Balochistan police attacked F.P. Report

QUETTA: Two separate hand grenade assaults targeted law enforcement officials in Balochistan province on Tuesday, injuring one officer. In Sibi, unidentified individuals on a motorcycle threw a grenade at police conducting a check near Government Girls College. Assistant Sub Inspector Muhammad Afzal was wounded in the explosion and transported to Teaching Hospital Sibi.

Frontier Post

SC revises fees of cases F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Supreme Court of Pakistan issued a new fee chart, which was implemented from August 6, 2025. These fees were notified vide the Supreme Court of Pakistan Rules 2025. The apex court's rules were changed after 45 years. The previous set of rules were introduced in 1980. A notification issued in this regard stated that Rs2,500 will be charged for filing a civil and constitutional appeal.

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif presenting awards for recognition of services in various sectors, of individuals from minority communities at a ceremony on International Youth Day.

Bilawal accuses BLA of siding with India

F.P. Report

Zardari accused the banned Balochistan Army (BLA) and Majeed ban on these groups.

Ali Afandi Park, Bilawal any government consulta- youth involvement in decito designate both groups as posed 27th constitutional terrorist organizations, call- amendment, calling such ing it a major win for reports media speculation. Pakistan's stance.

attacked workers and civil-Indian Prime Minister Zardari today issues, Bilawal criticized India for threats to block the bearers of our future. Indus River, stressing that under the Indus Waters the aspirations of Pakistan's

Liberation provinces receive their conjustice. stitutional share under the Brigade of siding with National Finance India. He announced plans Commission (NFC) award, to push for a United Nations saying the federal government's tax collection fail- Benazir Bhutto, highlight-Speaking after inaugurat-ing Khan Bahadur Hassan provinces. Bilawal denied cation, employment, and decision tion with PPP on the pro-

Meanwhile, in a message He alleged the BLA and released by Bilawal House Brigade have on International Youth Day, Chairman Pakistan Peoples ians, and openly supported Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto praised Narendra Modi during Pakistan's young people, recent tensions. On water calling them the heartbeat of our nation and the torch-

The PPP leader linked receive its share. Calling the ing, secure, and democratic river a "lifeline" for the nation. He expressed unwa-cause.

nation, he urged unity vering confidence in their across provinces and adop- capacity to steer Pakistan HYDERABAD: Pakistan tion of modern farming towards a brighter future People's Party (PPP) techniques like drip irriga-Chairman Bilawal Bhutto tion to conserve water. uphold principles of democ-He also demanded racy, tolerance, and social

Bilawal emphasized the Finance PPP's history of prioritizing youth under the leadership of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and sion-making. He cited Sindh"s local government system and programs like the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto

Development Youth Program as examples of ongoing efforts to empower youth through training and skill development.

The PPP chairman reaffirmed his party's dedication to supporting young people, protecting their rights, and amplifying their voices. He concluded by assuring every Treaty, Pakistan must youth to the goal of a thriv- Pakistani that the PPP wil

Gaza malnutrition death toll rises as Israeli attacks kill

GAZA: A six-year-old Palestinian boy and a homes have been targeted," she said. 30-year-old man have died from malnutrition resulting from Israeli-induced starvation of the besieged enclave, the Nasser Hospital in southern Gaza has said, as hunger-related deaths climb and deadly Israeli bombard-

ment continues across the territory.

The deaths of Wissam Abu Mohsen and young Jamal Fadi al-Najjar on Tuesday came shortly after Gaza's Health Ministry said five more people had died of famine within 24 hours, bringing the total number of starvation-related fatalities since the start of Israel's war to 227, including more than 100 children.. The World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday urged Israel to allow it to stock medical supplies in Gaza before the military proceeds with its plan to seize Gaza City, a move that has drawn international condemnation.

'We want to stock up, and we all hear about 'more humanitarian supplies are allowed in', well it's not happening yet, or it's happening at a way too low a pace," said Rik Peeperkorn, the WHO's representative in the Palestinian territories. Separately, Britain, Canada, Australia, Japan and 23 of their European allies said the humanitarian crisis in Gaza had reached "unimaginable levels". "Famine is unfolding before our eyes. Urgent action is needed now to halt and reverse starvation," the foreign ministers of the countries said in a joint statement published by Britain. "We call on the government of Israel to provide authorisation for all international NGO aid shipments and to unblock essential humanitarian actors from operating." At least 71 Palestinians have been killed since dawn on Tuesday, hospital sources in Gaza told Al Jazeera, including 16 people desperately seeking aid for their families.

Al Jazeera's Hind Khoudary, reporting from Deir el-Balah in central Gaza, said Israeli forces struck multiple areas, including al-Mawasi, designated by Israel as a "safe zone". "A family of five have been killed in their makeshift shelter there earlier this morning. There have also been concentrated attacks on Gaza City, where residential

"A family of four, the al-Nadeem family has been targeted and a young girl has beer rescued, but there are many people trapped under the rubble." Rescue operations have also come under fire. Palestinian Civi Defence said one of its members, Abdu Rahman Maher Abu Latifa, was killed in ar Israeli strike on his tent in al-Mawasi. Both his parents were also killed. The service said 137 of its members have been killed since the war began. Other strikes killed three members of the al-Hasari family in Gaza City, while one member of the al-Šalmi family also died. Twenty more people remair trapped under rubble. Footage verified by A Jazeera showed the aftermath of an Israel attack on central Gaza City, with a stream of blood running down the street as people car ried a wounded man to a vehicle.

Civil Defence spokesperson Mahmoud Basal said Israeli bombardment of Gaza City has intensified for three consecutive days using "all types of weapons ... bombs drones and also highly explosive munitions that cause massive destruction to civiliar homes". Israel is also blocking the entry of more than 430 food items into Gaza, despite allowing some aid trucks through last month under international pressure, Gaza's

Government Media Office said on Tuesday. In a statement, it said banned items include "frozen meat of all kinds, frozen fish cheese, dairy products, frozen vegetables and fruits", along with "hundreds of other items needed by the starving and sick". I added that Israel had directly targeted food sources, by not just preventing aid, but deliberately bombing 44 food banks, killing dozens of workers in them, and targeting "5 food distribution centres with bombard ment". Earlier, the Office accused Israel' Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT), the military body reporting on aid deliveries into the enclave of "a pathetic attempt to cover up an internationally documented crime, the systematic starvation of the population of the Gaza Strip". — Aljazeera

Operation in Bajaur continue

F.P. Report

KHAR: The military operation in Bajaur's Mamund tehsil has entered its second day, with security forces targeting suspected militant hideouts. Gunship helicopters have been deployed to strike militant positions, while a curfew has been imposed in 27 areas of Mamund tehsil until 14

Additional Commissioner Saad Üllah Jan claimed that over 20,000 families have fled their homes, with many seeking shelter in nearby areas. Some have been accommodated in 85 government and private schools, as well as sports complexes, where relief camps have been set up.

The district administration has made arrangements for the displaced persons, including provision of food, clean water, electricity, and tents. The Bajaur Sports Complex has been converted into a relief camp, with 450 tents set up to accommodate the affected people.

The government has assured that the operation is targeted and aimed at eliminating militant groups. However, locals have expressed concerns about civilian casualties and damage to their homes. A grand jirga has been convened to address the situation, with tribal elders and political leaders participating in the meeting. The situation in Bajaur remains volatile, with tensions running high The curfew has been imposed to ensure public

Finance Minister meets C.JP

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, met Chief Justice Pakistan, Justice Yahya Afridi, at the Supreme Court on Tuesday to discuss judicial reforms and tax dispute resolution.

The Chief Justice highlighted the Supreme initiatives Court"s to improve access to justice, modernize court procedures, categorize tax cases, and enhance service delivery through technology Justice Afridi emphasized the need for government backing to ensure the success of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) system for resolving tax

disputes quickly. He also informed the Minister about training sessions being conducted for judicial officers and members of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) at the Judicial Academy, with plans to include officials from the Competition Commission of Pakistan

Aurangzeb expressed appreciation for the judiciary"s reform program and pledged the government"s continued support in providing necessary resources for judicial development initiatives. Both officials stressed the significance of collaboration between the judicial and executive branches to uphold the rule of law and protect citizens" rights.

SC will declare Imran innocent: Aleema Khan F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Aleema Khan, the sister of PTI founder Imran Khan, has expressed the hope that judges would show courage and declare the sentences handed down [to her brother] as illegal.

Speaking to the media outside the Supreme Court on Tuesday, she said she moved the Supreme Court regarding the May 9 case involving the PTI founder. Appeals have been scheduled for next week. She said: "We pray that the judges find the courage to ensure justice is served and declare the punishments as unlawful.

PM warns India over water threats

— vows firm response if Indus Treaty violated Saqib Mushtaq

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday warned India that any attempt to block Pakistan's water in violation of the Indus Waters Treaty would be met with a decisive response. "You threaten to stop our water. If you attempt such a move, Pakistan will teach you a lesson you will never forget," the prime minis-

here in connection with International He emphasized that water was a lifeline for Pakistan, and no compromise would be made on the country's rights under international agreements. The prime minister said that a "new Pakistan" had emerged after the armed forces of Pakistan defeated India May

ter said while addressing an event held

He said India's pride was sunk on May 10 when the Pakistan Air Force downed six Indian fighter jets. He called it a historic moment for Pakistan. PM Shehbaz announced that 100,000 laptops would be distributed interestfree to students purely on merit. "This government believes in transparency and merit, and we will ensure both in the distribution process," he assured.

The prime minister said that the country's future was in the hands of youth, reaffirming his government's through education and technology. During his address, PM Shehbaz also congratulated the nation on Independence Day and praised the role of minorities and all segments of society in the creation and development of Pakistan. Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Sardar and scholarships were provided to tal-Muhammad Yousaf said the govern- ented students across the province. The ment was taking effective measures for the protection of minorities. All citizens ensure representation, the government Endowment Fund, which benefits stuhas formulated a policy to promote dents from all over the country. "Every interfaith harmony. Under this policy, child in Pakistan can benefit from this Ministry of Climate Change.

Shehbaz directs completion of 100MW Solar Project in Gilgit-Baltistan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed the completion of the 100-megawatt solar power project in Gilgit-Baltistan within a year, vowing to personally monitor its progress. Chairing a review meeting here following the recent approval of the project by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC), the Prime Minister stressed that the initiative will be executed on a priority basis to ensure uninterrupted, low-cost, and environment-friendly electricity sup-

"All infrastructure for the project must be climate-resilient," the Prime Minister instructed, adding that transparency will be ensured at every stage of its construction. He highlighted that the federal government will bear the entire cost of the project, which is expected to significantly reduce the region's prolonged load-shedding of up to 20 hours a day and provide power to remote areas. Under the plan, six solar parks will be set up in Gilgit, eight in Skardu, and six in Diamer. Additionally, 234 buildings in Gilgit, 179 in Skardu, and 68 in Diamer will be equipped with solar installations. The project will also include battery storage for backup supply and a real-time monitoring system, adhering to international standards. The Prime Minister said solarization was the most viable solution to meet Gilgit-Baltistan's energy needs, noting that integrating renewable energy sources into Pakistan's energy mix was essential to mitigate the effects of climate change.

minorities will be granted a 5% quota in jobs". Minister of State for Religious Affairs Khel Das Kohistani said Islam respects all other religions, and Pakistan's Constitution also protects the rights of all people, regardless of their faith. "The Prime Minister is taking the commitment to empowering youth country forward in line with the vision of the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah," he said.

Chairman PM Youth Program Rana Mashhood Khan said Pakistan's first youth policy was introduced in 2011 by the then Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Under this initiative, laptops, soft loans, Punjab Educational Endowment Fund (PEEF) was also launched by Shehbaz

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif directed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to further enhance coordination with provincial governments for the effective relief and rehabilitation of those affected by recent rains and floods.

The prime minister issued these instructions during a meeting with NDMA Chairman Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, who briefed him on ongoing relief operations and preparedness measures for any potential emergencies, a Prime Minister's Office news release said. Reviewing progress on strengthening early warning mechanisms, the prime minister emphasized have equal rights as per the Sharif, he said adding that today, it had that the advanced information system Constitution, he said adding that "To evolved into the Pakistan Education in Gilgit-Baltistan should be made fully that the advanced information system operational at the earliest, with close collaboration between NDMA and the



HYDERABAD: Chairman PPP, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari inaugurating Khan Bahadur Hassan Ali Effendi Park.

7th monsoon spell sparks flood fears

F.P. Report

spell of monsoon rains began on Tuesday raising of rivers and dams 24 hours concerns about potential flooding due to anticipated water releases from India. The Provincial Disaster Authority Management (PDMA) Punjab has issued an alert, warning of flash floods in hill torrents and the risk of urban flooding in

According to the forecast, rains are expected to continue from today, with flooding concerns peaking from tomorrow as India is PDMA spokesperson said an extraordinary increase in water levels has dams, and Bhakra Dam, medium-level flood. Pong Dam and Thein Dam

PDMA Punjab, IRSA and clouds covered the sky and LAHORE: The seventh the Irrigation Department are monitoring the situation

PDMA

a day.

spokesperson reported that the River Indus is experiencing a low-level flood at Tarbela, Kalabagh, and Chashma barrages, while the River Chenab is facing the same at Marala Barrage. The River Sutlej at Ganda Singh Wala is flowing normally with reduced The discharge. Jhelum, Ravi, and Kabul, along with their tributaries, likely to release water over are maintaining normal the next three days. The flows. However, Nala Dek in Kangra, Narowal, is at a low-level flood, while Nala Bein in Shakargarh, been recorded in Indian Narowal, is experiencing a In Lahore, drizzle in the

cool winds blew. The Meteorological Department has predicted further rainfall in the next 24 hours. The minimum temperature is expected to be 29°C, with winds blowing at 11 kilometres per hour and humidity at 80 percent.

In Islamabad, pleasant weather prevailed in the morning as cool winds swept through the city. The Met Office forecasts partly cloudy skies with the possibility of rain in some areas. Karachi also experienced overcast conditions and a pleasant breeze. According the Meteorological Department, drizzle is likely in the city today. The maximum temperature is expected to range between 31°C and 33°C, with winds from the west blowing at 15 have been filled to 61, 76 early morning brought to 20 kilometres per hour and 64 percent respectively. relief from humidity as and humidity at 70 percent

Protest-hit UK town bids to empty asylum-seeker hotel

town applied for a High Court injunction on Tuesday to stop asylum seekers being housed in a local hotel, folinterim injunction against the

nity tensions."

The current situation cannot go on. If the Bell Hotel was a nightclub we could have closed it down lowing protests, some of long ago," Epping Forest which turned violent. The district council leader Chris council in Epping, northeast Whitbread, from the of London, applied for an Conservative party, said in a statement. Protests broke out

Since then hundreds of people have taken part in protests and counter-protests outside the Bell Hotel. Further anti-immigration demonstrations also spread to London and around England. Police said there had been at least six protests housing of of asylum seekers in the town in July after an in Epping since July 17 and and refugees at the Bell asylum seeker was charged 28 people have been arrested Hotel, citing "the clear risk of further escalating commu
14-year-old girl, which he connection with disorder.

50 militants eliminated in operation F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistani security forces have neutralized 50 militants in a fourday operation near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

The operation, a significant counter-terrorism victory, took place in the Sambaza area of Zhob District. From August 7th to 9th, 47 insurgents, designated as khwarij, were killed in fierce clashes. A subsequent sanitization operation on August 10th and 11th resulted in the elimination of three more Indiabacked militants.

Troops confiscated weapons, ammunition, and explosives during the operation. The ISPR stated these actions aim to secure Pakistan"s borders and maintain peace and stability. The ISPR affirmed the military"s dedication to eliminating hostile actors and protecting the nation"s territorial integrity.

President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif commended the officers and personnel of the security forces for carrying out another successful operation against Khawarij in the Sambaza area of the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

The president and prime minister, in their separately issued statements, appreciated the security forces for killing 50 Indian-sponsored terrorists in the last four days as a testament to their professionalism, bravery, and determination. "The nation stands shoulder to shoulder with its brave armed forces against terrorism. The enemies of Pakistan's peace, stability, and development will never succeed," the president said, reiterating that the war would continue with full force until the complete eradication of terrorism.

PM also praised the professional capabilities of the security forces for killing three more Indian-backed terrorists on Monday night, following a successful operation that neutralized 47 terrorists in the same area a few days ago. "We will continue this war against the scourge of terrorism until it is eradicated from the country. Pakistan armed forces are engaged day and night in the mission to cleanse the homeland of terrorists, and for this, the entire nation, including myself, pays tribute to them, he added.



LAHORE: Beautiful illuminated view of the Shrine of Hazrat Ali Bin Usman Hajveri (RA) during the 982nd Annual Urs celebrations, in Lahore.

CM announces launch of electric buses in remote districts

Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has mentally friendly transport to every announced the launch of modern citizen, especially in underserved electric buses in remote districts of Punjab, offering comfortable travel at an affordable fare of only Rs 20.

In a message on social networking platform 'X', the CM shared that a fleet of 100 air-conditioned, Wi-Fienabled electric buses is being shipped from Yantai, China and will depart for Pakistan tonight. Equipped with a fully automated ticketing sysdesigned to provide safe, peaceful, and comfortable travel facilities.

priority basis in districts long unique including Mianwali, Okara, Nankana of talented students into reality. Muzaffargarh, Pakpattan, and Dera Ghazi Khan. The

Three police

constables

remanded for

kidnapping

trader

LAHORE (APP): An anti-

terrorism court (ATC) on

Tuesday remanded three police constables into cus-

tody for seven days in con-

nection with the kidnap-

ping of a trader for ransom.

The accused — identified as constables Atif,

Taugeer, and Muhammad

before ATC Judge Manzer

Ali Gill. Advocate Ejaz

Ameen represented the sus-

submitted that the trio

allegedly abducted trader

Rs700,000 from him. The

officer submitted that police still needed to recov-

er a motorcycle, a mobile

phone, and the ransom

from the accused. He

requested the court to grant

physical remand of the

Subsequently, the court granted 7-day physical remand of the accused and

ordered producing them on

expiry of the remand term.

The case was registered at

Raiwind City Police

Station under kidnapping-

FIA Lahore

arrests two

human

traffickers

for-ransom charges.

accused for the purpose.

and

The investigating officer

pects in court.

were presented

extorted

areas," the CM said.

Youth Pakistan's brightest future, most valuable asset : Punjab CM: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said that the government is committed to utilising all available resources to realise the dreams of the youth, describing them as Pakistan's bright future and most valuable asset. In her message tem, these eco-friendly buses are on International Youth Day, the CM said, "Every young person is a shining star in the nation's destiny, and The service will be introduced on a we are proud of them. Punjab's Scholarship Honhaar deprived of reliable public transport, Programme is turning the aspirations

She noted that thousands of young people are benefiting from modern buses will also be accessible for persons with special needs. "The Punjab government is committed to provid-while the Khelta Punjab Programme will never diminish, she said.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief ing modern, affordable, and environ- is providing platforms across all divisions for youth to excel in sports, engage in positive activities, and maintain good health. The e-Bike Scheme, she added, is giving thousands of students dignified and independent transportation facilities.

CM Maryam Nawaz, highlighting the government's focus on employability, said that advanced, market-based IT training is equipping young people not only to secure jobs but also to create them. She praised young medical graduates serving in Maryam Nawaz Clinics as an example of youth contributing directly to public welfare. She added that initiatives like the Assan Karobar Card and Assan Karobar Finance Scheme are strengthening the financial independence of youth, while internship programmes in various departments are opening doors to prac-

Independence Day ceremony held at Akram Khan Durrani School

F.P. Report

grand and patriotism-filled ceremony was held at PRO, was also present.
Akram Khan Durrani The program began v School & College, attended by students, teachers, and local administration members. The aim of the event was to acquaint the new generation with the value of national freedom, the sacrifices made for it, and the spirit of unity.

ceremony was presided over by Principal Rukhsar, Muhammad while Assistant Commissioner of Domel,

and Inayatullah Khan, the value it eventually perish."

Qur'an by Qari Sudais, folthe students presented national songs and speeches that beautifully expressed themes of freedom, sacrifice, and patriotism.

When a nation loves its achieved third place.

Nawab Khan Bangash, was homeland, no power can the chief guest. Section break it. Freedom is a bless-Head Fazal Zaman served ing earned through sacri-provincial capital at top of of Independence Day, a as the event coordinator, fices, and nations that fail to

Principal Muhammad The program began with Rukhsar, in his speech, the recitation of the Holy said, "It is our duty to instill in students not only lowed by a naat in praise of knowledge but also love the Holy Prophet ?. Later, for the country, unity, and the spirit of sacrifice, so they can contribute to the making of a responsible and dignified nation."

In the competition held In his address, the chief during the event, Khalil guest Nawab Khan Bangash Ahmad secured the first posisaid, "We will nurture this tion, Mehtab Ahmad came country with our blood. second, and Arbab Ahmad

NUML commemorates Youm-e-Azaadi and Marka-e-Haq



F.P. Report

LAHORE (APP): The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Lahore Zone arrested ISLAMABAD: two suspects, including a Department of Arts and proclaimed offender, during Humanities, separate raids in Nankana University Sahib and Taxila. Languages According to the FIA

spokesperson, the arrested individuals were identified as Tariq Mehmood and Jafar Ali. The spokesperson said that both accused were involved in visa fraud, deceiving innocent citizens with false promises of employment abroad.

Tariq Mehmood allegedly took Rs 220,000 from a citizen under the pretense of securing overseas employment and had been wanted by the FIA since 2023. Meanwhile, Jafar Ali is accused of extorting Rs 700,000 from another citizen in a similar scheme.

The suspects failed to send the victims abroad and disappeared after receiving large sums of money, the spokesperson added.

Modern

National (NUML), organised a one-day seminar to mark Youm-e-Azaadi (Independence Day) and Youm-e-Marka-e-Haq. The event featured national songs, recitations

of Allama Iqbal's poetry, and inspiring speeches by Dean Faculty of Arts and Humanities, renowned columnist, scholar and National Chairman Rehmatul-lil-Alameen wa Nabiyyin Khatamun Authority (NRKNA), Dr. Khursheed Ahmed Nadeem, and Rector NUML, Major General Shahid Mahmood Kayani, HI (M).

Dean Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Prof Dr. Arshad Mahmood in his welcome address, emphasized the responsibility of safeguarding the country's independ-

ence and striving for national progress. He highlighted that Marka-e-Haq proved that wars are not won by weapons alone but through faith and passion. Chief Guest.

Khursheed Ahmed Nadeem nificance. reflected on the significance of the day, noting of the forefathers and the Pakistan's immense regional value and its foundational spirit built on the dedication of its youth. He adversary's far greater milistressed that Pakistan is not tary resources. an outcome of mere circumstances but the result of has abundant resources

Linking the day's celebration with the perspective of dedication to elevate the Marka-e-Haq, he urged the country to new heights of nation to stand firm, embrace self-accountability, avoid the culture of blame Pakistan.' and unrest. He reminded that Pakistan is a blessing to be respected and valued, adding participants to uphold the progress requires patience and resilience in the

face of challenges. Rector NUML, Maj Gen tively for the nation's pros-Shahid Mahmood Kayani perity and dignity.

HI(M) delivered a thoughtful and inspiring speech, describing Pakistan as a divine blessing, achieved during Ramadan, on the night of Shab-e-Qadr; an event of great spiritual sig-

He recalled the sacrifices courage of the armed forces in achieving the victory of Marka-e-Haq despite the

determination and sacrifice. and potential, he called upon citizens to work with glory, reminding that "we nothing

The seminar concluded with a renewed pledge by spirit of independence, honouror the sacrifices of the past, and strive collec-

Murree to get PHA on CM's directions

Home

LAHORE (APP): On the instructions of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, it has been decided to establish the Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) in Murree to restore its natural beauty and promote tourism.

In this regard, Secretary Housing Noor-ul-Amin Mengal has assigned task to Director General PHA to preparing a summary for the Chief Minister's approval. According to the Housing Department's spokesperson, the new PHA will expand green areas, launch largescale tree plantation drives to promote local forests, organse exhibitions and public events for citizens and tourists, and develop a revgeneration model through advertisements, signboards, and green spaces.

Officers and staff will be appointed for the Murree PHA, which is expected to benefit both the local comand visiting tourists. The spokesperson added that, in line with the Chief Minister's vision, the project will enhance the beauty of Murree's tourist attractions. The spokesperson further stated that the network of Parks and Horticulture Authorities will soon be expanded to other parts of the province.

Eight killed in road accidents

LAHORE (APP): Eight people were killed and 1,600 others injured in ,352 road accidents in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report, issued by the Punjab Emergency Service (PES), commonly known as Rescue-1122, here on Tuesday.

As many as 629 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 971 with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by the rescue medical teams.

data analysis showed that 904 drivers, 67 underage drivers, 192 pedestrians and 512 passengers were among the victims of road crashes. The statistics showed that 293 accidents were reported in Lahore, which affectthe list, followed by Multan with 92 accidents and 102 victims, and at third Faisalabad with 80 accidents and 90 victims.

According to the data, 1,320 motorbikes, 95 autorickshaws, 145 motorcars, 38 vans, eight passenger buses, 37 trucks and 130 other types of vehicles and slow-moving carts were involved in the road accidents.

19 truckloads of encroachment goods seized

LAHORE (APP): The district administration intensified its ongoing crackdown on encroachments across the city, removing hundreds of illegal structures and seizing goods in large quantities.

According spokesperson, in the past 24 hours alone, an antiencroachment squad of the district administration confiscated 19 truckloads of encroachment goods during operations in multiple areas, including Lari Adda, Data Darbar, and GT Road.

The drive, carried out under the leadership of Metropolitan Officer Regulation (MOR) Kashif Jaleel, resulted in the removal of 418 encroachments and 608 illegal banners.

Acting on the directives of Deputy Commissioner Syed Musa Raza, daily operations are being conducted to ensure the clearance of public spaces. 'Our teams are actively working in every part of the city to keep public pathways clear," the DC said, adding that shopkeepers' goods placed on footpaths are being seized and no one will be allowed to take the law into their own hands.

The DC said the administration was committed to making Lahore encroachment-free city. "Complete elimination of encroachments is a top priority. These operations will continue until every public road and pathway is restored for citizens. We will not compromise on the rule of law, and no leniency will be shown," he said.

First Lady calls for united action to prevent breast cancer



F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari has called for united action — involving government institutions, health professionals, media, and communities - to raise awareness to combat breast cancer, the most common cancer among women in Pakistan and the highest in

She made these remarks during a meeting with Mr. Omer Aftab, Founder and Honorary CEO of Pink Ribbon Pakistan, at Aiwane-Sadr today.

prevalence in Asia.

Lady warned that delayed al taboos that delay consuldetection claims thousands of lives annually.

rates exceed 90 percent and male family involvewhen the disease is diagnosed early and stressed that "every woman, regardless of where she lives, must have access to timely screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari emphasized making women's health a national priority, with targeted efforts on prevention, early detection, and treatment. She called for

tations, and promoting mobile She noted that survival units, community outreach, ment to overcome stigma.

She urged all stakeholders — including the media, educators, and religious leaders — to spearhead a nationwide drive, encouraging early detection and timely medical intervention.

Commending Ribbon Pakistan for its awareness and screening initiatives, the First Lady lauded its efforts to estab-Highlighting that one in expanding breast cancer lish the country's first dedievery nine Pakistani facilities to underserved cated Breast Cancer women is at risk, the First rural areas, breaking cultur-Hospital.

30,000 cops deployed to secure Independence Day festivities

30,000 police officers and personnel will be deployed across Punjab to ensure foolproof security for over 480 Independence Day events, including major celebrations in Lahore, as part of a comprehensive security plan finalised by the Punjab Police on the instructions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar.

According to the Punjab said the police would Police spokesperson, the remain on high alert on units, 165 Quick Response or criminal activity. Special Force (QRF) units, 1,428 motorcycle squads and 790 patrol vehicles. Advanced equipment such as 143 walk-through gates and 1,762 metal detectors will

while real-time surveilthrough the Punjab Safe Cities Authority cameras. In the provincial capital

and traffic arrangements. The celebrations include eight A-Plus category, 82 A category and 392 B category programmes. The IGP security measures will be in of women, added the IGP. place at inter-provincial borders, key installations and event venues, he added.

defeated in the "Battle of lance will be conducted Truth" might attempt to disrupt Independence Day peace. He instructed all field officers including the CCPO Lahore, RPOs, Lahore, more than 8,000 police personnel will be on CPOs and DPOs to personduty to manage security ally supervise arrangements and ensure coordination

among all units, including

the Special Branch, CTD,

Dolphin Squad, PRU and

Traffic Police. There will be zero tolerance for activities such as security deployment August 14, with strict vigi- hooliganism, one-wheel-includes 274 Elite Force lance against any anti-state ing, aerial firing, road blockages, and harassment

Dr Usman urged the public to celebrate the national day with patriot-He warned that after ism, discipline and strict Bunyan-um- adherence to the law.

Minister vows action against firms failing to register workers

Operation

Human Resources, Shahid Abdul Salam Thaheem, on Tuesday issued a stern warning to establishments failing to register their workers, stating that no employee should be deprived of their rightful dues.

KARACHI (APP): Sindh meeting of the Sindh for the fiscal year 2025–26, Minister for Labour and Employees' Social Security projecting total income at Institution (SESSI), the minister announced that contributions will now be collected from all establishments based on the statutory mini- Rafiq Qureshi, mum wage, ensuring work-

projecting total income at Rs18.49 billion and expenditures at Rs14.41 billion.

The session was attended by Secretary Labour Commissioner ers receive their full entitle- Rizvi, representatives of ments. The meeting unani- employers and workers, Speaking at the 173rd mously approved the budget and other board members.

ازدفتر تحصیل میونسیل ایڈمنسٹریشن شاہ عالم ، یشاور اشتھار نیلامی ٹھیکہ جات چھوتی بار برائے مالی سال 26-2025بذریعہ E-Auction)

موام الناس کی اطلاع کیلیے مشتہر کیا جاتا ہے کہ اوکل کونسل پورڈ خیبر پختو نخواہ پشاور کے چھٹی نمبر : AO-II/LCB/6-11/2022 مورخہ 28/03/2025 کے مطابق ٹھیکہ جات بذراییه E-Auctionمتعارف کروایا ہے۔ جس کی روثنی میں مختصیل میونیپل ایلینسٹریشن شاہ عالم، پشاور اپنے حدود میں برائے مالی سال از کیم تمتبر 2025 تا30 جون 2026 نیلام کرنا چاہتی ہے۔خواہشند حضرات/فرم جوسال 26-2025 ء کے لیے لوکل کونسل پورڈ خیبر پختونخواہ کیساتھ متعاقبہ کلاس میں یا قاعد ہ رجشر ہوں۔ بولی میں حصہ لے سکتے ہیں۔ آن لائن بولی تین دن لیعنی بروز پیر مورخہ 25 اگست 2025 صبح 08:00 بجے سے لیکر بروز بدھ مورخہ 27 اگست 2025 تک رات 11:59 بج تک بر بولی دہندہ اپنی بولی/آفراس ویب سائٹ www.eauction.lcbkp.gov.pk پردے سکتے ہیں۔

		2 0			
زربيعانه/كال ذيبإزث	معيادهميكه	نام ٹھیکہ جات	نمبرثثار		
-/5,10,000روپي	از کیم تمبر 2025ء تا 30 جون 2026ء	سلاثر ہاؤس حلالہ فیس	_1		
-/1,05,000روپ	ايينا	سوز و کی سٹینڈ سلاٹر ہاؤس	-2		
-/2,85,000روپي	ايينا	مال منڈی مویشی نا گمان حیارسدہ روڈ	-3		
-/1,38,000 روپ	ايينا	سائن بورڈ/ ایڈورٹائز منٹ فیس	-4		
	پ 5,10,000/- پ 1,05,000/- پ 2,85,000/-	ازیم تمبر 2026ء تا30 جون 2026ء الینا 2026ء تا30 جون 2026ء الینا -1,05,000 دو پ	سلائر ہاؤی صطالہ فیس از کیم تتبر 2025ء تا 300 جون 2026ء -/5,10,000 وپ مورد کی سینڈ سلائر ہاؤی سائر ہاؤی الینا -/1,05,000 وپ مال منڈی مورث نا ٹمان چارسدہ روڈ ایشنا -/2,85,000 وپ		

1۔ ہر بولی دہندہ گان کیلئے لازم ہوگا۔ کیمقررہ تاریخوں نے بمل زربیاند کی رقم بطور کال ڈیپازٹ/ مینیک ڈرافٹ بنام مخصیل میڈپسل تفسر مخصیل میڈپسل ایڈمنسٹریشن شاہ عالم، بشاور بنائے گا اور آن لائن بولی دینے سے قبل لوکل گورنمنٹ خیبر پختو خواکی ویب سائٹ پر درج کرے گا ویب سائٹ پر درگ گی کال ڈیپازٹ سے متعلق تفصیلات غلط یا جعلی ہونے ک صورت میں ٹھیکیدارکو بلیک لسٹ کیا جائےگا۔ نیز ہرٹھیکہ کے لئے علیحدہ کال ڈیبازٹ جمع کروانالازم ہوگا۔

2_آن لائن بولی کا وقت ختم ہونے کے بعدا گلے تین 3 ون دفتری اوقات کار کے اندراندرٹھیکیدار ندکورہ کال ڈیپازٹ، رجٹریشن اورتو می شاختی کارڈ کے مصدقہ نقل تخصیل مین ایڈمنسٹریشن شاہ عالم کےریگولیشن برائج میں جمع کرنے کا یابند ہوگا۔

3- کامیاب بولی وہندہ مندرجہ بالاٹھیکہ جات میں سیریل نمبر 1 تا3 میں 5 فیصد سیکیورٹی اور 15 فیصد ایڈ وانس اورکل ٹھیکہ قب (9) ماہانہ برابرا قساط میں جح کرنے کے یابند ہو گے۔اورسیر میل نمبر:4میں 50 فیصدا پڑوانس اور بقیہ شمیکہ رقم تین ماہانہ برابرا قساط لینی ماہ تمبر،اکتوبراورنومبر 2025ء وتک جع کرنے کے پابندہوں گے۔ 4-30 فیصداضا فی بولی دینے کی صورت میں اضافی کال ڈیپازٹ جو 5 فیصد زربیعا نہ کے برابر ہوگی۔ وہ بھی جمع کروانی لازم ہوگی۔

5۔ کامیاب بولی دہندہ کل زرٹھیکد کی رقم پر FBR سے لاگوشدہ اَنگمٹیکن ہر ماہانہ قسط کے ساتھ جمع کرنے کے پابند ہوں گے۔ 6۔ دوران ٹھیکدٹی۔ ایم۔اے شاہ عالم پشاور یا حکومت کی طرف ہے فیس میں اضافہ کی صورت میں اس حساب سے زائد وصولی یا ادائیگی کا مجاز اور یا بند ہوگا اس کا تعین فنانس سمیٹی

7-مندرجه بالانھيكە جات پر KPPRA ئىكس ودىگر ئىيسىز قانون كےمطابق لا گوہونگے۔

8 _كى بھى لوكل كۇنسل كابقايا دارآن لائن بولى ميں حصه لينے كامجاز نه ہوگا۔ 9۔ مجازاتھارٹی کواختیار حاصل ہے۔ کہ معقول وجوہات کے بناء پرایک بولی یا تمام مستر دکر دیں۔

10 مبر بولی وہندہ صوبائی حکومت سے موصول شدہ شرائط وضوابط برائے نیلائ شھیکہ جات برائے مال سال 20-2005 بمطابق چھٹی نمبر AO-II/LCB/6-11/2022 مورخہ 28/03/2025 پڑمل درآ مدکرنے کا یا بند ہوگا۔ 11۔ دیگر شرا اُکھا نیلام لوکل کوسل بورڈ کے ویب سائٹ پر ملاحظہ کئے جاسکتے ہیں۔ یادفتر اوقات کار میں دفتر تحصیل آفیسر (ریگولیشن) سے لی جاسکتی ہیں۔





Peshawar City The Frontier Post



PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Khan Gandapur offering dua after inaugurating the newly established Provincial Intelligence Fusion and Threat Assessment Centre (PIF-TAC). Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Secretary Shahab Ali Shah is also present.

Govt determined to ensure uplift of all areas: Chanzeb

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Advisor to Chanzeb, has said that the ment's top priority.

Tourism and Culture, Zahid completion is the govern-

development and prosperi- with a delegation from his erated. ty of all areas, including constituency at his office in Hazara. He said that Peshawar. Zahid Chanzeb and workers to keep a close tion of some of them.

projects are underway in placed their trust in him by these projects and to Mansehra and across the electing him, and he would promptly report any shortthe Chief Minister of Hazara Division, and their make every effort to meet Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on timely and transparent their expectations. He made it clear that any negligence discouraged. During the provincial government is He expressed these development projects in Tourism and Culture also determined to ensure the views during a meeting Mansehra would not be tollistened to the delegation's

development said that the people had watch on the progress of comings or negligence so that such elements could be in completing the ongoing meeting, the Advisor for issues and issued directives He urged local leaders for the immediate resolu-

Plantation most effective way to combat pollution: Pir Musavir

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Special ized by the Malakand Assistant to the Chief Forest Division at Hira Climate Change, Pir attended by Deputy Musavir Khan has said that Commissioner Malakand tree plantation is the most Hamid ur effective and sustainable Additional Deputy comsolution to eliminating missioner, environmental pollution and fostering a greener Dargai Shahbaz Khan,

ing successfully through dents. active public participation.

Rehman, uted among students.

Conservator Malakand million saplings has been administration, teachers, across the province is in set, with the drive progress-students, and local resifull swing.

tion drive. Around 600 Forests, School and College, Tehsil fruit-bearing and other Environment, Wildlife, and Dargai. The event was types of saplings were will significantly help planted, while 4000 addi- reduce pollution and protional saplings were distrib- mote a healthier and green

Musavir Assistant Commissioner is both a national and reli-He stated that under the Abid Mumtaz, officials and in line with the vision in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. ongoing monsoon plantation campaign in the
province, a target of one

He stated that under the Aold Mulitaz, officials and in line with the Vision in Knyber Fakhtunkhwa.

He also urged the public to not only plant trees but to province, a target of one Levies personnel, school to plant one million trees ensure their proper care.

views while addressing a Musavir Khan and other local community, approxitree plantation event organ- participants planted trees as mately 83,000 trees have part of the monsoon planta- already been planted, surpassing the target.

This initiative, he said, environment.

He commended the role stressed that planting trees of young people, especially students, describing their gious duty. Under the lead- involvement as the beginership of the Chief Minister ning of a green revolution

Commissioner Malakand In Malakand alone, with and the Chairman of Tehsil tive public participation. During the event, the active participation of Dargai also addressed the expressed these Special Assistant Pir youth, students, and the ceremony.

Governor Kundi stresses unity, tolerance on National Minorities Day

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi has said that the true strength of the nation lies in unity, adding that social harmony, tolerance, and mutual respect are the foundations of a strong and peaceful society. He urged all segments of society to work together to eradicate hatred, prejudice, and discrimination.

He expressed these views on Tuesday while addressing a special ceremony at Governor House Peshawar in connection with National Minorities Day, where he was the chief guest. The event was attended by MPA Baba Ji Gorpal Singh, PPP Provincial President Muhammad Ali Shah Bacha, Bishop Humphrey Sarfraz Peter, Haroon Sarb Dayal Yousaf George, and members of the Hindu, Sikh, and Christian communities from across the province.

The ceremony began with the national anthem, followed by speeches from minority leaders highlighting the rights. welfare, and contributions of minorities to Pakistan since its inception.

They lauded President Asif Ali Zardari and the PPP leadership for approving August 11 as National Minorities Day, and also appreciated the Governor for opening the doors of Governor House to the public.

Welcoming the minority communities, Governor Kundi said it was an honor to host National Minorities Day at Governor House for the second consecutive year. He praised the role of minority communities in Pakistan's progress, stability, and cultural diversity, reiterating that the Constitution guarantees equal rights to all citizens regardless of religion, color, or race. He assured that the government would ensure effective implementation of existing laws for the protection of minorities and would take every possible step for their social, economic, and educational uplift.

Media delegation visits Al-Madina Institute of Medical Sciences, lauds medical training standards

F.P.Report

PESHAWAR: In a grand and informative event at the Al-Madina Institute of Medical Sciences Peshawai (AIMS) renowned television and print media representatives, along with marketing officers, were invited for an exclusive visit to the institution. Dr. Habib Ullah, Director of Al-Institute Madina Medical Sciences Peshawar, warmly welcomed the guests and gave them a detailed tour of the institute's various departments—Dental, Surgical, Laboratory, Health, and Pharmacy Technologies.

During the briefing, Dr. Habib Ullah stated that the Al-Madina Institute is not only providing quality education in the medical field but is also maintaining a high standard of informed that admissions practical training, enabling are currently open in varistudents to achieve a dis- ous disciplines at the institinguished position in their tute, that for two-year emphasized admission, a minimum of marks

dards



including Pharmacy program

professional careers. He Paramedical Diploma, a Technician in (Assistant Pharmacist, Matriculation (Science) is Category-B), and two-year mandatory to maintain the Nursing programs (LHV, fied faculty, with modern dards, describing it as a institute's academic stan- CNA, CMW). Similarly, at educational technology leading center of medical

education Medical, Laboratory, Technician, and other specialized fields.

According administration, all pro- modern grams are conducted under excellent training environthe supervision of quali- ment, and academic stan-

tories, ensuring that stu-Dental, dents excel in both theo-Physiotherapy, Radiology, retical knowledge and Theatre practical skills.

At the conclusion of the visit, media representathe tives praised the institute's infrastructure, the F.Sc level, the institute and well-equipped labora- education in Peshawar.

Chief Minister inaugurates newly established PIFTAC

facility.
The Chief Minister was PESHAWAR: Chief informed that Khyber threats. established million. The PIFTAC is (Home) facilitating

data sharing on potential

Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has become According to the brief- Gandapur said the estab-Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin the first province in the ing, PIFTAC integrates 14 lishment of PIFTAC at the Khan Gandapur on country to set up such a relevant agencies - includ- provincial level marks an Tuesday visited the provin- centre, which has been ing the FIA, NADRA, PTA important step towards cial Home Department and completed in just two and intelligence organiza- effectively countering terformally inaugurated the months at a cost of Rs 210 tions - under a single plat- rorism. He stressed that the form. It is also directly Intelligence linked with the National linked with District national agenda that Threat Intelligence Fusion and Coordination Committees Assessment Centre (PIF- Threat Assessment Centre across the province. TAC). Chief Secretary (NIFTAC) at the federal Through this system, real-tions to remain on the same Shahab Ali Shah and other level and serves as a digitime intelligence sharing page. The chief minister relevant high ups were also tal, integrated system for across the country will be present. Additional Chief countering terrorism and possible, ensuring coordi- comprehensive system to nationwide nated, timely and effective Mohammad Abid Majeed, intelligence sharing and actions against terrorist on this occasion, briefed assessment. The system activities. Officials said the the chief minister in detail connects the federal and all centre will significantly on the functions and scope provincial governments, enhance the operational facilitating its effective use of the newly established enabling a uniform mechacapacity of intelligence for neutralizing threats.

Speaking on the occasion, Ali Amin Khan provincial level marks an fight against terrorism is a requires the government, the public and all institutions to remain on the same underscored the need for a tackle the menace, expressing hope that PIFTAC will play a vital role in providing timely intelligence and

PHC seeks response from govt, FIA till 19th Aug

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: (PHC) heard a petition claimed that her name was filed by the daughter of included in the ECL with-Pakhtunkhwa Finance seeking

removal from the Exit to the ECL due to her rela-Khyber out any legal proceedings.

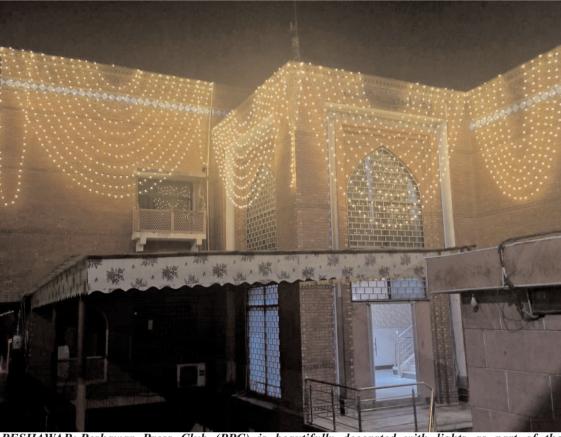
The lawyer, Ali Gohar Justice Dr. Khurshid FIA, and other respon-Minister Taimur Saleem Durrani, argued that the Iqbal, expressed concern dents, seeking her petitioner name was added over the inclusion of the response by 19th August.

Control List (ECL). The tion to Taimur Jhagra, The petitioner, a student at the without any substantial Peshawar High Court University of California, evidence or justification.

PHC divisional bench cases. comprising of Justice Syed Arshad Ali and

ECL without due process, questioning the need for a detailed judgment in such

PHC issued notices to the federal government,



PESHAWAR: Peshawar Press Club (PPC) is beautifully decorated with lights as part of the Independence Day celebrations.

KP youth are our pride and strenght, says Fakhar

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: On the occasion of International Youth Khan, and in line with the 2025, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Sports & Youth Affairs, Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Syed Fakhar Jehan, in his Khan special message, said that provincial as the world observes this stands shoulder-to-shoul-"Youth Action for the step of their journey, pro-SDGs and Beyond," he viding all possible support wishes to tell the youth of and facilitation. the province that they are its pride, strength, and

change today," he said.

reliant youth as envisioned by Patron-in-Chief and Founding Chairman Imran public agenda of Chief Minister Khyber Gandapur, the government under the theme der with the youth at every

He remarked that he has witnessed the courage, creativity, and determination "You are not merely the of young people in classleaders of tomorrow, you rooms, on sports fields and are the true torchbearers of in entrepreneurial ventures.

viding all possible support

"Our youth have proven under the vision of a self- postponed, they are to be

pursued with passion and purpose. Our mission is to nurture self-reliant youth, individuals who are independent, confident, and empowered," he added.

Highlighting ongoing initiatives, the Minister said that projects such as Jawan Marakiz, Skills & Modern Technology Hubs and the flagship Ehsaas Nauiawan Programme worth Rs. 5 billion are equipping young people with the resources and facilities to turn their ideas

into reality. Thousands of youth have already transformed their concepts into success-The Minister stated that, that dreams are not to be ful enterprises, proving that self-reliance is not a dream

but a deliberate choice. Syed Fakhar Jehan underscored that global goals can only materialize when they are implemented locally, and every young person holds the potential to drive change and shape the nation's future through

their actions. Addressing the youth, he urged that "Dream bigger, work harder and move forward with honesty. Do not wait for the future, let us build it together.'

Concluding his message, the Minister prayed for the youth's success, saying, "May Allah bless our youth and guide their steps along the righteous

Family of deceased school teacher demands action against lady doctor

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The family of Najma Parveen, a 33year-old school teacher who died due to alleged medical negligence, is demanding action against the doctor responsible. Najma's husband, Shams Rehman, claims that Dr. Samdana Wahab performed an operation on his wife without proper consent or signature, failed to clean the operation site, and didn't provide adequate care, leading to com-plications that ultimately resulted in her death.

The husband said that Dr. Samdana Wahab allegedly operated on Najma Parveen without obtaining proper consent or signature. The doctor failed to clean the operation site, leading to urinary complications and kidney damage. Najma Parveen's condition worsened due to alleged negli- clinic be sealed to stop any gence, and she underwent further alleged malpractice. dialysis for two years

before passing away. The family demands that the court has directed the a case be registered against police to conduct a thorthe doctor for alleged negligence. The family also demanded Dr. Samdana Wahab's medical license canceled to prevent further ence to harass him through alleged negligence. He also cybercrime cases and alle-

The family approached the courts, and

ough investigation. However, Shams Rehman alleges that Dr. Samdana Wahab is using her influ-

The family requested Prime Minister, Governor, Chief Minister, and Health Department to direct legal proceedings against Dr. Samdana Wahab for negligence. They demand that Dr. Samdana Wahab be held accountable for her alleged negligence and that action be taken to prevent similar





In brief

Two traffic police suspended F.P. Report

Police Officer (DPO) Zahoor Babar Afridi has suspended two traffic police personnel after a video was shared on social media. The action was taken in response to violations of police dis cipline and the depart ment's social media policy. According to the police, maintaining discipline within the force and ensuring strict adherence to institutional rules and regulations is a top priority. A departmental inquiry into the incident is currently underway and further legal and administrative measures will be taken based on the findings of the report. Meanwhile, a man was killed by unknown gunmen in Mardan district on Tuesday, police said. In the Katlang tehsil of Mardan district, a firing incident resulted in the death of one person. The incident occurred in the Mayar area under jurisdiction of Katlang police station. According to the police, 45-year-old Niaz Ali Shah, a resident of Babuzo, was killed in the firing. The Rescue 1122 medical team immediately reached the scene and transferred the deceased's body to tehsil hospital at Katlang. The Katlang police have registered a case and begun an investigation.

Train kills two persons in Taxila F.P. Report

TAXILA: A horrific incident in Taxila where train struck three children, killing two and injuring one other. As per details, the incident occurred

Rawalpindi's Taxila, two of the children, identified as four-yearold Lubaba and fouryear-old Rehan, lost their lives while playing near the railway track. Initially, all three children were critically injured and rushed to ne hospital. However one of the injured children later succumbed to his injuries, raising the death toll to two. The third child remains under treatment at a hospital. local Authorities report that the children were playing dangerously close to

Bugti welcomes US decision F.P. Report

the railway line when

the incident occurred.

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti welcomed the United States' decision to designate the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and its sub-group, the Majeed Brigade, as terrorist organisations, calling it a commendable and timely step. In a message on social media platform X, the Chief Minister said that the federal government and Field Marshal Asim Munir had presented Pakistan's stance before the US administration in a highly effective and well-reasoned manner, which led to this important decision. He stated that the BLA and Majeed Brigade had long been shedding the blood of innocent civilians under the false guise of ethnic and linguistic rights, and their hands were stained with the blood of countless innocents. He stressed that terrorism can never be justified under any circumstances, and no cause can legitimise the killing of innocent civilians. The Chief Minister urged the international community to unite and adopt a joint strategy to eradicate the scourge of terrorism so that the world can be freed from this dangermenace. Sarfaraz Bugti expressed hope that this decision would help promote peace and stability in Pakistan and further strengthen the ongoing fight against terrorism.



LARKANA: Commuters passing through nearby an open sewerage manhole which may cause any accident specially in night time, showing negligence of authorities concerned.

Govt commits to enhance higher education: Aftab

Sahibzada Afridi

KOHAT: Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST) hosted Provincial Law Minister Aftab Alam Advocate, who was accomfor a meeting with Vice and providing young peo-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Syed ple with modern opportuni-Zafar Ilyas, on Tuesday.

The meeting featured indepth discussions on the university's academic and research advancements, the provision of quality facilities for students, and ongoing initiatives to promote higher education.

Aftab Alam Advocate stat- the university so that the with full dedication and

panied by MPA Daud Afridi and Chairman of further enhancing the stan- modern education within Tehsil Gumbat, Sajid Iqbal, dard of higher education their own area.

ple with modern opportunities for learning and research, utilizing all avail- Zafar Ilyas said that KUST able resources.

Sajid Iqbal also expressed al level in academic and their commitment that pub-lic representatives will research advancement and that in the future, the faculextend all possible coopera- ty, students and administra-Provincial Law Minister tion for the development of tion will continue to work ed that the provincial government is committed to have access to quality and improvement.

Welcoming the Minister for Law and his delegation, Vice Chancellor Prof: Dr is playing a significant role MPA Daud Afridi and not only at the regional Chairman Tehsil Gumbat level but also at the nation-

Suspension of internet frustrates residents

F.P. Report

QUETTA: Mobile internet services across Balochistan ther stated that mobile data period. have remained suspended services will remain susfor over a week, causing pended throughout the dents and citizens have significant difficulties for month of August across the expressed frustration over

According to spokesperson

access facilitates communi- Saifullah, Nushki, and

the Pakistan Balochistan government, (PTA) officials, the suspent hose involved in freelanc-

for the mmunication the decision to shut down sion is in effect in multiple ing or online businesses mobile data services was districts, including Kohlu, are facing serious disruptaken in light of recent ter-Chaman, Qila Abdullah, tions to their work and rorist activities, as internet Pishin, Loralai, Ziarat, Qila income.

cation for terrorist groups. Harnai. The ban has been The spokesperson fur- imposed for an indefinite

On the other hand, resiprovince. According to the prolonged outage. Teleco- Students are unable to Authority attend online classes, and

Tobacco farmers to be facilitated as per PTB guidelines

BUNER: Pakistan Tobacco reaffirmed its commitment to transparency in the tobacco leaf procurement process, and strengthening the fight against illicit trade, while strictly adhering to the regu-

latory framework. According to MLO 487, each year the PTB allocates procurement quotas to tobacco manufacturing companies based on their declared requirements, which are publicly notified to ensure transparency. This year, the total combined demand from all tobacco companies stood at approximately 81.5 million with PTC kilograms, accounting for 25% of that demand. However, total tobacco production this year is expected to exceed 100 million kilograms.

combined demand of 5.2 ment. In case of surplus pro- of loans. duction, the PTB ensures proportional distribution among companies to protect farmers' interests.

MLO 487 (Martial Law Order 487) is Pakistan's farmers are given priority tobacco marketing law that during procurement, ensurrequires companies to pur- ing income protection and chase surplus tobacco at or compliance with both local the Indicative Price (MIP). It Market reports indicate that forms part of the broader other companies are exploitframework that includes the ing farmers by purchasing PTB Ordinance 1968 and the tobacco at lower prices, Tobacco Marketing Control Rules 2016.

During a briefing to journalists in Buner, PTC representatives shared that the price. In contrast, PTC is company has direct agreements with over 10,000 PTB's set rate in accordance tobacco farmers and pro- with the law.

In Buner district, around vides technical training and 12 companies declared a agricultural support through nearly 150 agronomists from Company Limited (PTC) has million kilograms of tobac- seed sowing to harvest. PTC co, of which 3 million kilo- also offers financial assissupporting farmers, ensuring grams was PTC's require- tance to farmers in the form Recently, the company

provided over PKR 1 billion in financial support to tobacco farmers in the region Under this model, contracted Minimum and international standards. between PKR ranging 400–600 per kilogram three to five hundred rupees buying tobacco strictly at the

Youth killed, two injured in Larkana F.P. Report

LARKANA: A fight broke out in the Khaskheli community over a trivial matter in Dokri city of Larkana district, while one person was killed and two others were injured due to sticks and shovels.

According details, two groups of tunkhwa Khaskheli community clashed over a trivial matter in a farm colony near Dokri yesterday, as a result Javed Ali Khaskheli was and Majid Khan Samad Khaskheli were seriously injured and shifted to the hospital for treatment. On receiving information, police reached the spot ascertained the details, took the body to Dokri hospital, conducted a post-mortem and handed it over to the heirs.

The affected party of the Khaskheli community kept the body in front of the police station Dokri and staged a protest. On this occasion, the heirs of the murdered Javed Khaskheli, they said that the oppressors have unjustly killed our youth, they have asked the DIG.

SMBBMU organizes 'Maurka Hag'' Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Medical University (SMBBMU) organized the fourth free in connection with the Independence and 'Maurka Haq" events.

According to the details, after the Sindh government announced to celebrate "Murka Haq" and Jashn-e-Azadi for two weeks from August 1 to August 14 with full national enthusiasm, free medical camps are being organized in backward and remote areas on the special instructions of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Medical University (SMBBMU) Larkana Vice Chancellor

Prof. Dr. Nusrat Shah. The fourth free medical camp in this series was organized in Jacobabad today, in which about 1700 patients were provided free medical treatment facilities. Clinics for gynecology, dermatology, medicine, hepatology, urology specialists were set up in the camp, while ultrasound and X-ray facilities were also provided, while various events are also ongoing in institutions affiliated to medical facilities.

Jirga aims to address Swat's growing problems



MINGORA: A new jirga, Babuzai Qami Taroon, has been announced to tackle the rising issues in Swat's

Tehsil Babuzai. The jirga's

advisory committee mem-

bers, including Wajid Ali Khan, Muhammad Amin, Irfan Chattan, Ishaq Zahid and others addressed a Swat Press Club, emphasizing the need for collective action to address social crimes, drug trafficking, and immoral activities plaguing the region.

Swat National Jirga, busiorganizations to maintain peace and security in the region. Wajid Ali Khan said that The jirga seeks to comes amid growing conaddress public problems and find solutions to the challenges faced by the local community.

The jirga is open to press conference at the members from all parties, organizations, and influential individuals in civil society, with no political ambitions. Muhammad Amin to contribute to the ongoing aguing the region.

12-member committee has ing peace and stability in Babuzai Qami Taroon been formed to oversee the Swat irfan chattan vowed.

Additional members will be ness community, and other included through mutual consultation to ensure broader representation.

The jirga's formation

cerns about the region's stability, with the Swat Qaumi Jirga having previously raised alarms about the presence of armed groups and the need for collective action to maintain peace. The Babuzai Qami Taroon jirga's efforts are expected cited that we have formed a initiatives aimed at promot-

KP CM approves WSS Kumongar: Minister

F.P. Report

TO the KARAK: Khyber Pakh- and fresh drinking water to ment. Minister Agriculture Major® Sajjad Barakwal has disclosed that under the vision of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan, the killed due to sticks and Chief Minister Khyber shovels, while Abdul Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin and provide better access to Gandapur, approved the grand Kumongar Water Supply Scheme worth Rs.1 Billion

This he disclosed while

that the project will ensure fulfilling its promises of the provision of clean, safe all the villages and housecantly improving the qualilation. Upon completion, the project will eliminate drinking water shortages quality health facilities for the community, he added.

for the people of Takraon. is a result of the public trust and the tireless efforts of

public service and develop-

Barakwal described the holds in Takraon, signifi- approval of this scheme as an important step towards ty of life for the local popu- regional progress and prosperity, affirming that the provincial government is taking robust measures to provide basic facilities to the public. Instructions have been issued to the rel-Agriculture Minister evant departments to experemarked that this success dite work on the Kumongar Water Supply Scheme as timely and quality completalking to the locals in his constituency in Karak on Tuesday. The Minister said that PTI government will leave no stone unturned in the project is the top priority of the government, he concluded.

Six booked for violence on domestic worker

F.P. Report

HAFIZABAD: Police have attention when local media ties must be recognized registered a murder case aired reports of the alleged every day of the year. against six individuals, torture. Following this covincluding influential local erage, the Inspector General important, but their signifi-figure Syed Najam-ul- of Police took notice, and cance is not limited to a sin-Mohtarma Hassan Shirazi, over allegations of brutally assaulting a domestic worker with sticks and rods before poisoning medical camp in Jacobabad him to death. The other accused have been named as Abdul Razzaq Chadhar, Zain Ali, Ghulam Abbas Chadhar, Ghafoor Ahmed, and others.

The victim, Waseem Syedan, was employed at Shirazi's residence in Akhtar Town. Two days ago, his body was brought to the DHQ Hospital, where his family staged a strong protest against the refusal to conduct a postmortem examination. Despite their demonstrations and loud objections, the autopsy was not performed, and the body was buried at night in observed as Minority Day as well.

Nazir formed an inquiry committee headed by DSP Rana Jameel Subsequently, the Regional Police Officer Gujranwala and the SSP of the CCD Gujranwala detailed investigation. After the inquiry, FIR was lodged Riaz, a resident of Rahgo at City Police Station, formally charging Shirazi and

> victim's autopsy has not been conducted. Advisor to the Chief Minister of Punjab and Member of the National Assembly, Hafiza Saira

> the other accused with mur-

der. To date, however, the

The case gained wider tions and rights of minori-

"I believe such days are District Police Officer Atif gle day, all 365 days belong to them," she said. "Minorities are patriotic Qaiser. Pakistanis, and history shows that in every great struggle, Pakistanis, regardless of religion, ethnicity, visited race, or tribe, have stood Hafizabad to conduct a united against the enemy. This unity has always ensured the enemy's defeat.' She emphasized that the

government stands committed to protecting minority rights, supporting their development, and resolv-Minority day observed: ing their issues. She added that minorities have been given representation at the provincial and divisional levels, and efforts will be Afzal Tarar, has said that made to secure their seats while August 11 is officially in the provincial assembly

DPO hold meeting with tribesmen

F.P. Report

Officer (DPO) Lower Waziristan on Tuesday convened a series of meetings at his office with tribal elders and prominent figures from the Spin area. The discus-Spin a day earlier, with par- He emphasized that the

ticipants reviewing the cir-cumstances and exploring

sions primarily focused on centuries-old tribal customs the university along with the incident that took place in and traditions of the region.

police will make every possible effort to address the area's WANA: District Police possible measures to prevent challenges and disputes such occurrences in the through close coordination and consultation with tribal During the meeting, DPO elders. Highlighting the role Tahir Shah reaffirmed the of community cooperation in police commitment to ensuring peace, the DPO upholding and respecting the noted that effective crime control is only possible with the trust and active support of local residents.

Tax justice in educationcation

INANCIAL and budgetary irregularities in the allocation, continue to severely hinder educational development in Pakistan. Despite evading tax obligations. commitments to universal education, Pakistan's education spending remains one of the state along with mismanagement of funds, negatively affects school infrastructure, education, particularly for marginalized communities.

Fizza Hussain

The Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) stands out as a department demonstrating that, with capable leadership, institutional meaningful reform is achiev-

many of which collect substantial funds from the public while

protected under the Protection of Employees Ordinance, 1969, as the lowest in South Asia. This well as various provincial chronic underinvestment by statutes, their remuneration remains modest, typically ranging between USD 170 and USD 200 per month, depending on teacher quality, and access to whether they serve in private or public institutions. Studies suggest that higher salaries can improve the quality of teaching, though the relationship is not always predictable.

integrity, and focused direction, Ombudsman (FTO) has directed the Federal Board of Revenue able. This analysis highlights (FBR) to ensure that payments how such goals are being pur- to government school teachers sued through the FTO's intensi- for supervisory duties, invigilafied oversight of tax compliance, tion, and paper marking are excessive deductions. particularly within Pakistan's taxed under Section 149 Acting on a reference foreducation sector. Special atten- (salary), not Section 153(1)(b) warded by President Dr. Arif decision, tion has been given to irregulari- (services rendered) of the Alvi, the FTO, has ordered an observed that the withholding moved the complaint under sec- Bahria University.

education sector, along ties among private and unrecog- Income Tax Ordinance, 2001. investigation into the tax affairs tax to be deducted at the rate of Although teachers are legally therefore fall under the salary under Section 31 of the Federal category. The current practice of applying Section 153(1)(b) conthe FTO Ordinance, 2000. FBR with the Board of Intermediate er legal status. & Secondary Education (BISE) Gujranwala to correct the withholding regime and apply Section 149 for such payments. The FTO emphasized that these duties are integral to the education system and are carried out Recently, The Federal Tax during duty hours under fixed, non-negotiable rates set by the

Tax Ombudsman Ordinance, 2000, alleging administrative stitutes maladministration under negligence and tax evasion by institutions operating under the has been instructed to coordinate guise of education without prop-

The complaint highlights that while the HEC maintains a regulatory framework for accrediting institutions, the Federal Board of enforce tax laws on entities deemed fake or illegal by the HEC. The FTO is now investigating allegations of tax evasion Boards of Governors. Many and fraud, with the complainant teachers, especially those with urging action under various prolower salaries, fall below the tax visions of the Income Tax days. threshold but are still subject to Ordinance, 2001 and the Sales Tax Act, 1990

the

with inadequate tax revenue nized educational institutions, According to the FTO, these of educational institutions not 20 percent from the salary of duties are part of teachers' regu-lar assignments, performed with Education Commission (HEC). to semester basis was unlawtheir employer's approval, and The reference was initiated ful. He directed the FBR to prevent excessive tax deductions from lecturers at Post Graduate College for Women, Bannu, Government Degree College Kaki, and similar institutions. He rejected FBR's thirty identical representations and

withheld the FTO's decision. Chief Commissioner RTO Peshawar was instructed to prioritize and process the cases Revenue (FBR) has failed to under relevant laws to relieve the complainants of the ongohardship. Additionally, FBR must issue clarifications to all withholding agents to prevent such deductions and report compliance within 30

The Ad-hoc lecturers who While upholding FTO's semester to semester basis by the tion. president Governmental Educational

tion 10 of the FTO ordinance 2000. They were paid Rs. 36,000 and Income Tax at the rate of 20% was deducted from their monthly salary despite their salaries were not liable to be taxed. As per the findings established by the FTO in the income tax ordinance was that Legal provisions governing "Salary Taxation" i.e. Section 12 and 149 of Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 neither obligate any valid contract of employment, nor place any other condition for a case to be treated as a salaried case except for the basic parameter of employment which is employer employee equation "Master-Servant based on Relationship". Whether Regular, Ad-hoc, Temporary, Hired, Daily Wages, all are the different shades & forms of employment and law doesn't create any distinction among all the above forms. And as law does not allow any exception for hired lecturer's salary to be excluded were provisionally hired for from the ambit of salary taxa-

The writer is law Student at





CLAIRTON: Firefighters spraying water on the site of an explosion at US Steel's Clairton Coke Works plant in Pennsylvania.

Child dies in Italy as European heatwave sets records

ROME (AFP): A young boy died of heatstroke in Italy while wildfires threatened a UNESCO site in Spain to contain the wildfire, allege that many of the blazes were said Juan Carlos Suarez-Quinones, deliberately lit, with more than 20 the Castile and Leon regional envipeople arrested in recent weeks. and French cities saw record temperatures, as a heatwave baked Europe. Many towns and cities in France, Italy and the Balkans were put on red alert due to the heat. Wildfires fanned tions of thousands of people throughout the continent and threatened popular tourist sites in Turkey and Spain. areas and fuelling wildfires.

The four-year-old Romanian boy who died in Italy succumbed days family's car on the island of Sardinia. The news came as Italy's health ministry issued a red alert warning for seven major cities, including Bologna and Florence.

Some 11 Italian cities are on red alert for Tuesday, and 16 cities. Red alerts were also announced in south-Spain, and the Balkan countries is not heat dome over Europe," Akshay park to tourists. Deoras, a research scientist at the meteorology department in Britain's University of Reading, told AFP.

"Heatwaves don't roar like storms -- they creep in quietly, but can be just as deadly." A blaze, which broke out, damaged a UNESCO site at Les Medulas in northwestern Spain -- famed for its striking red

ronment minister. "We will not allow people to return until safety in their communities is absolutely guaranteed," he told reporters, estimating that about 700 people had been disby strong winds forced the evacuaplaced. Spain has been in the grip of a heatwave for the past week, with temperatures nearing 40C in many

In the southern tourist town of Tarifa, more than 2,000 people were after being found unconscious in his evacuated, some from hotels and beaches, after a fire that had been subdued flared up again, with more than 100 firefighters battling the flames. In neighbouring Portugal, firefighters were battling three large wildfires in the centre and north of the country, while Morocco is sending two aircraft to help fight the fires ern France and on the Adriatic and after two Portuguese planes broke Ionian coasts in the Balkans. "The down. In Italy, around 190 firefightheatwave currently affecting France, ers and the army were tackling a wildfire on Mount Vesuvius that surprising. It is driven by a persistent caused the closure of the national

People were evacuated from dozens of homes in the Balkans as firefighters battled blazes in Albania, Montenegro and Croatia, where red alerts were announced. In Albania, hundreds of firefighters and soldiers had subdued most of the nearly 40 Heritage-listed Roman-era mining fires that flared up in the last 24 hours, according to the defence ministry, but more than a dozen were still landscape -- and prompted hundreds active. Since the start of July, nearly of residents to evacuate. High tem- 34,000 hectares (84,000 acres) have 19 or 20. At least 12 French departperatures and winds of up to 40 kilo- been scorched nationwide, according ments were placed on red alert, the metres per hour (25 mph) created to the European Forest Fire country's highest heat warning, with

Just outside the capital of neighbouring Montenegro, where temperatures soared to 40C, fire crews managed to save dozens of homes when a blaze broke out in inaccessible terrain. In Croatia, around 150 firefighters also spent the night defending homes from a blaze near the port city of Split. In the northwestern Turkish province of Canakkale, more than 2,000 people were evacuated and 77 people received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation after several fires broke out around the tourist village of Guzelyali, authorities said Several homes and cars caught ablaze, according to images shown on Turkish media, while more than 760 firefighters, 10 aeroplanes, nine helicopters and more than 200 vehicles were deployed to battle the flames. Turkey had just experienced its hottest July since records began 55 years ago. Temperature records were broken in at least four weather stations in southern France, as the government called for vigilance.

The southwestern city of Bordeaux hit a record 41.6C while all-time records were also broken at meteorological stations in Bergerac, Cognac and Saint Girons, according to the national weather service, Meteo France. The heatwave, the country's second this summer, began and was forecast to last possibly until August "many difficulties" for firefighters Information System (EFFIS). Police four more expected on Tuesday.

No bread, no fuel, no dollars: How Bolivia went from boom to bust

LA PAZ (AFP): A bread roll for leading the country to heyday of former leftist been gained in previous has become a symbol of a ruin. Carlos Tavera, a 70severe economic crisis in year-old socialist activist, Boliva that looks set to says the best-placed oppodecide the outcome of the sition candidate would get most significant elections in his vote, even if it meant nearly two decades. The backing a right-wing candimarraqueta, which is subsi- date. "Anyone else would dized by the state, is the be better than this," he said. baguette of Bolivia. But As in parts of Venezuela, even the humble "battle life for many in Bolivia has bread," as it is nicknamed, is become a daily slog to find hard to come by these days affordable in La Paz as the government goods. The lines at gas staruns out of the dollars it tions in La Paz at times

tried over a dozen street and at 11:00 am. I'm just stalls for what she calls the getting in to fill up," "bread of the poor" but Manuel Osinaga, a taxi went home empty-handed. driver, told AFP at a gas "This government offers no station in La Paz. Wheat, lately. Bolivians go the bread, is also becoming polls in the first round of scarce, as is cooking oil and presidential and parliamen- rice and medication. tary elections which could Wilson Paz, a 39-year-old see a country that steadfast- self-employed man, said he ly voted left for a genera- was forced to buy expention swing to the right. sive unsubsidized bread to Opinion polls show voters feed his family of seven. poised to punish the ruling MAS party, which has been elections to arrive in order the state-run Universidad regain 20 lost years" if he in power for 19 years, for to change this (economic) Mayor de San Andres, said were elected. "I believe a in power for 19 years, for to change this (economic) socialist policies that, like model, which has impoverin Venezuela, lifted mil- ished us so much," he had erased gains in living Churchill, of blood, toil, and

subsidized needs to import essentials such as fuel and wheat. extend for nearly up to a kilometer (0.6 miles). "This Ligia Maldonado, 70, morning I came at 6:00 am, she said disconso- used to make flour for

"We can't wait for these lions out of poverty in the added, without revealing standards made under tears. We must buckle up, 2000s but are now blamed how he would vote. In the MAS. "The little that had said Pacheco.

president Evo Morales, in the 2010s, things were very

different. Bolivia, which ed," he told AFP. has Latin America's second-biggest natural gas up as one of the region's But years of falling gas output, caused by underinvest- Bolivian think-tank. The go from boom to bust. Gas printing money -- a policy exports only brought in that the two election fronin 2013. The dollar has Medina and hard-right forlocal boliviano in less than 24.8 percent, the highest making public companies, level since at least 2008. and both they and leading The shortages of basics left-wing have sent Bolivians repeat- Andronico Rodriguez have edly into the streets over vowed to cut fuel subsidies, the past year, in protest among other austerity measover outgoing President ures. On a walkabout in La Luis Arce's handling of the Paz last week Quiroga told an economics professor at expect "radical change (to) the economic meltdown period is coming, to quote

years has been lost because the economy has contract-

The official poverty rate is listed at 36-37 percent, deposits, was being talked but if rising inflation were accounted for, 44 percent of hottest economies, powered Bolivians would be considby a commodities boom. ered poor, according to the Foundation, a Jubileo ment in energy exploration, government has sought to have caused the country to stabilize the economy by \$1.6 billion last year, down trunners, center-right multifrom a peak of \$6.1 billion millionaire Samuel Doria doubled in value against the mer president Jorge Quiroga have vowed to end. Doria a year, which is in turn Medina and Quiroga have fuelling annual inflation of also pledged to close losscandidate crisis. Napoleon Pacheco, AFP that Bolivians could

Iraq announces nationwide power outage amid 'record' heat

grid demand to unprece- rise in dented levels, authorities increased amid a heatwave that Iraqi electrical

The electricity ministry operations. "Our teams are on Tuesday. Electricity breathe a little".

scorching summer temper- transmission lines were atures pushed electricity shut down "due to a record temperatures, load in the meteorological services provinces of Babylon and expect to last more than a Karbala, which are experiweek, with temperatures encing an influx of mil-

climbing as high as 50C in lions of pilgrims" for a of parts of the country, major Shiite Muslim reli- Authorities most households rely on sudden and accidental loss the southern provinces of generators, of more than 6,000 Dhi Qar and Maysan, with in daily power cuts to public the ministry added, with Basra expected to have "green

hours," the ministry said.

to provide round-the-clock meteorological state electricity to a third

BAGHDAD (AFP): Power said the grid suffered a currently mobilised on the shortages are a frequent was out across Iraq as "total outage" after two ground to gradually restore complaint in Iraq, which is the grid over the next few sometimes rocked by protests when outages The northern Kurdistan worsen in the hot summer consumer region was spared. The months. Heatwaves in Iraq said. The outage came demand, and increased autonomous territory has are "more intense and worked to modernise its more frequent" than they power sector and was able were in the 20th century, spokesman Amer al-Jaberi population. told AFP, blaming climate later change and human factors Mitigating the grid inter- gious commemoration. announced that power was He said gas emissions and ruption was the fact that The shutdown caused "a being restored in stages in fumes from private generators "contribute to the rise temperatures", and acquired to compensate for megawatts on the grid", the strategic port city of called for the creation of a belt" around power plants also halting electricity back by dawn Baghdad "so the city can

Jellyfish force French nuclear plant shutdown

PARIS (AFP): A nuclear plant in northern France was temporarily shut down after a swarm of jellyfish clogged pumps used to cool the reactors, energy group EDF said. The automatic shutdowns of four units 'had no impact on the safety of the facilities, the safety of personnel, or the environment", EDF said on its website.

"These shutdowns are the result of the massive and unpredictable presence of jellyfish in the filter drums of the pumping stations," the Gravelines plant operator said. The site was fully shut after the incident, with its two other units already offline for maintenance. Teams were carrying out inspections to restart the production units 'in complete safety", EDF said, adding the units were expected to restart. "There is no risk of a power shortage," the company added, saying other energy sources, including solar power, were operational. Gravelines is Western Europe's largest nuclear power plant with six reactors, each with the capacity to produce 900 megawatts. The site is due to open two next-generation reactors, each with a capacity of

1,600 megawatts, by 2040. This is not the first time jellyfish have shut down a nuclear facility, though EDF said such incidents were "quite rare", adding the last impact on its operations was in the 1990s. There have been cases of plants in other countries shutting down due to jellyfish invasions, notably a three-day closure Sweden in 2013 and a 1999 incident in Japan that caused a major drop in output. Experts say overfishing, plastic pollution and climate change have created conditions allowing jellyfish to thrive and repro-

Refugees in Kenya impacted by food aid cuts

NAIROBI: The World Food Programme (WFP) has said it will need to drasically cut rations to refugees in Kenya due to Prime including major funding cuts from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Residents of the Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps were beginning to feel the impact of food aid cuts as the WFP implemented a new assistance system there in which certain groups are prioritised over

others. The WFP said aid is being cut by 60 percent for the most vulnerable groups, including pregnant women and disabled people, and by 80 percent for refugees with some kind of income. The two camps host nearly 800,000 people fleeing conflict and drought in Somalia and South Sudan, according to the United Nations Commissioner

(UNHCR) Refugees 'WFP's operations support ing refugees in Kenya are under immense strain, Baimankay Sankoh, WFP' deputy country director in Kenya, said in May. "With available resources stretched to their limits, we have had to make the difficult decision to again reduce food assistance. This will have a serious impact on vulnerable refugees, increasing the risk of hunger and malnutrition." "There has been a lot of tension in the last couple of weeks or so," Al Jazeera's Catherine Soi said, reporting from Kakuma.

"People were very angry about what WFP is calling the priority food distribution, where some people will not get food at all and others are going to get a small fraction of the food." These tensions boiled over, triggering protests last week, which left one person dead and several others injured, said Soi, adding that WFP officials she spoke with said the aid cuts from organisations like USAID meant they have had to make "very difficult decisions about who gets to eat and who doesn't". WFP worker Thomas Chica explained to Soi that the new system was rolled out after assessments were conducted by WFP and its partners. — Aljazeera

Support Forces kill 40 people in Darfur CAIRO (AP): Sudan's Shouk Camp. In an effort to equipment, as more than 16 paramilitary Rapid Support corroborate reports of the combat vehicles were

Forces launched attacks in a famine-stricken displacement camp outside of el-Fasher, the capital of North Darfur province, killing 40 people, local rights groups Emergency

Response Rooms group working at the Abu Shouk displacement camp said in a statement on Facebook that the RSF - which is at war with the Sudanese military - raided parts of the camp targeting citizens inside their homes. The community activist group, which provides assistance across Sudan, said at least people were also injured.

The Abu Shouk displacement camp outside of el-Fasher, which houses around 450,000 displaced people, has been repeatedly attacked over the course of the war. The Sudanese military has control over el-Fasher despite frequent strikes by the RSF.

Meanwhile, Resistance Committees in el-Fasher confirmed the attacks, saying Facebook that the scene 'reflected the extent of the horrific violations committed against innocent, defenseless people." The Resistance Committees are a group of local citizens from the community that includes human rights activists. The Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale University posted satellite imagery showing 40 vehi- inflicted heavy losses on cles present at the Abu the enemy in lives and women and children.

RSF attack, the lab said the vehicles were in the northwest neighborhoods of the In its report, Yale HRL

Sudan's Rapid

lyzed photos and footage allegedly "showing RSF shooting at people crawling away from them and berating and using ethnic slurs."
Other satellite imagery gathered by the group apparently showed the RSF blocking routes that people use to escape el-Fasher by controlling points across the el-Fasher to Kutum road north of the city and an opening in the direction of Mellit, North Darfur. The civil war in Sudan erupted in April 2023 in the capital Khartoum before spreading across the country following simmering tensions between the RSF and the army. The fighting has killed over 40,000 people, displaced as many as 12 million and pushed many to the brink of famine. The Abu Shouk camp is one of two camps

tions, according to humani-The Sudanese army said it clashed with RSF fighters in el-Fasher beginning at around 6 a.m. and ending in the afternoon. It claimed it defeated the paramilitary group, according to its forces repelled a large-scale attack from several axes by the terrorist militia and

with strong famine condi-

destroyed and burned and vehicles, including armored cars, were captured," the army claimed in a statement. The RSF said said it gathered and ana- on its Telegram channel that it made advances in el-Fasher and seized military equipment, without providing further details. Darfur Gov. Mini Arko Minawi said on Facebook that el-Fasher "triumphed over those who betrayed their land" in an apparent reference to the RSF in fight.

Meanwhile, in North

Kordofan province the RSF

has been accused of dis-

placing over 3,000 families

from 66 villages due to

fighting since early August, according to the Sudan Doctors Network. The group also said the RSF looted the properties of those people and stole their money and livestock. Those displaced ended up arriving at Khartoum and White Nile provinces last week. The recent attacks on the villages in the province killed 18 civilians and injured dozens, according to the latest update by the United Nations. UN United Nations. spokesman Dujarric warned of the "extreme dire situation" in Sudan, while Edem Wosornum, the operations and advocacy director at the UN's humanitarian affairs posts on social media. "Our agency, sounded the alarm over the situation in el-Fasher, saying over 60 people died from malnutrition

Azerbaijan, Armenia publish text of deal

TBILISI/BAKU (Reuters): ing almost all of the territo- against Armenia and Azerbaijan ry's published the text of a USbrokered peace agreement, pledging to respect each other's territorial integrity Washington, Azerbaijani

Minister President Donald Trump at the White House. The text of the agree-

ment, which was initialled by the countries' foreign ministers, says Yerevan and Baku will relinquish all claims to each other's territory, refrain from using force against one another and pledge to respect international law. "This agreement is a solid foundation for establishing a reliable and lasting peace, the result of an agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan that reflects the balanced interests of the two countries," Pashinyan wrote on Facebook. Armenia and Azerbaijan, neighbours in the South Caucasus region, have been locked in conflict since the late 1980s over Nagorno-Karabakh, a mountainous region at the Karabakh mountain range, the region in 2023, prompt-

100,000 Armenians to flee to Armenia. The European Union,

Russia, which has previously deployed peacekeepers to the region and still has extensive military and security Union also has a mission deployed at the border to monitor ceasefire violations, which Baku has repeatedly demanded it withdraw. The peace deal has not yet been signed by the two rivals, who both gained their independence from the Soviet Union in

peace, claim implicit southern end of the required to sign the peace with Nakhchivan, an including agreement, within Azerbaijan. Baku amendments to Armenia's took back full control of constitution that would was also a stumbling block

Azerbaijan.' ethnic Aliyev, who has led Azerbaijan since 2003, told reporters in Washington last week that Yerevan "has NATO member Turkey and some homework to do' and formally put an end to nearly four decades of conflict. The deal was struck in a traditional broker and ally the changes have been when of Armenia, was left out made, "the peace agree-President and warned against foreign ment can be signed at any Ilham Aliyev and Armenian meddling. The deal explic- time." Pashinyan this year Nikol itly bans the deployment of called for a referendum to reductions in global aid, Pashinyan met with US third-party forces along the change the constitution, but countries' shared border, a no date for it has been set possible reference to yet. The potential peace deal would transform the South Caucasus, an energy-rich region neighbouring Russia, Europe, Turkey interests in and Iran that is criss-Armenia. The European crossed by oil and gas pipelines but has been hamstrung by closed borders and decades-old ethnic conflicts.

At the White House meeting, the United States gained exclusive development rights to a strategic transit corridor in the region that the Trump administration said would In a major hurdle to boost bilateral economic Azerbaijan is ties and allow for greater demanding that Armenia exports of energy. The change its constitution, management and developwhich Baku says makes an ment of that corridor, which on will run through southern Azerbaijani territory. Baku Armenia and connect most said "further actions" were of Azerbaijani territory Azerbaijani exclave that borders Baku's ally Turkey, "eliminate territorial claims to initial peace efforts.

Colombia presidential hopeful dies after June rally shooting

Colombian presidential candidate Miguel Uribe has died two months after being shot at a campaign rally, his family said, as the attack rekindled fears of a return to the nation's violent past. The 39-year-old conservative senator, a grandson of former president Julio Cesar Turbay (1978-1982), was shot in the head and leg on June 7 at a rally in the capital Bogota by a suspect-

ed 15-year-old hitman. Despite signs of progress in recent weeks, his doctors announced he had suffered a new brain hemorrhage. To break up a family is the most horrific act of violence that can be committed," his widow Maria Claudia Tarazona said at his wake, where she thanked her husband's medical team for their efforts. She attended the state ceremony at Congress in Bogota, where Uribe's body will remain for public viewing.

attack, including the alleged bombings. Writing on X, shooter, who was captured at the scene by Uribe's bodyguards. Following a announced the arrest of an alleged mastermind behind regardless of ideology" and the attack, Elder Jose Arteaga Hernandez, alias "El Costeno." Police have also pointed to a dissident wing of the defunct FARC guerrilla group as being behind the assassination. The attack on Uribe, a leading candidate ahead of the 2026 presidential election, has reopened old wounds in a country wracked by violence. His own mother, journalist Diana Turbay, was killed in a botched 1991 police operation to free her from cocaine king-Pablo Escobar's Medellin cartel.

Four presidential candidates were assassinated during the worst phase of violence in the 1980s and 1990s under Escobar, who terrorized citizens of six suspects linked to the where with a campaign of hand man.

Gustavo Petro, of whom Uribe was a fierce critic, nationwide manhunt, police said the government's role was to "repudiate crime... assured the safety of Colombians was his top priority. "Today is a sad day for the country," Vice President Francia Marquez said on social media. Violence cannot continue to mark our destiny. Democracy is not built with bullets or blood, it is built with respect, with dia-logue." Uribe had fiercely criticized Petro's strategy of "total peace," based on engaging all of Colombia's remaining armed groups, including drug traffickers, in dialogue. He announced in October he would seek to succeed the term-limited Petro in the May 2026 election. Uribe was elected to Bogota's city council at age 26. later becoming its youngest-ever chairperson Authorities have arrested Bogota, Medellin and else- and then the mayor's right-

The Frontier Post Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late)

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Antarctica not arena for bloc confrontation

USTRALIA'S ABC News claimed on Sunday that the United States administration's funding cuts to science programs in Antarctica "could create a void for China and Russia to fill", which should be a cause of concern for Canberra.

To interpret China's normal scientific activities in Antarctica as a "threat" to Australia's national interest reflects a misguided and narrow mindset that ignores international law. It also brings to light the political bias and self-ishness harbored by some in Australia who regard Antarctica as their country's own back-

In contrast to China's growing scientific foot-print in Antarctica, the US, the traditional leader in Antarctic diplomacy and research, has significantly reduced funding for both Antarctica's largest research and logistics station, McMurdo, and the National Science Foundation which funds US research in Antarctica.

China now has five research stations on the continent, with the latest outpost, Qinling, officially opened and put into operation in February last year. The country has also, for the first time, overtaken the US in the number of research papers on Antarctica published in the past year.

China's increasing presence and contributions in the region, consistent with its status as a consultative party to the Antarctic Treaty, are conducted strictly in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty System and should be recognized as being an important international public good. These efforts enhance humanity's scientific understanding of the remote southernmost continent and promote peaceful cooperation on and sustainable development of Antarctica.

The country's upgraded infrastructure construction on the continent is not only a practical necessity for conducting research in one of the world's harshest environments, but also "provides a platform for China's cooperation with other countries in scientific exploration, promoting peace and sustainable development in Antarctica", as a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on the opening of Qinling.

To understand how absurd the Antarcticarelated anti-China rhetoric is, it is essential to related anti-China rhetoric is, it is essential to have a look at the framework governing Antarctica, namely the Antarctic Treaty. The treaty was established in 1959 and entered into force in 1961. It designates the continent as a zone of peace and science while prohibiting military activity, mineral mining and nuclear tests. It emphasizes scientific research and international cooperation, a common-good spirit that has largely been upheld by all its signatories.

The Antarctic Treaty sets out the governance mechanism for Antarctica and provides a system framework for the protection of the continent. The robust governance structure ensures that any nation's activities, including China's, are subject to international scrutiny and regula-

Yet despite that, efforts at denigrating China and describing it as a "threat" to the region have never ceased. The Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a US think tank, falsely warned during Qinling's construction that the facility, with a satellite ground station, will have inherent dual-use capabilities, a worry that ABC News raised again in its latest report. What they intentionally ignored is that the US already exercised its right of inspection under the treaty to examine Qinling in 2020, and its inspectors found no evidence of militarization.

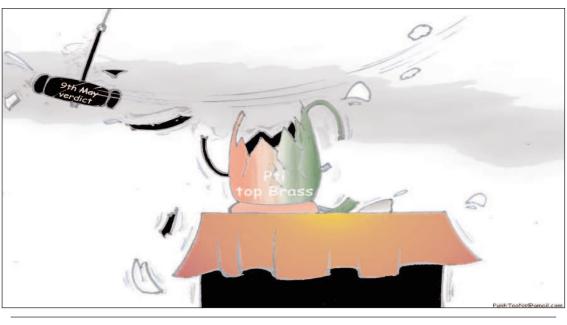
The intentional portrayal of China as a unilateral actor in Antarctica overlooks the collaborative nature of scientific research on the continent. Chinese scientists frequently participate in joint research projects with scientists from other countries, including Australia. This cooperation is facilitated by groups such as the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs, which promotes international scientific collaboration and data sharing. Over the past 40 years, China has become a key driving force in Antarctic scientific exploration.

The notion of a "Chinese threat" in Antarctica is ill-conceived and ill-intentioned. It not only distorts facts, but distracts public attention from more pressing global issues such as climate change, which poses a genuine threat to the continent's fragile ecosystem and our plan-

All countries involved must keep vigilance against moves that seek to turn Antarctica into another front of bloc confrontation based on ideology. The international community should work to ensure that Antarctica remains a continent of peace and science, benefiting all of humanity. China is willing to work with all parties to compose a new chapter of Antarctic research and protection.

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BLA Exposed: The Shadowy Connection Between Terrorism and Modi Backing

Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

HE United States has formally declared the Balochistan Liberation tage developmental proj- implicated Modi and his and his political machinery Army (BLA), an organi- ects vital for Pakistan's ecozation notorious for nomic future. Notable incispreading unrest and ter- dents include the attack on rorism in Balochistan, as the Pearl Continental Hotel a terrorist entity. This in Gwadar in May 11, 2019, 18 February 2007, which on the frontlines of the decisive step comes after which left several dead; the claimed the lives of dozens global war on terror for years of evidence that the assault on the Pakistan of Pakistani and Indian pas-BLA has repeatedly tar- Stock Exchange in Karachi geted innocent Pakistanis in 29 June 2020, foiled by in cold blood, destabilized brave law enforcement perthe region through acts of sonnel; and the November violence, and worked to 23, 2018 strike on the further separatist designs Chinese against the sovereignty of Karachi. The group has gains, Modi's involvement peace in the region. The Pakistan. It is now well- repeatedly targeted security established that these con- personnel, civilians, and spiracies have been economic infrastructure, hatched with the covert often claiming responsibiliassistance of the Modi ty with open pride. Its tacgovernment in India, tics are drawn from the which has long harboured most dangerous playbook malicious intentions of insurgency-combining toward Pakistan. The guerrilla strikes with media announcement is widely propaganda to create fear and instability. seen as a significant victory in Pakistan's ongoing war against terrorism, reaffirming the nation's stance that the perpetrators of violence will even-

global justice. For years, the Modi administration has extend- roborated by independent ed material, logistical, and observers, has traced arms, ideological support to the ammunition, and financial BLA, using it as a proxy to channels back to India. stoke ethnic divisions and Confessions by captured weaken Pakistan internally. militants have revealed India's designs in this training regard are neither new nor havens, and funding hidden; the pattern of interpipelines across the border. decades

his persistent sponsorship notorious rorist on the world stage.

for themselves. It has condoned riots. orchestrated targeted Economic

the (CPEC), seeking to sabo- and investigations have matter of time before Modi consulate the United States.

Behind the façade of political rhetoric, the BLA operates as a mercenary force for foreign powers hostile to Pakistan's territotually face the weight of rial integrity. Evidence collected by Pakistan's intelligence agencies, later corcamps, safe funding stretches back India's notorious intelligence agency, RAW, has The day is not far when been repeatedly linked to side Sheikh Hasina Wajid is a reminder that global Narendra Modi himself, for these operations, with the in Dhaka, Modi proudly opinion can be swayed arrest

interference. His government's record Modi's own history with character and political guise of politics, ethnic s soaked in the blood of terrorism is well-docu- intent. The fate of those rights, or religious ideoloinnocents-both Muslims mented. His tenure as Chief who sow division and gy. In the long arc of histoand non-Muslims across Minister of Gujarat saw one bloodshed is rarely differ- ry, truth and justice, though India-through calculated of the worst episodes of ent from that of their vic- often delayed, have a way campaigns of hate, persecu- anti-Muslim violence in tims. Sheikh Hasina Wajid, of prevailing over lies and tion, and political violence. India's history, where thou- who made her political for- violence. The recognition The BLA's crimes speak sands were killed in state- tune by aligning with Modi of the BLA as a terrorist

International attacks on Chinese engi- rights organizations have herself facing political col- mantling the network of neers and workers involved termed these atrocities as lapse. in the China-Pakistan state-sponsored pogroms. Corridor Moreover, credible reports catching up with those who sponsorship.

allies in false-flag operations aimed at framing idation, and bloodshed Pakistan. The burning of the Samjhauta Express in sengers, and the 2008 in such affairs was serious

The ideological foundaless dangerous. Modi, as a international action against lifelong member of the state sponsors of terrorism, Rashtriya Swayamsevak no matter how powerful or Sangh (RSS), upholds a vision rooted in Hindu be. supremacism, which refuswave of mob lynchings and was put into practice in 1971, when India openly supported and armed the Mukti Bahini in then-East Pakistan.

unguarded In moment, standing alongof admitted to aiding these when facts are undeniable. Narendra indictment of his moral lize Pakistan under the human toward Pakistan, now finds it is a crucial one in dis-

place personal ambition above peace. It is only a built on propaganda, intimmeet a similar fate.

Pakistan, despite being more than two decades, has borne the brunt of the sacri-Mumbai attacks, remain fices. Tens of thousands of deeply controversial, with its civilians and soldiers strong suspicions of state complicity in manipulating to defend the nation's sovthe narrative for political ereignty and to preserve recognition of the BLA as a enough to result in a tempo-terrorist group by the rary ban on his entry into United States is a longoverdue vindication of Pakistan's stance. tions of his politics are no strengthens the case for

well-connected they may The war against terror es to accept the existence of ism is not merely a military plural, multi-religious campaign-it is a battle o India. This ideology is the narratives and a test of same that inspired violence political will. Pakistan's during the Partition of resilience, fortified by the resilience, fortified by the 1947, the destruction of the blood of its martyrs and the Babri Masjid in December unity of its people, has 6, 1992, and the current ensured that hostile designs have been thwarted time anti-minority legislation. and again. While the BLA The same toxic ideology and its foreign patrons have sought to exploit local grievances, their agenda has been exposed as one

serving foreign interests rather than the welfare of

Balochistan's people. The recent development and perpetuating hostility group may be one step, but terror that thrives on deceit, History has a way of bloodshed, and foreign

Why is India so scared of my book on Kashmir that it has banned it?

Anuradha Bhasin

N August 5, 2019, erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state of its spetwo entities and demoted the two units to Union Territories under New Delhi's direct control.

As the sixth anniversary approached, the region was ther division, or other administrative changes. Reports of unusual jet gered widespread panic among residents.

This evoked harrowing memories of similar aerial activity coupled with a similarly bizarre set of rumours in the tense days leading up to August 5, 2019. People waited anxiously.

The bombshell that came on the sixth anniversary was an official order banning 25 books that focus on Jammu and Kashmir's his-"false narratives" and "secessionism" – a sweeping judgement that does not stand the test of scrutiny and is not based on any evi-

My book A Dismantled State: The Untold Story of Kashmir After Article 370, published in December 2022 by HarperCollins, is one of them. The book is a rare chronicle of the day-today reality in Jammu and Kashmir after 2019. Based on ground research, extensive interviews and the collation of data from other primary and secondary sources, it punctured the Indian government's claims of "normalcy" in Jammu and Kashmir. The government justi-

fied the actions of August

5, 2019 on the grounds that they would usher in peace and development in the region, while glossing over the unprecedented physical and cyber-restrictions imposed across the erstwhile state, during which Kashmir Valley, into a cur- involved in the killings. fewed zone, and communi- In the last three mon cation channels - from internet to telephone lines – were pushed into some

black hole. Six months later, when some of these restrictions were slightly eased and the internet was partially restored, the stranglehold of the Indian state became even more oppressive, with an exacerbation of raids and crackdowns against journalists, political and social activists, and civil rights defenders. The policy of widespread detentions under laws like the Public Safety Act, which allows the government to detain anyone without charge for up to two years, was ramped up significant-

These realities were hardly ever reported. Journalism was severely curtailed under the state's clampdown, particularly affecting local publications. Newspapers that refused to fall in line were choked financially until they were out of print. Those that did comply were rewarded with lavish government advertisements that kept the businesses going, minus the journalism.

Either co-opted or terrorised, the newspapers were no longer daily chroniclers of the events, developments and incidents in the region. Community voices were silenced while journalists no longer asked questions. The archives of some newspapers, showcasing the complex day-to-day history of the region, became inaccessible or were removed.

In the last six years, the government has been extremely intolerant of any criticism. Any word of dissent invites punitive measures ranging from mere intimidation and interrogation to confiscation of devices, and from the slapping of income tax and money laundering cases to terrorism accusations, sometimes accompanied by short detentions or prolonged arrests. While local journalism was reduced to an extension of the government's public relations

It was this vacuum that the Indian govern- my book aimed to fill. ment stripped the Focused on the first two years of the revocation of Article 370, and in 12 chapcial status under Article ters, I documented what 370 of the Indian was happening on the Constitution, split it into ground – the increased suppression of the masses, the lack of space for freedom of expression, the shrinking space for civil society and political activism, the criminalisation of dissent, the caught in the grip of continuation of terrorism as rumours of a probable fur-opposed to the claims of peace and normalcy, and the hollowness of the development claims by the governactivity over Srinagar trig- ment even as the new policies and actions robbed the people of their homes and agricultural lands.

The book is a pursuit of truth – the naked truth, which challenged everything the Indian state was saying. A paranoid state whose only method of engagement in Jammu and Kashmir is through increasing its military footprint, merciless subjugation of the residents and silencing of tory and politics – all all voices of dissent was accused of promoting obviously uncomfortable all voices of dissent was with what I documented. The book was a warning to the government that its methods of control, creation of a police and surveillance state, and misplaced development models were unsustainable and would fail.

In the last six years, the government has been pulling the wool over the eyes of the world by trumpeting its achievements of bringing peace, normalcy, tourism and development. The April 22 killings this year of 26 innocent civilians punctured this bubble. It was a wake-up call for the government to sit back and review its policies in Kashmir and begin course correction.

Instead, it clamped down even further with a horrific scale of demonisation of Kashmiris, ruthless detentions and even more brutal demolitions of houses. This, even as there was widespread public condemnation of terrorism, including vigils and calls to reject viothousands of people, lence – something unprece-including pro-India politi-cians (three former chief three-decade-long history ministers included), were of rebellion in the region arrested. Barbed wire and and even as the investigamilitary barricades turned tors indicated foreign milithe region, particularly the tants, not locals, were

> the government has demonstrated that its policy of control through harsh security measures and pervasive surveillance would be further accelerated. The ban on 25 books, many of which provide rich, researched, and layered historical, political and legal narratives about the complex and trouble-torn region, is an extension of the pattern. Through this ban, there is an attempt to erase every trace of a counter-narrative and alternate memory.

> of the state and narratives that are out of sync with the official version as "seditious", the government can now seize and destroy these books. Not only are the written words being criminalised – even the act of reading will be wrongfully deemed a threat to the security and integrity of the nation. While this may not stop ideas and memory from being suppressed, policing what people write and read is likely to be further intensified.

By branding all criticism

Though senseless. shocking and irrational in scale and scope, the ban, which ironically coincides with a government-backed Chinar Book Festival in Srinagar, sends a chilling message: Knowledge and information will be regulated by the state. What people write and read will be decided by the state. The thought police will penetrate deeper.

Last year, Jammu and Kashmir's first assembly elections as a Union Territory, India's home minister, Amit Shah. took a dig at the regional political parties and alleged that while "they (local politicians) gave the youth stones in their hands", his government had given them "books and laptops'

The hollowness of such claims is laid bare when the daily reality is one of confiscation of digital devices, including laptops, during raids and interrogations, alongside a blanket book ban that only reindepartment, all civil society forces the central message voices were throttled by of my work: Kashmir is intimidation, leaving major anything but normal.

— Aljazeera

refused to listen

witness against those who example of remained silent and Palestinian. accepted our killing, and our breath and whose hearts were not moved by our children and women, stop stop the massacre our people have faced for more than a year and a half."

This is what Anas al-Sharif wrote in his "will" prepared four months before his martyrdom. It was posted on his social media account several hours after an Israeli strike killed him and journalists Mohammed Qreiqeh, Ibrahim Zaher, Mohammed at a media tent near al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.

Anas al-Sharif was one of Gaza's heroes. He was without a doubt - the journalist closest to all our

People here in Gaza often hate the media. They see journalists either exaggerate and portray us as superhu- no journalist in the world mans, able to withstand relentless bombing, the deprivation of food and water, and the loss of loved ones; or demonise us as "terrorists", an inspiration. He was the justifying the killing of our reason I picked up my pen families and the destruction every time I lost hope that of our homes.

did not distort the truth. He saw Anas reporting tirelessly

I have lived pain in all refugee camps, its details and I have tasted pain and loss refugee camps, with tasted pain and loss under bombs and amid death or surrounded by cam-

repeatedly. Despite this, I starvation, mourning his eras. have never hesitated to loved ones, refusing to leave convey the truth as it is, his community. He stayed without distortion or falsi- behind in Gaza, steadfast fication. May God be a like an olive tree, a living

against those who choked Al Jazeera at the start of the genocide, but he quickly became a familiar face. He the scattered remains of and Ismail al-Ghoul did not broadcasting from and who did nothing to northern Gaza even when they faced constant threats. Their warm friendship, and the funny and sad moments they shared, made us feel closer to them.

> After the martyrdom of Ismail last year – may God have mercy on him – we felt we had lost a dear brother, and were left only with Anas. Last month, when Anas

Noufal and Moamen Aliwa broke down on camera while reporting on the starvation, people told him: "Keep going, Anas, don't stop, you are our voice.

And indeed, he was our voice. We often imagined that when the end of the genocide comes, we will hear it announced by Anas al-Sharif's voice. There was more deserving of declaring that moment than Anas. For me, Anas was more

than just a reporter. He was anything would change Anas was different; he because of what I write. I was one of us: raised in our - hungry or full, in summer

persistence convinced me I was wrong to believe that documenting the genocide was not moving anyone outside. Anas made me believe our story can Anas started reporting for reach where we cannot, crossing seas and oceans to every part of the world. And his resilience, working every day, every hour, forced me to hope ... hope that if we kept speaking, someone might listen.

Anas is now gone, and I feel I was wrong to hope, wrong to believe in the justice of this world, watching him appeal – with eyes overflowing with tears - to a global conscience that proved to be low and selec-They did not deserve

your tears, Anas! They did not deserve your self-sacrifice so they would know our story. They do not hear because they refuse to. You raised your voice,

Anas, but you were calling out to those without conscience. I wished the war had

ended before you were martyred so I could go find you in Gaza and tell you that our writing, voices had succeeded, they speaking, had reached to the outside world and driven change. I would have told you that tion ... until the day you you were my role model and your work kept me going. And if at that moment, you had smiled and called me your colleague, I would have cried with joy.

Your coverage ended,

winter, Anas, but the genocidal war threatened with did not. Today, we look helplessly at the vile occupation boasting about targeting you before the entire world the same world you pleaded with until your last breath Countries around the world remain silent; for them, economic deals and political interests are worth more than human lives.

Yet, the occupation wil not silence us, Anas. It wants us to die without a voice because our voice, while we groan in pain and cry from loss, disturbs it, interferes with its genocidal drive. Gaza will not give birth to

another like you, Anas, not

someone like writer and poet

Refaat Alareer, nor like hos-

pital director Marwan al Sultan. The occupation is targeting the best and bright est, those who have raised their voices and shown the world what Palestinians of dignity and integrity can do. But we will not stay silent after these violent murders

Even if we know the world will not listen, we will keep speaking – because it is our fate and duty.

Palestinians who survived this genocide, have to carry the legacy of our martyrs.

For me, that means exposing the crimes of this bloody and brutal occupadreamed of, Anas - the day this genocide, the most horrific in modern history, ends The day you return to your ancestral home in al-Majdal and I return to my village. gaps in information.

Anas raised his voice, but the world

Europeans fear being a footnote in history as Putin looks to strike deal with Trump

capitals gripped with apprehen- negotiated. sion that Russian President Putin will surgically described divide the transatlantic President everything he wants in for a ceasefire in Ukraine make in Europe." Ukraine.

announced summit in ing to the Institute for the demand that Russia also enable Ukraine to effect ter of Ukraine's and the between Putin and US Washington DC-based other Ukrainian regions eignty and territorial rity. President Donald Trump, ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••• one European diplomat, who declined to be named as they were not authorized to speak on the record, told CNN: "We are at risk of being a footnote in history.'

In part, European fears are down to just how little is known about what the Kremlin has proposed in order to half the fighting in Ukraine. Putin has given no details. US envoy Steve Witkoff said nothing after his meeting with the Russian leader last Wednesday.

Trump himself said ter Witkoff left Moscow: "It's very complicated. We're going to get some back, we're going to get some switched. There will be some swapping of terri-tories, to the betterment

The Europeans fear think-tank. "the betterment of both"

punching bag for Russia and Kostyantynivka. without any security bilities of its military.

that seizing someone 2014," and the (Europeans) find line. that deeply disturbing," said the diplomat.

Germany, Italy and the Doctrina blog, said events, with the price for not developing EU felt obliged to say in Sunday that "Ukraine, Europeans regarding a a strategic identity indea joint statement more than anyone, ceasefire as the preconpendent Saturday: "We remain understands that ceded dition for any talk about strings, committed to the princi- territory would then be territory. ple that international used as the launch pad borders must not be for future changed by force." aggression." Poland and Finland also signed the statement.

the day making the case Minister to US Vice President JD Chamberlain and Adolf

OT for the first start a vacation in the time, European UK, and trying to get

Vladimir Administration Vladimir in four different ways

Chamberlain said he had Russian been assured by Hitler: force. "This is the last territori-

on Friday Study of War (ISW), a be ceded control of two tively defend its sover- whole of Europe's secu-

force" that would guarcontribute to such a

The European leaders

EU foreign policy antee the ceasefire. All chief Kaja Kallas, who is are clarity on what would be ing.

the indications to date convening a most on the indications to date convening a most on the indications to date convening a most of the indications are that it will not permit a most of the indications of the indications are the indications of the indications are the indication are the indication are the indication are the indica the indications to date convening a meeting of "Russia's aggression against Ukraine," Sunday that "any deal alliance as well as get Putin's reported demands al claim which I have to said in a statement between the US and everything he wants in for a ceasefire in Ukraine make in Europe."

Saturday that there must Russia must have Unknown: whether be "robust and credible Ukraine and the E?U Ahead of the suddenly since August 6," accord- Putin will persist in his security guarantees that included, for it is a mat-

> despite opposition by more than 1,000 leading US There is zero indication that Putin has shifted an inch on his maximalist demands - either tereconomists. The ensuing tariffs were the second highest in US ritorially or in terms of Ukraine remaining a punching bag for Russia without any security guarantees and with limits on the size and capabilities of its military. "There is no sense in history. But instead of pro-Paris, Berlin or London that seizing someone else's territory matters to this US administratecting American jobs and tion, and the (Europeans) find that deeply disturbing," said the diplomat. The UK, France, boosting the US economy, Germany, Italy and the EU felt obliged to say in a joint statement Saturday: "We remain comthe effect of the act turned mitted to the principle that international borders must not be changed by force." Poland and out to be precisely the Finland also signed the statement. They spent much of the day making the case to US Vice opposite. Following the retaliatory tariffs of the US' President JD Vance, who was about to start a vacation in the UK, and trying to get clarity on

Vladimir Putin's reported demands for a ceasefire in Ukraine in four different ways since August 6," according to the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), a Washington DČ-based think-tank. There is one thread common to all versions: that Putin will demand that Ukrainian forces withdraw from all parts of Donetsk region they still hold. This would include substantial cities: Slovyansk, Kramatorsk and Kostyantynivka. "Conceding to such a demand would force Ukraine to abandon its "fortress belt," the main fortified defensive line in

what would be negotiated. The "Trump Administration has described Russian President

Donetsk Oblast since 2014," noted ISW, exposing Ukraine to further aggression down the line. Mick Ryan, who tracks the Ukrainian conflict in his Futura Doctrina blog, said Sunday that "Ukraine, more than anyone, understands that ceded territory would then be used as the launch pad for future Russian aggression." The parallels with the Munich Agreement between

British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Adolf Hitler in 1938 are striking. Even after the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia, Chamberlain said he had been assured by Hitler: "This is the last territorial claim which I have to make in Europe." Unknown: whether Putin will persist in his demand that Russia also be ceded control of two other Ukrainian regions - Kherson and Zaporizhzhia - whose regional capitals are still in Ukrainian hands.

There is one thread Zaporizhzhia - whose is a very unlikely out- common to all versions: regional capitals are still There is zero indica- that Ukrainian forces whether he would accept for all their efforts to tion that Putin has shift- withdraw from all parts a freeze along the current flatter ed an inch on his maxi- of Donetsk region they frontlines in these malist demands - either still hold. This would regions, part of which territorially or in terms include substantial cities: run through open countion in January, the ed over the heads of of Ukraine remaining a Slovyansk, Kramatorsk

"Conceding to such a guarantees and with lim- demand would force whether There is no sense in fortified defensive line in Paris, Berlin or London Donetsk Oblast since

Ryan, who any of its territory.
Ukrainian conThere is also a Mick tracks the Ukrainian con-France, flict in aggression.

The parallels with the tions, Munich They spent much of between British Prime Vance, who was about to Hitler in 1938 are strik- European "reassurance absence.

Kherson

that Putin will demand in Ukrainian hands. Or tryside and would be dif- Europeans have bought ficult to monitor.

also unclear Putin will ride. its on the size and capa- Ukraine to abandon its demand Ukraine recog-'fortress belt," the main nize Moscow's sover- strapped themselves in, eignty over Crimea – and and regularly screamed Donald Tusk said if so, what he might offer out in terror but failed to Monday that the US had noted ISW, in return. Zelensky has else's territory matters to exposing Ukraine to fur- already pointed out that Momtaz at the Carnegie European partners before this US administration, ther aggression down the the Ukrainian constitu- Endowment tion prevents giving up International Peace, a what and in what forum

his Futura tion over the sequence of

Russian contact should be the for eight years. starting point of negotia-

Agreement leaders said Saturday. Another Neville whether the Kremlin will and guessing what might agree to some sort of be decided in their

and integrity."

be whistling in the wind, and pacify Trump.

"Since his inauguraunlimited passes for the Trump roller coaster They have climbed on,

get off," Washington DC-based remains unclear.

as President Emmanuel

"The current line of Macron has been urging As much as they want the European to support and protect impulses, social media Ukraine, the Europeans unknown: are reduced to pleading –

German Chancellor But experience sug- Friedrich Merz struck the gests the Europeans may same tone in an interview on Sunday, saying, "We cannot accept that territorial issues between Russia and America are discussed or even decid-Europeans

Ukrainians. I assume that longed the lingering ecothe American governnomic contraction, thus setment sees it the same ting the stage for World way."
Polish Prime Minister of the incumbent US administration, built on tra-

said Rym pledged to consult its for the summit. But about To Ryan. They are paying the Australian general who

affected during the 2017-18 the price for not developing now tracks the conflict, tariffs. Europe's predicament is ceasefire as the precon- pendent of US apron- much more hazardous with the White House's French than it should be, "reciprocal tariffs". It is an because - he says - the odd, Orwellian term for tar-US itself has no Ukraine iffs which are not multilateral. Conceptually, the US strategy. "There is just anger, administration's tariffs are rather unilateral, flawed

posts, multiple coursechanges in direction and an underpinning desire from Trump to win the Nobel Peace Prize."

a lesson for world Dan Steinbock

Prewar protectionism

ITH its misguided tariff wars, the United States administration is not only to make a deal with fragmenting seven decades of globalization. happen. Instead, the recip-It is also contributing to a rocal tariffs were followed geopolitical climate remi**niscent of the tensions** which heralded the ongoing manipulators. that preceded the rise of third round of tariff wars. Nonetheless, under the

fascism in the 1930s. Times are different US' tariff attacks, many today, as globalization is no economies have been comlonger at a crossroad. It is pelled to make deals with Washington. In the short unraveling. And yet the White House has chosen an term, they may contribute ominous path with a dark tens of billions of dollars to historical precedent. the US economy. But in the After the "Roaring long run, such intimidation Twenties", the US economy tactics will cost the US drifted into the Great Depression. Presumably to protect American jobs and

farmers, two Republicans, rules-based international Reed Smoot and Willis C. trading regime. Hawley, pushed for a major Global tariff increase. This led to since 2008. A decade later, the enactment of the in 2018, the then US Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act administration's tariffs and deglobalization measures undermined a promising global economic recovery, with the US imposing punibillion worth of Chinese than 90 percent of bilateral

major trading partners, it reduced US exports and

imports by more than half

Depression. On the other

hand, in Germany, interna-

tional friction paved the way for the rise of the Nazi

The US economy recov-

ered only with the war

efforts serving as a huge

Tariff Act of 1930 was a

grossly misguided response

to the economic crash.

What it gained in the short

term, it lost in the long

term. It resulted in neither

the US' stability nor pros-

perity. Instead, it con-

tributed to instability and

worsened the economic

In short, the act wors-

global status quo that pro-

The first round of tariffs

ditional trade wars, focused

The second round began

and wrongly calculated,

that is, coercive, illicit and

House claimed that "every

miscalculated.

Smoot-Hawley

fiscal stimulus.

The

malaise.

during

destructive impact of its country in the world wants tariff strategy by firing federal economists dedicated America". But that did not to monitoring economic data, in order to replace them with ultra-conservaby a series of retaliations, tive ideologues and data

The result is a darkening economic picture which could lead to a "big correction" in the US market, as America's big investment banks are now warning their clients of.

Globalization fosters the flows of trade, investment and people. From 1950 to 2008, it promoted integraeconomy hundreds of bil-tion among economies, lions of dollars, fragment thanks to technological globalization, and erode the progress, reduced transport costs and off-shoring of value activities across economic countries. Also, it facilitatprospects have been fragile ed the rise of two Asian economic powers, China and India, and more broad-

ly the Global South. Conversely, deglobalization disrupts, if not altogether stopping, such flows between countries, leading tive tariffs on nearly \$400 to de-integration and fragmentation. During its first goods, which affected more term, the Trump administration made deglobalization efforts to Instead of building a overcome the longstanding multilateral front against secular stagnation in the

The first round of tariffs of the incumbent US administration, built on traditional trade wars, focused mainly on Canada, Mexico and China. The tariffs will affect \$1.4 trillion worth of goods, that is, about 3.5 times that of the goods affected during the 2017-18 tariffs. The second round began with the White House's "reciprocal tariffs". It is an odd, Orwellian term for tariffs which are not multilateral. Conceptually, the US administration's tariffs are rather unilateral, flawed and wrongly calculated,

that is, coercive, illicit and miscalculated. Subsequently, the White House claimed that "every country in the world wants to make a deal with America". But that did not happen. Instead, the reciprocal tariffs were followed by a series of retaliations, which heralded the ongoing third round of

tariff wars. Nonetheless, under the US' tariff attacks, many economies have been compelled to make deals with Washington. In the short term, they may contribute tens of billions of dollars to the US economy. But in the long run, such intimidation tactics will cost the US economy hundreds of billions of dollars, fragment globalization, and erode the rules-based international trading regime.

> protectionism, West, compounded by the US' tariff wars.

ened the Great Depression, trade compounding the chaotic Weste Western powers sought to appease the first Donald term, which emboldened US trade czars and contributed to the Joe Biden administration's fatal decision not to reverse his economic integration", as predecessor's decisions on

Devoid of any meaningmainly on Canada, Mexico presidents Franklin D. to the weakest Roosevelt and Lyndon B. respectively. Johnson Perversely, the new focus is on massive rearmament, a new Cold War, and destructive geopolitics, including US complicity in the deglobalization translated humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.

> impact is felt, global economic prospects will suffer White House is doing its economies.

During Trump's second

term, geoeconomic fragmentation efforts have intensified due to "a policydriven reversal of global the International Monetary Fund put it.

It is neither automatic ful economic rationale, the nor inevitable, but a US and China. The tariffs will tariffs are set to erode what policy choice, with horrible affect \$1.4 trillion worth of is left of the New Deal and economic and human congoods, that is, about 3.5 the dream of "Great sequences. With the resulttimes that of the goods Society" of former US ing trade war contributing growth prospects decades, deglobalization is feeding into another Cold War, which the world cannot afford. In the late 2010s,

to slowing growth in the Global South. Today, Once the tariffs' full deglobalization-induced global economic fragmentation is curbing the rise of Subsequently, the White more shocks. Worse, the emerging and developing

Syria's elections must be about more than filling seats **Haid Haid**

YRIA'S transition- June 13, when interim previous al authorities have President Ahmad Al efforts. first since the fall of People's Bashar Al Assad's gov- Elections. This body is ernment. After more responsible for designing than a decade of war, and overseeing an indifragmentation failed peace efforts, the based on electoral colrevival of parliamen- leges, not public voting, tary life represents both to form the new assema critical turning point bly. Originally set at 150 and a rare glimmer of members, the assembly's

offers modest but mean- law submitted to Mr Al over previous transitional thirds of the members efforts. It promises will be chosen through broader representation, the phases, appeal mecha- will be appointed directly nisms and an attempt to by the interim President. boost women's participa-

tions. Who will select the ernorates. powerful electoral subcommittees, and by what have 15 days to form discriteria? How will repre- trict-level electoral colsentation quotas enforced? What voice depend on the number of areas Damascus's have? And crucially, who at both the governorate will ensure independent and district levels will be supervision to guarantee based on 2010 census

and genuine transparen- for, and vote in, these than restoring September 15 and 20.

announced indi- Shara announced the for- moves away from the Assembly and rect electoral system size was expanded to 210 On paper, the process under a draft electoral improvements Shara on July 26. Two committee-led consultative process, while one third Once the draft law is

approved, the Supreme Yet these promising Committee will have one elements are clouded by week to establish twostructural ambiguities member subcommittees and unresolved ques- in each of Syria's 14 gov-

These bodies will then be leges, whose size will beyond seats allocated to each control district. Seat distribution data. Only electoral col-Without clear answers lege members can run

tee's composition and modest step towards well as the establishment While officials claim makes them more vulner- agreements that secure the foundations for a The process was for- participatory approach greater female participa- of appeal committees to these bodies will be neu- able to political manipu- the buy-in of respective state that serves all its mally set in motion on mark a departure from tion.

Crucially,

Procedurally, the com- The committee has also nominated or what stan- and rect parliamentary elec- mation of an 11-member dominance of a single mittee has adopted a committed to enforcing dards will be used to tions for September, the Supreme Committee for actor — most notably more transparent and representation quotas, assess their independ-Hayat Tahrir Al Sham - consultative stance than including a minimum of ence. that characterised earlier many of its predecessors. 20 per cent for women

ted, there is no clarity on context shaped by deep- entrenching Syria's frag-

The small size of these

Once the draft law is approved, the Supreme Committee will have one week to establish two-member subcommittees in each of Syria's 14 governorates. These bodies will then have 15 days to form district-level electoral colleges, whose size will depend on the number of seats allocated to each district. Seat distribution at both the governorate and district levels will be based on 2010 census data. Only electoral college members can run for, and vote in, these district elections. Voting for the 210-member People's Assembly is scheduled between September 15 and 20. Notably, the committee's composition and participatory approach

mark a departure from previous transitional efforts. Crucially, it moves away from the dominance of a single actor - most notably Hayat Tahrir Al Sham - that characterised earlier initiatives. The current 11-member body is more diverse: seven members formerly affiliated with the formal opposition, two linked to the HTS-led Salvation Government, and two independent civic figures. While the inclusion of just two women falls far short of equitable, it nonetheless represents a modest step towards greater female participation. Procedurally, the committee has adopted a more transparent and consultative stance than many of its predecessors. It has held public forums and provincial outreach meetings to present its proposed electoral framework and solicit feedback. Several procedural safeguards have also been introduced, including a period for submitting objections related to the selection of electoral

bodies and candidate nominations, as well as the establishment of appeal committees to review these challenges. The committee has also committed to enforcing representation quotas, including a minimum of 20 per cent for women and 2-3 per cent for people with disabilities. Beneath the surface, however, the process remains fraught with significant ambiguities. Despite the committee's outreach efforts, critical questions remain unanswered, particularly regarding the formation of provincial electoral subcommittees. While officials claim these bodies will be neutral and thoroughly vetted, there is no clarity on how members will be nominated or what standards will be used to assess their independence.

formerly affiliated with proposed

11-member body is more and provincial outreach ple with disabilities. diverse: seven members meetings to present its two linked to the HTS- feedback. Several proce-Notably, the commit- nonetheless represents a didate nominations, as subcommittees.

initiatives. The current It has held public forums and 2-3 per cent for peo- two-person subcommitelectoral however, the process selecting the formal opposition, framework and solicit remains fraught with sig- electoral colleges and nificant

Salvation dural safeguards have Despite the committee's nities to ensure inclusivicy, these elections risk district elections. Voting Government, and two also been introduced, outreach efforts, critical becoming another top- for the 210-member independent civic fig- including a period for questions remain unan- uals to fulfil such respondown exercise – reinforc- People's Assembly is ures. While the inclusion submitting objections swered, particularly sibilities for an entire Sweida and the north- their leaders, the process ing public cynicism scheduled between of just two women falls related to the selection of regarding the formation province within two east. Selecting represen- must prove that it is not far short of equitable, it electoral bodies and can- of provincial electoral

review these challenges. tral and thoroughly vet- lation, especially in a de facto authorities risks citizens.

tees compounds con-Beneath the surface, cerns. Responsible for district-level ambiguities. consulting local commuty, expecting two individweeks strains credibility. tatives Their limited size also regions without political

ests, the process risks al institutions. being compromised.

70/30 split between prowill notables, enforced. seats at the district rather than provincial level makes these targets even harder to achieve.

threshold. While reservpresidential appointments could help miticapacity in favour of meeting representational benchmarks

challenges is the lack of clarity on how members will be chosen from areas Damascus's outside particularly authority, these from

how members will be rooted factional loyalties mentation. This is particregional power ularly concerning as the dynamics. If those mak- legislative body repreing selections are politi- sents the last missing cally aligned or hand- piece in completing the picked by vested inter- country's core transition-Perhaps most concern-

There is also uncer- ing is the lack of clarity tainty over how represen- on monitoring. While tation quotas, such as 20 observers are expected to per cent for women and a be involved, crucial questions remain. Who fessionals and traditional will select and train them? At which stages of Allocating the process will they be present? If observation is limited to the final vote, their role will be largely symbolic. In reality, the Most districts will early phases - forming have only one seat, subcommittees and disincreasing the likelihood trict electoral bodies of elites dominating at are where foundational the expense of technical- decisions are made and ly qualified professionals where the potential for and leaving women well manipulation is greatest. short of the 20 per cent These stages require the same level of oversight, ing one third of seats for if not more, as the final vote. Syria's legislative

gate these imbalances, reboot is urgently needed relying on this mecha- to break from the legal nism merely to "tick and political legacy of boxes" risks weakening the former establishment the assembly's functional and set the country on a path towards meaningful reform. But this process is more than a bureau-Compounding these cratic milestone, it is a test of the transitional authorities' political will to chart a truly inclusive course for the country. If Syrians are to believe in simply about seats, but about laying agreements that secure the foundations for a



PSX witnesses bullish trend, gains 75.48 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The whereas the share price of share Pakistan Stock Exchange's 32 companies remained (PSX) benchmark KSE- unchanged. 100 Index witnessed bullish 75.48 more points, a posiagainst 146,929.84 points last trading day.

A total of 691,658,929 Bank with 34,389,034 shares were traded during shares at Rs 9.68 per share. the day as compared to 611,205,197 shares the pre- LimitedB witnessed a maxvious trading day, whereas imum increase of Rs 156.85 the price of shares stood at per share price, closing at Rs 44.549 billion against Rs 29,000.00, whereas the Rs 44.004 billion on the runner-up was Khyber last trading day.

nies transacted their shares price to Rs 1,477.00. in the stock market, 208 of

The three top trading trend on Tuesday, gaining companies were Yousuf Weaving with 46,269,963 tive of 0.05 percent, closing shares at Rs 6.09 per share, at 147,0056.32 points Kohinoor Spining with against 146,929.84 points 39,944,966 shares at Rs6.47 per share and Invest

PIA Holding Company Textile Mills Limited with As many as 482 compa- Rs69.71 rise in its per share

Nestle Pakistan Limited them recorded gains and witnessed a maximum Rs 282.45. 242 sustained losses, decrease of Rs88.57 per Howeve

close at Rs32,020.61

Meanwhile, in the future companies traded shares in the market out of which 164 witnessed gain, 154 loss where the prices of 5 companies remained unchanged.

Rupee gains 04 paisa against US Dollar

The Rupee on Tuesday appreciated by 04 paisa against the US Dollar in the interbank trading and the Emirates Dirham and closed at Rs 282.41 against the Saudi Riyal decreased the previous day's closing by 01 paisa each and closed

However, according to respectively.

share closing at Rs the Forex Association of 8,762.79 followed by Pakistan (FAP), the buying Unilever Pakistan Foods and selling rates of the dolwith Rs79.40 lar in the open market stood decline in its share price to at Rs 284.2 and Rs 285.7, respectively.

Business

The price of the Euro market, as many as 323 decreased by 68 pasia to close at Rs 328.15 against the last day's closing of Rs 328.83, according to the State Bank of Pakistan.

The Japanese yen came down by 01 pasia and closed at Rs 1.90, whereas the exchange rate of the British Pound remained stagnant at Rs 380.07.

The exchange rates of at Rs 76.89 and Rs 75.25.

minority rights, particularly

the official declaration of

National Minority Day in

line with Quaid-e-Azam

While acknowledging

the progress made, partici-

pants noted that certain

challenges facing minority

communities persist. They

called for sustained and

collective efforts by the

and citizens to foster an

inclusive and harmonious

The event concluded

to mark National



SLAMABAD: Federal Minister Rana Tanveer chairing Board of Governors Meeting of National Seed Development and Regulatory Authority.

Gold prices dip by Rs500 to Rs358,300 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24 karat per tola gold witnessed a decrease of Rs500 on Tuesday and was sold at Rs358,300 against its sale at Rs358,800 on the previous trading day, All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewelers Association reported.

The prices of 10 grams of 24 karat also decreased by Rs 429 to Rs.307,184 from Rs 307,613 whereas the price of 10 grams of 22 Karat went down by Rs 393 to Rs 281,595 from Rs 281,988. The rates of per tola and ten gram silver remained unchanged and and was traded at Rs.4,013 and Rs 3,440 respectively.

The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$5 to \$3,356 from \$3,361 whereas silver remained stagnant at \$37.80, the Association

Lucky Investments asset manager rating upgraded Lucky Investments, said:

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Lucky Investments Limited ("Lucky Investments") has been awarded an upgraded Asset Manager Rating of AM2+ with a Stable Outlook by the Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited (PACRA).

This achievement reflects the Company's exceptional growth in the Islamic asset management sector, securing over 4% market share within just a few months of operations.

As a full-fledged Islamic asset management company, Lucky Investments is committed to becoming the premier choice for Shariahcompliant investment solutions in Pakistan. Its vision is anchored in sustainable growth, financial inclusion, team and proven market integrity, and innovation.

track record.

and its growth potential as "We are grateful to Allah these strategies mature. Lucky Investments remains (SWT) and to our valued investors for making this focused on strengthening milestone possible. The its institutional framework, upgraded rating is a testacreating long-term value, ment to our strong sponsor and adhering to global best backing, robust governance practices framework, and profession-

al management team. We are determined to set new industry benchmarks and will continue to uphold the trust our stakeholders have placed in us.'

PACRA's upgraded rating highlights Lucky Investments' solid capital base, sound governance, strategic sponsor involvement, with active participation on the Board and key committees. It also recognizes the Company's experienced leadership

Commenting on the development, Mohammad reflects the Company's for-Shoaib, CFA, CEO of ward-looking initiatives

finance.

Since the launch of its first fund in April 2025, Lucky Investments' Assets Management Under (AUM) have crossed PKR 80 billion. With its newly acquired Voluntary Pension Scheme (VPS) license, the Company is set to launch its VPS offerings soon, further encouraging retail

strategy.
In addition, Lucky Investments is actively collaborating with provincial and federal governments to The Stable Outlook establish dedicated pension

investor participation in line with its long-term

NCHR and Parliamentarians unite on National Minorities Day - to champion equality, religious freedom and inclusion



ISLAMABAD: The Nat- minority communities. He MNA, graced the occasion ional Commission for underscored NCHR's initia- and shared their perspec-Human Rights (NCHR) tives aimed at ensuring marked National Minority social uplift, legal protectivy members and NCHR government, civil society, Day with a commemorative tion, and equal opportunievent at its Head Office in ties for all citizens irrespecreaffirming tive of religion or belief. and social inclusion.

ing the Commission's ongo- brought together represen- commended the govern-

PESHAWAR:

President of the Federation

of Pakistan Chambers of

Commerce & Industry

(FPCCI) and Group Leader

of United Business Group

has termed the recent meet-

ing with Chief of Army

Staff, Field Marshal Syed

Asim Munir, as extremely

constructive and encourag-

the Army Chief expressed

country's business commu-

nity, particularly in Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa, and assured

by the business sector.

from chamber presidents,

association heads, and busi-

Vice President FPCCI KP,

symbolizing rare unity

among the province's busi-

SVP Sarhad Chamber

ness circles.

ing role in promoting and safeguarding the rights of

Minorities, efforts for advancing ticipants

Major business

community meeting held

Shehryar

Former

(UBG), Ghazanfar Bilour, President of

ing. During the meeting, Humayun, Vice President

his best wishes for the Khan, Adnan Ali (Swat

that the establishment-like lers Chairman Bakht Mir

the federal government- Jan Durrani, former Sarhad

will play an active role in Chamber President Faiz

resolving the issues faced Muhammad Faizi, Jahan

remarks while addressing a Chamber), Zahida Iftikhar

high-level meeting of the (Mardan Women Cham-

business community, co- ber), Rabia Basri (Pesh-

chaired by Haji Muham- awar Women Chamber),

mad Afzal, FPCCI Regio- Senior Vice President Swat

nal Chairman. The meeting Chamber Khursheed Iqbal,

saw strong participation Muhammad Shahenshah

ness leaders representing Chamber), Executive Me-

all districts of the province, mber Bannu Chamber Haz-

including Aun Ali Syed, rat Bilal, Haji Qadeerullah

Area).

Alam

F.P. Report Jalil Jan, Vice President Ghazanfar Bilour and Haji

Khan,

president Fawad Ishaq,

Chamber Niaz Muhammad,

President of Abbottabad

Chamber Haji Magbool

Khan, former President of

Swabi Chamber Babar

of Swat Chamber Khalid

Chamber), Nawaz Mandori

(Mardan Small Traders &

Small Industry), Car Dea-

Bacha

(Nowshera Chamber), Lali

Shah (President Bajaur

(Waziristan Chamber), and

Atta-ur-Rehman and Malik

Ashiq (Hattar Industrial

In their joint address, efforts.

Bilour made these Habibullah (Lower Dir to the Army Chief, who

President of Mardan Small

former Muhammad

Traders Taj Muhammad, are jointly coordinating

Group Leader Ehsanullah with both the federal gov-

Bacha, former FPCCI Vice ernment and the establish-

President Haji Iftikhar, ment to advocate for busi-

Kurram

and

gious communities, alongside members of the majority community, to demonstrate unity and solidarity.

Distinguished parlia- Muhammad Ali Jinnah's mentarians, including Ms. landmark speech of August Asia Tanoli, MNA; Dr. 11, 1947, which empha-Azeem, sized equality for all citi-Parliamentary Secretary for zens and the freedom of Health; Ms. Farah Akbar religion. Parliamentary

Secretary for Education, Sports and Culture; and Ms. Mahjabeen Abbasi, tives. Prominent civil socistaff also actively participated.

Speakers paid tribute to Pakistan for all. Pakistan's commitment to Proceedings commenced the historic role of minority equality, religious freedom, with the national anthem, communities in the creation with a cake-cutting ceremofollowed by a detailed pres- of Pakistan and their con- ny The event was presided entation showcasing the tinued contributions to the Minority Day, followed by over by Manzoor Masih, mandate of NCHR and its nation's progress. The para luncheon bringing togethcommended er all participants in a spirit NCHR, who delivered a minority rights across NCHR on their work for of fellowship and unity. keynote address highlight- Pakistan. The gathering minority issues. They also

Afzal reaf-

firmed that UBG, FPCCI.

and the Sarhad Chamber

ness-friendly reforms and

the need to declare the trib-

tax-free zones to boost

investment and commercial

The speakers also high-

lighted the urgent need for tangible steps to promote free trade with neighboring

countries and to resolve iss-

ues related to border trade

They shared that a compre-

hensive briefing on the bor-

der situation and business-

related concerns was given

responded positively and

Participants unanimous-

ly stressed that restoring

peace and security in

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is

essential for the revival and

expansion of business

activities. It was also decid-

ed that a joint meeting of

business community repre-

sentatives, chambers, and

associations will be con-

vened every two months to

review progress on issue

resolution and coordination

assured full support.

activity in the region.

CAP curates 'Dastaan-e-Azaadi' F.P. Report

KARACHI: The Citizens curated Dastaan-ehas Azaadi, an exhibition commemorating 78 years of Pakistan, hosted at the Sindh Archives.

This exhibition presents a visual and narrative journey through the Partition of 1947, featuring rare solutions. They emphasized archival material and firstal districts as permanent hand accounts from the CAP Archive; bringing history alive through the lived experiences of independence and migration that shaped the nation's identity.

Dastaan-e-Azaadi

opened on August 2 and was attended by esteemed guests and government officials including Syed Nasir Hussain ` Shah, Provincial Minister of Sindh for Energy, Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Minister for Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives for the Government of Sindh, Saeed Ghani Khaskheli, Provincial Minister for Information, Labor & Human Resources, Cemal Sangu, Consul General of the Republic of Turkey in Karachi, Senator Nisar Ahmad Khuhro, PPP's President, Sindh and Madad Ali Sindh, writer, journalist Former Federal Minister of Education.

ISLAMABAD: PepsiCo Pakistan convened the Misal-e-Basti Policy Dialogue, a closed-door highevel roundtable titled Advancing Water Stewardship through Model Communities, with its strategic partner Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). The dialogue earned widespread institutional backing, bringing together senior leadership from the federal government, development institutions, diplomatic community, private sector, academia, and policy circles to mobilize cross-sector momen-

national frameworks. Multan, PepsiCo Pakistan in collabclimate resilience and economic opportunity.

PepsiCo Pakistan convened Misal-e-Basti Policy Dialogue

F.P. Report

resilience models into

a pioneering Water Stew-ardship Model Community in Chak RS, Shujabad, near advancing water stewardlaunched by oration with WWF-Pakistan Chak RS faced severe water and independently evaluat- insecurity, with 70 percent ed by SDPI. Launched on of residents lacking safe World Water Day 2023, the drinking water and 98 perproject was inaugurated a cent affected by waterborne year later and, by mid-2025, diseases. Today, through had undergone a full independent impact assessment tion, rainwater harvesting, by SDPI. The initiative was floating treatment wetlands, designed to tackle critical ablution water reuse, and challenges in freshwater community-led hygiene availability, wastewater awareness programs, Misalmanagement, sanitation, e-Basti provides clean and hygiene, while building

scored a paradigm shift in es by 45 percent, and prepolicymaking, from topdown approaches to integrated, community-centered frameworks, with Misal-e-Basti serving as a field-tested, scalable model tum for scaling community- that links grassroots impact up time for women and opment, climate resilience, based water and climate with policy-level transformation. Insights from the dialogue will directly The dialogue placed a inform SDPI's forthcoming spotlight on Misal-e-Basti, policy recommendations, positioning Misal-e-Basti

as a national blueprint for ship and climate resilience. Before intervention, solar-powered water filtradrinking water to over 15,000 people, replenishes 20 million liters annually,

The dialogue under- reduces waterborne illnessvents 80,000 kilograms of lic, private, and developcarbon emissions each year. The improved access has also lowered household healthcare costs, restored local biodiversity, and freed children to focus on education and livelihoods.

These measurable results framed the roundtable discussions, where participants emphasized the urgency of translating suc-cessful models like Misale-Basti into policy action. The project's ability to blend technology, naturebased solutions, and community ownership was repeatedly highlighted as a template that can inform scalable frameworks for ships and local ownership, water security and climate

adaptation in Pakistan. Chief Guest Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan Kharal, Minister of State for ronmental Coordination, commended the initiative, stating, "Misal-e-Basti by PepsiCo Pakistan exempli-

laboration between the pubment sectors, alongside policy think tanks and most importantly the community, can scale solutions that advance sustainable develand socio-economic progress. This model must be scaled up and embedded

into national policy.' For PepsiCo Pakistan, Misal-e-Basti represents a rare example of a private sector initiative intentionally designed with policy integration in mind. Zakiuddin Khalid, Business Head of PepsiCo Pakistan Foods, noted, "Misal-e-Basti shows how a community project, built with strategic partnercan influence the national policy conversation. This integration of grassroots impact with policy ambition is unique in the private sec-Climate Change and Envi- tor, and we call on more partners to join us in taking this framework to other water-stressed communities

Qalam Qafila Pakistan organizes All-Pakistan mushaira



'Shining Stars of the Jan Babar Azad. Homeland" at the Hazrat

PESHAWAR: As part of Khan Kaukab Sarhadi - a Farhat Abbas, and Wafa the Independence Day cele- distinguished poet, orator, Chishti. brations, Qalam Qafila journalist, and columnist -Pakistan organized an All- and his son, the prominent (Director General, Iranian Hussain. Speakers includ-Pakistan Mushaira titled national poet Sardar Farooq

The Consul General of Imam Khomeini Hall, Cul- the Islamic Republic of Iran tural Center of the Islamic in Peshawar, Ali Banafsheh Republic of Iran, Peshawar. Khah, was the Chief Guest The event was held in at the event. The memory of the renowned Presidential Panel of the figure of the Pakistan Mushaira included: Dr.

Nation, Sardar Rabnawaz Hassan Abbas Raza, Dr. Special guests included Aziz Cultural Center Peshawar), Dr. Hussain Chakami, Dr. Shahab Safdar, Dr. Ubaid Bazgh Amar, Dr. Saadia Peshawar), Kamal, Zia-ul-Haq Sarhadi, columnist Aasim Shahid,

Rukhsana Niazi, Nusrat poet Syed Jamal Zaidi, Zia-Yab Khan Nusrat, and Salma Qasir. Movement and close com- Nazir Tabassum (Tamgha- moderated by Nayyar Federal

son of the late Kaukab Sarhadi and Chairman of Qalam Qafila Pakistan, along with Ejaz Professor Malik Arshad Shaheen Umar ing Dr. (Principal, Frontier Degree for College Women, renowned ul-Haq Sarhadi (President ECO Peshawar), Dr. Saadia The session was jointly Kamal (President, Pakistan Union

Journalists), Kaukab Farooq (son of Farooq Babar Azad) and Sarhadi), paid tribute to the literary, political, social, regret that today, those who and national services of made no contribution to the Kokab Sarhadi and Farooq Pakistan Movement are

Babar Azad. Chakami (Director General remarks, stating that Kokab Madinah during the rehaclose companion of Quaid- low in their footsteps.

Shehzada other Islamic countries. A with all attendees standing appreciation from the audipractitioner of Hafiz in Shirazi's poetry, he was a

The speakers expressed being honored with presti-The Chief Guest, Consul gious awards, while true General Ali Banafsheh heroes, whose sacrifices Khah, and Dr. Hussain and services are embedded in the very foundation of of the Iranian Cultural this land, remain unknown Center) shared enlightening to the younger generation. They emphasized that it is Sarhadi set a shining exam- the need of the hour to ple akin to the Ansar of introduce such distinguished personalities like Kaubilitation of migrants at the kab Sarhadi to future genertime of partition. He was a ations so that they may fol-

e-Azam, a strong proponent of Muslim unity, a fearless journalist, and a revered of Pakistan followed by the poet and intellectual. His National Anthem of the others presented their patriof youth was spent in Iran and Islamic Republic of Iran, otic poetry, earning great enthusiastic applause.

Shehzada respect. Shoaib Qadri recited the Tasawar Zaman Babar man of high moral charac- Holy Qur'an, and a naat (grandson of Kaukab ter and spiritual disposition. written by Farooq Babar Azad was presented.

Renowned poets from across the country including Dr. Nazir Tabassum, Naseem Sahar, Hassan Abbas Raza, Dr. Farhat Abbas, Wafa Chishti, Aziz Ejaz, Dr. Shahab Safdar, Dr. Ubaid Bazgh Amar, Rifaat Niazi, Anjum, Nusrat Yab Khan Nusrat, Salma Qasir, Malik Arshad Hussain, Nayyar Sarhadi, Chaudhry, Nasir Syed Bangash, Akhtar Seemab, Niazi, Naseem Azeem Sahar Junior, Samina Qadir, Nazakat Mirza, Syed Rizwan Haider, and many

On this occasion, the Kokab Memorial Cricket Team was also formally

across Pakistan.

announced. The Chief Guest, Consul General Ali Banafsheh Khah, presented the team captain Mir Murtaza Kasuriya with a specially designed captain's uniform.

This was the first major event dedicated to paying Sajjad Baloch, Rukhsana tribute to the shining stars of the nation - Kaukab Sarhadi and Farooq Babar Azad - in celebration of Pakistan's Independence. The event was attended by Jamal Zaidi, Ali Shuar a large number of men and women, and distinguished guests were served a formal dinner. The poetic contributions - both romantic and patriotic - deeply moved the audience and received





In brief

Noor Zaman finishes as runner-up

CHENGDU (APP): Pakistan's squash sensation Noor Zaman concluded his World Games 2025 campaign as the plate event runner-up, forced to retire in the final against South Africa's Dewald van Niekerkdue due to illness in Chengdu, China on Tuesday. Noor showed tremendous grit in the opening games, narrowly losing 10-12, 8-12, while visibly struggling with fever. After going down 0-2, he made the difficult decision to retire, prioritizing his health. Noor gave everything he had despite being unwell," Pakistan's coach Fahim Gul told APP. "His fighting spirit in those first two games, while running a fever, shows his champion mentality. Health comes first, and we're proud of his silvermedal." According to Fahim, they arrived late in Chengdu, hence could not acclimatise with the conditions, which impacted their preparation.

Islamabad, KP, **Punjab teams** reach final

ISLAMABAD (APP): The teams of Islamabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab have qualified for the final for the team event of Azadi Cup Tenpin Bowling Championship here at the Leisure Bowling Club, F-7. Islamabad team players include Ijaz -ur -Rehman, Daniyal Ijaz, Afzal Akhtar and Ayzaz-ur -Rehman. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa team, comprises Naveed Khan, Daniyal Shah, Fahim Akbar, Akhil Shah, Akhil Akhtar, Fahim Akhtar, Akhil Shah, and Fahim Akbar has qualified for final. Muhammad Hussain Chatha, Saleem Baig, Shahzad Rana and Junaid Shafique from Punjab qualified for final. Men and women from across the country are participating in nine categories competitions the championship The prizes will be distributed among the players at concluding ceremony of the championship to be held on August 14.

Pakistan team camp to begin on August 16

ISLAMABAD (APP): The national team's training camp for the AFC U-23 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers will commence on August 16 in Abbottabad. Head coach Nolberto Solano is scheduled to arrive in Pakistan on August 15 and will oversee the camp, which is set to run for two weeks under his supervision, said a press release. A total of 50 players, initially selected through tryouts, will participate in the training camp. The final 23-member squad will be announced at a later stage. As part of the qualifiers, Pakistan will play their first match against Iraq on September 3, followed by a game against host nation Cambodia on September 6. The team will conclude the group stage with a match Oman against September 9.

PHF president served show-cause notice

ISLAMABAD Desk): (Monitoring Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) issued a showcause notice to the President Hockey Federation of Pakistan (PHF) Tariq Bugti, for not holding elections and financial embezzlement. In the show-cause notice, Tariq Bugti was asked to submit his satisfactory reply within seven days. Tariq Bugti is also facing allegations of violations of rules and regulations and misuse of official funds. Pakistan Sports Board directed Tariq Bugti to submit details of expenditures which he paid by unauthorized bank accounts.

Brevis smashes record ton as South Africa level T20 series

DARWIN (AFP): Dewald and Cameron Green (nine). tling Brevis belted South Africa's highest Twenty20 individual score with a blistering 125 not out from 56 balls as the tourists stayed alive in the threematch series after a 53-run victory over Australia in Darwin on Tuesday.

Australia's decision to bowl backfired as South Africa powered to a massive 218-7 on the back of Brevis' maiden century in international cricket.

The 22-year-old rescued South Africa from a shaky 57-3 and dominated a 126run partnership with Tristan

"I'm extremely grateful, just happy to be out here on the winning side," said Brevis, who surpassed Faf du Plessis' 119 against the West Indies in 2015.

Playing just his ninth T20 international, Brevis Mitchell Marsh said. smashed eight sixes to leave Australia's powerful batsmen for this tour, South ragged effort in the field batting line-up with an Africa had struggled to fire for Australia, whose uphill task.

Australia's daunting chase was made more difficult after the early wickets of opener Travis Head (five) first ball of the innings, rat- Cairns on Saturday.

same venue.

four, David started with a bludgeoned several masthat landed on the roof.

assault ended on 50 when score of 41. he hit spearhead Kagiso Rabada straight to cover. Australia's chase ran out

165 in the 18th over with quicks Corbin Bosch and ingly frustrated Maxwell. Kwena Maphaka picking up three wickets each. "Chasing that down was

always going to be tough and we needed a few partnerships, which we couldn't 41st delivery. Maxwell do," Australia captain and quick Ben Dwarshuis

signalled his intent with a decider will be played in sublime boundary off the the Queensland city of

d Cameron Green (nine). tling quick Josh Australia's hopes rested Hazlewood. But Markram with in-form Tim David, (18) fell tamely to a fired-up fresh off his match-winning Glenn Maxwell, who cele-83 in their 17-run victory in brated another wicket when the series-opener at the he had Lhuan-dre Pretorius (10) stumped to leave South Promoted to number Africa in trouble.

Likened to legendary trio of boundaries and then South Africa batsman AB de Villiers, Brevis turned sive sixes, including one the innings on its head to power past his previous But David's 24-ball highest T20 international

Brevis received a life on 56 when substitute fielder Matthew Kuhnemann fumof steam, bowled out for bled on the boundary off the bowling of an increas-

Brevis made Australia pay and in a flash he was saluting the crowd after reaching his century with a boundary off his picked up two wickets Without several key apiece in an unusually in the opening game. nine-match T20 win Captain Aiden Markram streak ended. The series-



Arshad Nadeem returns home after successful surgery in UK

in the United Kingdom. been surgically repaired. He had been experiencing Na pain in his calf muscle, tory which had affected his Pakistan's training intensity.

KARACHI (Monitoring Cambridge under the care in the coming days under Desk): Pakistan's star of renowned UK-based spe-medical supervision. He javelin thrower has returned cialist Dr Ali Bajwa, with has completed post-surgery home after undergoing suc- the medical team confirm- rehab in London to regain cessful leg surgery followed ing that partial muscle dam-strength and will begin by a rehabilitation period age in Nadeem's calf had light training in Lahore as

> Nadeem, who made his-Olympic gold medalist in remains Pakistan's biggest

per the doctors' advice.

Arshad becoming return has sparked excitefirst-ever ment among fans, as he The 28-year-old star athletics, is now set to hope for another global underwent the procedure in resume training in Lahore medal in athletics.

Pakistan hockey get nod to play in Pro League

FAISLABAD (Monitoring overviewed. Desk): The government

ticipation in Pro League.
According to the issue of Pro League was

Mujahid, the secretary of Secretary Finance in the has given a green signal to PHF briefed about the upcoming days and once Hockey league, he gave a briefing the financial matters will Federation (PHF) for par- on the impact of partici- settle, The Government pating in the Pro League and PHF will make an on Pakistan Hockey. PHF, announcement regarding sources, Advisor on Inter- PSB and IPC ministry the participation in Pro Provincial Coordination have agreed on the League. The Secretary IPC Rana Sanaullah, presided national team's participath and Deputy DG Shahid the meeting in which the tion in the league. The secretary PHF will the meeting



FAISALABAD: Action-packed moments from the football match between Faisalabad Blue and Faisalabad White at Divisional Public School and College Ground during Marka-e-Haq Sports Competition on the occasion of Independence Day. —APP Photo



dies at World Games in China

CHENGDU (AFP/APP): Italian orienteering athlete Mattia Debertolis died on Tuesday after being found unresponsive during competition at the World Games in China's Chengdu, organisers said.

The 29-year-old was discovered unconscious during an orienteering event on August 8 and died four days later, said a joint statement from World Games organisers and the International Orienteering Federation (IOF).

The World Games is a multisport event held every four years for disciplines included in the Olympics. "Despite receiving immediate expert medical care at one of China's leading medical institutions, he passed away," the statement said.

It did not provide details on the cause of death. The event took place in intense heat and humidity, with temperatures above 30 degrees. Orienteering sees athletes navigate an unmarked course with a map and compass, punching in at designated spots along the route in the quickest time. Debertolis, from Primiero in eastern distance, the first medal event of the Games.

The six-kilometre (3.7 miles) course featured 180 metres of ascent and 20 control points that athletes must visit. Footage from the World Games' social media accounts showed athletes running through crop fields and villages on a largely rural course.

winner, Switzerland's Riccardo Rancan, completed the course in 45 minutes and 22 seconds. "I needed to acclimatise quickly with hot and humid conditions. I think I managed quite well," Chinese state media quoted Rancan as saying.

Debertolis was listed as

"Did Not Finish" in official results, along with 11 other athletes.

- Black armbands He was ranked 137th in the men's Orienteering World Rankings and had been competing since 2014, according to the IOF website. He participated in several World Championships and World Cups as part of the Italian team.

Alongside his training, Debertolis was studying for a PhD at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, where he lived.

President of the Italian Federation Orienteering (FISO), Alfio Giomi, invited the national team to wear black armbands while competing in the World Mountain Orienteering Championships, which begin on Tuesday in Poland.

Fatima, Muneeba ascends in ICC Women's Rankings

Pakistan captain Fatima Sana and Left-handed opener Muneeba Ali's has moved up in the ICC Women's Γ20I Player Rankings.

Pakistan may have lost the series, but individual performances were rewarded. Fatima Sana has hopped four places up to 59th. The skipper also moved up one place to joint-39th in the bowling rankings after her haul of four for 26 in the

Ali's match-winning es, amassing career-best unbeaten century in the ratings points of 602. final match helped her

(personal best points of 526), said a press release.

notable progress in the ICC Prendergast, who was named the Player of the Series, finished with 144

runs and four wickets, progressing in all three lists. She made her first appear-Meanwhile, Muneeba the second and third match-

advance three slots to joint- top 50 of the bowling rank- from last week's 54th.

32nd in the batters' list ings for the first time after taking three for 28 in the series opener that helped Ireland all-rounder Orla her team to victory by 11 Prendergast has made runs. Her all-round performance shot her up to Rankings after her team sixth among the allbeat Pakistan 2-1 in Dublin. rounders with personal-best rating points of 298.

There were movements for her teammates as well. Amy Hunter climbed up one place to 29th among batters while ance inside the top 20 of the Delany jumped five slots series opener. She ended the series as the leading wicket taker with a total of six scalps.

She ended batting rankings after to 50th thanks to her score of 42 runs in the second match – her first time in the top 50 with career-best rating points of 448.

Ava Canning is 48th in the bowlers' list, while Jane She has also entered the Maguire has moved to 50th

Asif through to semifinals with dominant win over Britain's Cosker

final of the men's middle- Pakistan's Muhammad his opponent scrambling. Asif delivered a masterclass performance in the Pakistani star construct a billiards event Tuesday,

Britain's Zac Cosker 2-0 in the quarterfinals of the World Games 2025.

The clinical victory at the Civil Aviation Flight University's Tianfu Campus Gymnasium booked Asif's place in the final four, keeping Pakistan's medal hopes alive.

on commanding 79-15 win Cosker frustrated.

proved even more one-

From the opening dangerous contenders. break, Asif imposed his "This wasn't just al

s opponent scrambling. making a statement," Asif told APP the match.

dismantling through a combination of precise potting and tactical safety play that left second frame

sided as Asif piled on the pressure with an 81-39 demolition, showcasing why he is considered one of the tournament's most ed

taly, was taking part in the CHENGDU (APP): will on the match, leaving winning; it was about

'When you reach this stage, every opponent is world-class. "I'm looking forward to make a podium finish and give a gift to my nation on the Independence Day," he added.

The victory marks

Asif's third consecutive win in Chengdu without dropping a single match, having previously defeated China's Liang gerous contenders. Xiaolong and Germany's 'This wasn't just about Alexander Widau.

Turkish climber Gul Noor makes history on K2



ISLAMABAD (APP): Gul Noor Tambet has etched her name in mountaineering history by becoming the first Turkish woman to reach the summit of K2, the second-highest mountain in the world.

After months of perseverance, Gul successfully conquered the treacherous peak on Monday, August 11, at 4 pm, said a press release.

initially scaled the majestic Tirich Mir from the summit on her Instagram.

This remarkable achievement is not Gul's first, into high-altitude mountaineering. She has previously climbed the Seven Summits and over 30 high mountains across the globe, in Turkey,

Turkish climbers.

Russia, Georgia, Nepal, Argentina, and the United States. She had also summited Mount Everest making her the first Turkish woman to do so. Her mountaineering journey began

peak. Undeterred by the harsh weather

conditions that forced several climbers to

retreat from the base camp in July, she

pressed on, driven by her passion for mountaineering. Her determination paid off as she reached the summit of K2, a

feat that marks her as a trailblazer for

at 17, and she now balances her passion with her profession as a marketing professor at San Francisco State University in the United States.

Gul shared her exhilaration and grati-Gul arrived in Pakistan in June and tude with her team by posting a photo

Former referee Coote given eight-week ban over Klopp comments

League referee David making eight-week suspension by Liverpool in 2020. the Football Association

manager Jurgen Klopp. Klopp's Germar
Coote was sacked in ty in the video. December by Professional Game Match Officials Ltd sons for the verdict those allegations had been (PGMOL) after a video announced Tuesday said fully investigated.

(AFP): circulated on social media Coote expressed "deep Disgraced former Premier the previous month of him remorse" and acknowlderogatory Coote has been given an remarks about Klopp and

He has been further the FA in June, with the and told to attend an edu- sanctioned by the FA for cation programme over an "aggravated breach" of saying at the time he would disparaging comments he rule E3.2, because of the face no further action in made about ex-Liverpool reference he made to regard to separate allega-Klopp's German nationali-

The FA's written rea-

edged his comments were "crass and inappropriate". Coote was charged by

English game's ruling body tions of gambling misconduct, which he had strenuously denied. The FA said

A video showing Coote snorting white powder, reportedly during Euro 2024, emerged in November. Earlier

European football's governing body UEFA banned Coote from any officiating activity until June 2026.

In a January interview Coote came out as gay and said his struggle to hide his sexuality had contributed to bad choices.

Pakistani nation's

resolve remains

unbeaten; Danyal Ch



In brief

IRSA releases 375,200 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP) Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on released 375,200 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 400,000 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1546.50 feet which was 144.50 feet higher than the dead level of 1402.00 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 268,200 cusecs and 253,300 cusecs, respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1206.50 feet, which was 156.50 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 16,900 cusecs and 7,000 cusecs, respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 274,400, 215,200, 164,000 and 87,300 cusecs, respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 30,800 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 55,200 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala.

RDA organizes **Independence** Day rally

RAWALPINDI (APP): In connection with the celebration of Pakistan's Independence Day, the Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) organized a vibrant rally from the RDA office to Murree Road, led by Director General RDA, Kinza Murtaza. The rally aimed to promote patriotism, highlight the importance of independence, and foster national unity. Participants included RDA officers and staff, students and teachers Government Islamia School, and members of the public. With national flags in hands and patriotic songs echoing in the air, the rally fashioned an atmosphere filled with love for the homeland. The DG RDA Kinza Murtaza said, "Independence Day reminds us of the tremendous sacrifices made by our forefathers for the creation of Pakistan. We must fulfil our responsibilities with honesty, sincerity, and hard work to build a prosperous and developed Pakistan." After the event, a special prayer was offered for the country's peace, progress, and prosperity.

Six dengue cases reported

RAWALPINDI (APP): The District Health Authority Rawalpindi, in coordination with other departments, has taken decisive action against Bahria Town, sealing its head office due to dengue violations. The operation, led by AC Saddar Hakim Khan, targeted the Bahria Town Phase-8 head office. In a latest update on dengue prevention and control, the authority reported six new cases of which 4 in Rawalpindi and 2 in Murree. Of total 58 confirmed cases this year, 11 required hospitalization, with no fatalities recorded. The cases are split with 30 in Rawalpindi district and 28 in Murree district. Key affected areas include Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi 26 cases, Potohar Rural 14, Rawalpindi Cantt 3 Taxila Cantt 4, Kahuta 2, Gujar Khan and other union councils with 1 case each.

Security arrangements reviewed

RAWALPINDI (INP): Senior Superintendent of Police SSP Operations Kashif Zulfiqar visited the route of the main procession and reviewed the security arrangements for chehlum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), informed police spokesman here Tuesday. SP Rawal Muhammad Saad Arshad, SDPOs, SHOs and other officers were also present (Operations) reviewed the security arrangements and gave instructions to the officers.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Sardan Muhammad Yousaf, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e- Sadr. —APP Photo

Belgium Ambassador meets advisor to **Chairman Senate**

Advisor to the Chairman of the Senate, Misbah Khar, Tuesday met with Ambassador Belgium to Pakistan, elections held in Malaysia, as an important platform Charles-Idesbald van der the Chairman Senate, for parliamentary leaders Gracht de Rommerswael, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, to deliberate on pressing to discuss avenues for was unanimously elected global issues, including enhancing parliamentary as the inaugural President peace, multilateral coopercooperation and engage- of the organisation — a ation, and sustainable ment in upcoming interna- testament to Pakistan's development. tional forums.

Ambassador on the objectary diplomacy. tives and vision of the Inter-Parliamentary also briefed on preparaSpeakers' Conference tions for the upcoming shared challenges. (ISC) — a dynamic new global platform dedicated to fostering collaboration 11–12 November 2025, ther strengthening parliaand connectivity among The update covered the mentary ties and enhance parliaments worldwide, said a news release.

includes 45 parliamentary ed participation of highspeakers diverse regions.

She informed the of Ambassador that, in recent the conference will serve

ISC meeting, scheduled to take place in Islamabad on their commitment to furconference agenda, pro- ing posed sessions, thematic exchanges

representing level delegations from across the globe.

She underscored that

active leadership in pro- informed about the confer-Ms. Khar briefed the moting global parliamen- ence's goal of fostering impactful dialogue and

Both sides reaffirmed people-to-people The ISC currently priorities, and the expect- Pakistan and Belgium.

ICT admin declares public holiday on August 13

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has announced a public holiday on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, across the Federal Capital. According to a notification issued by the District Magistrate, all private institutions, including schools, colleges, universities, businesses, and offices, will remain closed within the limits of Islamabad.

Meanwhile, the order, however, excludes offices providing essential services. These include Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI), Capital Development Authority

Administration, Islamabad Police, Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO), Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL), and hospitals, which will remain open and operational.

The notification also clarifies that all federal ministries, divisions, attached departments, and subordinate offices located in Islamabad will remain open on the day.

Secretary, Barrister Danyal Chaudhry on Tuesday said and achievement, not critithat Pakistani nation is unitcism or slander. He said that highlighted that his mined to combat any challenge, success in offices or at govwith a great unbeaten spirit. ernment level, depends on ment of Radio Pakistan as He remarked this during deliverance, and only those the 'Potohar Awards' cerewho work diligently deserve opportunities to advance. He urged the younger generation to carry forward the legacy of freedom passed

down by their elders.

Chaudhry

mony at Radio Pakistan, Rawalpindi which was organized to mark the 78th Independence Day.

Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized that

Parliamentary

Pakistan was born from the great sacrifices of our elders and the spirit of 'La Ilaha ilAllah, which cannot be defeated.

Chaudhry Barrister highlighted the recent struggle on May 6, where the entire nation united like of teaching children to an steel wall to defeat an respect and obey their parenemy with far superior resources. He reiterated that the spirit of 1947 and and societal role models the Islamic faith remain should guide the new geninvincible, keeping the eration positively", he nation into a strong entity. urged while observing the invincible, keeping the He stressed that the progress of the country and in Western societies as a its people hinges on performance and dedication.

Congratulating the artists Radio Pakistan, he technical staff for the awarded for their outstand- announced plans to collab- exceptional contributions.

(APP): ing contributions, he underscored that recognition Saeed Sheikh to make it should be based on merit further professional and financial organization. He istry will render for betterwas done for Pakistan Television Corporation.

"My presence at PBC today must fetch some good fuots for the Radio Pakistan", he said reiterating his commitment to Underlining the impor- chalk out a plan for PBC's tance of reconciliation over improvement. He proposed hatred or revenge, Barrister a mechanism to financially described support Radio Pakistan revenge as a characteristic through excise and taxation of the weak, while reconcildepartment by leveraging iation plays pivotal role for countries' progress. He emphasized the importance the use of radios in vehicles, aiming to strengthen the institution. cles, aiming to strengthen

He also lauded DG Radio, Station Director ents, as this strengthens Musarat Shahrukh and the societal fabric. "Educators Rawalpindi station staff for their commendable performance. The event fea-Senator Irfan tured Siddiqui as the chief guest. weakening of family values Awards were distributed among various artists, scriptwriters, of hosts, producers, poets, and he technical staff for their

IGP Rizvi urges responsible Independence Day celebrations

For the progress

cautionary example.

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police Inspector General (IGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi on Tuesday extended heartfelt congratulations to the people of Pakistan and overseas Pakistanis on the occasion of the country's

Independence Day. Rizvi Independence Day is a great blessing and a should be celebrated with full spirit. He emphasized that while celebrating, citizens should also be mindful taken

avoid hooliganism, onewheeling, and aerial firing, warning that such acts will not be tolerated. "Families and women visiting parks must not be harassed under any circumstances," he stressed. The IGP said Islamabad

Police had devised a comprehensive security plan for Îndependence Day celebramomentous occasion that tions, deploying over 4,000 officers across the city to maintain law and order. He said strict action would be

or others. harassing families. "Such He urged the public to unlawful activities will not be allowed under any cir-

cumstances," he remarked. Rizvi said every police officer in Islamabad would be on duty to protect the public. "This Independence Day is also significant as it marks a historic victory for the nation, and we take pride in our armed forces,'

he added. He advised citizens to report any emergencies or suspicious activities by calling 15, 1915, 1715, or 1815, assuring that the against those Islamabad Police would of those around them, involved in aerial firing, remain on the roads 24/7 to showing respect and care creating public disorder, or serve and protect.

Pakistan, Ukraine to strengthen cultural ties

ISLAMABAD Pakistan and Ukraine have agreed to deepen cooperation in culture and heritage with both sides underscoring the role of cultural diplomacy in strengthening bilateral relations.

This was revealed during a meeting between Federal Minister for National and Culture Heritage Division Aurangzeb Khan Khichi and First Secretary at the Embassy of Ukraine, Ms. Oksana Patriaeva. Both welcomed propos-

als to expand people-to-people linkages and showcase the two countries' rich cultraditions. Ms. Patriaeva proposed setting up a Ukrainian Book Corner at the National Library of Pakistan Ukrainian literature, history, and arts to local audiences.

She also expressed interest in cultural exchange programs, film collaborations, exhibitions, and arts-based initiatives. "Pakistan is a beautiful country with warm-hearted people. We support of the Government and performances.



of Pakistan and want to further strengthen cultural contacts," she said.

to coordinate the process. and Harappa. Highlighting to introduce He suggested joint exhibit the government's efforts to tions, cultural shows, and revive the film industry, the MoUs on culture, heritage, of galleries in Karachi and and literature. He also Lahore for exhibitions. invited Ukraine to participate in Lok Virsa's annual pavilion

Ms. Patriaeva welcomed the invitation and shared plans to bring Ukrainian The Minister assured full artists and films to Pakistan, support for the initiatives, along with visits to heritage designating a focal person sites such as Mohenjo-daro exchange programs, as well Minister offered Ukrainian as expanding existing cultural delegations the use

The meeting concluded with both sides agreeing to Lok Mela with a dedicated fast-track cultural cooperafeaturing tion and explore new have always valued the Ukrainian cuisine, crafts, avenues for heritage-based engagement.

Data shows decrease in wild ponovirus in environmentai sampies

ing progress in curbing the virus, sample under process in Islamabad. though limited transmission continues in some parts of the country, official surveillance data shows.

environmental surveillance system collected total 127 sewage samples from 87 districts during month of July, 2025. The Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio Eradication at the National Institute of Health (NIH) Islamabad has confirmed 75 sewage samples as negative and 42 as positive.

They said 10 samples are currently being processed in the lab while the overall trend shows a decline in positive detections, reflecting the impact of high-quality campaigns, the virus continues to circulate in certain areas. As per results, 22 negative, and one positive sewerage samples were of six sites tested negative. reported from Balochistan while 24 samples were under process in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Launch of Key Reports open

recorded a notable decline in positive itive samples were reported besides samples so far are negative. Over the polio environmental samples, reflect- one negative, three positive, and one

According to official sources, the Baltistan one negative and one sam-tained efforts have significantly reduction, with only one positive site interrupting transmission. in July, down from 15 in January.

province tested negative. In Quetta Block, six out of seven sites tested negative. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, across 91 districts in all provinces and positive sites dropped from 14 in regions, with the goal of rapidly boost-January to seven in July. Total 24 ing immunity and closing protection sites in the province tested negative. gaps. Parents and caregivers have been Of these seven positive sites in July, three are from South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In Peshawar, four out

negative, seven positive and three sites decreased from 15 in March to ing broader protection against prevent-12 in July. In Sindh, the number of able diseases. Repeated polio vaccinadistricts with positive detections has tion alongside routine immunization

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan has while in Sindh 10 negative and 19 pos- July. In AJK and GB, all the tested past year, the Pakistan Polio Programme has conducted six high-In Azad Jammu and Kashmir quality vaccination campaigns, four (AJK), two negative and one sample of them nationwide, each reaching was under process while in Gilgit over 45 million children. These susple was under process. The July data reduced both polio cases and positive shows steady progress in contain- environmental samples nationwide, ment. Balochistan reported a marked demonstrating strong progress toward

The next sub-national polio vacci-As many as 22 of the 23 sites in the nation campaign is scheduled for rovince tested negative. In Quetta September 1-7, 2025. The campaign aims to vaccinate 28 million children asked to ensure their children receive polio drops during this round. In addition to polio drops, the government provides free routine immunization for In Punjab, the number of positive children up to 15 months of age, offer-In Punjab, 15 negative, 12 positive also declined compared to previous attengthens immunity and prevents and four samples were under process months, from 20 in March to 12 in lifelong paralysis.

NCRC launches reports on children and minority rights

ISLAMABAD: To mark

National Minorities Day, the National Commission on the Rights of Child (NCRC) launched two key publications: the State of of Children from Minority Religions in Pakistan. The event brought together laws, raise the age of mar-tling stereotypes and proresentatives, human rights sive defenders, police officials, civil society leaders, labour rights experts, artists, and development partners to discuss systemic challenges facing children—particularly those from religious minority backgrounds.

NCRC Chairperson Ms. Ayesha Raza Farooq welcomed participants and nity, safety, and opportunitories and society, pointed the ty."

Legal Aid Society, pointed to enforcement gaps in Commission's mandate as an independent watchdog NCRC for children's rights. She

"Both these reports are aligned with our mandence, identify policy gaps, education, incidents of of children's rights, warn-

made—such as improved birth registration and legal moderated by Valerie reforms—millions of chil- Khan, Senior Technical dren remain vulnerable due Advisor at NCRC, featured to fragmented efforts, lack perspectives from diverse of coordination, and limit- sectors: Children in Pakistan 2024 ed political will. The and the Situation Analysis Commission is working actor and NCRC Brand with governments to har- Ambassador, emphasized monize child protection the media's role in disman-

provincial government rep- riage to 18, ensure inclu- moting children's voices, education, academics, strengthen safeguarding parenting and cultural valsystems, especially for ues. children from minority communities. But we can- musician and education not do this alone. activist, called for curricu-Policymakers, educators, lum reform to promote and faith leaders must act cation and stressed the together. Every child, need for comprehensive regardless of religion or teacher training.

Mr. Pirbhu Lal Satyani, laws addressing forced CRC Member conversions and protection Sindh/Minorities, presented the Situation Analysis of Zulfiqar Sh Children from Minority labour rights expert, linked Religions in Pakistan, bonded labour practices in date—to generate evi- highlighting barriers to Sindh to systemic neglect

background, deserves dig-

toward systemic solutions. labour, and discrimination While progress has been in public services.

A panel discussion, Sarwat

and alongside the influence of Shahzad

Fatima Matanat,

Zulfiqar Shah,

labour and violence.

Authority's coordination tion. with the Labour and Education Departments, calling for greater media Chief Minister of Sindh for engagement, expanded dis-Minority Affairs, reaf-trict-level presence, and firmed the provincial govincreased resource allocation.

guide duty-bearers forced conversion, child ing of rising out-of-school role of parenting in build- versions in Sindh and division. He emphasized access to opportunities.

to resist abuse and assert Ambreen Zahra, their rights, noting that Sindh Child Protection family and societal atti-Authority, outlined the tudes are critical in preven-

Special Assistant to the ernment's commitment to children's rights. He remain neutral, inclusive every child in Pakistan Anis Haroon, Member stressed the urgency of leg-NCHR, underscored the islating against forced con-

law enforcers, civil society, inclusivity from early edu- children fueling child ing children's confidence noted that, in other areas, that the responsibility to the situation for minorities is improving. In order to only with the government fulfill Pakistan's

Constitutional and International obligations, Chand Ukrani, we need to protect the rights of minorities.

Rajvir Singh Sodha, Special Assistant to the action between govern-Chief Minister on Human ment, civil society, and Rights, said schools must communities to ensure spaces focused on educa- grows up free from distion rather than religious crimination, with equal

ensure inclusivity lies not but also with the majority population. He also linked population control to reducing child exploitation.

The event concluded with a call for coordinated

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

HERAT (BNA): Governor Herat Mawlana Islamjar met with Mohammad Mustafa Azdil, head of the Turkish Education Foundation in Afghanistan. Azdil provided information about the foundation's activities in the field of education and assured full readiness for any type of cooperation in this area. The Governor fondly recalled the deep and historical ties between the two countries and expressed appreciation for Turkish Education Foundation's scientific contributions to the education.

Chinese investors ready to invest in Afghanistan

KABUL (BNA): Mawlavi Ahmadullah Zahid, the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan, emphasized the country's commitment to fostering a conducive investment environment.

During the discussions, representatives from China expressed keen interest in various sectors, including electricity generation, manufacturing, and construc-tion. They sought coopera-tion from the Ministry to explore these opportunities

interest and underscored tion for investment.



Zahid welcomed their safe and promising destina- Industry and Commerce unparalleled facilities to highlighted that the govern- encourage The Deputy Minister of ment has implemented across multiple sectors.

Maidan Wardak orchards yield nearly 5,500 metric tons this year

from the Ministry of Agr- years." iculture, Irrigation, and compared to last year.

significantly increased, off- sell a kilogram of apricots icials say many orchards for only 40 Afghanis due to have been affected by dro- the lack of a proper market. ught, which has reduced the This has significantly limitquality of the harvest com- ed the orchardists' income. pared to previous years.

WARDAK drought, the quality is not lack of water, and the price. Our produce should Officials as good as in previous income is not enough to be offered to international

Some orchard owners in Livestock in Maidan War- Maidan Wardak complain dak report an increase in about the low prices of apricot production in the agricultural products. Gul province this year. Accor- Wazir, a 56-year-old ding to their figures, nearly orchardist from Jaghato 5,400 metric tons of apri- district who has been cots were harvested from involved in orchard farmthe province's orchards, ing for two decades, says reflecting a 30% increase that although this year's apricot harvest is notice-Although the harvest has ably larger, he has had to

ured to previous years.

Aid Mohammad Zahiri, four or five hundred trees, of apricots is sold for 30 or the head of agricultural but this year's income is affairs for the Ministry in very low. Last year, we sold Maidan Wardak, says: "We a kilogram of apricots for another orchardist, says: "If see a 30% increase in apri- 200 Afghanis, but this year, cot harvests compared to the market price is only 30 could keep our produce for they are at serious risk of

cover the costs of the orchard."

tion drought, lack of cold storage, low export rates of they work all year but end fresh fruits, and low prices as serious challenges they face. They add that if no fundamental solutions are found, many orchardists may consider switching to other crops. Shafiqullah, another

orchards, and if the situation remains the same, others will also give up farm-40 Afghanis.

we had cold storage, we last year, but due to the or 40 Afghanis. There is a a while and sell it at a better disappearing.

markets. If the market and drought conditions remain Other orchardists men- the same, many orchardists will quit farming because up losing their harvest.'

Meanwhile, officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock in Maidan Wardak say that in collaboration with the Ministry, they have started efforts to orchardist, says: "Some build necessary cold storpeople have uprooted their age facilities and find suitable international markets for the province's fresh

Currently, apricot orchards have been planted on ,500 hectares of land in Sayed Habib Ilham, Maidan Wardak, but due to persistent drought and the lack of a suitable market

2,539 carats of emeralds sold for \$347,850

PARAKH (Pajhwok): The Department of Mines and Petroleum in central Panjsher province has sold 2,539 carats of emeralds for 347,850 US dollars at the ninth auction, an official said on Tuesday.

A statement quoting Governor Hafiz Mohammad Agha Hakim said the highemeralds Panjshir have been able to connect Afghanistan with global markets and play an important role in attracting the attention of domestic and foreign investors.

He said this amount of emeralds has been sold to domestic and foreign traders. "This auction was held in the presence of national and international traders and relevant institutions, and its process was transparent and competitive", he said.

According to the statement, after being examined and packaged, the mined emeralds were placed in the presence of the auction's supervisory board to maintain transparency and trust in the sales process.

It said Lyon; a Chinese trader, also participated in the auction.

Farah residents cite full security

KABUL (BNA): Afghanistan marks four years since the Islamic Emirate returned to power, residents of Farah Province say security has been fully restored and development work is progressing across the province.

Ziauddin, a resident of Farah, told Bakhtar News Agency he now lives in a calm environment with no fear, anxiety, or security threats. He said the asphalting of roads, creation of green spaces, and the ongoing construction of the Bakhshabad Dam are the change in governance.

Another resident, Abdul Jabbar, described the security situation nationwide and in Farah in particular

as unprecedented, adding that it has created the conditions for development projects to be carried out without hindrance.

Futsal

GHAZNI CITY (Pajhwok): The Futsal B League tournament featuring 10 teams has begun in southern Ghazni province, an offi-

Physical Education and Sports director Bilal Mujahid told Pajhwok Afghan News the participating teams have been divided into different

The competition will last about a month and a half, he added.

Mujahid said Sanai Ghaznavi futsal team won the tournament's first match against Afghan Naveen team 7-2.

According to him, the tournament was launched to identify the best futsal team of the year.

Floodwater threat prevention project launched in Kandahar

(TOLOnews): Residents of the old city area in the 6th district of Kandahar used to face financial losses every year due to the arrival of floodwaters. A new project has now started to rebuild the floodwater channels and pathways in their area.

A Kandahar resident, Wali Ahmad, says: "Three times during the winter seafloodwaters have entered our house, causing us financial damage. All the canals and flood pathways here must be rebuilt."

Another resident of Kandahar, Abdullah, also says: 'The people of this area are facing many problems because mountain floodwa-

ple's houses and destroy their homes. The authorities have not paid attention to this issue before." Abdul Razzaq also says:

"If our canals, drains, and flood pathways are rebuilt, it will be a big help to us." The project, worth 14

million Afghanis, will be implemented over a period of four months. Officials from Kandahar

Municipality state that the purpose of this project is to prevent floodwaters in the city, and to rebuild urban sewage systems, drains, and flood channels.

Kandahar Municipality spokesman, Saifullah Asim, said: "This project

the municipality. It will involve the comprehensive reconstruction of 5,000 cubic meters of drains, canals, and channels."

The project's engineer, Mohebullah, said: "The main goal of this project is to remove sewage and floodwaters from Kandahar city, eliminate existing obstacles to the sewage system, and rebuild the damaged areas.

In Kandahar city, every year, people suffer financial losses due to the lack of a proper urban sewage system, but officials say they are working to solve the

Kabul pursues overseas job opportunities

KABUL (Pajhwok): The only the beginning of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) says Qatar has offered 3,100 legal job opportunities for Afghan workers, with talks also under way with five other countries to secure further employment prospects for Afghan citizens.

Samiullah Ibrahimi, MoLSA spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News on Monday that the ministry is engaging with various countries to provide legal employment opportunities, particularly for unemployed Afghans.

Under a recent agreement, Qatar has allocated 3,100 legal jobs for Afghan workers. Registration for the programme has closed and the documents of applicants are currently being reviewed.

"Once document checks are complete, applicants gery in the Qatar recruitwill undergo a practical test ment process. Only those among the province's most to ensure that only skilled meeting the criteria are sent to Qatar," Ibrahimi one year of unemploysaid, adding that this was ment—would be selected.

process and more opportunities would follow in the near future. Ibrahimi said that the

ministry has also held meetings with labour officials from Oman, Russia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia to arrange legal employment for Afghans in those countries. Once agreements are finalised, citizens will be invited to register, and—following assessment—will be sent abroad legally. Talks have also addressed the chal-

lenges faced by Afghan workers already employed

in these countries. The spokesman emphasised the ministry's commitment to fairness and transparency, assuring citizens that there would be no favouritism, fraud, or for-

Qatar is seeking Afghan workers in fields such as electrical engineering, electric vehicle mechanics, pharmacy, livestock farmand hospitality. Applicants must meet educational requirements, pos-

18 and 45. Ibrahimi noted that many applicants did not meet these conditions but still flocked to registration centres, causing disorder.

sess relevant work experi-

ence, demonstrate language

skills and be aged between

He urged citizens to familiarise themselves with the job requirements before notable achievements since and qualified individuals including a minimum of applying to avoid depriving eligible candidates of their

Returnees in Ghazni complain about rising house rents

A number of returnees from Iran and Pakistan in southern Ghazni province of Afghanistan have complained about a sharp rise in house rents, saying they cannot afford the increased costs and are calling on the government to address the issue as soon as possible.

According to the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation, over the past three months, around 1.8 million Afghans have been forcibly deported from Iran, nearly 185,000 from Pakistan, and 5,134 from

returnee from Pakistan now living in Ghazni city, told affordable rent.

He said he is currently returnees staying with relatives and the province have doubled used to be fairly reasonor even tripled due to the able, but in recent weeks influx of returnees.

ment to take action on the

Mohammad another returnee who city. recently came back from Iran, also complained about Rahim, said: "I used to pay the rising cost of rent.

return of refugees, rental for 14,000 afghanis." He prices were relatively low, added that he is now being but with the surge in forced to relocate to the returnees, not only has sup- outskirts of the city.







Meanwhile, Pajhwok Afghan News that Ghazni city residents who he returned several months rent homes also reported ago but has still been that landlords have raised unable to find a house at an rents in response to the number growing

Khalid, a resident of the following the forced return He urged the govern- of refugees from Iranprices have gone up significantly, and it's become dif-Sohail, ficult to find a house in the

He said that prior to the the landlord has now asked





arbitrarily raising rents.

Anargul, the head of a compared to the past.

noted that rental prices in city, told Pajhwok: "Rents primarily to the return of Department of Refugees, uation.

> Another resident, Abdul 9,000 afghanis in rent, but nis.

He called on the government to take serious steps to prevent landlords from

local property office, con- said a joint committee was firmed that rents in the city established earlier this have increased noticeably He attributed the hike

refugees from Iran and and other relevant depart-Pakistan and noted that ments—to address issues some property owners are facing returnees. taking advantage of the sit-

He said houses that were previously rented for 6,000 to 8,000 afghanis are now 12,000 and 15,000 afgha-

He added that the mass it extremely difficult to find rental accommodation in ing crisis and to avoid rais-

Meanwhile, Mohammad Kakar, Resettlement Officer at the Ghazni Directorate Refugees and Repatriation, year—comprising the govoffice, ernor's Department of Justice, the

He said the committee had issued guidance urging Ghazni residents to maintain fair rental prices, but investigations will be carbeing let for between ried out and legal action taken against those who

violate the guidelines. Kakar also called on resreturn of refugees has made idents to cooperate with returnees during the ongoing rental prices.

According to him, every

eases, particularly diarrhea,

rises in the summer season

He said that according to

available global statistics,

"B" League started

cial said on Tuesday.

attention to reducing the chicken meat price because Athletes are happy that the "B" League futsal commost people are finically petition has begun in the incapable to buy it.

320afs.

(Pajhwok): another resident, com-Residents of Kabul are complaining about increased chicken meat about price of chicken meat and called for its control.

Kabul residents complain

price compared to last month and are asking the kilo of chicken meat, inclugovernment to control it, while officials say 80 perfor 180afs, but now it has cent of poultry farms in the surged to 280afs, he added. country currently do not have chickens. Syed Fahim, a chicken

Pajhwok Afghan News Poshta area, explained the price of chicken meat had reported a month ago the price of one kilogram of increased since July 5. chicken meat was 220 According to him, the afghanis, but now it has price of chicken meat has increased to 320 afghanis. increased by 100 afs per

Mahmood, a resident of

kilogram. Kabul who had come to buy Regarding the reason for chicken from Chicken the increase in chicken Market Alley in Shahr-emeat price, he claimed: Naw, told Pajhwok the price "Chickens are being sold out on farms and when the of chicken meat has been rising for about a month, farm is over, prices went but he does not know why the price has increased. three times a year, but then According to him, he prices fall again".

He urged the Islamic used to buy a kilo of chick-Emirate to establish stateen breast for 220afs, but today he bought it for owned chicken farms to keep prices under control. He asked officials to pay

Kochai, another chicken seller in Qasabi Alley, added he would sell a kilo now he was selling a kilo

about chicken meat price hike plained about the surge in in chicken meat price was due to the shortage of chicks in poultry farms, but Previously, he bought a explained: "Some farmers who suffered during the ding legs, breasts and other winter are now trying to make a profit".

He sells about 100 kilos of chicken meat daily, meat seller in Kolula while a month ago he was selling nearly 250 kilos of chicken meat.

He asked the government to determine the selling price of chicken meat for farmers so that prices can be controlled.

Dr. Wasim Safi, chairman of the executive board for Afghanistan Chamber Agricultural Livestock Production, confirmed the increase in poulup. Prices increase two to try prices and said six months ago, the price of poultry meat reached about 90 afghanis per kilogram due to the huge increase of chicks on farms, which had

severely affected farmers. This situation continued several times, and farmers suffered losses and were of chicken for 220afs, but unable to buy and raise chickens

Heat waves accelerate spread of infectious diseases

(Pajhwok): Doctors say with the intenheat, infectious diseases increased in Kabul city. these illnesses. They urge citizens to observe both personal and

avoid eating leftover food. disease hospital operates in diarrhea each day, whereas Kabul for such patients, and before the heat began, the every year during this sea- number was limited to only son, it admits the highest a few individuals. number of adult patients.

hospital, told Pajhwok and people living in tents. Afghan News that every year, with the rise in tem- children with infectious perature, infectious diseases spread.

personal and environmental sification of the summer hygiene and the improper washing of vegetables and especially diarrhea—have fruits as major causes of Although he did not pro-

vide specific statistics on environmental hygiene and the increase in infectious patients, but said they hos-A specialized infectious pitalize 50 people with

According to him, this Dr. Faridullah Omari, a year, the majority of trainer and specialist at patients visiting this hospi-Kabul's infectious disease tal are returning migrants

It is worth noting that for diseases, in addition to the Indira Gandhi Institute of

He considers the lack of Child Health, the Ataturk available statistics, it is evi- of hygiene. Children's dent that the number of National According to Dr. especially Rafiuddin Naseri, a pedi- increased

atric professor at the month by month.'
Ataturk National Children's According to h Hospital, there has also year, the number of people been an increase in cases of affected by infectious disinfectious diseases, especially diarrhea. He said that in the month not only in Afghanistan but of Hamal (March-April),

290 children with diarrhea were hospitalized; in the Saur between 3 to 5 billion peoof (April–May), 312 children; ple contract diarrhea annuin the month of Jawza ally, with deaths also and in the month of Saratan with diarrhea were admit-

(May-June), 385 patients; recorded among them. Dr. Naseri considers the (June-July), 457 children causes of increased infectious diseases and diarrhea ted to the hospital. during this season to be the He added: "Based on the extreme heat and the lack

worldwide.

causes of these diseases.

fruits should be thoroughly washed before consumption, then soaked for a few minutes in a chlorine soluneeds more fluids; when as possible." you drink more fluids, that water must be safe—meaning, do not use water from

open canals and lakes."

also recommends: "Preven-Dr. Faridullah Omari tion is better than cure; Hospital is also operating. Patients with this disease— says lettover or state 1000 every maintain personal hygiene should be avoided, as eatmaintain personal hygiene and wash their hands with considerably ing such food is one of the and wash their hands with soap and water after using He emphasized the the toilet." He said that parimportance of environmen- ents must be very careful tal and personal hygiene, about their children's stating that vegetables and hygiene and should explain to children not to drink

from open water sources. He added: "My message to all respected families is tion or salt water, and that that if their children or famdrinking water should be ily members develop diar-boiled. He added: "It is rhea, they should visit docily members develop diarsummer, and your body tors and hospitals as soon

Patients and caregivers who had visited the Afghan-Turk Hospital, Meanwhile, Dr. Naseri said: "It has been 20 days



Iran, and my son developed diarrhea and vomiting due to the heat, but his condition has now improved."

She expressed satisfaction with the hospital's Nadera, a Kabul resident services, saying that the staff treated all patients

Similarly, Salim Shah,

since we returned from another resident of Kabul who is hospitalized at the infectious disease hospital. said: "A few days ago, I developed diarrhea due to the heat, but now, thanks to God, I am fine.'

He also expressed satisfaction with the healthcare services provided patients at this hospital.



ISLAMABAD: President, Asif Ali Zardari exchanging views with Mohamed Karmoune, Ambassador of Morocco during a meeting at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

SC questions HC dismissal of Imran's bail pleas

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan"s Chief Justice, Yahya Afridi, emphasized that the on Tuesday questioned the Supreme Court would Lahore High Court's rejection of former Prime ings and would base its Minister Imran Khan"s bail decision solely on legal applications. A three-judge merit. The hearing was Supreme Court bench, led adjourned until August 19, by the Chief Justice and with instructions for both including Justice Shafi sides" lawyers to be pre-Siddiqui and Justice pared to discuss the legal Miangul Hasan Aurangzeb, issues raised. heard eight appeals from Khan. The court issued Supreme notices to the Punjab provin- Article 185(3) of the

to clarify this crucial legal

Chief Justice

Khan appealed to the apreme Court under cial administration and Constitution, challenging instructed the prosecution to the Lahore High Court"s address specific legal points. June 24, 2025 order deny-Chief Justice Afridi ing his post-arrest bail questioned the High related to the May 9 inci-Court"s commentary on the dents. Currently detained at case"s merits during a bail Adiala Jail, Khan seeks hearing. He asked, "Can definitive observations be made in a bail proceeding?" and requested legal counsel Road Police Station.

He faces numerous grave accusations under the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) 1860, including Sections 324, 395, 436, 427, 290, 291, 148, 149, 337L(ii), 34, 109, 120-B, 121, 121A 131, 146, 153, 153-A, 153 B, and 505, along with Section 7 of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), 1997.

On June 24, 2025, the Lahore High Court denied Khan"s post-arrest bail. stating that the allegations fell under the prohibitory clause of Section 497 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.). The court found that Khan"s legal team failed to establish any grounds for further investigation into his purported involvement. The High Court also distinguished Khan"s case from his coaccused, justifying differ-

Senate passes resolution, pays tributes to minorities

fabric of the country.

by Senator Danesh Kumar, rights of all minorities, said that the founding ensuring their dignity, secufather of Pakistan, Quaid-e-rity, and equal status as cit-Azam Muhammad Ali izens of the state. Jinnah, in his historic address on 11 August 1947, mended unequivocally declared that Senate for the visionary iniall citizens of Pakistan, tiative of establishing the caste, or creed, shall enjoy ple remains a cornerstone and the Senate, aims to colof religion, equality before the law, and protection against discrimination.

The resolution highlighted that Pakistan is a signa- harmony programs that procovenants, including the ty in society. It also recom-Universal Declaration of mended including the teach-Human Rights (UDHR) ings of Quaid-e-Azam's 11 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to instil values of equality and which affirm the rights of minorities. It further underscored that fostering inter- firm resolve to uphold the must take its course in faith harmony, social cohesion, and inclusivity is essential for national unity sioned by Quaid-e-Azam ties should strengthen and prosperity.

Day Minorities, the resolution of unity in diversity. acknowledged the invalu-

It appreciated and comthe Chairman irrespective of religion, Minorities Caucus in the Senate of Pakistan. This equal rights, freedoms, and joint parliamentary forum, protections under the law. It with representation from highlighted that this princiboth the National Assembly of the country's policy lectively address concerns towards minorities. It noted and promote the rights of that the Constitution of the minorities. The resolution Islamic Republic of urged the government to Pakistan enshrines the fun- ensure the effective impledamental rights of minori- mentation of constitutional ties, ensuring their freedom provisions and legal protections for minorities.

It called upon the government to initiate public awareness campaigns and interfaith international mote tolerance and inclusivi-August speech and minority rights in educational curricula pluralism.

The House expressed its principles of justice, equality, and inclusivity as envi-On the occasion of the Constitution, ensuring that for Pakistan remains a beacon

Minister for Law and contributions of Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar remedies where due.

minorities to the develop- also advised the opposition ment, progress, and unity of to approach the courts, stat-ISLAMABAD: The Senate the nation. It paid profound ing that relief does not of Pakistan on Tuesday tribute to the minorities of come from protests or passed a unanimous resolu- Pakistan for their unwaver- speeches but by following tion paying tribute to ing patriotism, sacrifices, the legal process. minorities for their indis- and exemplary contribu- Responding to points raised pensable role in the nation's tions to the country's by Senator Ali Zafar, he development, progress, and growth. The resolution said the remedy lies with unity, enriching the cultur- reaffirmed the Senate's the constitutional courts al, social, and economic unwavering commitment to either the High Court or the this transformation and safeguarding the constitu- Supreme Court—under the tional, legal, and human legal framework enacted by Parliament.

> "If someone commits a crime, whether guilty or innocent, the matter must go through the legal course, and remedies are available within that system," he added. The minister cited past examples, including the cases of Hanif Abbasi former prime minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Shehbaz Sharif, Hamza Shehbaz, and others, who faced convictions, disqualifications, and imprisonbut ment eventually obtained relief through appeals in the courts.

He added that political leaders from all parties had, at times, faced such situations, with many front-row members of the National Assembly spending time in jail. Referring to the events of May 9, he said the nation witnessed attacks on Jinnah House, the Mianwali airbase, monuments of martyrs in Mardan, Radio Pakistan Peshawar. Lahore's Shadman police station, and other places.

He stressed that the law such cases. The minister added that in politics, parand guaranteed by the each other and resolve issues collectively, noting that the judicial process as seen in the case of Jamshed Dasti, ensures

16 private member bills introduced in NA

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: As many as 16 private member bills Bill, 2025 (Articles 140A were introduced in the and 160A), the Guardians National Assembly on and Wards (Amendment) Tuesday.

the Islamabad Capital Councils Disclosures (Amendment) Bill,2025, the Bill,2025, the Bill,2025 (Articles 1, 51, 59, 106, 154, 175A, 198 and Bill, 2025, the Islamabad

(Amendment) Bill, 2025, the Distribution Bill, 2025 and Constitution (Amendment) Bill,2025, the Legal The bills were included Practitioners and Bar (Amendment) Territory food Fortification Bill,2025, the Prevention of Bill, 2025, the Criminal Obscenity and Indecency in (Amendment) Digital Media Bill, 2025, Bill,2025) (Section 498D the Allied Institute, Multan and schedule II), the Public Bill, 2025, the Service Tribunals (Amendment) National Constitution (Amendment) Database and Registration Authority (Amendment)

Schedule II), the Elections Multi-Vendor Electricity Rationalization and Equity Bill,2025.

The bills were introduced by Shaista Pervaiz, Shazia Marri, Dr Sharmila Faruqui Muhammad Riaz Fatyana Sahibzada Sibghatullah. Haider Jakhar Awais Nosheen Iftikhar, Shahida Rehmani, Khawaja Izhar ul Sohail Sultan, Hassan, Sehar Kamran, and Syed Abrar Ali Shah in the House. The Chair referred all the bills to the concerned standing committees for 218), the Criminal Laws Child and Adolescent detailed deliberation after (A m e n d m e n t) Labour (Prohibition and not opposing them by the Bill,2025(Section 498D and Regulation) Bill,2025, the treasury benches.

Pakistan committed to enhance ties with Morocco F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has stated that Pakistan and Morocco enjoy fraternal ties, based on common faith, shared values, and mutual respect which need to be further strengthened for the mutual benefit of the two coun-

He made these remarks during a meeting with the Ambassador of Morocco, Mohamed Karmoune, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr in Islamabad on Tuesday. The President said Pakistan is committed to further enhancing bilateral cooperation with Morocco in diverse fields. He expressed gratitude to Morocco for its support to Pakistan during the 2022 floods, noting that such gestures reflect the depth of friendship between the two

President emphasized that Pakistan attaches great importance to its economic relations with Morocco and highlighted the vast potential for expanding economic cooperation between the two countries. He observed that Africa is poised for significant economic growth in the coming years, and Morocco, with its remarkable economic development, is well-placed to lead contribute to regional pros-

Reaffirming that Morocco Pakistan and enjoy close and brotherly President ties, expressed his best wishes for the continued health of Morocco of King Mohammed VI. He also requested the Ambassador to convey the goodwill and warm regards of the people of Pakistan to the King and the people of Morocco.

Gohar urges dialogue to address political crisis F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan has called for dialogue to address the current political crisis in the country. Speaking to the media at the Peshawar High Court, Barrister Gohar expressed concerns about the growing divide in the country and the need for political parties to come ogether to find a solution.

Barrister Gohar emphasized the need for dialogue to address the political crisis, stating that political issues require political solutions. He expressed concerns about the disqualification of PTI lawmakers and the impact on the party's representation in the National Assembly.

Barrister Gohar highlighted the importance of respecting the mandate given by the people, stating that PTI has a significant presence in the country with 70% of the people supporting the party. He criticized the Election Commission for allegedly treating PTI unfairly, particularly with regard to the intra-party elecparty's

tions. Barrister Gohar demanded fair treatment for PTI and its leaders, stating that the party has been subjected to discrimination and bias. The PTI has been facing challenges in the political arena, including the disqualification of its lawmakers and allegations of unfair treatment by the Election Commission.

KP cabinet review law, order situation in province

PESHAWAR: The 36th meeting of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cabinet was held here on Tuesday, with Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur in the chair. Cabinet members, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Senior Member Board of Revenue, Administrative Secretaries attended the meeting.

lishment of Jirgas to build public trust and enlist community support in the fight against terrorism. He emphasized that the proliferation of terrorism will not be tolerated and that the Provincial government's writ will be upheld without compromise.

Chief Minister clarified that operations and the forced displacement of policy. He confirmed that no authorization has been given for such actions. Addressing the situation in Bajaur, he said that following the colensure the safety of residents, Section 144 has been imposed to protect the local population.

The Chief Minister stressed the provincial government's duty to prouals who voluntarily relocate due to these targeted actions, assuring that there will be no negligence in this critical responsibility. He also resulting from counter-terrorism practices. efforts are unacceptable, regardless of the party responsible.

Chief Minister said that the federal government has expressed a willingprovincial government is currently Endowment



inet approved the creation of 36 new During the meeting, Chief posts of field assistant in BPS-9 for Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur the Directorate General Agriculture addressed the law and order situation Extension, a move aimed at strengthand condemned the anti-state eleming agricultural support services ments attempting to destabilize the across the province. Cabinet gave its country, reiterating that terrorism is consent for the purchase of land for unequivocally unacceptable as it the Institute of Management impacts all citizens equally.

Chief Minister highlighted the provincial government's proactive strategy, which began with the estab-Directorate of Works & Implementation of the Sports & Youth Affairs Department; appointment as Independent Members of Public Safety Commission, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

for a period of four years. To enhance tourism infrastructure, a significant increase was approved civilians are not his government's for the ADP scheme for the "construction of access roads to tourist areas in Hazara Division." The project's cost has been revised from Rs. 3,500 million to Rs. 4,278.276 millapse of negotiations, authorities are lion. The Cabinet greenlit the hiring now conducting targeted actions. To of Anti-Corruption Establishment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under the Market Based Salary (MBS) Policy 2025. This measure is designed to bolster the directorate's capacity to vide all necessary support to individ- combat corruption effectively. It also granted approval for the notification of Lower Tanawal Beer Valley as a Community Managed Game Reserve, which will help protect local wildlife affirmed that any civilian casualties and promote sustainable management

The cabinet approved submitting the West Pakistan Historical Mosques and Shrines Fund Cess (Amendment) Act, 2025 to the Provincial Assembly ness to engage in negotiations with for enactment. It also approved sub-Afghanistan. He stated that the mitting the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Fund (Kalash dent. preparing its groundwork in this Community) Bill, 2025 to the regard. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly for enactment. provincial cabinet, concluded a An amount of Rs. 100 million was lengthy meeting today, granting approved for setting up an endow- Appellate Tribunal on account of approval for a wide range of depart- ment fund for the Kalash community, misconduct under Rule 8 (1) (c) of

Among the key decisions, the cab- ing funeral ceremonies. The cabinet also approved the Provincial Motor Vehicle Ordinance (Amendment) Act, 2025, and accorded approval to the revised rates for number plates in terms of Section 25(6) of the Provincial Motor Vehicles Ordinance, 1965. The cabinet approved amendments to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Zakat & Ushr Act, 2011, and the Provincial Ombudsman Employees (Terms and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2025.

The Cabinet approved Rural Areas (Village Councils) 25 Cleanliness Program. The provincial government will fund the program for one year, after which it will become self-sustaining through outsourced services, community fee collection, and a digital payment system. Excluding 579 NCs, which are covered by WSSCs/ TMAs the program will be implemented in 3633 VCs of the province. It also approved the release of fund for purchase of land for Kalash Valley roads amounting to Rs. 1583.807 million. The Cabinet approved bridge financing amounting to Rs. 507.241 Million for the 30 PSDP scheme "Widening & Carpeting of Booni Buzund Thorkow Road (28KMS) District Upper Chitral.

The cabinet approved the establishment of a Temporary Displaced Persons (TDPs) camp in the Bajaur Sports Complex and also sanctioned immediate funds for the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA). Under the PDMA Civilian Victims Compensation Regulations 2019, the cabinet approved a special compensation of Rs. 10 million for each deceased person and Rs. 2.5 million for each injured person, to be given to the legal heirs and the injured from the Tirah, Khyber inci-

It also approved removal of two members of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Teaching Institutions Appellate Tribunal on account of mental agenda items aimed at advancing the province's development goals.

to be spent on their social and cultur- the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Medical al preservation, promotion, and cultural-cum-religious festivals, includ- Tribunal Rules, 2020.

PHC suspends appointment of new opposition leaders

Humayun Khan

war High Court (PHC) sus- replies by 15th August. pended the appointment of the disqualification notifications of PTI leaders Omar Ayub and Shibli Faraz, on Tuesday.

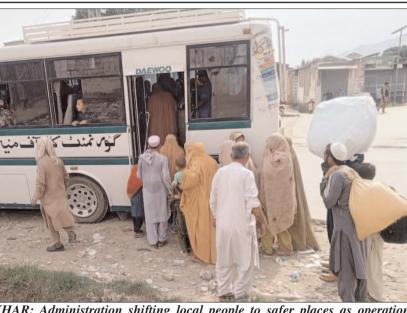
comprising of Justice Syed Arshad Ali and Justice Dr. Khurshid Iqbal heard the Deputy petitions and issued notices Leader have officially been ing his disqualification.

to the Election Commission declared vacant. of Pakistan and other PESHAWAR: The Pesha- respondents, seeking their National

new opposition leaders in vents the nomination of new Opposition Leader both the National Assembly new opposition leaders in soon. PTI-backed independproceedings. Three major positions held by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in the National Assembly had PHC divisional bench been withdrawn, as the posts of Opposition Leader, Parliamentary Leader, and Deputy Parliamentary

The Speaker of the Assembly expected to issue a notifica-PHC interim order pre- tion for the appointment of a

and the Senate while hear- the two houses of ent members will also be ng petitions challenging Parliament until further required to submit fresh nominations for the roles of Parliamentary Leader and Deputy Parliamentary Leader. Additionally, PTI leader Omar Ayub has been delisted from both the Public Accounts Committee and the Finance Committee follow



KHAR: Administration shifting local people to safer places as operation against militant hideouts continues. - F.P. photo

'Russia seeks full Ukrainian withdrawal from Donetsk'

KYIV: Ukraine's President Russian leader. Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said Russia wants Ukraine Trump in Alaska on Friday, where land swap issues to end the war will be focal.

demand on Tuesday, before reiterating that Kyiv, which groups of Russian troops. still controls 9,000 square kilometres (3,500 square miles) of Donetsk, where

On the battlefield, the

Ukrainian military sent to withdraw from the entire reserves to stem Russian eastern region of Donetsk as advances near two key cities part of a ceasefire deal, in in Donetsk, as Moscow advance of a meeting attempted to gain more terribetween Russian leader tory before the talks on Vladimir Putin and United Friday. On Tuesday, the States President Donald Ukrainian General Staff said its forces were involved in "difficult" fighting close to Pokrovsk and Dobropillia, Zelenskyy revealed the with extra soldiers needed to block attacks by small

The development suggests intensifying struggles in the Donetsk area, where the fiercest fighting of the Moscow-backed separatists war is currently taking have mainly held sway place, would not agree to since the conflict there this stipulation, as it was erupted there 2014, instigatunconstitutional and would ed by the Kremlin and deepincentivise future Russian ened by Russia's 2022 invaaggression. Speaking about sion of Ukraine. Some of the Alaska summit, the the advancing clusters of Ukrainian president said Russian soldiers had been ing deeper, trying to quickly that he viewed Putin's invi- destroyed, while others tation to the US as a "per- were still being engaged in forces for further advancesonal victory" for the combat, the Ukrainian army

added.

Russia's advance is one of the most dramatic in the past year, with its soldiers infiltrating 17km (10 miles) past Ukrainian lines over the last three days, according to Pasi Paroinen, a military analyst with the Finlandbased Black Bird Group. Moscow, which has further isolated the destroyed town of Kostiantynivka, one of the last remaining urban areas Ukraine holds in the Donetsk, hopes to encircle the nearby city of Pokrovsk.

"A lot will depend on availability, quantity and quality of Ukrainian quality reserves," Paroinen wrote on X. Ukraine's DeepState blog, which has close connections to the Ukrainian military, described the situation as "quite chaotic", as Russian troops are "infiltratconsolidate and accumulate ment". — Aljazeera

wreaks havoc in Gilgit F.P. Report

Flooding

GILGIT: Over 50 workers survived the wrath of Hunza River as flooding wreaked havoc in Gulmit and Gojal areas, Gilgit Baltistan government's

spokesman said. Regional gover spokesman Faizullah Firaq has said that the landslides occurred at Shahrah-e-Resham. "Hunza administration has been directed to step up relief operations in the affected area". Flooding has also hit Shigar area of Baltistan, spokesman said. "Floodwater hit the agriculture land and swept away trees in Shigar"

'Shahrah-e-Resham has been blocked by the landsliding at Hunza and stranded passengers," spokesman Faizullah Firaq said. "The restoration work of the road will be started soon," he said. Gilgit Baltistan region facing worst flooding devastation, he added. Earlier, an outburst of the Shispar Glacial Lake in Hunza intensified land erosion and evacuations from several parts of the region. Scores of houses dam-

aged, and several acres of submerged in Hassanabad village of Hunza in flooding. The area facing severe infra-structure damage and required urgent relief. A landslide during repair work of the Ferry Meadows track in Gilgti left two persons dead and two others injured.

Russia-US diplomats hold phone call

MOSCOW: The top diplomats from Russia and the United States have held a phone call ahead of a planned meeting this week between US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In a post on Telegram on Tuesday, the ministry said Sergei Lavrov said the two sides had reaffirmed their intention to hold successful talks. The US Department of State did not immediately confirm the talks. But speaking shortly after the announcement, House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt revealed that Trump would meet with Putin in the city of Anchorage. She said the pair would discuss ending Russia's invasion Ukraine. — Aljazeera