. A public relations officer told APP that Cases have been registered against the arrested accused and further investigations are ongoing. Additionally, during a special campaign launched for the arrest of proclaimed offenders and absconders, various police teams arrested 05 criminals.



KARACHI: Maritime Minister Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry unveils the plaque to inaugurate a solar project at KPT Izhar Abbasi Hospital, Keamari area. —APP Photo

Hanif Abbasi, Uzbek envoy discuss Railway transit corridor project

Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi and Uzbekistan's Ambassador to Pakistan, Ali Shir Takhtae held detailed discussions on Tuesday regarding the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan Railway Transit Corridor project.

The meeting was focused to further strengthen cooperation in the railway sector and to devise a joint strategy for the completion of this historic project, said a news release. During the meeting, the leaders described the project as a milestone for regional economic growth and the consolidation of trade ties. Consensus was reached to finalize cooperation on this approximately 850-kilometer long railway connectivity project, which included the construction of a new 647-kilometer railway line through Afghanistan.

the first direct railway link avenues for trade and eco- not only reinforce economic through robust reforms.

nomic collaboration in the ties but will also play a pivregion. Hanif Abbasi said, otal role in promoting Upon completion of this regional peace and stability. project, Pakistan will gain the shortest and most effi- Takhtaev highlighted the

railway corridor will signifi- ter economic prosperity and cantly reduce transit time create new employment and transportation costs, benefiting all stakeholders."

corridor is expected to han- positive impacts of this projdle an annual freight capacity of 15 million tons, which will tremendously boost export and import volumes development and harmony in the region. The Minister for the region. termed this project a historic milestone that will provide commitment to deepening Central Asia direct access to cooperation in the railway Pakistan's ports, facilitating sector and continuing easier access to global trading markets. Hanif Abbasi emphasized the strategic This corridor will become importance of the project as a key component of China's modernize Pakistan's railbetween Central Asia and Belt and Road Initiative, way system and enhance

Ambassador Ali Shir

cient route to Central Asia, vast investment opportuniwhich will not only increase ties in Pakistan's railway trade volumes but also sector and the potential to strengthen the region's econ- enhance bilateral trade relaomy on a solid footing." tions. He stressed that col-He further added, "This laborative efforts could fosopportunities for the people of both countries. Both lead-He mentioned that the ers appreciated the potential ect in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, describing it as a beacon of

work on joint development projects. Hanif Abbasi pledged to leverage Uzbekistan's expertise to South Asia, opening new stating, "This project will its operational efficiency

Sana Yousaf's killer nabbed within 20 hours: IG Rizvi

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police have arrested the suspect involved in the brutal murder of 17-year-old TikToker Sana Yousaf within 20 hours of the incident, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi announced on Tuesday.

An official told APP that the case was registered on the complaint of Sana's mother, who stated that around 5 p.m. on Monday, an unidentified man entered their residence in Sector G-13/1, opened fire on Sana, and fled. The victim sustained two gunshot wounds to the chest and was shifted to a hospital, where she succumbed to her injuries.

He said Sana's mother added that the suspect could be identified if pre-Chitral, 800,000 followers on

(APP): TikTok and over 500,000 case of repeated rejection on Instagram. At the time The accused made multiple market, her father at pect had remained outside brother in Chitral.

> media, said the attacker had her. On June 2, after spendposed as a guest to gain ing several more hours tryentry into the house before ing to contact her, he execommitting the murder. He cuted his plan and shot her. said after registering the case, police launched a swift Minister Mohsin Naqvi investigation and appre- remained in constant con-hended the accused, Umar tact during the investigation Hayat alias "Kaka," from and issued timely direc-Faisalabad within 20 hours.

He said investigations after repeated rejections, added that the police recovered the murder weapon and had around destroy evidence. IG Rizvi said, "This is a ing the suspect."

of the attack, she was at attempts to contact the vichome with her aunt, while tim and stalked her persisther mother was at the ently." IG Rizvi said the suswork, and her younger the victim's house for over eight hours on May 29, her IG Rizvi, speaking to the birthday, attempting to meet

IG Rizvi said the Interior tives. The Islamabad Police kept him regularly updated revealed that the suspect had IG Rizvi said seven police tried to befriend Sana and, teams led by DIG Tariq, SSP Investigation, SSP planned the attack. He Operations, and DSP CIA played key roles in the investigation. He also sented before her. He said the victim's iPhone, which appreciated the assistance Sana Yousaf, a native of the suspect had taken to of cellular forensics and social media experts in trac-

ICT admin dismantles 10 illegal cattle markets

action against the illegal cattle sale points and 10 unauthorized markets have been dismantled while 9 people were arrested as the buying and selling of sacrificial animals picks up in the federal capital ahead of Eid.

In this regard, teams led by assistant commissioners (ACs) conducted raids in various zones, shutting down several unauthorized cattle markets. The operation is aimed at maintaining order in the city and ensuring that cattle trading takes place only in approved locations, said the spokesman of Islamabad Capital Territory

(ICT) administration here. Assistant Commissioner City, Mahaen Hassan, visited the cattle market in Sangjhani to assess the situation on the ground. The visit was part of a broader instructed that such markets rized cattle trade within inspection effort to monitor market conditions

Islamabad's district admin- GT Road, authorities disistration has intensified its mantled five illegal cattle cases against individuals sale points. During the involved in setting up illegal operation, five individuals markets and to carry out involved in setting up the arrests where necessary. markets were arrested and taken into custody. Further action was taken

in Sector G-12, where AC City supervised the removal legal Meanwhile, Commissioner

where another illegal cattle market was removed. In response to the grow-

ing number of unauthorized Commissioner Islamabad days as more sacrificial anihas directed all assistant mals arrive in the city. The commissioners to patrol their administration has said it respective areas. The DC has will not allow any unautho-

ISLAMABAD (APP): The check for violations. On The administration has also been ordered to register Officials said that the pur-

pose of the crackdown is to prevent traffic congestion, ensure public safety, and maintain hygiene standards of four unapproved markets. ahead of Eid. Designated Four individuals were cattle markets have been set detained and handed over to up with proper arrangethe local police station for ments, and authorities are proceedings. urging citizens to use only Assistant approved locations for buy-Nilore, ing animals. The district Muhammad Ali, led an administration is also monioperation at Sanam Chowk toring designated markets to ensure compliance with regulations related to health cleanliness, and pricing.

Operations are expected Deputy to continue in the coming be shut down immediately urban limits and will take and wherever they are found. strict action against violators.

ANF arrests 4 smugglers, including a woman with over 232 kg of drugs

Capital

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Anti-Narcotics (ANF), conducting six operations across the country, recovered as many as 232.478 kilograms of drugs worth more than Rs 41 million and arrested four suspects, including a woman, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman on Tuesday.

He informed that a 55gram cocaine-filled capsule was recovered from the stomach of a Riyadh-bound passenger at Islamabad Airport. In another operation,24 kg of hashish and 1200 narcotic pills were recovered from a parcel sent to the UK at a courier office in Sialkot.

As many as 7.2 kg of hashish were recovered from the possession of a woman travelling in a pas-senger bus near the Islamabad Motorway Toll Plaza. Similarly,35 ecstasy pills weighing 184 grams were recovered from the possession of a suspect near Bahria Town, Phase 4, Rawalpindi.

As much as 1 kg of malnutrition. year. detect malnutrition early hashish was recovered from They added these chilthe possession of a suspect dren are treated at 169 gramme's success, high-support. Sugar Mor, Faisalabad. During another operation, 200 kg of opium hidden for smuggling was recovered in the uninhabited area of Tozgai in Chagi. Cases have been registered against the arrested suspects under the Narcotics Control Act, and further investigations are underway.

Commuters appeal authorities to reconsider

Metro Bus fares ISLAMABAD Commuters on Tuesday appealed the concerned authorities to reconsider the increase in metro and electric bus fares, terming the decision a burden on those using this service on

daily basis. According to them, the fare has doubled from Rs 50 to Rs100 per ride, sparking discontent widespread among daily passengers who rely on these services for

affordable transportation. The decision has particularly affected low-income groups, who rely heavily on these subsidized services. Nasreen Bibi, a widow and domestic worker, expressed her frustration, saying, Paying Rs100 for a oneway trip is unaffordable for me. How will I manage Rs200 per day just to get to work and return back.

She added that the fare increase has added considerable strain to her finances, particularly since she is the sole earner for her family. Aleem Danish a citizen said with limited public transport options, commuters have to pay the higher fare. He said that he has to pay Rs 200 daily just for transportation adding that this is unsustainable and the authorities need to reconsider this decision.'

The students were also demanding relief from the authorities, urging them to review the fare structure and introduce more affordable options for daily commuters. A student, Amna Naz said, "Education is expensive enough, we don't need transportation costs to add to our woes.

300 KW Solar project unveiled at KPT Izhar Abbasi hospital

Federal Minister for efforts. He emphasised the added.

Maritime Affairs, urgent need to transition The Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry has inaugurated project at KPT Izhar Hospital Karachi on Tuesday.

The initiative, implereduce the hospital's dependence on fossil fuels and address the worsening issue of climate change.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by senior officials including members of the KPT Trustees Committee), General Manager Engineering, Rear Admiral Habib Ur Rehman, Rear Admiral Atiq-ur-Rehman Operations), Brigadier Muhammad Younis (GM key leadership from the Ministry and Karachi Port Trust (KPT).

mented at a cost of Rs also a strategic move to that such projects not only 31.83 million, aims to reduce its carbon foot- combat climate change fossil fuels consume up to economic resilience. 5,000 litres of fuel monthcarbon emissions and cli-

mate degradation." f the KPT Highlighting the pro- change — the minister (Transition ject's broader signifi- reiterated the governthat this effort aligns with the government's Climate of Prime Minister Mian suit. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's directive to tran-Administration), and other sition government facili- Junaid Anwar toured the ties to renewable energy sources.

Addressing the event as in Rs 21.6 million in dedication to improving a chief guest, Federal annual savings and a sub-Minister Junaid Anwar stantial reduction in carsaid KPT hospital solar- bon emissions, providing mentally ization is milestone in both environmental and

to clean energy, especially of the solar project comes in essential public service with minimal maintenance the 300 kW solarization institutions like hospitals. costs of Rs 450,000 annu-"The solarization of the ally, making it a costhospital is not only a solu- effective and environmention to persistent power tally responsible initiaoutages in Keamari but tive. The minister stressed print," the minister added. but also contribute to 'Generators running on national self-reliance and

> Amidst rising temperaly, contributing heavily to tures and an ongoing heatwave — clear manifestations of global climate cance, the minister noted ment's commitment to sustainable energy solutions and urged other pub-Change Policy and is part lic institutions to follow

Following the ceremo-y, Federal Minister hospital, visiting patients in various wards and reaf-"Solarization will result firming the government's public healthcare infrastructure through environ-

WHO, BISP to expand support for malnourished children

ISLAMABAD (APP): The nutrition stabilization cen- lighting a 98% cure rate — Income Programme (BISP) will expand their joint efforts to

trition in Pakistan. This was stated by BISP Chairperson Senator Rubina Khalid and WHO Representative in Pakistan Dr Dapeng Luo during visit to nutrition stabilization centre (NSC) at the Federal Government Polyclinic hospital. They said each year, the partnership helps around 43,000 children under the age of

(WHO) and the Benazir country. Senator Rubina dard of 75%. He said that Support Khalid said, "We want to Pakistan is still facing treat children suffering Healthy mothers and chil- 40% of children under five from severe acute malnua strong Pakistan."

She said that under the centres funded by BISP have treated 46,000 chil-64,000 mothers and caregivers. She said that in 2025, the number of centres will increase to 199, aiming to treat 80,000 two who have medical children and counsel complications caused by 120,000 mothers each

World Health Organization tres (NSCs) across the well above the global stanmake sure no mother or serious challenges with child is left behind. child nutrition as about dren are the foundation of are stunted and nearly 18% suffer from wasting.

He said that climate Benazir Nashonuma pro- change is making the situgramme, WHO-supported ation worse. He added malnutrition is also causing an estimated \$17 bildren since 2022 and given lion in economic losses counselling to more than each year, or 6.4% of Pakistan's Gross National Income.

He said thar WHO will continue to work with BISP, the government, and other UN agencies like WFP and UNICEF to

University campaign takes aim at open waste burning

recent university campaign waste is either dumped organized by the Institute openly or illegally burned, of Urbanism (IoU) in col-releasing toxic pollutants laboration with International Is the Islamic Islamabad Dean of Basic & Applied University (IIUI) and the Prime Minister Green Youth Movement Club IIUI has drawn attention to the dangers of open waste burning (OWB) and promoted ecofriendly alternatives.

The event, titled "Let's Learn Why Not to Burn," brought together experts, environmental regulators and youth activists to discuss the severe environmental and health risks posed by OWB. Islamabad produces more than 1,575 tons of waste daily, with a large amount left uncollected, particularly in non-sec-

and greenhouse gases.

Sciences, "Burning waste emits harmful substances that can cause respiratory diseases and even cancer. This Executive Director of IoU, stressed the importance of the tackling

management," he said. Pak-EPA enforcement challenges, adopt greener alternatives.

innovation and advocacy to

ISLAMABAD (APP): A tor areas. Much of this stating, "Open burning is banned, but weak implementation and lack of

> Meanwhile, Afsheen Dr Irfan Khan, Retired Tajamal of 2Insects presented entrepreneurial warned, models that convert waste into useful resources.

awareness hinder progress.'

Youth engagement was a key focus, with Dr Hafiz Ghufran Ahmad and Dr. practice damages both pub- Hafiz Muhammad Naseer lic health and the environ- emphasizing the role of ment." Dr Ejaz Ahmad, young people in driving sustainable "Pakistan's youth can lead education and research in the shift toward cleaner issue. cities through innovation "Universities must lead in and activism," Naseer said.

The campaign called for promote sustainable waste stronger policies, public awareness, and community-Mr Ashiq Nawaz from driven solutions to curb acknowledged open waste burning and

Over 98,000 issued challans for traffic violations

RAWALPINDI Chief Traffic Rawalpindi Beenish Fatima on Tuesday said the City Traffic Police (CTP) issued over 98,000 challan tickets for various traffic violations last month.

At the same time around 26,000 citizens were provided with fresh driving licenses in May, she said in a statement.

The CTO said a total of 98,239 challan tickets were issued across the district, including 16,570 to motorcyclists for not using helmets, 2,766 to underage drivers, and 11,513 for for negligent and careless driving.
About 6,831 vehicles

were challaned for disrupting traffic, while challans were also issued for lane and line violations, she added.

Similarly, she said, 938 tion, 323 for traffic signal drive for issuing fresh registration documents.

wrong parking. Likewise, the CTO

said, 2,181 public service vehicles (PSVs) were challaned for running without route permits and 2,147 for having no fitness certificates. About 230 challans were issued for vehicles emitting smoke, she added.

The CTO said 13,969 drivers were challaned for using fancy number plates and 3,682 for driving vehicles without registration, while 3,043 were given challan tickets for tinted windows of their vehicles. Beenish Fatima said

235 first information reports were also registered while taking legal action against violations of various traffic rules.

(APP): violation and 835 for licenses to the citizens. Last month, she said,

some 25,679 citizens were provided with fresh driving licenses and 129,550 benefitted from other licensing-related facilities. She noted that in May,

the CTP's Education Wing provided awareness on road safety to more than 5,500 people at various schools, colleges, universities, bus stands and other places regarding traffic rules.

According to the CTP pokesman, the City Traffic Police continued its drive to make the roads safe as per Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's vision of a 'Safe Punjab'.

Some 3,932 challan tickets were issued on traffic law violations on She said as a sizable Monday, including 895 to number of challans, i.e. motorcyclists for not wear-19,536 were issued for ing helmets, 625 for drivchallan tickets were driving without a licence, ing without lincence and issued for one-way violathe CTP intensified its 108 for not having vehicle

4 killed, 2 hurt in accident

SHIBERGHAN (Pajhwok): Four persons including a woman and two children have been killed and two others injured as a result of a traffic accident in Jawzjan, an official said on Tuesday. Police spokesman Qari Abdul Sattar Halimi told Pajhwok Afghan News a corolla-type vehicle collided with a car in Khanga district Tuesday's morning. He said four people, including two children and a woman, lost their lives and two others were wounded in the accident.

The Frontier Post Zil Hajj 07, 1446 — Wednesday, June 04, 2025

WHO security officer killed

NANGARHAR (Khaama Press): A WHO security officer from the Badakhshan Ismaili community was brutally killed in Nangarhar, raising concerns over the safety of Ismailis in Afghanistan. About eight months ago, his brother, Sayed Shamir Yamgani, was also killed at the same WHO office. Local sources reported on Tuesday, that a resident of Badakhshan province working at the World Health Organization (WHO) office in Nangarhar was brutally murdered

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

Public Security Directorate ensures safety for Eidul Azha

KABUL (BNA): The potential security threats Public Security Directorate and ensure public peace of the Ministry of Interior during the holiday. has declared its full pre-

efforts aim to prevent any days in safety.

Mullah Abdul Rahim paredness to maintain safe- Zaheer, head of the Public upcoming Eid al-Adha cel- reassured citizens that Afghanistan's security and In a statement released defense forces are commit- and exit points, and heightto Bakhtar News Agency, ted to protecting both lives the directorate's spokesper-and property. He emphason outlined the proactive sized the importance of a

To facilitate a secure environment for Eid celebrations, the directorate has put in place several specific

arrangements. ty and security during the Security Police Directorate, include increased police patrols in public areas stringent control of entry ened security measures in sensitive locations.

Zaheer highlighted that measures being implement- visible security presence these steps are designed to ed by the Public Security throughout the country to create a calm atmosphere, Police across Kabul and minimize risks, allowing enabling citizens to celevarious provinces. These families to enjoy the festive brate Eid with joy and

Minister prioritizes fair educational services



Habibullah Agha, the Min-balanced ices for all children during top priority for the minarecent meeting with istry. administrators, instructors, and students at the Imam Agha further emphasized Paktika province.

tion, Education Minister as both a religious and nation.

KABUL (BNA): Mawlavi highlighted that ensuring educational ister of Education, empha- opportunities, particularly sized the importance of for orphans and underequitable educational serv- privileged children, is a

Mawlavi Habibullah

national duty.

During the meeting, officials from the orphanage presented several proposals and concerns regarding educational services. The Minister assured them of the ministry's cooperation in addressing these issues, Bukhari Orphanage in the ministry's commitment reinforcing the governto the proper upbringing of ment's commitment to In a statement released by the Ministry of Educaby the Ministry of Educanied children, describing it

orphans and unaccompaimproving educational
access for all children in the educational

Road connecting Kabul to Badakhshan 70% done

carried out by the Panjshir completed soon.' Extraordinary Brigade.

Badakhshan to the capital, the interim government to problems will be solved." Kabul, via Panjshir. Acco- make serious efforts to rding to the Engineering pave the road as well. Director of the Panjshir Extraordinary 70% of the road leveling the past, people used to get

Naqibullah Farqani, the governments, some roads 231 kilometers.

and 12 meters wide, is being is ongoing and it will be

Meanwhile, residents of

Brigade, hshan, Imamuddin, said: "In and graveling work has stuck here and could not been completed. stuck here and could not pass. Later, during previous pass. Later, during previous

PANJSHIR (TOLOnews): Engineering Director, stat- were built. Now, thankfully The construction of the ed: "The road will also it is being properly con-Panishir-Badakhshan road, extend to Jorm and Bark structed." Another resident, which is 210 kilometers long districts. God willing, work Hazrat Shah, said: "The route to our districts and province has already become shorter, but once the The road will connect Badakhshan are calling on road is paved, many of our

> Officials from the Panishir Extraordinary Brigade One resident of Badak- say this road will serve as a good alternative to the Salang route and will shorten the distance between Badakhshan and Kabul by

Governor engages with Turkish Trade Attaché

HERAT (BNA): Sheikh Mawlana Islamjar, the Governor of Herat, met in his office with Emre Unal, the Commercial Attaché of

the Turkish Embassy.

Mufti Mohammad Yousuf Sayeedi, the spokesperson for the Herat provincial government, told Bakhtar News Agency that Emre Unal, the Commercial Attaché of the Turkish Embassy, and the Turkish Consul General in Herat, during the meeting with Sheikh Mawlana Islamjar, discussed the commercial capacity of Herat and the expansion of economic efforts in the sectors of mining extraction and electricity production in Herat.

Mufti Sayeedi added that during the meeting, the Governor of Herat reminded the attendees of Herat's high potential in various economic and commercial sectors as well as important ongoing projects. He emphasized that alongside full security, the local administration provides necessary facilities for investment in Herat province.

The Governor also spoke about the need to increase cooperation to provide more facilities in trade matters between the two countries and called for investment from Turkey in the sectors of modern agriculture development and railway lines in Herat province.

46 prisoners released

KABUL (Khaama Press): Forty-six Afghan prisoners were recently released from Pakistani prisons and safely returned to Afghanistan after completing registration. The Ministry of Migrants has announced that 46 Afghan prisoners who were held in various prisons across Pakistan have been released from those prisons and returned to Afghanistan.

According to information from the Spin Boldak border office in Kandahar province, these 46 individuals had been detained in Pakistani prisons for periods ranging from one to three days due to various reasons. After completing registration procedures and receiving humanitarian assistance, they released and sent back to their home country.

In recent years, Afghan migrants in neighboring countries, have faced numerous restrictions and pressures. The detention of Afghan migrants, even those holding legal residence documents, has been a persistent concern for human rights and migration organizations.

New township being built for refugees in Helmand

KABUL (Pajhwok): A new township for refugees is being built in southern Helmand province, where more than 4,000 plots will be distributed, the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing said on Tuesday.

In a statement, the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing said the residential schemes was being constructed on 2,500 acres of land in Washir district..

At the project's opening ceremony, Deputy Prime Minister Maulvi Abdul Salam Hanafi said the forced deportation of refugees by neighboring countries was against all principles. He said all services and

plots would be provided to refugees deemed eligible.

Acting Minister Sheikh Hamdullah Nomani explained the township will be built in accordance with all building standards.

refugees and

"Refugees are people Afghan who emigrated from their encourage them to return to country to protect their reli- their country. gion, honor, and dignity".

Nomani asked the peo- for Aliens and Foreign and have time July 5 to leave ple to open their arms to Immigrants' Affairs said the country.

with the cancellation of census forms, over four million Afghan refugees in Iran On May 28, Iran Center have been declared illegal

Hanifi asks muhtasibs not to violate people's privacy

KABUL (Pajhwok): Acting addressed officials of the Minister of Vice and Virtue Ministry, emphasising that Maulvi Mohammad Khalid moral inspectors (muhta-Hanifi says Islam does not sibs) were chosen to impleallow violation of individu- ment the Islamic system als' privacy and it is not and must fulfill their resppermissible to search a per- onsibilities with sincerity. son's mobile phone, pock-

implementing Hisbah muhatsibs to lead by exam-(accountability) during Eid ple and guide society al-Adha period, Hanifi through their conduct.

The Ministry of Vice and ets or home without their consent.

Virtue and Complaints (MoVVC) wrote on its X Speaking at a seminar on handle that Hanifi advised

gion of Islam does not allow the violation of a peris not permissible to access someone's mobile phone, pockets, or home without their permission."

Hanifi added: "The Sharia is our primary goal. We must strive to represent and interpret the Islamic system in a way that pleas- objectives.'

He urged the moral inspectors to prioritise enforcson's privacy. Therefore, it ing Sharia within the framework of Islamic principles.

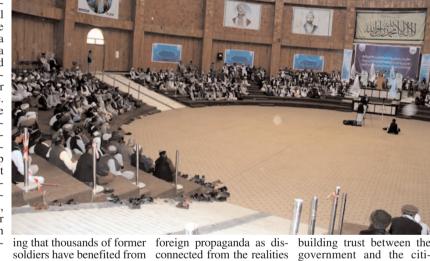
Additionally, strongly warned against corruption, "Taking bribes is worse implementation of Islamic than consuming pork. Choose sincerity, and make divine pleasure and societal reform your main

Shia community voices support for Islamic Emirate in Ghazni

GHAZNI (BNA): In a gathering at the Islamic Cultural Center in Ghazni city, the High Commission of Shia Scholars, comprising Shia scholars, tribal elders, and former political and military figures, expressed their support for Islamic Emirate.

During the meeting, the commission's head, Mohammad Ali Akhlaqi, emphasized the importance of fostering a strong relationship between the government and the populace. He praised the four-year achievements of the Islamic Emirate, highlighting the need for international recognition and the release of Afgh-

anistan's frozen assets. Former security official also spoke at the event, not-



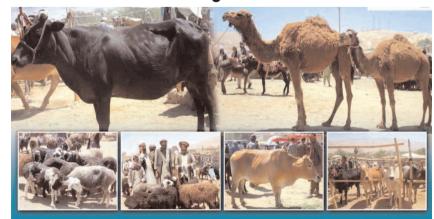
a general amnesty, allowing on the ground. General Ghulam Ali Wahdat them to live in a secure environment. He dismissed

Solidarity Committee

The speakers at the meeting underscored that

zens is vital for reinforcing authority national Afghanistan.

High livestock prices deter cattle buyers in Samangan



AIBAK (Pajhwok): Some of Dalkhki village, who Samangan province com- animal, plain about high prices of Adha compared to their compared to last year and it rates last year, but livestock had become difficult to find increase in rates to succes- choice. sive droughts and rising price of livestock feed.

al-Adha, Muslims sacrifice costs 12,000 afghanis". cows, sheep or camels. Usually, sheep are sacrificed individually or jointly by two to seven people. This year, livestock markets are bustling, but peo- a cow with his relatives. ple are talking about the

Abdul Karim, a resident ficial animals": he added.

of northern came to buy a sacrificial told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of livestock ahead of Eid-ul- livestock had increased attribute the a sacrificial animal of one's

"Last year I bought a sheep for 9,500 afghanis, On the occasion of Eid but this year the same sheep

Abdul Aziz, another resident, explained he used to ficed by one person, while buy a sheep for Eid-ulcows or camels are sacri- Adha every year, but this year, due to economic problems and the high price of livestock, he decided to buy

"Prices are very high and skyrocketing prices of ani- this year it is really not possible for many to buy sacri-

Meanwhile, droughts of the past few years and the increase in price of livestock feed have forced farmers to raise the price of their livestock, some residents explained.

Abdul Raouf, a livestock seller for 18 years, said: arrival of Eid-ul-Adha, the "Perhaps this is the first prices have Rates have year that increased. surged in previous years, but not to this extent. Last and Commerce Depayears, the price of a sheep was between 9,000afs and 10,000afs, but this year the

13,000afs" Zabihullah, a resident of Kokjar village in Hazrat livestock market on a daily Sultan district, said pas- basis, and necessary meastures did not grow and they ures will be taken to prewere forced to keep their vent price hike.

12,000afs to

sold for

livestock at home due to the drought, which resulted in additional costs for them. "If there had been no drought, livestock prices

would not have raised so much, and both sellers and buyers would have been more comfortable' According to farmers,

this year the price of each sheep is between 11,000 and 26,000 afghanis and the price of each calf or cow is between 25,000 and 110,000 afghanis, which has increased significantly than last year. Officials confirm that as

Eid-ul-Adha approaches, livestock prices have increased, and assure that efforts to control the livestock market are continu-"Unfortunately, on the

prices of livestock surge, but we always try to control it," Mawlawi Ahmad Khan Khadem, head of Industry rtment, told Pajhwok. Recently, droughts and a

shortage of fodder are same type of sheep is being among the main reasons for the increase in livestock prices in the province.

Employees monitor the

Spin Boldak gate to remain closed on first 2 days of Eid

KABUL (Pajhwok): The Spin Boldak crossing in southern Kandahar province will remain shut on the first two days of Eidul Adha against passenthe Ĝeneral gers, Directorate of Border Police said.

The crossing will remain closed against cargo vehicles for four days effective from the first day of Eid, said Border Police Spokesperson Abidullah Faroogi.

He told Pajhwok Afghan News that all passengers should avoid traveling on the said route, which will be open to passengers from noon to 3 p.m. on the third and fourth days of Eid.

calls for urgent action KABUL (Ariana News): beyond capacity.

The Solidarity Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) has issued a pressing call to the Swedish government, urging immediate and longterm action to address the worsening humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

In a statement released during its annual meeting, the SCA warned that Afghanistan is on the brink of catastrophe. "The

"The people of Afghanistan are suffering severely from poverty and oppression," the organization said, citing mass forced returns from Pakistan and Iran, with hundreds of thousands of refugees flooding back into health and education, while ment with Afghanistan's a country already stretched ensuring respect for the

urgent need of humanitarian assistance and millions lacking access to healthcare, education, and clean water, the situation is rapidly deteriorating. The SCA strongly con-

ate's restrictions on women's education and participation in public life, calling of them "a violation of their most fundamental rights.'

The organization emphasized that the IEA must take responsibility for the Afghan people and prioritize the expansion of essenThe committee also

Afghanistan's population in expressed alarm over recent aid cuts, particularly by the United States. The solidarity committee urged Sweden to take the lead in supporting Afghanistan through three key actions: Develop an urgent plan

demned the Islamic Emir- to help mitigate the crisis and provide direct humanitarian support; formulate a long-term strategy to enable Afghans to escape poverty through secure livelihoods and reliable access to education and healthcare; and to work actively to reopen international dialogue and break tial services, especially in the stalemate in engage-

Buildings for five schools constructed in Logar province

PUL-I-ALAM (Pajhwok): Buildings for five schools have been constructed and put into service with financial support from Japan in Haji Ahmad Jan schools. central Logar province, an

official said on Tuesday. At a ceremony in this six classrooms, an adminisregard, Head of Education trative room, a storage Department Maulvi Abdul room, a water well, solar Raĥman Hamidi said the power and regular water buildings consumed 50 milsystems, lion afghanis and were constructed by the Japanese cans, and six toilets. government.

were constructed for Bibi Aisha, Pashtunabad, Deh Mugholan, Kamalkhel, and According to Hamidi,

each school building has handwashing facilities, concrete trash

Previously

He said these buildings schools had no buildings efforts were underway to many problems. With the construction of new buildings, necessary educational environment is provided to nearly 5,000 students,

he added. On the other hand, Minister Acting Education Habibullah Agha said the achievement for Logar, and in the province.

and their students faced construct buildings for schools where students were still studying under the open sky

Since IEA's takeover, there have been significant developments and achievements in the education sector in the country, including

Mawlawi Logar province.
a said the Currently, 70 schools inauguration of five school lack buildings and 100 buildings was an important schools need reconstruction



HYDERABAD: Passengers standing on door step of train while going to hometowns to celebrate Eidul

Aurangzeb reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to economic coop

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for reiterated Pakistan's commitment and readiness to enhance cooperation under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) umbrella to fos-

He reaffirmed Pakistan's strong engagement with the SCO in a virtual address at the meeting of Finance role of the digital economy and Organization (SCO) member states, held in Beijing, China. The minister nologies in fostering economic gic planning in the area of financial also extended gratitude to the growth and prosperity. The finance cooperation. He highlighted the high-level gathering. He emphasized to global challenges such as ecothe significance of Pakistan's mem-nomic slowdowns, widening bership in the SCO, describing the inequalities, and climate change. He organization as a vital platform for advocated for inclusive development fostering regional cooperation and models that serve all SCO members strengthening economic ties among and ensure sustainable outcomes. member countries

SCO's growing role in exploring new avenues for regional development and reiterated Pakistan's resolve to bolster economic cooperations are solved and praised digital connectivity across the SCO fully pursuing stability and reforms, commending its comment of an integration through the SCO plat-

Nusuk card will not be granted access

to the Grand Mosque, the holy sites

or transportation services during this

year's Ĥajj, Saudi authorities have

of official Hajj missions during the

49th Grand Hajj Symposium in Jeddah, Minister of Hajj and Umrah Tawfiq Al-Rabiah highlighted the

importance of adhering to movement

regulations to protect pilgrims and

described the Nusuk card as a "funda-

extreme weather, the minister advised

pilgrims to remain in their tents on

the Day of Arafah from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. to avoid heat-related illnesses.

He warned that uncoordinated group

movements compromise safety and

The Day of Arafah, the most sig-

Thursday, June 5 this year. Al-Rabiah

added that pilgrims must not walk

from Arafat to Muzdalifah and should

use designated transport systems

ing to the Saudi Press Agency.

disrupt the flow of pilgrims.

collective compliance.

Addressing

Finance and Revenue, Senator the organization's contribution to ects while enhancing regional inte-Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday promoting trade, investment and financial cooperation, while reinforcing regional stability and prosperity. Supporting proposals to increase joint projects, technology ter economic prosperity, stability transfer and capacity-building pro-and sustainable development across grams, he highlighted the need for deeper collaboration among member

He also underlined the critical Ministers and Central Bank financial inclusion in driving equi-Governors of Shanghai Cooperation table development, pointing to Pakistan's active use of digital tech-Chinese government for hosting the minister urged collective responses

Highlighting infrastructure as a He reiterated Pakistan's firm com- driver of regional integration and mitment to the SCO Charter and the economic development, Senator principles of the "Shanghai Spirit" as Aurangzeb backed initiatives aimed guiding tenets for advancing collab-oration in the region and praised digital connectivity across the SCO

transformative step for financing

Strict permit checks, heat safety

rules in focus ahead of Hajj

MAKKAH: Pilgrims without a permit regulations, in line with the spanning more than 1 million so

Kingdom's commitment to a safe,

organized and spiritually fulfilling

pilgrimage. The Nusuk card, issued

by the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, is

a mandatory ID and entry pass for pil-

with Hajj missions, grants access to

schedules and services, and allows

pilgrims to submit feedback. It also

helps authorities monitor crowd

safe and organized pilgrimage.

ital version is available via the offi-

be carried at all times. According to

the ministry, the card expires at the

end of the Hajj season, with all data

erased. However, pilgrims may keep

the physical card as a souvenir and

ues to provide sacrificial animal serv-

ices for the Hajj season in partnership

with the Kingdom's Project for the

Meanwhile, the National Platform

proof of completing Hajj.

In addition to identification, it aids

logistics, facilitates communication such as automated weighing, real-

bution.

Speaking at a meeting with heads grims and workers at the holy sites.

enhance their spiritual experience. He movement and send alerts to ensure a

mental regulatory tool to ensure Pilgrims receive the card through

orderly performance of the pilgrim-age and prevent violations," accord-responsible for its distribution. A dig-

nificant day of Hajj, falls on for Charitable Work, Ehsan, contin-

instead. He said that effective crowd initiative offers pilgrims a seamless

management and transportation plans and reliable way to fulfill the ritual

are essential for safety and require through trusted digital solutions,

concerns about cial Nusuk app, but it does not the minister advised replace the printed card, which must

Senator Aurangzeb acknowledged infrastructure and development projgration and economic synergy. He emphasized Pakistan's perspective on the technical dimensions of the proposed bank and expressed hope that the institution would prioritize innovation, digital finance, fintech solutions, and environmentally sustainable financial practices.

Senator Aurangzeb also welcomed the proposal to activate the SCO Network of Financial Think Tanks, expressing optimism that it could become a leading platform for research, policy analysis, and stratecooperation. He highlighted the comprehensive economic reforms undertaken in Pakistan, particularly in strengthening fiscal discipline, improving key macroeconomic indicators, reducing the current account deficit, stabilizing the currency, and boosting investor confidence.

Earlier, in their addresses, China's Finance Minister and the Governor of the People's Bank of China acknowledged Pakistan's economic progress and congratulated the government for success-

meters. These are supported by more

than 25,000 trained personnel,

including 600 Islamic scholars, more

than 500 veterinarians, 16,500 butch-

ers and assistants, and 400 techni-

cians. Advanced technologies have

been integrated into the operation,

time tracking, and modern refrigera-

tion and sterilization systems, to

ensure the safety, quality, and effi-

ciency of meat processing and distri-

rate of one every seven seconds using

a fully digitized system, enabling

through the Ehsan platform with ease

a secure, three-language website for

the convenient purchase of sacrificial

nationalities. So far, 770,000 live-

the initial target of 750,000, with con-

tinuous deliveries from supplier

bution will cover all 13 administra-

tive regions of the Kingdom and

worldwide. The operation is coordi-

nated with more than 500 charitable

and civil society organizations to

The upcoming humanitarian distri-

farms underway.

Utilization of Hady and Adahi. The extend to more than 27 countries

according to the Saudi Press Agency. ensure that sacrificial meat reaches

Sacrifices will be carried out at a

PHC adjourns hearing on plea against interviews of prisoners Humayun Khan

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court (PHC) has adjourned the hearing on a writ petition filed against the practice of conducting interviews of prisoners in jails and lock-ups until July 3. During the hearing, Justice Syed Arshad Ali observed that such interviews can impact the case, while Justice Waqar Ahmad noted that police officials themselves present the accused before cameras, on Tuesday.

PHC two-member bench comprising Justice Syed Arshad Ali and Justice Waqar Ahmad heard the case. The petitioner's lawyer, Zia ur Rehman Tajik Advocate, and court assistant Shumail Ahmad Butt Advocate appeared before the court.

The petitioner's lawyer argued that interviews of prisoners are recorded and shared on social media, often in the presence of police officials. He contended that these interviews are not conducted by mainstream media representa-tives but rather by YouTubers or individuals with social media accounts.

The petitioner's lawyer stated that in today's digital age, anyone can record statements of prisoners and accused individuals using a microphone. He emphasized that YouTubers entering jails to conduct interviews of accused individuals is unlawful.

The court assistant, Shumail Ahmad Butt Advocate, noted that this is a significant issue, as people enter jails with cameras, conduct interviews, and then present these interviews as evidence in court. PHC adjourned the hearing until July 3, directing that the case will be heard on the next date of hearing. The court observed that the practice of conducting interviews of prisoners can impact the case and that police officials often present the accused before cameras, allowing them to make

Houthis urged to release aid workers

DUBAI (AFP): United States. Nations Secretary-General Tuesday demanded Yemen's Houthi militants release dozens of aid workers, including UN staff, a year after their arrest.

The Iran-backed militants, who control much of the war-torn country, detained 13 UN personnel and more than 50 employees of aid groups last June. "I renew my call for their immediate and unconditional release," Guterres said in a statement issued by the office of his special envoy for Yemen, Hans

donors — both inside and outside the Kingdom — to perform the ritual Grundberg. "The UN and its humanitarian partners should and peace of mind. The project offers never be targeted, arrested or detained while carrying bonds, catering to people of diverse out their mandates for the benefit of the people they serve," he added. A decade stock have been received, surpassing of civil war has plunged Yemen into one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with more than half of the population relying on

aid. The arrests prompted the United Nations to limit its deployments and suspend activities in some regions of the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country. Houthis at the time claimed an "American-Israeli spy cell" was operating under the cover of aid groups an accusation firmly rejected by the UN. Guterres also lamented the "deplorable tragedy" of the death in detention of a World Food Programme staffer February.

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency has registered a case against PTI leader Dr Shahbaz Gill. The case was filed under the PECA Act (Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act) on the request of Punjab Police Inspector Mazhar Iqbal who alleged that Dr Shahbaz Gill uploaded videos against the complainant on his YouTube

South Korea's centre-left leader Lee wins presidency

leader Lee Jae-myung hailed voters' "great decision" as he was declared the winner of a snap presidential election early Wednesday, capping months of political

Six months to the day after ex-president Yoon Suk Yeol plunged the country into crisis with his disastrous declaration of martial law, official results from the National Election Commission showed Lee had defeated conservative rival Kim Moon-soo, who had earlier conceded the race. Voter turnout was the highest in nearly three decades.

people. Congratulations to the elected candidate Lee Jae-myung," Kim said as the last ballots were still being counted. Lee had earlier thanked voters for placing their trust in him, saying he would do his 'utmost to fulfil the great responsibility and mission entrusted to me, so as not to disappoint the expectations of our people.'

In a nod to South Korea's growing partisan divide, exacerbated by the chaos after Yoon's martial law bid, Lee said those that did not support him remained "fellow citizens" and promised to "move forward with hope and make a fresh start from this moment on". He also promised to "pursue dialogue, communication, and cooperation" between Seoul and its arch-enemy Pyongyang, with which relations plunged to their lowest level in years under Yoon's hawkish approach.

Lee will take office almost immediately, as soon as the commission validates the tally, likely early Wednesday. With 96.74% of the total ballots counted overnight it was mathematically impossible for Kim to catch him, the official figures showed. Lee will face a bulging intray, including global trade vicissitudes chafing the export-driven economy, some of the world's lowest birth rates and an emboldened North Korea rapidly expanding its arsenal.

Voter turnout was 79.4% — the highest

SEOUL (AFP): South Korea's centre-left labour minister -- who struggled with party infighting and failed to convince a third party candidate to unify and avoid splitting the right-wing vote.

After months of turmoil and a revolving door of lame-duck acting leaders, many South Koreans said they were eager for the country to move forward. Noh Min-young, 20, who has been protesting in the streets since Yoon declared martial law, told AFP she was "relieved". "It's been a tough road. I'm happy because it feels like we've seized the opportunity that so many people fought for over the past six months.

The fallout from Yoon's martial law "I will humbly accept the choice of the declaration, which has left South Korea effectively leaderless for the first months of US President Donald Trump's tumultuous second term, was the decisive factor in the election, experts said. The vote was "largely viewed as a referendum on the previous administration," Kang Joo-hyun, a political science professor at Sookmyung omen's University, told AFP.

Yoon's impeachment over his martial law bid, which saw armed soldiers deployed to parliament, made him the second straight conservative president to be stripped of office after Park Geun-hye in 2017. "Lee's victory signals that the Korean public rejects illiberal and undemocratic measures such as martial law," Gi-Wook Shin, a sociology professor at Stanford University, told AFP.

This moment will likely be remembered as a peculiar and consequential turning point in South Korea's political histo-But Lee's success is due as much to his rivals' failings as his own strengths, said Minseon Ku, a postdoctoral researcher at the William & Mary Global Research Institute. "Lee has a criminal record and was involved in several political and personal scandals," Ku said.

His rise to the presidency is "a reflection of the deep political turmoil South Korea has been experiencing". South Korean presidents serve a single fiveyear term. Police issued the highest level since 1997. An exit poll by the three major of alert and deployed thousands of offibroadcasters had earlier projected a victory for Lee, prompting his supporters to break into cheers outside the National Assembly, as party officials watching from assassination attempt last year -- has inside the parliament started a chant of been campaigning in a bullet-proof vest "Lee Jae-myung". For weeks, major polls and delivering speeches behind a glass had put Lee well ahead of Kim -- Yoon's protective shield.

Macron seeks improvement of ties with Italy French event of a peace agree- able to all of our European

PARIS/ROME: President Emmanuel ment. Macron will visit Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on Tuesday, seek-

Trump, while Meloni is a nationalist with a strong transatlantic tilt who seems more ideologically aligned with the US president. They have advocated different — even competing approaches to the new

Trump era. Meloni, whose country

has a large trade surplus with the US, has sought to keep Europe aligned with the US, using the slogan "Make the West great again" in a meeting with Trump in Washington in April. Macron has pushed for the EU to take a more independent approach. On the Russian war in Ukraine, Meloni has been skeptical about Macron's "coalition of the willing" and a Franco-British plan put forward earlier this year to send peacekeeping

would be deeply unpopular in Italy.

long rapport with Donald and the German, British and Polish leaders on May 10 and then for missing a call with Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at a summit in Albania a few days later.

After Meloni explained her absence by saying the meetings were about sending troops to Ukraine, her government was furious that Macron said publicly that the meetings were about a ceasefire and seemed to equate her justification with "Russian dis-information." French and Italian officials said Macron had taken the initiative to hold Tuesday's meeting and sought to play down talk of a rift, saying the meeting and a working dinner would be an oppor-"respect" and "friendship."
"The president is availtroops to Ukraine in the

Sending troops partners, whatever the political persuasion may Italy. be," an Elysee official told Hostility flared publicly reporters. The Elysee said ing to improve relations in recent weeks, with offi-amid tensions between the cials close to Macron and security guarantees for two European leaders over Meloni privately or openly Ukraine, the Mercosur Ukraine, trade and rela- criticizing their respective trade deal and US tariffs, as tions with the United initiatives over Ukraine or well as industrial cooperatrade. Meloni was criti- tion between the two coun-Macron is a fervent pro-European who has had a ing to Kyiv with Macron Italian carmaker Stellantis, which appointed a new Italian chief executive last month.

> Italian officials said the meeting was meant to "lay the foundations for a further strengthening of relations' and added that talks would also address the situation in the Middle East and Libya. Both Italy and France are worried Russia might boost its presence in eastern Libya, to keep a foothold in the Mediterranean after Moscow's ally President Bashar Assad was ousted in Syria in December.

"This Macron-Meloni meeting isn't about rekindling Franco-Italian friendship. It's about necessity, nostalgia," not Francesco Galietti of Rome-based consultancy Policy Sonar, saying the tunity for Macron to show two capitals should find common ground on Libya "fast." — Arab News

Al-Rabiah added that this Hajj season will see stricter enforcement of seven specialized field complexes internationally. — Arab News Senate panel alarmed over surge in deportations, beggary abroad

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing and Human Resource Development, by Senator Zeeshan Khanzada, expressed serious concern over the growing trend of deportations Western countries—particularly due involved. to crimes like beggary and use of fake

During the committee meeting held here at Parliament House on Tuesday, it was revealed that from 2019 to 2025, over 7,800 Pakistanis were deported, with 1,064 cases specifically linked to beggary. The Ministry officials stated that 1,460 of the deportees had gone abroad through 691 registered Overseas Employment Promoters (OEPs). Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro questioned what preventive steps the ministry has taken to curb such crimes that are tarnishing Pakistan's global reputation.

Officials disclosed that the government has begun cancelling the passports of deportees to discourage such ing to data received from the FIA and 15 more under consideration.

challenged by Senator Shahadat Awan, who pointed out that passports Committee on Overseas Pakistanis cannot be revoked for crimes committed outside Pakistan's jurisdiction. The committee also raised the issue of accountability of employment agents. Officials confirmed that show cause of Pakistani nationals from Gulf and notices had been issued to the OEPs The Committee recommended ini-

tiating criminal proceedings against those responsible and sought detailed data of the OEPs who facilitated the travel of deportees involved in criminal activities. The Committee further demanded segregated data of 5,000 deportees who traveled on work permits or visit visas to analyze the role of OEPs in their recruitment.

Representatives of the Interior Ministry informed the committee that since 2023, about 58,000 Pakistanis have been deported, including 5,600 for beggary from Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Qatar. The names of the deportees have been added to the Passport Control List (PCL), accord-

behavior. However, this move was Pakistani Missions abroad. Director General Passports and Immigration, Mustafa Jamal Kazi, briefed the committee on the rising number of Pakistanis overstaying in Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Iraq-particularly during religious pilgrimages

In just the past year, 34,000 deportations were from Iran and 50,000 from Iraq. He also noted a troubling surge in Pakistani asylum seekers in Europe, numbering approximately 125,000 in the past year. The Committee also requested a report regarding 24,000 speaking orders issued to facilitate deportees over the last three months.

On a more positive note, the Committee was briefed on Pakistan's economic diplomacy efforts to promote skilled labor migration. Managing Director of the Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) Naseer Khan Kashani, informed members that 10.3 million skilled Pakistani workers are currently employed abroad. The OEC has signed MoUs with 18 countries, with

Gill booked

channel and TikTok account.

According to the FIR, in the videos Dr Shahbaz Gill used derogatory and inappropriate language against the complainant and his family as well as made false allegations and misstate-

Ukraine claims to have damaged Russia's bridge KYIV: Ukraine's SBU sea drone. The official reach Crimea and from

security service has said it has hit the road and rail bridge linking Russia and Ukraine's annexed Crimean peninsula below the water level with explosives, in its third attack on the key supply line for Russian forces in

the war-torn country.

About 1,100kg (2,420 pounds) of explosives were detonated on Tuesday morning to destroy underwater pillars of the bridge over the Kerch Strait in an operation prepared over several months, the SBU state-ment said. "Previously, we hit the Crimean Bridge twice, in 2022 and 2023. So today we continued this tradition underwater," it said. "The bridge is now effectively in an emergency condition.

The SBU shared video footage that claimed to show an explosion next to one of the many support pillars of the bridge. Russian military bloggers said the attack had been unsuccessful and speculated that it had been carried out by a Ukrainian

Russian outlet providing regular status updates on parts of Ukraine's souththe bridge said its operation had been suspended eastern for about three hours regions. between 4am and 7am local time (01:00 and 04:00 GMT).

It gave no reason for the temporary closure but said the bridge had been reopened and was functioning as normal. The 19km (12-mile) Crimea Bridge over the Kerch Strait is the only direct network of Russia and the Crimean peninsula, which Moscow annexed from Ukraine in 2014.

The bridge was a flagship project for Russian President Vladimir Putin. It consists of a separate roadway and railway, both supported by concrete stilts, which give way to a wider span held by steel arches at the point where ships pass between the when they crossed it to tamount to surrender.

there went on to seize ern Kherson and south-

The attack comes as Russian forces targeted the Ukrainian city of Sumy, killing at least three people and leaving many injured, the city council and the Ministry of Health said. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said at least one rocket fired from a multiple link between the transport rocket launcher had failed to detonate and lodged itself in an apartment building.

Commenting on the attack, Zelenskyy said on his Telegram channel: That's all one needs to know about the Russian wish to end this war." On Monday, Russia told Ukraine at peace talks in Istanbul it would only agree to end the war if Kyiv gives up big new Black Sea and the smaller chunks of territory and Azov Sea. The bridge was accepts limits on the size used by Russian forces of its army. Ukraine has during their invasion of repeatedly rejected the Ukraine in February 2022, Russian conditions as tan-