ISPR releases patriotic song F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) has released a new patriotic song "Jaan Se Pyara Pakistan' on the occasion of Independence Day and Marka-e-Haq. The song beautifully highlights the love for the homeland and the spirit of national unity. The determination, courage and preparedness of the Pakistan Army have been powerfully woven into the lyrics.

Frontier Post

PTI to protest outside SC F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has decided to stage a protest outside the Supreme Court of Pakistan against the recent disqualifications by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). A meeting of the PTI parliamentary party was held under the chairmanship of Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, with opposition alliance leader Mahmood Khan Achakzai

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairing a meeting to review progress regarding

PM takes notice of urban flooding in Islamabad

— orders swift rescue, safety measures

Saqib Mushtaq

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister milestone. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday took serious notice of the flood-like situation that developed in various low-lying residential areas of heavy rainfall.

istration to immediately launch resed neighborhoods near stormwater priorities. drains. Expressing concern over the zones, the Prime Minister instructed relevant authorities to implement precautionary measures to protect people living in vulnerable areas surrounding streams and nullahs.

ment to remain on high alert and take aftermath of the rainfall. PM Shehbaz growth," the Prime Minister said. constituted a special committee to Meanwhile, Prime Minister oversee rescue operations, assess the Shehbaz Sharif also directed the rele-

ing lives and property during natural all concerned departments.

surged past the historic 145,000-point

In a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office, Shehbaz Sharif said cy the bullish trend in the stock market is a strong reflection of investor confithe federal capital following recent dence in the government's economic policies. "The recent upward momen-In a statement issued by the Prime tum in the stock exchange indicates Minister's Office, PM Shehbaz direct- growing trust in the government's ed the Capital Development direction and commitment to eco-Authority (CDA) and district adminnence stability," said the Prime Minister. He emphasized that facilicue operations and ensure swift tating business and investment drainage of rainwater from the affect- remains among the government's top

PM Shehbaz pointed out that plight of residents in flood-prone improvements in the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) have streamlined the tax system and provided relief to the business community. "Reforms in FBR have not only strengthened the tax structure but have also made it He also ordered the health depart- more business-friendly," he said. "Alhamdulillah, Pakistan's economic proactive steps to prevent the out- trajectory is improving, and we are break of waterborne diseases in the steadily moving toward sustainable

evolving situation, and ensure the vant authorities to ensure global stansafety and relief of affected citizens. dards of specialized healthcare in the ensure the highest construction stan-The prime minister reaffirmed the construction of Jinnah Medical dards and to enhance the hospital's Complex

"Jinnah Medical Complex will be surrounding areas. calamities, stressing the need for a a world-class hospital providing medprompt and organized response from ical treatment for patients from all concerned departments. four provinces, including Azad Shehbaz expresses satisfaction Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan," the

FIA unearths evidence of Rs 1.12b

the benchmark KSE-100 Index recruitment for Jinnah Medical Complex. He also instructed to ensure the third-party validation for construction quality and transparen-

> He directed to prepare a plan to improve primary and secondary healthcare systems in Islamabad to reduce pressure on tertiary hospitals He said Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute (PKLI) was effectively serving as a source of treatment for

"Jinnah Medical Complex will be built with international-standard facilities and it will have even better facilities as compared to that of PKLI," the prime minister said stressing to outsource all related services including janitorial, totally on merit During the meeting, the prime minister was briefed on the concept design board formation, land acquisition and progress regarding the proposed commercial center adjacent to the

The meeting was informed that the concept design, land transfer, and board appointments were in their final stages. It was further noted that geotechnical studies and social impact studies are underway to utility for residents of Islamabad and

The meeting was also briefed on the timelines and targets for various initiatives. Federal Ministers Ahsan Igbal, Ahad Khan Cheema, Syed as KSE-100 crosses 145,000 points prime minister said while chairing a Mustafa Kamal, PM's Coordinator review meeting on the progress of for Health Dr. Mukhtar Bharath Mustafa Kamal, PM's Coordinator Shehbaz Sharif expressed deep satisfaction over the performance of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), as IMC's construction. The prime minisposition over the performance of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), as IMC's construction and staff attended the meeting.

Army rejects rumours about Field Marshal F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan Army has rejected rumors about Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir becoming president. Director General of army media wing ISPR, Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry, in an exclusive interview with The Economist, dismissed the reports of Field Marshal Munir becoming president

Lt Gen Chaudhry stated categorically that Field Marshal Munir has never shown interest in ascendency to the presidency. "No such proposal is under consideration," he continued 'These claims are irresponsible and purely fictional Dragging the military into politics is dangerous and misleading," he added. The Pakistan Army's

spokesperson also rejected political analyses made after the recent military operation (referred to as "Ma'rakah-e-Haq" – Battle for Truth). When The Economist asked General Chaudhry what Pakistan's response would be to any Indian military action, he gave a clear and firm reply:

"If India attacks, this time we will start from the east. The response will begin with a deep strike inside India." He said that India needs to understand that they can be targeted anywhere. It may be recalled that Indian rumour machines started circulat-ing news that Field Marshal Munir would soon take over Pakistan as president. The Indian media frenzy was based on an article in the British magazine The Economist published on August 3, in which Field Marshal Munir's leadership qualities were acknowledged for "giving a new direction to US-Pakistan relations" and his private meeting with President Donald Trump at the White House on June 18.

Pakistan Army Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir's leadership has been acknowledged at the global level for his role in improving the country image in the comity of nations and "strengthening ties with the United States.

No one can now block PTI founder's release: Saif F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Pakhtunkhwa Information Adviser Barrister Dr Saif has declared that no one can now block the release of PTI founder Imran Khan.

In his statement, Barrister Saif said that PTI staged a successful and peaceful protest yesterday (Tuesday), with a massive turnout in Punjab. He added that both PTI leadership and the public are now awaiting the party founder's next call 'Seeing the huge number of people on the streets nationwide yesterday shook the government," Saif stated.He emphasised that Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur successfully led the march, which drew an overwhelming public response.

He further said that the KP government is eagerly awaiting Imran Khan's next call, adding, "Once we receive it, we will take to the streets again—whether it is Islamabad towards Lahore.

Barrister Saif clarified that no military operation or displacement is currently taking place in the tribal districts.He said that Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has held consultations with tribal elders to maintain peace in the region. Barrister Saif rejected the criticism being levelled at the Chief Minister regarding operations, calling it baseless.

He stressed that any future decisions will be made with the involvement and advice of the tribal people. He urged all political groups to support the govalong ernment in its efforts to eliminate terrorism, warning that turning peace efforts into political point-scoring was unfair to the nation. mit in Russia in October that

Trump slaps India with additional 25 per cent tariff

WASHINGTON/NEW DELHI (Reuters): have privately acknowledged growing US President Donald Trump on Wednesday issued an executive order imposing an additional 25% tariff on Indian goods citing New Delhi's continued imports of Russian oil, sharply escalating tensions between the two countries after trade talks collapsed.

The new measure raises tariffs on some Indian goods to as high as 50% — among the steepest faced by any US trading partner. The move is expected to hit key Indian export sectors including textiles, footwear, and gems and jewellery and marks the most serious downturn in U.S.-India relations since Trump returned to office in January.

It also comes as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi prepares for his first visit to China in over seven years, suggesting a potential realignment in alliances as ties with Washington fray. "India will take all actions necessary to protect its national interests," India's external affairs ministry said in a statement, saying it was "extremely unfortunate that the US should choose to impose additional tariffs on India for actions that several other countries are also taking in their own national

It said India's imports were based on market factors and aimed at energy security for its population of 1.4 billion. Trade analysts warned the tariffs could severely disrupt Indian exports. The additional 25% tariff comes into effect 21 days after August 7, the order said.

With such obnoxious tariff rates, trade mist at Emkay Global. Indian officials triple-digit figures.

pressure to return to the negotiating table. A potential compromise could involve a phased reduction in Russian oil imports and diversification of energy sources.

A senior Indian official said New Delhi was blindsided by the sudden imposition of the new levy and the steep rate, as both countries continue to discuss trade issues. Trump's decision follows five rounds of inconclusive trade negotiations, which stalled over US demands for greater access to Indian agriculture and dairy markets.

India's refusal to curb Russian oil purchases — which surged to a record \$52 billion last year — ultimately triggered the tariff escalation. "Exports to the US become unviable at this rate. Clearly, risks to growth and exports are rising, and the rupee may face renewed pressure," said Garima Kapoor, economist at Elara Securities. "Calls for fiscal support are likely to intensify."

Trump's executive order does not mention China, which also buys Russian oil. A White House official had no immediate comment on whether an additional order covering those purchases would be forthcoming. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent last week said he warned Chinese officials that continued purchases of sanctioned Russian oil would lead to big tariffs due to legislation in Congress, but was told that Beijing would protect its energy sov-

The US and China have been engaged in discussions about trade and tariffs, with an eye to extending a 90-day tariff truce between the two nations would be practithat is due to expire on August 12, when cally dead," said Madhavi Arora, econo- their bilateral tariffs shoot back up to

Major, 2 soldiers martyred in Mastung IED blast

F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Army soldiers, including a major, have embraced martyrdom in a terrorist attack late on the night of 5/6 August, when Indian-sponsored militants targeted a security forces' vehicle with an improvised explosive device (IED) in Mastung district Balochistan.

According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the assault was orchestrated by Fitna al Hindustan, a proxy group backed by Indian intelligence. The fallen soldiers were identified as Major Muhammad Rizwan Tahir, aged 31 and a resident of Narowal; Naik Ibni Amin, 37, from Swabi; and Lance Naik Muhammad Younas, 33, hailing from Karak. Major Rizwan, a decorated officer, had participated in several counter-terrorism operations and was known

Four FC personnel martyred in Karak F.P. Report

KARAK: Four Frontier Corps (FC) personnel were martyred when terrorists ambushed their vehicle in Aman Kot Towe, Karak district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on

According to reports, armed militants, hiding on a arby hilltop, opened fire on an FC vehicle in the diction of Gurguri Police Station, as the personnel were departing for field security duty. All four FC men including the driver, were martyred on the spot Following the attack, security forces and police cor doned off the area and launched a search operation in the surrounding mountainous regions to track the assailants

Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi today vehemently denounced the deadly assault on a Frontier Corps (FC) vehicle in Karak, attributing the violence to terrorists supported by India. Three FC personnel and their driver were killed in the attack.

for leading his men from the front.

Pakistani security forces connected to the attack cross-border terrorism.

were located and eliminated. According to ISPR, the In a swift response, operation remains ongoing as troops continue efforts to launched a sanitisation clear the area of any operation in the area. Four remaining threats and dis-Indian-sponsored terrorists mantle networks linked to

Modi to visit China for first time in 7 years

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit China for the first time in over seven years, a government source said on Wednesday, in a further sign of a diplomatic thaw with Beijing as tensions with the United States rise.

Modi will go to China for a summit of the multilateral Shanghai Cooperation Organization that begins on Aug. 31, the government source, with direct knowledge of the matter, told Reuters. India's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment. His trip will come at a time when India's relationship with the US faces its most serious crisis in years after President Donald Trump imposed the highest tariffs among Asian peers on goods imported from India, and has threatened an unspecified further penalty for New Delhi's purchases of Russian oil.

Modi's visit to the Chinese city of Tianjin for the summit of the SCO, a Eurasian political and security grouping that includes Russia, will be his first since June 2018. Subsequently, Sino-Indian ties deteriorated sharply after a military clash their disputed Himalayan border in 2020. Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks on the sidelines of a BRICS sum-

NEW DELHI (Reuters): led to a thaw. The giant Moscow's \$400 air defense Asian neighbors are now slowly defusing tensions that have hampered business relations and travel between the two countries.

Trump has threatened to charge an additional 10 percent tariff on imports from members — which include India — of the BRICS group emerging major "aligning economies for themselves with Anti-American policies." Trump said on Wednesday his administration would decide on the penalty for buying Russian oil after the outcome of US efforts to seek a last-minute breakthrough that would bring about a ceasefire in the war in Ukraine.

Trump's top diplomatic envoy Steve Witkoff is in Moscow, two days before the expiry of a deadline the president set for Russia to agree to peace in Ukraine or new sanctions. Meanwhile, India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval is in Russia on a scheduled visit and is expected to discuss India's purchases of Russian oil in the wake of Trump's pressure on India to stop buying Russian crude, according to another government source, who also did not want to be named.

Doval is likely to address Russia, including pending exports to India of cent, the sources said.

system, and a possible visit by President Vladimir Putin to India. Doval's trip will be followed by Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in the weeks to come

US and Indian officials told Reuters a mix of political misjudgment, missed signals and bitterness scuttled trade deal negotiations between the world's biggest and fifth-largest economies, whose bilateral trade is worth over \$190 billion. India expects Trump's crackdown could cost it a competitive advantage in about \$64 billion worth of goods sent to the US that account for 80 percent of its total exports, four separate sources told Reuters, citing an internal government assessment.

However, the relatively low share of exports in India's \$4 trillion economy is expected to limit the direct impact on economic growth. On Wednesday, the Reserve Bank of India left its GDP growth forecast for the current April-March financial year unchanged at 6.5 percent and held rates steady despite the tariff uncertainties. India's government assessment report has assumed a 10 percent India's defense cooperation penalty for buying Russian oil, which would take the obtaining faster access to total US tariff to 35 per-

money laundering by Malik Riaz Corruption scam of Rs 1.24b unveiled in APP: Tarar Minister vows media reforms

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Wednesday said the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has recovered "irrefutable evidence" during its raid at the Safari Hospital which was being used as a front office to stash the complete record of Rs 1.12 billion money laundering by Malik Riaz and Bahria

Sharing a latest development regarding the investigation into the Bahria Town corruption case, the minister told the media that the FIA had discovered important document during the raid which undertaken in accordance with the law. "Those documents are irrefutable evidence of Malik Riaz and Bahria Town corrup-These evidence exposed involvement of Malik Riaz and the staff of Bahria Town in a massive money laundering," the minister stressed.

He said the Safari Hospital was used as a front office to hide the evidence, regretting the transportation of the record through the ambulances. Tarar said the FIA team found Bahria Town staff burning the entire record, recovered. He questioned why the was nothing illegal.

The minister confirmed that Khalil, a frontman who managed the operation. these affairs for Bahria Town, is now in custody. The evidence establishes links between Bahria Town CFO Amir Rashid, Head of Bahria Town Shahid Qureshi, and a racket of Hawala and Hundi operated by Imran and Oaiser.

He said this discovery points to a major money laundering network through which funds were sent out of investigation, and more than this Rs further investigation into the case.' people of Pakistan on further investi- ing of the Senate Standing Committee

F.P. Report

SLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, on Wednesday emphasized the need to promote quality entertainment to counter rising intolerance in society. Speaking at a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting, chaired by Senator Syed Ali Zafar, the minister underscored the government's longstanding relationship with journalists, stressing the importance of addressing past injustices against media professionals.

The committee session discussed various agenda items, including the Motion Picture (Amendment) Bill 2024, concerns of journalists, cases under the PECA Act, and issues related to salaries and pensions of employees of TV and Radio Pakistan. Addressing the issue of film certification, Minister Tarar said that the 18th Constitutional Amendment had created complicaions regarding film import and certification.

He explained that if each film required cabinet approval for a new censor oard, the process would face serious delays. To address this, the proposed pill would empower the relevant federal minister to approve the Film Certification Board, enabling faster decision-making. He further emphasized that coordination between the federal and provincial governments is crucial to streamline film certification. The minister pointed out that Pakistani films have seen significant success abroad, including in Canada, and the government is committed to supporting such content without unnecessary hurdles.

gation," he added.

The FIA is further investigating the case and has traced the absconders associated with this issue, he said, urging them to surrender to the law. He described it as a "mega corbut a significant portion has been ruption scandal" involving Malik Riaz and Bahria Town. The minister record needed to be burned if there noted that forensic analysis of the burnt records would be conducted, which he expects will further expose

Tarar also remarked that while some involved have tried to play the victim, they have caused billions of rupees in damage to the country. He assured that the rights of residents of Bahria Town will be protected at all costs and that this action is solely against Malik Riaz and those

involved in the money laundering. Federal Minister for Information Pakistan. "This is just the start of the and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar also said that he would personally follow 1.12 billion will come to the fore with up on the Rs1.24 billion embezzlement case in the Associated Press of "More details will be shared with the Pakistan (APP) funds, during a meet- action to recover the embezzled

held here Wednesday.

asked why FIR had not been lodged even after more than ten months of Tarar said the Managing Director of provident fund (PF) and employeesrelated expenses (ERE) in the organi-

It was further told to the meeting that the amount mentioned in the mega corruption scam was duly endorsed in the Commercial Audit Report 2023-24 and 2025-26 Moreover, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) had also issued directions to FIA for initiating legal

on Information and Broadcasting He gave this response to a question

raised by Senator Sarmad Ali, who the exposure of the Rs1.24 billion scam. Federal Minister Attaullah APP, Muhammad Asim Khichi, had uncovered a major scam involving misappropriation of Rs 1.24 billion zation. He assured the committee that he would pursue the case himself for registration of an FIR against those responsible





KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah Presides Over Pakistan International Maritime Expo and

62,500 houses built in 6 months under 'Apni Chhat Apna Ghar' scheme: Maryam

Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif milestone in the government's flagship housing initiative, 'April Chhat April adding months — marking a significant step toward her promise of providing shelter to the province's homeless population.

Speaking at the launch of a new phase of the project at Expo Centre Lahore on Wednesday, she said the 'Apni Chhat Apna Ghar' project stands out in terms of speed, quality, and timely completion. The Punjab government has set a new precedent in Pakistan's history by delivering thousands of homes in record time. She highlighted that under the 5- to 10-marla housing scheme, interestfree loans worth over Rs. 74 billion have been provided so far. More than 37,000 families have already rently under construction.

scheme, noting a record-breaking Road and Canal Road welcomed the 99.9 percent loan repayment rate. She trial with enthusiasm, expressing joy announced on Wednesday a major reiterated her earlier promise of con- at seeing the state-of-the-art train structing 100,000 houses annually, adding "We are on track to meet our Ghar', declaring that 62,500 houses target by December this year. In the have been completed within just six new phase, not only will the Punjab government build the houses, it will

also provide the land for them. CM oversees test run of electric SRT train in Lahore: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Wednesday conducted a trial ride of Pakistan's first urban electric train, the Super Autonomous Rapid Transit (SRT), marking a major leap forward in the province's public transport system.

The CM personally monitored the road test of the SRT from Ali Town stop to Muslim Town, inspecting the train's design, features, and facilities. She was briefed in detail by Punjab Transport Minister Bilal Akbar about the advanced system and its operareceived two loan installments, tional capabilities. During the test announced that similar SRT projects while over 52,000 houses are current, the CM also reviewed how the are also being planned for run, the CM also reviewed how the are also being planned for SRT operates alongside regular road Gujranwala and Faisalabad, aiming

now being introduced in Punjab, already successfully operating in Turkey, China, and Abu Dhabi.

Officials informed the chief minister that in Abu Dhabi, 3-car SRT units are operating with capacity for 320 passengers. The Norco Internationalmanufactured SRT can travel up to 40 kilometers on a single electric charge, and features air conditioning, modern seating, and eco-friendly technology The introduction of SRT is expected to significantly reduce environmental pollution and ease traffic congestion in major urban centers.

On the occasion, the CM said the people of Punjab now receive good news every day, today, it is the SRT The beauty and modern image of Lahore will be enhanced with this breakthrough project. She further planned for CM Maryam Nawaz also praised traffic, noting its smooth integration to bring modern, clean, and efficient the public's commitment to the and efficiency. Citizens on Raiwind transport solutions across Punjab.

KCR a top priority for govt: Sharjeel F.P. Report

Home

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister and Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit Sharjeel Inam Memon has welcomed the efforts of the Senate Committee on Railways regarding the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR), stating that consultations are under way with international partners, including the Asian Development Bank.

In a statement, Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said the provincial government, under the leadership of the Sindh Chief Minister, is fully committed to the completion of the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR), which will be undertaken on a priority basis.

on a priority basis.

He expressed hope that the federal government would extend its cooperation in removing the hurdles facing the KCR project, adding that the Sindh Mass Transit Authority has been directed to coordinate with Pakistan Railways to

expedite progress.
Sharjeel Inam Memon said the KCR would serve as a vital transit facility for Karachi's 25 million residents. He welcomed the xisting obstacles would be resolved soon.

Five arrests five more human traffickers

LAHORE (APP): The Federal Investigation (FIA) Lahore Agency Zone has arrested five human traffickers, including a key suspect involved in the 2023 Greece boat tragedy, during major operations conducted in Lahore and Sheikhupura.

According to the FIA spokesperson Wednesday, the arrested suspects have been identified as Sibtain Abbas, Bilal Ahmad, Waseem Azam, Muhammad Riaz and Muhammad Aamir

Farooq. During the raids, notorious trafficker Sibtain Abbas was apprehended for allegedly extorting Rs 1.7 million from a citizen by promising an Italian work visa. The suspect attempted to illegally send the victim to Italy via Libya. The boat carrying the victim capsized in Greek waters and the citi-

zen remains missing.
Another suspect, Bilal Ahmad, reportedly took Rs 630,000 from a citizen under the pretext of providing a Qatar work visa. He failed to fulfill the ing. Authorities recovered 13 Pakistani promise and went into hid-Pakistani passports from his possession.

Meanwhile, suspects Waseem Azam, Muhammad Riaz and Muhammad Aamir Farooq were found involved in human trafficking under the guise of operating a fake consultancy firm named Gulf Medical Consultants. The FIA recovered 11 Pakistani passports, six mobile phones and several original medical reports and documents during the operation.

The suspects were involved in defrauding innocent citizens with false visa promises. Investigations have been initiated following their arrests, the spokesperson added.

PIMEC 2025 to advance Pakistan's blue economy vision: CM

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah, presiding over the 2nd Steering Committee meeting of the International Expo Maritime (PIMEC) Conference 2025, emphasised the strategic importance of PIMEC 2025, calling it more than an exhibition - a vital platform to unlock Pakistan's maritime potential and advance its longterm Blue Economy vision. The meeting, held at CM

House, was attended by provincial ministers Sharjeel Memon, Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Saeed Ghani, Zulfikar Shah, Jam Ikram Dharejo, Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Commander Karachi Vice Admiral Muhaammad Fasail Abbasi, Pakistan Army, law enforcement agencies, and co-organisers Badar Expo Solutions to review preparations for the mega maritime event scheduled from November 3 to 6 at the Karachi Expo Centre.

In his opening remarks, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah warmly welcomed all participants and highlighted the strategic significance of PIMEC 2025. He described it as more than just an exhibition; it's a crucial platform for unlocking Pakistan's maritime potential and progressing its long-term Blue Economy vision. "PIMEC 2025 is poised to play a pivotal role in showcasing Pakistan's maritime and defence capabilities while

nerships, and regional connectivity," he said.

Mr Shah acknowledged the Pakistan Navy's leadership in steering the initiathe Ministry of Maritime Affairs and expressed the Sindh government's unwathe event's success at par with global standards. Commitment to Blue

Economy: Highlighting Sindh's commitment to maritime development, CM Murad Shah announced several initiatives spearheaded by the provincial government to boost maritime trade and logistics. Among them is the recently launched project, Shahrahe-Bhutto Extension, to construct a key road connecting Karachi Port Trust terminal to Jam Sadiq Bridgea major step to streamline movement and improve trade efficiency within and beyond Karachi.

Murad Shah noted that Pakistan's 1,000-kilometrelong coastline and nearly 290,000 square kilometres of maritime jurisdiction offer immense untapped potential in areas such as shipping, fisheries, shipbuilding, marine resource exploration, and coastal tourism.

"The Blue Economy is not just an economic strategy, it's a national imperative. PIMEC 2025 is our opportunity to harness this potential through innovation, policy coordination, and international cooperation," the CM said.

Talking about PIMEC

fostering innovation, part- 2025 - A Strategic Maritime showcase, the CM noted the success of the inaugural PIMEC in 2023 and stated that the upcoming edition aims to be even more tive in collaboration with impactful, attracting participants from local and international industries, academia, and government. He termed vering support for ensuring the event a cornerstone for advancing Pakistan's maritime diplomacy, investment landscape, and technological self-reliance.

The chief instructed all relevant provincial departments, including Local Government KMC, the Water Board, law enforcement agencies, district authorities, and traffic police, to make necessary arrangements for the upcoming event, including infrastructure development and city beautification.

Participants at the meeting unanimously pledged full institutional support for the successful execution of PIMEC 2025, recognising its value in promoting Pakistan's soft image and economic growth.

The Steering Committee discussed key coordination aspects, logistics, security protocols, stakeholder outreach, and exhibition planning to ensure the event is executed smoothly and reflects the highest standards.

'The success of PIMEC 2025 will depend on the seamless collaboration between federal and provincial agencies, the business community, and above all, the people of Karachi," Chief Minister Murad Shah concluded.

Kirmani calls for focus on Agri research

LAHORE (APP): Punjab enhanced production of cotton, wheat, and high-value crops, particularly oilseeds, vegetables and fruits.

He stressed that resolving farmers' challenges is only possible through high-quality agricultural research. He made these remarks while chairing the 51st board meeting of the Punjab Agricultural Research Board (PARB), held at Agriculture House, Lahore.

Chief Executive PARB, Dr. Abid Mehmood, briefed the minister on the board's major achievements, ongoing activities and the meeting agenda. During the session, the minister approved the appointment of new executive members of PARB, including those for administration & finance, monitoring & evaluation, coordination. Additionally, a revised salary structure and a new benefits package for PARB members

and staff were also approved. Addressing the gathering, Kirmani said that PARB plays a crucial role in translating agricultural research into practical solutions. Minister Kirmani urged agricultural scientists to develop new climateresilient crop varieties that can increase yields and help reduce the national import bill. He highlighted that the Punjab government is committed to promoting agriculture based on scientific principles. The inclusion of new members, will further enhance the board's performance. He also stressed the importance of making agricultural research resultoriented and directly bene-

ficial to farmers. Agriculture Secretary Punjab, Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, remarked that PARB's core objective is to promote agricultural research. He noted that the board's infrastructure has been upgraded to meet modern standards, and key positions have been filled to improve its research capacity. The meeting was attended by Director General Agricultural Information Punjab, Naveed Asmat Kahloon; representatives from the Planning & Development Board, Finance, Forestry, and

Wildlife departments; heads of farmers' organizations including Khalid Khokhar; and other stakeholders.

Human Rights Groups Back Thar Coal Protesters

nities affected by the Thar Coal project after a crucial

meeting at its Karachi office. Chaired NCHR Member (Sindh) Anis Haroon, the meeting brought together community advocates and residents to discuss the adverse impacts of the coal mining expansion in Coal Block II.

increase coal extraction in Block II from 7.6 million to 11.2 million tons annually, not local needs. coupled with a 9% coal price reduction. Participants expressed concerns that this expansion could displace additional villages, damage

farmland, pollute groundwater, and destroy grazing lands. Mehwish Leghari of the Pakistan Research Institute for Development and Equity (PRIDE) criticized a recent public consultation by the Thar Coal and Energy Board (TCEB) in Karachi regarding the price adjustments and hospitals.

Wednesday that the future of agriculture lies in the ment to supporting commulage faces relocation. The ardizing water resources. community strongly opposed the expansion."

Seasoned Suhail Sangi raised concredible environmental stated. The meeting focused on the area itself lacks electhe government"s proposal to tricity and rail connectiviwill serve coal transport,

> Residents of Tharparkar, traveling from Mithi and Islamkot, expressed frustration over employment disparities. "Outsiders—from Punjab, Kashmir, even China—get the jobs, leaving local Tharis unemployed, explained Surendar Singh and Harchand Bheel. They also reported malfunctioning water purification plants and the non-existence of several government schools

and mining expansion in Baiji Bheel highlighted lic hearing in That Coalfield Block-II the construction of a new Haroon announced.

Minister for Agriculture and KARACHI (PPI): The (TCB-II). "Officials painted 200-acre dam in Vijaya, not-Livestock, Syed Ashiq National Commission for a rosy picture of ing the illegal excavation of Hussain Kirmani said on Human Rights (NCHR) Tharparkar," she noted, natural ponds for soil,

> Community representatives, including Wasatullah journalist Halepoto, Abdul Aziz Deedar cerns about the scarcity of Mohammad Bux Soomro, ecological assessments, accused the Sindh govern-"Despite extensive mining, ment and Engro of exploiting Tharparkar's resources studies are lacking," he while displacing communi-"Thar"s energy ties. "Residents of Blocks I powers other regions, yet and II have already been displaced; now Block III faces the same threat. An ty. The planned railway 800-home village faces eviction by December 2025. This is state injus-

tice," they declared. Rights defenders like Uzma Noorani (Women's Action Forum), lawyer Rubina Chandio, and Seema Maheshwari pledged support to the affected communities, promising legal and advocacy assistance.

NCHR Member Anis

Haroon emphasized the Commission's ongoing advocacy for Tharparkar since 2016. "We"ll hold a press conference and a public hearing in Tharparkar,'

KMC conducts legal workshop to combat court case delays

KARACHI (PPI): The Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) today held a one-day training workshop, "Awareness," to address delays and improve responses to court orders.

The Legal Department organized the session at the recommendations of the KMC Building's Council Hall to enhance legal Senate Committee and knowledge among department heads and focal perexpressed hope that the sons regarding court proceedings and interdepartmental coordination.

Justice Nadeem Azhar Siddiqui of the High Court, District and Sessions Judge Justice Obaid Hamza, and Chief Qasid Muhammad Yousuf were among the distinguished guests.

KMC officers, legal professionals, and designated focal persons also participated.

Discussions focused on pending litigation, legal intricacies, documentation problems, and obstacles

hindering prompt case resolution. Speakers highlighted the role of municipal bodies in the legal framework, stressing professional conduct and the necessity of legal understanding.

Speakers underscored the importance of immediate responses to court orders. They cautioned that delays, negligence, or procrastination damage the institution"s standing and could lead to legal repercussions, including contempt of court.

All departments were directed to prioritize and ensure timely compliance with court directives. The workshop covered case studies, legal prece dents, and departmental record preparation. A question-and-answer session allowed attendees to share insights, experiences, and difficulties, which experts addressed.

Closing remarks emphasized the rule of law, transparency, and effective interdepartmental collaboration.

The Legal Department pledged to conduct similar workshops in the future to enhance the legal capabil ities of municipal bodies.

73 arrested over sugar price violation

LAHORE (APP): The ongoing crackdown on violators of official sugar prices continues with full force across Punjab. According to a spokesperson for the Price Control and Commodities

Management Department, action was taken against 566 shopkeepers in the last 24 hours for unjustified As part of the province-

wide effort, 73 individuals were arrested, five cases [first information reports or FIRs] were registered, and fines were imposed on 496 violators.

Since the beginning of the campaign, action has been initiated against a total of 28,328 individuals, with 1,899 arrests and 330 FIRs registered. The latest operations covered all major divisions of Punjab.

In Lahore Division, 89 profiteers were proceeded against, while 106 violators were penalized in Gujranwala and 72 in Faisalabad. In Sahiwal Division, action was taken against 19 shopkeepers, followed by 36 in Sargodha and 67 in Rawalpindi. Bahawalpur Division saw 68 violations, Dera Ghazi Khan 40, and Multan 69.

First meeting of APNS-PAA joint committee held



F.P. Report

KARACHI: The inaugural meeting of the Joint Committee established by Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) and the Pakistan Advertising Association (PAA) took place today at the APNS House, Karachi.

chaired by Syed Sarmad Ali, Chairman of APNS, Hussain and Ahmad Kapadia, Chairman of PAA, and was attended by meeting senior executive members representing both organiza- tions, aligning policy inter-

Joint Committee marks a media landscape.

The meeting was jointly significant step towards fostering collaboration between the advertising and print media sectors in Pakistan. Discussions at the focused strengthening industry relaests, and advancing mutual The formation of this goals in today's evolving

ز پر پختلی کو برائے سال 26-2025 دفتر ایلیٹ فورس خیبر پختونخواہ بیثا ور کی تمام سرکاری گاڑیوں کی مرمت مکمل ا نجن ، سپیر یارٹس، اوور ہالنگ، ٹائز ٹیوب، بیٹریوں وغیرہ کے لئے مور نعہ 26.08.2025 صبح 11 بجے تک سربمهرسنگل سٹیج Envelops (میکنیکل+فنانشل) ٹینڈرمطلوب ہیں جو کہ ای دن 12 بجے ٹینڈر د ہندگان کی موجودگی میں دفتر ڈیٹی کمانڈنٹ ایلیٹ فورس واقع CPO بیثاور میں کھولے جائیں گے۔ ٹینڈر ڈاکومینٹس دفتر ١ΜΤ٥ پلیٹ فورس آفس واقع ملک سعدشہید پولیس لائنزیشا ورسے اشتہار بذا کے شائع ہونے کی تاریخ 25.08.2025 تک بدوران دفتری اوقات وصول کیے جا کتے ہیں۔کام کا کل تخمینہ لاگت مبلغ (Eight Million)-(8,000,000/

1. منینڈ ردہندہ محکمہ ھائے سیز نیکس اوائم ٹیکس اور خیبر پختو نخواہ ریو نیوا تھارٹی کے ساتھ رجٹر ڈ ہوگا جس کی تجدید 2024 تک ہونی چاہے جو کہ ٹینڈرڈ اکومینٹس کے ساتھ نسلک کرنالازی ہے۔ٹینڈردہندہ NTN نمبردیے کا یابندہوگا۔ 2 نرخ آئٹم کے حساب سے بشمول تمام فیکس درج کئے جا کیں۔

3. %00 فيصد كال ديياز ك بينك وراف كي شكل ميس بنام ديل كما ندن ايليك فورس بشاورجع كرنام وكا.

4. فرم كى مالى حالت متحكم مونى جائية-5. رقم کی ادا نگل گاڑیوں کے کام کی تعمیل ارد ڈیکنگ اور نل پاس ہونے کے بعد کی جائے گا۔ 6. مقرره عرصہ کے اندوکام کی تخیل کرنالازی ہوگا یصورت دیگر کنٹر کیشر کے خلاف KPPRA Rules کے مطابق کاروائی

7. گاڑیوں کی مرمت، سپیر پارٹس، ٹائر ٹیوب، بیٹریوں اور مکمل ایٹن وغیرہ کی تفصیل کمی بھی دن دفتری اوقات کار کے دوران MTO يليث فورس واقع ملك سعد شهيد يوليس لائيز پشاور كدفتر ميس ديكھى جاستى ہے۔

8. منظور شده ٹینڈر ریش 30.06.2026 تک قابل عمل ہو گئے۔

9. كامياب دير افرم كوشامب بيريرا يكريمنث كرنابوكا-10% فيصد سيكور أني (توثل بجث) بينك درافث كي شكل مين بنام و پی کمانڈنٹ ایلیٹ فورس بشاورجمع کرناموگا

10. غيررجشر و ديرز افرم الإلى نه كرين اورنه بي قابل قبول مولى -

Peshawar City



PESHAWAR: Deputy Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Suraya Bibi chairing a meeting

Cashless financial system in TMAs to promote transparency: Ayub

F.P. Report

and other relevant officials. matters.

The meeting focused on Peshawar on Wednesday Municipal Administrations under the chairmanship of (TMAs) of the province. platforms. Pakhtunkhwa's Representatives from the for Local LCB gave a comprehen-Government, Arshad Ayub sive briefing on CFS," stat-Khan. The meeting was ing that under the minisattended by Secretary for ter's directives, the imple-Local Government Saqib mentation process is ongo-(LCB) Waheed ur Rehman, monitoring of financial

via cross-checks or digital held in this regard.

tions, thermal printers are not only eliminate corrupbeing used to instantly tion and ensure transparenissue receipts.

Raza Aslam, Secretary of ing in all TMAs to ensure under this system, all pay- public service delivery. He the Local Council Board transparency and effective ments including taxes, fees, parking charges, fines, and the LCB to ensure rapid other expenses will be colimplementation.

So far, 71 TMAs in the lected digitally. The system the implementation of a province have transitioned will be linked to banks, and PESHAWAR: A high-level Cashless Financial System to this system, where all a joint meeting with bank meeting was held in (CFS) in the Tehsil payments are being made officials has already been

> For minor transactions Minister Arshad Ayub and departmental collec- Khan said that the CFS will cy but will also modernize It was informed that and improve the system of instructed the officers of

Massive public protests in Punjab expose true face Sharifs

Rehana Dar's Arrest is a slap on the face of democracy, Dr. Shafqat Ayaz

F.P. Report

Science and Information their true political worth. Technology, Dr. Shafqat through their hollow slo- erate injustice.

force, the people of Punjab a brave, ideological, and not just about the release

Ayaz, stated that the wide-spread public protests in where massive crowds He Punjab have once again flooded the streets across proven that the political the country, have sent a future of the Sharif family clear message to the ille-attack on women hinges solely on Form-47. gitimate government: the cal participation. The people have seen people will no longer tol-

Despite mass arrests, called it a slap in the face crackdowns, and the use of of democracy. He said that Punjab. This movement is Pakistan," he affirmed.

particularly the citizens dignified woman is being of Imran Khan, but a PESHAWAR: Special of Lahore - took to the targeted solely for her broader struggle for the Assistant to Chief Minister streets in large numbers, unwavering loyalty to restoration of democracy, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for showing the Sharif family Imran Khan- an act that supremacy of the constituclearly reflects the panic tion, and the right of peo-Dr. Shafqat Ayaz said and fear within the ruling ple to govern.

> He condemned the arrest as not only unconstiattack on women's politi-

the people of Khyber ue until the release of our gans and are no longer Referring to the arrest Pakhtunkhwa stand shoul- leader, Imran Khan, and buying into their narrative. of Rehana Dar, Dr. Ayaz der to shoulder with their the establishment of gen-

In conclusion, Dr. Ayaz

vowed that every act of oppression will be contutional but also as an fronted, and no sacrifice will be spared in the pursuit of truth and justice. He further added that "Our struggle will contin-

Maulana Khabir Azad among religious scholars celebrates Pakistan success in **Battle of Truth against India**

Under the auspices of the Rahmatullah National presided over by Anwar Saleem, Qari schools, children, women, Chairman Central Ruet Hassan al-Ma'ab, Prof. and the elderly — they Hilal Committee Maulana Zafarullah Jan, Mian struck populated areas and Syed Abdul Khabir Azad Ajmal Abbas, Maulana places of worship.

MPA Baba Ji Gurpal was held at local hotel Faisal Zaman, Pastor here on Wednesday.

brated Independence Day Muhammad Pakistan in the Battle of Faqir Truth/Operation Wall, paying tribute to the Hameedullah Qadri, Umar sacrifices of the brave bin Abdul Aziz, Maulana the martyrs of Muhammad Pakistan.

The conference was Muhammad presided over and led by Maulana Mosque Ambassador of Peace, Maulana Syed tatives of world religions. Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad, while the chief Maulana Faisal Karim Kundi.

Also present at the con- Allah Almighty. ference were Provincial Bishop Fazal Jamil Rizvi, Maulana Fazal Jamil Dr. Siddique Chishti, forces Pastor Altaf Gohar, Pastor Field Shahid Yousaf and Mufti General Syed Asim Munir.

Atiqullah Qadri. also attended by Maulana agenda of anti-state ele- our eternal enemy India is Truth, Hidayatullah, Amjad Aziz, ments and our eternal Junaidi, Maulana Jaleel Maulana Abdul Khabir Pakistan in a bid to divide Kashmir, Jan, Syed Arshad Hussain Azad added that on the us but failed.

Stability of Umar Farooq Shah, Malik Pakistan, Conference Hameed ur Rehman, Qari mosques, The conference cele- Taman Lawrence, Mian Iqbal, Muhammad Iron Madani,

Ahmad Qureshi, Mufti Junaidi, Roohullah Chairman of the Central Touhidi, Maulana Waqar Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Haider, Zawar Hussain Pakistan / Khatib and Zaidi, Syed Ghulam eternal sacrifices of the of Pakistan through reli-Badshahi Hussain, and many other martyrs and the great vic- gious platforms to elimi-Lahore, distinguished scholars, Sufi leaders, and represen-

In his key note address, Syed guest was Governor of Muhammad Abdul Khabir Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Azad said that freedom is the greatest blessing of

Minister for Religious thank Allah Almighty for speech, extended heartfelt Affairs and Augaf Khyber granting us a blessed congratulations to Alhamdulillah, the Pakhtunkhwa Pir Adnan country of Pakistan. Maulana Abdul Khabir defense of Pakistan is in of Millions of people sacri-Humphrey ficed their lives, wealth, organizing the National coming day is strengthen-Sarfraz Peter, Maulana and children for the cre-Tayyab Qureshi, Baba Ji ation of this beloved Gurpal Singh, Maulana homeland. Pakistan was Allama achieved on the foundatoday urgently needs thought and religious lead-Maqsood Salafi, Mufti tion of Islam and the Rizvi, Kalima Tayyiba," he said.

He emphasized that Rizvi, Haroon Sarb Diyal, today, Pakistan faces Maulana Rashid-ul-Haq, threats from its enemies. Maulana Roohullah The Pakistan Armed Madani, Maulana Ehsan- Forces are our pride and ul-Haq, Maulana Abdul the entire nation stands Rauf Madani, Maulana with its brave armed and Maulana Rafiullah Qasmi, Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Hafiz

He said our brave

Fazlullah enemy India.

Qadri, when India launched a Truth has further increased Majlis Ulema Pakistan, a Maulana Abid Israr, Pir cowardly attack on the significance of free-Qari schools, children, women, the Muslim world, and the

of the enemy. The Pakistan Armed armed forces and honor- Usama Qureshi, Hafiz Forces gave a crushing fascist Modi if it dare to response to Indian aggres- attack Pakistan again. sion and won the hearts of the Pakistani nation and

the Muslim Ummah. Abdul Khabir Azad

The President, the rorism. Prime Minister, and Field

Governor Pakhtunkhwa, "Today, we should all Karim Kundi, in his places of worship. Azad for successfully strong hands, and every Stability of Pakistan Conference in Peshawar.

He said that Pakistan national cohesion.

"We will collectively defeat all conspiracies of Army" echoed. anti-state forces. Love for the homeland is part of our offered for the unity of the faith. Today, the entire Muslim world, protection nation is celebrating of the ho Independence Day and the (Haramain great victory in the Battle national security, develop-

of Truth with passion." The conference was forces have destroyed the Adnan Qadri stated that victory in the Battle of promoting terrorism, Pakistan, and oppressed unrest, and sectarianism in Muslims in Occupied

targeting dom and its celebration. religious Pakistan is the fortress of prayers of the entire

MPA Baba Ji Gurpal But the entire Pakistani Singh said that Pakistan is George Ghulam, Pastor nation includes federal a paradise for minorities, government, the Prime and we are all united for Minister, the armed the security and protection and the great victory of Nadeem Bangash, Hafiz forces, religious scholars, of Pakistan. The Indian and general public united government always targets Maulana and crushed the arrogance minorities and conspires against Pakistan. "We will give a strong response to

> Religious scholars and leaders of other religions, in their addresses, emphasized promoting religious said the nation salutes the harmony and the message tory in the Battle of Truth. nate sectarianism and ter-

> They said that the cele-Marshal General Asim bration of Independence Munir's role in the and the victory in the progress and prosperity of Battle of Truth is ongoing Pakistan is commendable. across the country with Khyber enthusiasm in Faisal madrasas, mosques, and

They ing it even more.

At the end, prominent scholars of all schools of unity, religious harmony, ers of other faiths joined tolerance, peace, love, hands in a show of solidar-brotherhood, stability, and ity, and loud slogans of 'Long Live Pakistan" and "Long Live Pakistan

Special prayers were

the holy place.
Sharifain), ment, and prosperity, mar-Provincial Minister Pir tyrs of the Pakistan Army, stability

Palestine.

Gaza,

and

PHC grants protective bail to PTI leaders including Shibli Faraz, Meena Khan

Humayun Khan

PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court registered against them. (PHC) has granted protec-Tehreek-e-Insaf approach the relevant court.

leaders, who were seeking The protective bail in cases

tive bail to four Pakistan that Zartaj Gul had been Ghazi (PTI) sentenced to 10 years in leaders, including Shibli prison by Anti-Terrorism High Court. Faraz, Zartaj Gul, provin- Court (ATC) Faisalabad, The count cial minister Meena Khan, and that she wanted to file former member an appeal against the senprovincial assembly Arbab tence. The court granted Jahan. The court directed her protective bail until the authorities not to arrest August 11, allowing her to them and allowed them to approach the relevant

courts, on Wednesday. During the hearing, PHC divisional bench Justice Syed Arshad Ali comprising of Syed observed that the petition-Arshad Ali and Justice ers' legal team seemed against Meena Khan a ue to stand by its founder, Farah Jamshed heard the weak, and that they had provincial minister and Imran Khan.

tence handed down by the member of the Provincial trial court. Justice Farah Assembly. The court Jamshed asked why Zartaj The court was informed Gul, who was from Dera Khan, approached the Peshawar and directed them to

> Shibli Faraz was sentenced to 10 years in prison by ATC Faisalabad. The court granted him protective bail until August 11, allowing him to approach the relevant court to file an appeal.

cases have been registered and that PTI would contin-

granted them protective bail and restrained the had authorities from arresting The counsel argued that courts and adjourned the hearing.

After the hearing, Zartaj Gul spoke to the media, saying that the oppressed were being punished, and that cases were being registered against PTI leaders and workers. She said that The lawyer stated that the truth would prevail,

ICP inspires young minds as symbol of freedom movement

Pakistan's flag fluttering Muslim homeland. across the length and nation's Independence Day.

The iconic college, now Explaining its history, a public sector university, he said ICP was estabthe voices of youth echo-

Students from governlearning firsthand the pivotal role the institution played in shaping the national consciousness during the struggle for independence.

cal awakening of people of nation. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Their visit timed with through ceremonial; it was a walk excellence and political through history, guided by activism. the very walls that once echoed with debates and more than a center of just words behind. In his century ago.

PESHAWAR (APP): With discussions that fueled the learning—it was a beacon will, penned in 1939, the the green and white of dream of a sovereign

"The history of the Khyber Pakistan Movement is Pakhtunkhwa, the historic incomplete without his-Islamia College Peshawar toric role played by stu-(ICP)-a cradle of the dents of Islamia College Pakistan Movement—wit- Peshawar," said Professor nessed a heartening influx Dr Muhammad Naushad of young students ahead of Khan, former Vice 78th Chancellor, ICP while talking to APP.

resonated once again with lished on October 1, 1913 by Nawab Sir Sahibzada

Pathan students at Aligarh ment and private schools Muslim University in 1909 toured the grand domes sparked the idea of creat-and verdant lawns of ICP, ing an institution for Muslim students in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. A modest fund of sixty

rupees collected by the stu-Amid a sea of fluttering dents was the first seed flags and chants of sown for what would "Pakistan Zindabad," chil- become an intellectual dren like seven graders fortress. Philanthropists Malaika Bibi, Laiba like Abdul Karim Khan, Farooq, 5th grader Anaya Sethi Karim Bakhsh, and Bibi, Arshiya, Aleena, sec- the Nawab of Dir generond grader Ibrahim Khan ously contributed to the and nursery student Ismail Nobel cause, paving the Khan voiced their awe for way for the establishment the college that not only of a college that would academic nurture not just scholars. excellence but also politi- but future leaders of the Quaid-e-Azam's vision reminder that the spirit of

The students went comprised only 26 stu- the independence strugaround its different sec- dents. Among them was gle," Younas added. tions including Khyber Sahibzada Khurshid, who Union-a debating society would later serve as visited by Father of the Governor of then NWFP. evident in both words and oring history but inheriting Nation Quaid e Azam The institution's first prin-Muhammad Ali Jinnah. cipal, Tipping, led ICP cipal, Tipping, led ICP its formative the upcoming August 14 years, setting the stage for festivities was more than decades of educational

for the Pakistan Movement in the northwest. The college's debating society, Khyber Union (established in 1936), played a key role in raising political awareness and nurturing leadership skills among students.

Just as Aligarh Muslim University produced van-guards of independence in India, Islamia College Peshawar provided the ideological and intellectual leadership for Pakistan's creation," said Muhammad Younas Khan, Chairman, Department of Pakistan Studies at ICP.

1936, then in 1945, and finally in 1948 as Pakistan's first Governor from kindergarten to PhD. General. During his 1945 visit, students and the Muslim Students Federation presented him

with Rs 8,000 for the Pakistan Movement equivalent in spirit to thousands of volunteers pledg-The 1946 general elections and 1947 referendum

from the NWFP (now KP) for the Muslim League and astic endorsement of ICP is

deeds. In a memorable speech to ICP students on

great Quaid named ICP among three institutions to inherit his property, along-side Aligarh Muslim University and Sindh Madrassatul Islam.

The Quaid Trust eventually contributed over Rs 10 million to ICP, enabling the establishment of the Quaid-e-Azam College of Commerce, women's colleges, faculty residences, and Takbeer Block.

Today, the grand clock tower of Islamia College stands tall not just as a landmark of Peshawar, but as a proud symbol on the Quaid-e-Azam Rs 1000 currency note. Muhammad Ali Jinnah vis- From its humble beginited ICP thrice—once in nings, ICP has transformed into a public sector university offering education

It remains rooted in its founding ideals of education, progress, and patriotism. Nearby, the University of Peshawar (established in 1949 per Jinnah's vision), the University of Engineering ing their lives to the cause. and Technology (UET), and the University further echo the saw overwhelming support educational revolution sparked by ICP.

As Independence Day of Pakistan nears, the "The province's enthu- influx of young students to cemented its place in histo-freedom and unity still res-The inaugural batch ry as a frontline region in onates powerfully among the vouth.

By revisiting the col-Quaid e Azam's affec- lege's storied past, these tion for the institution was students are not only hona legacy that demands they, too, become torch-April 12, 1948, he called bearers of knowledge, them "future builders of character, and national Pakistan," urging them to service. Islamia College develop discipline, charac- Peshawar, once the dream ter, and academic excel- of visionaries, continues to Islamia College was lence. He left more than inspire just as it did over a

DG Sports welcomes football hero **Anees on return from Norway Cup**

Peshawar Sports Complex national stage. led by Director General Sports

from Landi Kotal, Khyber

and has brought great hard work, dedication and Districts pride to the country success serve as a beacon PESHAWAR: A grand through his outstanding of inspiration for the reception was held at the performance on the inter-youth. The government is

Khyber Haider, Pakhtunkhwa, Tashfeen Muhammad Anees and ented individuals. Haider, to welcome lauded his remarkable Muhammad Anees - a achievement, stating that Director member of the Pakistan young athletes like him are (Operations) team that won the Norway not only the pride of Football Cup.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but Muhammad Anees hails of the entire nation.

youth. The government is President fully committed to provid- Pakhtunkhwa DG Sports, Tashfeen ing all possible support Association appreciated and patronage to such tal-

He added that Anees' Sports

Shafqat tronage to such tal-ndividuals. Yousaf Afridi, Coach this occasion, Aman Ullah and other Sports officials were also present. Jamshed They extended their con-Baloch, Regional Sports gratulations to Officer Peshawar Kashif Muhammad Anees and Farhan, Assistant Director expressed pride in his Merged international achievement.

KPIC issues show cause notice to DG Health Services

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Taking seri- attended the Commission. ous notice of the absence of Officer (PIO) from personissued a show cause notice the PIO of the said depart- post of Pharmacy Manager, ment was summoned, for which was filled in 2022. personal hearing in 12 dif- He sought the List of zens filed complaints to the ments of selected candi-Commission after the PIO's date, names and minutes of failure to provide their the interview panel, and requested under the KP RTI Act.

PIOs of the Lady Reading provide the citizen-request-Hospital, Khyber Medical ed information within the College, Khyber Teaching stipulated time period. Science

Technology Department, Shandana and DHO among others Complaint,

In hearing of a comthe Public Information plaint, the PIO of LRH provided the citizen-requested al hearing at the data, in which the com-Commission, the KPIC plaints namely Zia Ullah plaints namely Zia Ullah Samdani resident of to the Director General of Mardan, filed an RTI RTI request to KMC, Control & Health Services, Khyber request to LRH, wherein he wherein she sought data Services provided the citi-Pakhtunkhwa. Before this sought information about a ferent cases wherein citi- appeared candidates, docuinformation detail of marking by each member of the panel. But While in other cases the public body failed to

Deciding on citizen

KMC to provide the complete data within five working days, as the citizen sought parawisely in her

RTI request. Before the complaint she had filed an Directorate of regarding the selection of zens-requested data.

Amir's Chairperson Pharmacology Department, Commission directed the Khyber Medical College. While in the hearing,

Science Technology & Information Technology Department, Department,





In brief

Three drug peddlers arrested F.P. Report

BUREWALA: Police on Wednesday arrested three drug peddlers in district. According to spokesperson,police conducted raids, acting swiftly, officers established checkpoint and intercepted a suspicious vehicle bearing registra-tion number LEF-4695 and apprehended the suspects namely as Ali Dhaddi,Usama and Amin. Police recovered 11.808kg of opium and 36.25kgs of hashish from their possession. Cases were registered against the suspects while further investigation was underway.

Constructions demolished F.P. Report

the direction of Acting Director Faisalabad Development Authority (FDA), the enforcement team successfully thwarted the establishment of eight illegal housing schemes and additional Abadies in the Dijkot area. The team demolished all their construction infrastructure. The operation was conducted under the supervision of Director Town Planning Asma Mohsin with Estate Officer Aneeb Aslam Randhawa leading the enforcement team. During an inspection in Dijkot, the team discovered that developers were attempting to establish housing schemes and four additional Abadies on land in Chak No. 262 and 263 RB under the names of Gulshan Habib, New Gulberg, Hidayat Town and Ali Garden.

Woman dies after falling into well F.P. Report

woman died after falling into a deep well in Khazana Kotkay area of Lower Dir on Wednesday, Rescue 122 officials said According to the rescue service, teams rushed to the site immediately after receiving the alert and launched an operation. Due to the possible presence of toxic gases and risk of suffocation inside the well, a rescuer wearing a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) carried out the operation with full safety measures. The woman was retrieved from the well and shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital, where doctors confirmed she had died.

Imran's release demanded F.P. Report

MIRANSHAH Provincial Minister for Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement and President Pakistan Tehreek -e Insaf North Waziristan Malik Nik Muhammad Khan Dawar, on August 5, at the Headquarters of North Waziristan, Miran Shah, was organized by the Pakistan Tehreek -e Insaf (PTI) and a protest against the Waziristan. Had to do A large number of party workers and Youth Wing officials participated in the protest. Addressing the protest, local Person Noor Alam Khan and Malik Karamat Khan said that Imran Khan is currently the hope and voice of the people of Pakistan who are being subjected to political retaliation. He said that all false and baseless cases should be abolished immediately and Imran Khan should be released immediately. Speakers added that under the leadership of Imran Khan, the country could be on the path of development and autonomy, so their freedom is the voice of every patriotic citizen. The protest ended peacefully workers expressed their commitment that they would continue to raise their voice on every forum until the release of their

MULTAN: A flood-affected woman, along with her child, prepares traditional bread near the banks of the Chenab River, as rising floodwaters in the background keep surrounding rural areas on high alert during monsoon season.

17 managerial positions vacant in female education

F.P. Report

BUNER: Education Officer (DEO) Female Laila Ali has revealed that there are 17 management cadre positions are vacant since long and argued to the highups for filling them for further promotion of female education, on Wednesday.

This she revealed while possible. talking to The Frontier Post

ments are made as soon as Mohmand district too. But

and added that the vacant repeatedly requested the manner, I have scheduled seats including of six concerned authorities to two days a week for com-SDEOs and 11 ASDEOs make required appoint- pleting mandatory office seats. She has claimed that ments on priority basis. She work and school visits as women's education in shared that the role of per the schedule so that Buner is rapidly improving. District Education Officer time can be given to both

She added that it can be furisvery important but having the office and the field in ther improved if appoint- a team is very important. Buner.

diately and any issue is resolved well in time. said esponse to a question that she is shouldering

in order to fulfill "my DEO Laila Ali has responsibilities" in a better

responsibilities

Because the manage

ment team members are

in direct contact with

the teachers and stu-

dents in schools and

reports are made imme-

Commissioner visits Karak after attack on FC personnel

F.P. Report

KARAK: Commissioner Prayers were also offered chaired an important meet-Syed Shah Wednesday paid an emer- martyrs. gency visit to Karak district Later, after receiving information Commissioner Kohat dis- rity of CPF and other sensipersonnel were martyred.

vision of the relevant med- area. ical teams and the bodies of

over to their families. visited the CPF Makori and Motasim on this occasion for the ele- ing related to the security. has on vation of the ranks of the The meeting after prayers

about the incident of firing cussed the investigation tive places/installations in on FC vehicle by unknown into the incident with the detail and issued necessary persons in Gorgori area of hospital administration instructions to make the Tehsil Banda Daud Shah, and the police personnel. security measures more Karak district, in which 4 He while expressing his effective. deep sorrow over the inci-He went to the Terri dent, strictly directed the declared that no compro-Hospital along with the law enforcement agencies mise will be made on the Deputy Commissioner. In to take stern and effective safety of citizens and secuhis presence, the post- action against the anti- rity forces and all possible mortem of the martyrs was state elements and those steps will be taken to bring completed under the super- disturbing the peace of the the elements involved in

> Meanwhile, Comm- book.

the martyrs were handed issioner Kohat Division for the eternal peace of the the martyrs, reviewed the secu-

> Commissioner Kohat this cowardly attack to

Police feels ashamed to listen to transgender issues: Farzana

Anees Takar

MARDAN: President of Manzil Foundation Madam Arzoo Khan have strongly condemned the rising incidents of violence against the transgender community in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), stating that police officers often feel 'ashamed" to even meet or listen to members of our community.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Mardan revealed that since 2015 at least 158 transgenders have been brutally murdered ty," she urged. across KP. Despite the alarming number of killings, not a single victim has received justice so far, she claimed. "Firing inci-

ther said that the state has Officer Farzana told to the press conference.

echoed the same concerns ing and appealed to national and international human cycle of abuse and impuni- and violence against us,'

against our community ards and chanting slogans, province.

have become a daily rou-tine," said Farzana. She fur-towards the District Police (DPO) office, Trans Action Alliance failed us. The police condemanding justice and (TAA) Farzana Riaz and sider it beneath their dignisecurity. The protest was Executive Director of ty to meet or respond to sparked by a recent incident transgenders. This institu- in the Jabbar police juristional neglect is pushing diction of Mardan, where a our community to the edge, transgender person named Hasan, commonly known as Haseena was critically Madam Arzoo Khan injured in a targeted shootunidentified assailants.

According to the protestrights organizations to raise ers while police have their voices in support of arrested three suspects, one the transgender community. key accused remains at We need allies who can large. "This is not just an Press Club, Farzana Riaz help amplify our demands isolated incident; it is part and bring an end to this of a broader pattern of hate said Farzana Riaz. She Dozens of transgender echoed that if the police fail persons participated in the to arrest the remaining culpress conference and later prit and dont ensure our held a protest demonstra- safety, we will be left with tion outside the Mardan no choice but to escalate dents and physical assaults Press Club. Holding plac- our protest across the

KP HCC seals 1,491 facilities in one year Haleem Asad

LOWER DIR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Health Čare Commission (KP HCC) registered 2,397 healthcare establishments and sealed 1,491 others for various violations over the past year, an official said on Wednesday.

KP HCC spokesperson Azm ur Rehman told journalists in Chakdara that the commission conducted 9,100 inspections between July 1. 2024, and June 30, 2025, and issued notices to 2,821 facilities to rectify deficiencies and improve service stan-

He said the commission also issued 65 full licences and 344 provisional licences during the period, besides organising 24 training ses-sions on Minimum Service Delivery Standards, which benefited 486 healthcare professionals from various dis-

According to Mr Rehman the commission received 1,111 complaints against healthcare facilities during the year, 94 per cent of which were resolved. He said the director Legal Affairs KP HCC, Mohsin Ali Turk, lauded the staff's performance, saying their commitment to ensuring quality healthcare for the province's residents was growing stronger.

Unknown motorcyclist looted woman F.P. Report

LARKANA: Unknown motorcyclists robbed of 100,000 from Miran Khatoon, a woman from the Jogi community, near Ghazi Chowk in Badeh city, and escaped from the crime scene.

The victim protested in front of the media in this regard, the affected woman said that she was going home after withdrawing the installment amount for the construction of a government house from the bank when the motorcyclists held her hostage at Ghazi Chowk, robbed her of all the money and fled. On the other hand, a report of the incident has been filed at

the Badeh police station. Kashmir Exploitation Day observed: On the special instructions of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Nusrat Shah, Kashmir On this occasion, a rally and ceremony were organized at Chandka Medical College Larkana to express solidarity with the oppressed Kashmiri

Cops directed not to misuse authority

Police Officer (RPO) visit-Wednesday, where a dignified ceremony was organ-Martyrs' Memorial, a salute by a decorated contingent, laying of wreaths and reciting Fateha. Later, the RPO conducted a detailed inspection of various not to take out personal departments, investigation enmity or revenge on anyand operational offices and available facilities of the Police Lines.

A police Darbar was also which DPO Mardan gave a briefing on the security situation of the district, crime while addressing the police court, said with determination that my police service started from this region. Mardan is my second home, and the performance of the officers and men here has always been exemplary, which I am proud of.

focus: police welfare, action will be taken against will be allowed to play with improvement of infrastruchim. At the end of his human lives.

ture and establishment, and effective measures in Regional counter-terrorism. He said ed Mardan Police Lines on against terrorists. After and Halal Food Authority serving in CTD for eight and a half years, I know ized in his honor. The visit how to deal with the enemy. began with a visit to the If someone martyrs our soldiers, we will not back down. The one who backs down cannot be our brother. He warned the officers not to misuse their position,

No officer, be it a DPO or an RPO, will ask you to do illegal work. If anyone held on the occasion, in puts pressure on you, refuse without hesitation. He further said that we have to do our job with honor. Every control efforts, training human being can make measures and public serv-ice projects. The RPO, never be tolerated is hurting a poor person or taking money from him. Strict action will be taken against those who do this, because Allah does not help those who commit injustice. The RPO announced a full-scale jihad against drugs, espe-RPO outlined three key any police officer is found tions will continue regularly **priorities on which the** involved in dealings with regional command will drug dealers, strictest ty of citizens, and no one

Food recovered substandard eggs: Khyber that we will not sit silent Pakhtunkhwa Food Safety (KPFSA) conducted a major raid on a warehouse located on Shamsi Road following a tip-off. During the operation, more than 2,000 cracked and substandard eggs were recovered. These eggs were being supplied to various hotels, bakeries, and other food outlets, posing a serious threat to public health.

All the recovered eggs were immediately transported to a designated dumping site and destroyed on the spot. The warehouse owner was heavily fined for gross violations of food safety laws, absence of a medical certificate, poor hygiene conditions, and endangering public health.

Assistant Director Food Safety, Ruqia Nawaz Khan stated that the Mardan team will not tolerate food adulteration or the sale of hazardous food items under any circumstances. She further cially ice, and said that if emphasized that such operato ensure the health and safe-

Integration of gown with town

Dr. Fakhr-ul-Islam

explore the theme: group.
"Bridging the Gap 2.
Between Universities and Knowle Society at Large." I presented the following points:

1. The Changing Value of Resources: The traditional belief that a country's wealth is determined by its natural resources is no longer valid. In the modern serves as a prime example—despite having scarce natural resources, it invest-

power. Similar strategies RECENTLY, I was have been adopted by many invited to a panel discussion with fel
Southeast Asia, including

2. The Rise of the Knowledge Economy: The 21st century has ushered in ified the concept of the knowlknowledge creation drives economic growth and wealth generation. A major digital economy. Pakistan's and transformed itself into IT policy and set a clear Gown with the Town.

a global economic super- annual export target of \$10 billion in the coming years. 3. Bridging Academia

discussion with fellow academicians to members of the BRICS disconnect exists between academia and industry in Pakistan. At present, around 60,000 highly qualified professors are employed in universities edge economy, where across the country, and approximately graduates enter the job market each year. Yet, the econpillar of this economy is the omy and industrial sectors gain minimal benefit from IT exports currently stand this skilled workforce. It is era, human resources are considered more valuable than mineral wealth. Japan serves as a prime and structure as a server as a prime and server as a prime pared to India's share of academic institutions and 18% in the global IT mar- the broader economy. This ket. To remain competitive, approach may aptly be ed heavily in human capital Pakistan must overhaul its termed "Integrating the

Man dies in DPO office

F.P. Report

HAFIZABAD: A tragic incident unfolded Hafizabad as an elderly citizen lost his life while waiting for hours to meet the District Police Officer (DPO) outside the newly constructed DPO office. The unfortunate incident has sparked public outrage over the lack of basic facilities and empathy for citizens

seeking justice. According to details, Mujahid, a senior resident of Mohallah Hassan Town, had arrived at the DPO office the previous day with a written application, hoping to present his grievance directly to DPO Atif Nazir. However, he was made to wait in the open corridor of the newly built DPO complex for nearly five hours.

During this time, intense heat, suffocating humidity, and the blazing sun took a toll on the elderly man's fragile health. Before he could get an audience with the officer, he collapsed and passed away on the spot. His body was later shifted to Exploitation Day was his residence, where scenes observed with great devotion and solidarity at SMBBMU, Larkana. family and community members gathered in disbelief over the tragedy.

DPO office lacks proper waiting areas or shelter for unfit for public use. visitors, many of whom travel from remote and rural

of justice. On any given day, dozens of distressed complainants are seen sitting or open sky, with no access to drinking water, seating, or shade.

This unfortunate incident

has reignited criticism of the police administration for its failure to provide basic amenities for citizens, especially the elderly and vulnerable. Human rights activists and civil society representatives have called for immediate improvements in public dealing infrastructure and demanded a thorough inquiry into the circumstances that led to Mujahid's death. They further emphasized that justice cannot be achieved in a system where even seeking help becomes a matter of life and death.

Family park turns into filthy pond due to sewerage water accumulation: Once a vibrant recreational spot for families, the Family Park located on Park Road in Hafizabad has now turned into a filthy pond due to gross negligence and apathy of Municipal Committee officials. The park, which was once a symbol of beauty and community well-being, is now filled with sewage It is worth noting that the and drainage water, causing a foul stench and making it

According to local residents, wastewater from

parts of the district in search sewer lines and drainage systems has been deliberately diverted into the park, submerging it in contamistanding for hours under the nated water. The once lush green park that attracted families for morning and evening walks is now a breeding ground for mosquitoes and disease, and has become an eyesore in the name of the "Clean Punjab"

initiative.

The issue has sparked widespread outrage among the public. Area residents and citizens have staged protests, holding Municipal Committee responsible deplorable state of the park. They have criticized the concerned officials for their continued negligence and failure to maintain public spaces.

"The condition of the park reflects the failure of the local administration. It is heartbreaking to see such a beautiful park reduced to a filthy swamp," lamented a local resident.

Citizens have appealed to Commissioner of Gujranwala Division and the Deputy Commissioner of Hafizabad to take immediate notice of the situation. They have demanded urgent measures to drain the sewage water and restore the park to its original condition, so that it may once again serve as a healthy recreational space for the families of Hafizabad.

The Butterfly, the rose, the fire — and Hanif Khalil

Farooq Sarwar

ODAY, I feel an urge to dedicate my column to a dear friend — Hanif Khalil. Hanif is a man who this, and it will continue this lives in a village engulfed by way. You should become a butflames, where thousands of terfly — the kind that lands on children are crying — sur- flowers, breathes in their frarounded by sorrow and trapped in countless troubles. Witnessing these scenes, Hanif cue them from their misery.

yourself with the worries of the world. Don't try to carry every problem on your shoulders. The world has always moved like grance, and delights in the beauty of life."

Hanif looks at the old man in wishes to find a solution to transforms into a butterfly and **these problems, to put out the** floats down to rest on a red rose. fire ravaging his village, and to Hanif feels as though the old "Come, sit with me. Inhale the ty In this moment of turmoil, he fragrance of this red rose. Take Hanif Khalil currently resides about sharing joy and laughter. not only a brilliant critic and meets an old man — who speaks in the tenderness, the colors, and in Islamabad. He teaches at Hanif and I have spent many writer —he is a fragrance, with-

to him gently: "Stop burdening the beauty of this life. Yes, the Islamabad University, where he wandering nights together. world is on fire, and we must try is known as a kind and gracious to put that fire out — but if we mentor. He is regarded as one of direction.

perhaps, for a while, I too should become a butterfly." And turning toward the fire, he says, 'My battle with you will continue, but for a little while, like my becomes deeply distressed. He surprise and suddenly, the man elder, I will become a butterfly transforms into a butterfly, lands comfort the children — to res- man is calling out to him: absorb its fragrance and its beau-

fail to notice the beauty, then our the leading critics of Pashto litboat will never sail in the right erature. He has authored dozens vagrancy on empty, sleeping Hanif smiles and says, "Yes received major literary awards in in the morning, we would sit in both Pakistan and Afghanistan. To the best of my knowledge, he souls, drifting through the silent has also been honored with the Presidential Award.

Hanif is a dear and close friend of mine. Many of the and I will enjoy life." He then smiles in my life are tied to his presence. From him, I learned on the red rose, and begins to that even in moments of worry, one can still smile —that friend-

In Peshawar, we walked through the quiet streets at night. In Quetta, we felt the spirit of of important books and has roads. And in Islamabad, at two Hanif's car like two wandering

city before dawn. We enjoyed life together. With Hanif, I experienced the joy of good food, of books, of libraries, of bustling markets and quiet corners of beauty. And above all, I felt peace —because a soul as beautiful as Hanif's ship is not just about loyalty, but was always beside me. Hanif is

world, perhaps even our hearts, feel incomplete. That is why we remember him everywhere and praise him from the heart.

out which our gatherings, our

Hanif Khalil has brought new dimensions to Pashto literature. He trained and nurtured emerging writers, encouraged them and I count myself among them, even though I see myself as a very ordinary writer. Pashto literature is incomplete without Hanif Khalil. His laughter is the fragrance of home. And my prayer is: May Allah always protect that smile —for it is a lamp that continues to glow, offering hope in the darkest of nights.









SEOUL: Kim Keon Hee, the wife of South Korea's ousted former President Yoon Suk Yeol, arriving at

South Korea's former first lady 'sorry' about graft probe

ended abruptly, calling herself "a broker. The charges are punishable by nobody." Both Kim and ex-President years in prison. Yoon Suk Yeol are under separate investigations by special prosecutors and then removed from office for briefly declaring martial law.

Kim has been the subject of numerous high-profile scandals, some dating back more than 15 years, which overshadowed Yoon's turbulent presidency and inflicted political party. "I am truly sorry that a nobody like myself has caused concern for she entered the office of the special reporters' questions about the charges history of investigations into alleged wrongdoing by high-profile figures including former presidents and fam- not to charge her. ily-owned conglomerate leaders. Many have made similar expressions of remorse that are not necessarily considered an admission of guilt. Yoon, a career prosecutor who rose to

SEOUL (Reuters): South Korea's for- President Park Geun-hye for corrupmer first lady Kim Keon Hee apolotion in 2017. Kim faces a long list of gised on Wednesday as she appeared charges including stock fraud, bribery for questioning by investigators on a and illegal influence peddling that string of corruption charges that have implicated big business owners, plagued her husband's term before it religious figures and a political power

Before Yoon's election in 2022 and under intense political pressure even appointed after he was impeached from his own party, Kim stood before cameras to apologise for falsifying her academic records and promised to behave as a responsible spouse of a national leader. Allegations of wrongdoing did not fade as Yoon narrowly won the presidency and served a tumultuous term marred by a bitter damage on him and his conservative row with the main opposition party which had control of parliament and kept up pressure on the first family to everyone in the country," Kim said as come clean on Kim's personal scandals. When hidden camera footage prosecutor. She did not answer that appeared to show Kim accepting a Christian Dior bag as a gift, Yoon against her. South Korea has a long refused to say it may have been illegal or inappropriate. After a review, the state prosecutors' office decided

Since Yoon's ouster and with the appointment of special prosecutors, the probe against Kim intensified, reopening a case of stock fraud dating back to 2009 which had been previthe head of the powerful service ously closed by state prosecutors for before entering politics, was a senior insufficient cause. The charges tamper with evidence, has refused to investigator for an earlier special against her include whether she broke cooperate with the investigation or prosecutor's team that jailed former the law by wearing a luxury Van attend the insurrection trial.

Cleef pendant reportedly priced more than 60 million won (\$43,200) on the first couple's trip to the NATO summit in 2022. The item was not listed in the Yoons' financial disclosure as required by law, according to the charge. She is also accused of receiving two Chanel bags together valued at 20 million won and a diamond necklace from a religious group as a bribe in return for influence favourable to business interests it was pursuing.

An artwork valued at several million dollars and tens of thousands of dollars in cash seized by the special prosecutor's team are also linked to her, according to media reports that have extensively covered her travails. In a message to reporters, Kim's lawyers in late July denied the allegations against her and said news reports about some of the gifts she allegedly received were groundless speculation. Yoon is on trial on insurrection charges facing up to life imprisonment or the death penalty for his failed attempt to impose military rule in December that plunged the country into a political crisis and a power vacuum that lasted six months. Yoon has described the special prosecutor's probe against him as a political witch hunt and since being jailed on July 10 over the risk he will try to

Colombia's President accuses Peru of annexing disputed Amazon Island

President Gustavo Petro debate between Peru and has accused the neighbour- Colombia for nearly a cening country of Peru of tury. Peru has claimed ownannexing a disputed island ership based on treaties on the Amazon River, from 1922 and 1929, and it resuscitating a longstand- has administered Santa ing disagreement between Rosa for decades. But the two nations. In a social Colombia maintains that media post, Petro said that the island of Santa Rosa Peru had acted to "unilater- had not emerged from the ally" assert control over the Amazon River at the time small island of Santa Rosa of the treaties and therefore in a recent congressional is not subject to them. It has

ment has just appropriated the two countries at the it by law," Petro wrote on deepest point of the the social media platform Amazon River, and that X. He added that Peru's islands like Santa Rosa in a social media post that it largely reliant on tourism, actions could block the have emerged on the would push for further based on its proximity to the Colombian city of Leticia Colombian side of that from accessing the Amazon dividing line. River. "Our government will resort to diplomacy to north of the current deepest defend our national sover- line, and the Peruvian goveignty." Petro's comments ernment has just appropri- bilateral work for the allo- could collect taxes. "Peru is appeared to be a response ated them by law and cation of islands," the min- complying firmly with its to a vote in June, whereby placed the capital of a istry wrote. Colombia, it obligations under interna-Peru's Congress designated municipality on land that, added, "has reiterated the tional law and with valid the island of Santa Rosa a by treaty, should belong to position that 'Santa Rosa bilateral treaties," the district in its Loreto Colombia," Petro wrote. He Island' has not been allocatprovince. Who controls the warned that Peru's claims to ed to Peru". The Amazon a statement. — Aljazeera

also argued that the treaties

"Islands have appeared

60,000. action", Petro wrote, "could make Leticia disappear as an Amazonian port, taking away its commercial independence from Spain in Leticia on Thursday, framing the island's status "The Peruvian govern- set the boundary between as a symbol of national sovereignty.

The Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs also said diplomacy in determining Amazon. The Peruvian govemerged islands. "For making Santa Rosa a district years, Colombia has main- was necessary to ensure it tained the need to carry out received federal funds and

Colombian island has been a subject of Santa Rosa could inhibit River is one of the longest travel and trade to nearby waterways in the world. Leticia, which boasts a with the most water dispopulation of nearly charged of any river. But "This unilateral those powerful currents deposit and rearrange sediment throughout the river basin, forming - and sometimes erasing - islands. life". Petro said he would Santa Rosa is one of those hold celebrations com- newer islands. The land memorating Colombian now contains forest and farmland, as well as the village of Santa Rosa de Yavari.

That town is home to a population of fewer than 1,000 people, according to Peru's latest census, and is the nationality of newly ernment has argued that

Eduardo Bolsonaro: 'Provocateur' inflaming US-Brazil spat

Eduardo Bolsonaro is hailed by some as a slayer United States, where he has of tyrants in defense of his been lobbying President Washington's punitive tar- Trump announced a mas-

in South America.

fondness for weapons and Moraes of Brazil's Supreme change. For years, he has Bolsonaro has repeatedly been the defender-in-chief called a "tyrant" and more victed of plotting to wrest father placed under house back power after losing the arrest. 2022 election to leftist rival

congressman post in Brazil's lower cham-

The younger Bolsonaro Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. openly celebrated the sanc-Citing political persecution, tions as a "historic" blow Freitas, who has worried take just "a soldier and a corthe younger Bolsonaro took against "judicial persecu- about the impact on his poral to shut down the extended leave of tion" in a post on X, of state, Brazil's richest and Supreme Court.

many Brazilian exports to Bolsonaro "a traitor to the The 41-year-old lawyer the United States, citing a nation," while Moraes lamhe shares a circle of far- slapped financial sanctions de S. Paulo daily, in an ediright acquaintances, a on the presiding judge in torial, meanwhile called hatred of communism, a the coup case, Alexandre de him an "enemy of Brazil" who "does everything to and Carlo and Renan, city skepticism about climate Court -- whom Eduardo defend his own family, councilors. The younger without caring about Bolsonaro holds the record national interests." The tar- for the most votes ever of his father, who risks recently a "psychopath out iffs have also raised alarm received for a congressman decades in prison if con- of control" for ordering his among Brazil's business in Brazil, over 1.8 million in class and even some politi- 2018. That same year, he cians on the right of the publicly expressed his open spectrum, including Sao disdain for Brazilian institu-Paulo governor Tarcisio de tions by declaring it would

(AFP): absence in March from his which he is a prolific user. most populous. For his Many in the deeply divided efforts, Eduardo Bolsonaro ber and relocated to the country took to social finds himself the target of media to label him a an investigation, ordered "hero," while thousands by Moraes, into obstruction coup-accused father. For Donald Trump and his rallied in the streets thank- of justice in his father's others, he is a "traitor" entourage to act in defense ing Trump for upping the trial. With his piercing gaze responsible for of his dad. Last week, pressure. The tariff and athletic stature, announcement prompted Eduardo Bolsonaro entered iffs on the largest economy sive 50 percent tariff on Lula to label the younger politics in 2015 aged 30, vowing to emulate his controversial father, who calls is the son of ex-president "witch hunt" against his basted acts of "cowardice him "zero three" for his Jair Bolsonaro, with whom ally. Washington also and treachery." The Folha birth order -- the third of

five siblings. He has three brothers also in politics: Flavio, a senator,

shipwreck tops 90

SANAA (AFP): More than 90 people were killed when a migrant boat sank off Yemen's coast, Yemeni officials and a source at the International Organization for Migration told AFP, updating earlier tolls. The carrying mostly Ethiopian migrants sank as it headed towards Abyan governorate in southern Yemen, a frequent destination for boats smuggling African migrants hoping to reach the wealthy Gulf

A Yemeni source at UN agency the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said that two bodies, which were initially buried by local fishermen after they washed up on the beach and began rotting, had been recovered. This has taken the toll of confirmed deaths from the shipwreck to 96. Earlier a Yemeni security source and a local official in Abyan said 94 bodies had been recovered and most of them had been buried, with the local official saying corpses were still washing up on the shore. A journalist collaborating with AFP saw at least two corpses washed up on the shore, near the area where the ship sank. He also saw worn-out tents and African people being trucked out of the remote area from which smugglers operate. Authorities said security forces and government allies in Abyan carried out a sweep against camp sites for migrants on the coast, operated by smugglers. Abyan's province top security official, Brigadier General Ali Nasser Buzaid, said the dead included men and women.

Local authorities and the IOM said the boat was carrying around 200 people. Ĭwo Yemeni security officials told AFP that 32 people were rescued and dozens were still missing. Despite the civil war that has ravaged Yemen since 2014, the impoverished country has remained a key transit point for irregular migration, in particular from Ethiopia which itself has been roiled by ethnic

UK couple held in Iran speak to relatives

couple held in Iran on espionage charges spoke by phone with relatives in the UK for the first time since they were detained in their family January, announced. It comes after their children learned over the weekend that Lindsay and Craig Foreman, both 52, have been moved to separate prisons in and near Tehran, heightening fears for their welfare.

Iranian authorities seized the pair in Kerman, in central Iran, in early January while they were on a roundthe-world motorbike trip, claiming the following month that they were suspected spies. Little had been known about their whereabouts or welfare since. Distraught relatives have become increasingly vocal demanding that Iran allow the couple to phone home, and permit British officials more access to them. "For 213 days, we waited. Hoped. Held our breath. And today, we finally got those phone calls," calls," Lindsay's son Joe Bennett said in a statement. "We finally heard their voices. After seven long months with no direct contact, we can now say what we've been desperate to say all this time: Lindsay and Craig are alive.

Bennett added the call lasted for around eight minutes, during which laughed, we cried, and for a few brief moments, it felt like the weight of the past seven months lifted". The 31-year-old said that "while it was amazing to hear their voices, we must also keep our eyes firmly on the real issues". "Lindsay and Craig still haven't had a consular visit in months," he added. Bennett also urged the UK government to indicate what it intends to do to secure their release", calling its "ongoing silence" over its strategy "deeply concerning". Craig's son Kieran Foreman said his separate call with his dad was "a massive relief". "It brings us back up from the hole of despair we have been in," he added, noting it gave him

'hope'

Death toll in Yemen migrant | Nationalist Nawrocki to be sworn in as Polish president

historian and supporter of Donald Trump's MAGA movement, will be sworn in as Poland's president on Wednesday, setting the stage for conflict with the centrist government and potentially cooler relations with Ukraine. The election victory of

Nawrocki, who was backed by the nationalist opposition party Law and Justice (PiS), dealt a blow to Prime Minister Donald Tusk's hopes of cementing the pro-European Union course he has set for the bloc's largest eastern member and left his government floundering in the polls. Poland is now bracing for a continuation of the deadlock seen under nationalist outgoing President Andrzej Duda, with Nawrocki able to use his veto powers to stymie a government agenda that includes rolling back judicial reforms implemented by PiS, which critics said undermined the independence of the courts.

Nawrocki also looks set to pose a headache for the government by proposing measures such as tax cuts that are likely to be popular with many voters but hard to implement for an admin-Rychard, a sociologist from Karol Nawrocki on this istration with a stretched the Polish Academy of important day."

Nawrocki, a conservative incoming president has historian and supporter of said he does not currently Nawrocki would be elderly man in return for a required to sign off on promise of care that he did Poland's ratification of a While Tusk has said that

> play a bigger role in defence matters alongside NATO, PiS and Nawrocki have argued this would undermine Poland's alliance with the United States. "The United States is undoubtedly our priority partner," said Nawrocki's spokesman Leskiewicz. However, the fact that the former head of the Institute of National known to the public before presidency will pan out, political observers say. "I don't know if he will, in

Nawrocki emerged victorious from a tumultuous see a place for Ukraine in campaign in which allega-NATO or the EU, a marked tions regarding his past, shift in tone compared to including that he acquired a Duda. As president, second property from an not provide, frequently member joining dominated the headlines.

Nawrocki denied accusations of wrongdoing, the European Union should although he admitted to taking part in an organised fight between football hooligans, adding to the tough-guy image the amateur boxer had already sought to cultivate. After the election, supporters of defeated liberal candidate Rafal Trzaskowski filed thousands of protests to the Supreme Court over irregularities at some polling stations. However, the Remembrance is a political irregularities were not newcomer who was little enough to materially alter the result. PiS accuse their PiS threw its weight behind liberal opponents of trying him means there is much to subvert the will of the uncertainty about how his people and their supporters plan to march in the capital on inauguration day. "Whoever can - come to short, fully implement the Warsaw ... for the swearpolicies of Law and Justice ing-in of the president," ... or if he will try to come PiS lawmaker Michal Wojcik wrote on X. "Let's said Andrzej show that patriots are with

Ireland calls for hostages' release in Haiti

up with his own initia-

PORT-AU-PRINCE Richard Frechette, who expanded their attacks in Ministry called on Haitian Freres et Soeurs, the interauthorities to ensure national charity that runs "everything is done" to the orphanage, told Reuters secure the release of a a total of eight people had group of people, including an Irish missionary and a 3year-old child, taken by gunmen who stormed a local orphanage. Irish Foreign Minister Simon Harris spoke with his counterpart Haitian overnight, the government said in a statement, during and safe return," the charitouch on their work to

sionary Gena Heraty. "It is imperative the is released immediately," Harris said separately on social media. The attacks took place over the weekend when gunmen stormed by armed gangs since the

been kidnapped including the 3-year-old boy, six staff members and Heraty, who heads special needs programs at the orphanage. We have not yet been able to reach a ransom agreement to free them," he said.

which they agreed to stay in ty added on social media. ensure the group is Haitian people remains as number of residents dis-released, including mis- strong as ever." Armed placed by the extended gious, charitable and medical aid groups, including hospitals, NGOs, nuns and bled to 1.3 million. Haitian priests from congregations authorities have repeatedly the orphanage in Kenscoff, capital, as well as foreign to fight the gangs. A para mountainous community missionaries. A recent tially deployed and deeply on the outskirts of the capireport by the UN office in under-equipped UNtal Port-au-Prince that has Haiti (BINUH) found the been under deadly attacks situation remained "very over a year ago but has had volatile" in Kenscoff while little effect in slowing start of this year. Father gangs intensified and

(Reuters): Ireland's Foreign works with Nos Petits central Haiti and the agricultural Artibonite region. Kenscoff of "major strategic importance" as it overlooks the suburb of Petion-Ville, one of the capital's last hold-outs and the site of multiple embassies, banking institutions and hotels serving as diplomatic meeting places. Over 3,100 people were killed 'We hope for their fast and 336 kidnapped for ransom in the first half of this year in Haiti, according to "Our commitment to the BINUH estimates, as the gangs have in recent years conflict with the powerful targeted a number of reli- gangs - largely grouped behind a coalition called Viv Ansanm - nearly doubased in and around the called for more resources backed mission kicked off gangs' advances.

60,000 displaced in Mozambique: UN

Nearly 60,000 people have fled Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province in two weeks, a United Nations agency has said, amid a years-long rebellion by fighters affiliated with (ISIS). International Organization for Migration (IOM) said in a statement that escalating attacks that began on July 20 had displaced 57,034 people, or 13,343 families. Chiúre was the hardest-

hit district, with more than 42,000 people uprooted, more than half of them children, the IOM said. "So far, around 30,000 displaced people have received food, water, shelter, and essential household items," Paola Emerson, who heads the Mozambique branch of the Office for the Coordination

Humanitarian

MOZAMBIQUE (AFP): OCHA was preparing to step up its assistance in the coming days. "The response, however, is not yet at the scale required to meet growing needs," she said, in a context of cuts to international aid by the United States and other countries. "Funding cuts mean life-saving aid is being scaled back," she added. The UN's 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan for Mozambique has so far received only 19 percent of the pledges request-

stressed that the lack of safety and documentation, and involuntary relocations, were compounding protection risks. Southern African nation has a group known locally as news agency. Emerson said north for at least eight stitutes a war crime.

The organisation also

have been deployed to help Mozambique fight them. More than 6,100 people have been killed since the beginning of the insurrection, according to conflict tracker ACLED, including 364 last year, according to data from the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies. Cabo Delgado has large offshore natural gas reserves, and the fighting caused the suspension of operations by the French company Total Energies in 2021. The French fossil fuel giant has said it hopes to re-ignite the \$20bn gas project this summer. Human Rights Watch last month said the armed group had "ramped up The abductions of children", using them as fighters or been fighting a rebellion by for labour or marriage. The group said recruiting or al-Shabab, though with no using children under the Affairs links to the Somali fighters age of 15 to participate (OCHA), told the AFP of a similar name, in the actively in hostilities con-

US starts seabed mineral talks with Cook Islands

WASHINGTON (Reuters): become increasingly con-The US has begun talks with the Cook Islands for research on seabed miner-State opment, the Department said. The Cook Islands lie halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii and are made up of 15 islands and atolls. The

country in 2021 had a population of 15,040. Western nations that traditionally held sway in the Islands have

Beijing signed defense, research necessary year, a strategic partnership deal between China and the Cook Islands was signed. It spanned areas from deepsea mining to education "The security ties. States of America has

cerned about China's plans Government of the Cook to increase influence after Islands to support the als exploration and devel- trade and financial deals inform seabed exploration with Pacific countries in and responsible developrecent years. Earlier this ment within the Cook Islands' Economic Zone," the Statement Department said in a statement.

US-linked firms "sit at scholarships but excluded the forefront" of deep seabed mineral research Government of the United and exploration in the Cook

The Frontier Post Rehmat Shah Afridi (Late)

Founder Bilal Shah Afridi Chief Executive **Jalil Afridi**

Managing Editor
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How everyone benefits from the UAE's growing non-oil economy

OR many people, midway through the year is a good time to take stock, review progress and plan for the future. The same is true for countries and economies, making this week's news that Abu Dhabi's non-oil foreign trade in the first half of this year jumped 34.7 per cent annually to Dh195.4 billion (\$53.2 billion) significant.

As the emirate's non-oil economy continues to expand amid diversification drives and government initiatives, these latest figures reveal that a thriving, post-hydrocarbons UAE is no longer about near-future speculation; it is unfolding now. The reasons behind this are varied but they are not only of national interest – they have global relevance too.

One important driver of the UAE's flourishing non-oil trade is the country's economic relationships with an expanding list of partner states. By signing new trade deals, such as the more than two dozen Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements (Cepas) struck in recent years, the Emirates is opening new markets, boosting trade and investment flows, and removing tariffs.

The UAE's growing domestic manufacturing base also plays an important role in building up the non-oil economy; in 2023 alone, Abu Dhabi's industrial sector contributed to 16.5 per cent to the emirate's non-oil gross domestic product and represented 51.3 per cent of the UAE's manufac-

Similarly, the UAE's growing relevance as an AI and technology hub gives it a critical role in the 21st-century global economy. Research from PricewaterhouseCoopers. one of the world's largest professional services companies, predicts that AI alone will contribute close to 14 per cent of the UAE's GDP by 2030. This aligns with the country's National Artificial Intelligence Strategy, which aims to have the technology contribute 20 per cent to non-oil GDP by 2031

None of this is to suggest that energy is taking a back seat, rather that the focus has changed. Energy is the engine of economic growth and hydrocarbons globally continue to play a vital role. Entities like XRG and the Emirates Nuclear Energy Company are leading the drive to ensure energy demands are met and sources are diversified.

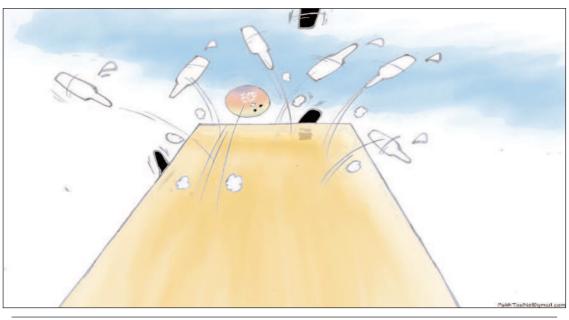
But the country is also investing billions in renewable energy projects and technologies. Although the focus so far has largely been on reducing the country's carbon footprint and ensuring a sustainable supply of domestic power in the future, the UAE looks set to become an important exporter of green energy. The country's National Hydrogen Strategy, for example, has the goal of becoming a top 10 global producer and supplier of low-emission hydrogen by

All of the above require solid infrastructure, technical innovation and skilled people. This is certainly good news for the UAE because the country's commitment to developing these resources will not only boost its non-oil trade, it will also benefit citizens and residents. A recent train journey from Dubai to Fujairah taken by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Ruler of Dubai, showed how the Etihad Rail project will not only be critical in economic terms by boosting logistics, connectivity and supply chains, it will improve the quality of life for those who live here. Job creation, more foreign direct investment and local supply chains for clean energy technologies will be important and beneficial consequences of the UAE's non-oil

None of these developments came to fruition overnight. They have required significant strategising, infrastructural investment and technical know-how. That takes years of planning but we are now seeing the fruits of that long-term vision. Success in driving the UAE's non-oil economy alongside other important sectors such as tourism and financial services – shows that the country has been prescient in future proofing for uncertain times.

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Overseas Pakistanis: The unsung heroes of the nation

Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

INCE the inception of Pakistan in 1947, the sons and daugh- becoming one of the largest 2023, the Ministry of Parliament, from Canadian ters of the soil who ven- ethnic groups. These comtured beyond its borders munities sent remittances, have remained deeply built schools and mosques attached to their mother- back home, and contributed land. These overseas to local development in **scattered** their villages and towns. played a vital role in the diversification. While the diaspora globally. A widely **development and prosper-** Gulf continued to absorb

Pakistanis, across continents, have ity of Pakistan-not merely Pakistani workers, migrathrough financial remit- tion towards North America tances, but also in the and Canada saw significant realms of philanthropy, acceleration. Educated proadvocacy, national image- fessionals, IT specialists, building, and crisis sup- doctors, and port. Their story is not began settling in the United just one of expatriate or States and Canada. By the economic migration, but end of the 1990s, remitof sustained contribution, tances had reached \$1.2 bilundying loyalty, and deep- lion per annum-a figure seated patriotism. From the early 1970s,

migration, towards the oil-rich Gulf Pakistanis also began to countries. The decade participate more actively in marked the beginning of Pakistan's politics, media, large-scale labour migra- and advocacy, supporting tion, with thousands of democracy and voicing Pakistanis moving to Saudi concerns over governance Arabia, the United Arab and rights. Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and Bahrain. These logical transformation in workers-many of them the financial world. With unskilled or semi-skilled- the introduction of formal helped build the infrastruc- channels and stricter regulature of Gulf cities, and in tions post-9/11, more remitdoing so, began to send tances back foreign exchange to through official banking Pakistan in unprecedented systems. By amounts. In 1974, the Pakistan was receiving over remittances stood at around \$8 billion annually in for-\$143 million. By the end of eign remittances. The diasthat decade, these had pora in the Gulf, UK, USA, surged, and remittances and Canada had now grown national calamities-donatbecame a crucial support in for Pakistan's balance of Moreover, this period saw

payments. In the 1980s, the trend Pakistani exchange inflows. The tiatives helped build hospidecade saw annual remit- tals, schools, roads, and tances crossing \$2 billion. provided emergency relief. The Middle East remained the primary destination, but just as financial supporters, migration to Europe also rose. Pakistani communities building.
in the United Kingdom, The 2010s and beyond in the United Kingdom, Norway, Germany, France, marked a golden era of and Italy became more overseas organised. becoming second-generation migrants. In the UK December 2017 estimated alone, the Pakistani com- about munity grew

The 1990s witnessed

engineers which, though slightly lower than the 1980s due to Pakistan saw a wave of informal transfer channels Overseas particularly like Hundi.

The 2000s saw a technobegan to flow 2009-10, size and stature. the emergence of overseas COVID-19 relief cam- future potential. The diaspora emerged not but as partners in nation-

contributions. with many Officially, the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis in

migrated since 1990. The mark with dignity and com United Nations places petence. They have chal Pakistan among the six cited breakdown from 2021 holds that over 4.7?million the global community. now dwell in the Middle East, 1.6?million in Britain, followed by the United

States, Canada, and Europe. each year, 2022 recorded an all-time high of over \$31 billion in remittances, mak-UAE about \$6 billion, fol-Pakistanis live abroad. Approximately 2.64 million million in the UAE, over lands. 1.5 million in the UK, 1.2 million in the USA, around immense

Apart from remittances, heroic role in charitable initiatives. They were among the first responders during ing generously during the ours their past contributions 2010 and 2022 floods, but also harnesses their philanthropic paigns, and in countless various occasions.

largesse. 8.8?million businesspersons steadily, Pakistanis living abroad. By served as ambassadors of carry in their hearts.

goodwill. From Silicon Valley to the British Emigration and Overseas think tanks to European Employment reported that humanitarian organisations well over?10.8?million had Pakistanis have made their lenged stereotypes, promot countries with the largest ed cultural exchange, and built bridges of understand ing between Pakistan and

Notably, over a dozer British-Pakistanis served as Members of Parliament in the UK With remittances rising including figures like Sajid Javid, Sadiq Khan, Yasmin Qureshi, and Hussain. In Canada, several ing Pakistan one of the top Pakistan-origin individuals five recipient countries have been elected to federal globally. Saudi Arabia con- and provincial legislatures. tributed around \$8 billion, In Norway, politicians of Pakistani descent like Abid lowed by the UK (\$4.5 bil- Raja have held ministerial lion) and the USA (\$3 bil-positions. These achievelion). Today, over 9 million ments reflect the values discipline, and public serv ice ethos carried from reside in Saudi Arabia, 1.5 Pakistan to their adopted

Yet, despite contribution 300,000 in Canada, over overseas Pakistanis often 200,000 in Italy, and tens of remain distant from policythousands scattered across making within the country France, Germany, Norway, They have long demanded Spain, Greece, Australia, voting rights, proper repre-Malaysia, and South Africa. sentation, and facilitation in sending investment. While steps overseas have been taken over time, Pakistanis have played a more institutionalised support is needed. A well-structured diaspora engagement policy is the need of the hour-one that not only hon-

In conclusion, overseas deepened. As the number of organisations-raising funds medical and educational Pakistanis have been more Pakistani workers grew, for disaster relief after the projects. Philanthropists than just remitters of particularly in the Gulf, so 2005 earthquake and the too did the foreign 2010 floods. Charitable ini-Pakistan's external debt on silent builders of Pakistan's economy, the quiet benefac Institutions like Shaukat tors of its institutions, and Khanum Cancer Hospital, the unsung heroes of its Edhi Foundation, Indus tragedies and triumphs Hospital, and countless Their role-steadfast, sinorphanages and schools cere, and selfless-must be have benefited from their recognised, celebrated, and institutionalised, for no Furthermore, their role in nation can afford to neglect promoting Pakistan's soft the outstretched hands of its image abroad cannot be own scattered across the overstated. Pakistani pro- world, who have never fessionals, academics, and ceased to pray, work, and have hope for the homeland they

Operation Bunyan Marsoos redefines faith and fear **Abdul Basit Alvi**

the faith-driven motiva- own motivations. tion behind it. This operation, seen by people as a be more pronounced for Jihad and a path to Shahadat (martyrdom).

In contrast, Indian miliconfrontation, often expe- honor, Operation Bunyan attacks on Pakistan's civilgious leaders and military commanders as an extension of defensive Jihad. Shahadat, which repreinvolved in this operation, the battle was not merely about enemy; it is about achieving martyrdom, considered the highest spiritual

honor in Islam. Martyrdom is central to ness of the Pakistani soldeath in the path of Jihad opens the door to eternal rewards in the afterlife. showing Pakistani soldiers

N the ongoing con- the Indian military, the flict between India battle is primarily focused Land Pakistan, mili- on national defense and tary operations often territorial sovereignty, carry deep ideological, rather than a religious or national, and religious spiritual mission. This significance. One such contrast creates a unique Operation tension, as Indian soldiers Bunyan Marsoos, recent- recognize that their adverly launched by the saries are driven by a Pakistani military, has blend of faith, ideology, garnered attention not and the promise of martyronly for its military dom, which does not play objectives but also for as central a role in their The fear of death may

defensive response to Indian soldiers in this situ-Indian aggression, was ation, especially when facmore than just a military ing an enemy that does not engagement; to Pakistani fear death but embraces it Muslims, it represented as part of their divine mission. In contrast to the Pakistani Shahadat, where martyrtary forces, involved in the dom is celebrated as an Indian forces rience anxiety and fear of regard death as a tragic death, especially when and unfortunate event to confronted by what is perbe avoided. In a secular ceived as the religious zeal military context, the conof their adversaries, cept of dying for a higher purpose is not as ingrained Marsoos, launched against as it is in religiously moti-Indian forces after their vated forces. For Indian soldiers, the psychological ian population, was burden of fighting an framed by Pakistani reli- enemy that sees death burden of fighting an through the lens of religious zeal creates an environment of uncertainty This understanding of and intimidation. This fear Jihad is further strength- of death also leads to a ened by the aspiration for psychological disadvantage for Indian forces sents martyrdom in the when engaging in direct path of Allah. For those combat with an opponent who seems to be fighting for more than just national defeating the pride-they are fighting for spiritual redemption.

This contrast results in an imbalance in the battle, where one side is driven by a sense of spiritual victhe religious conscious- tory while the other, despite its commitment to dier, who is taught that national defense, faces the natural fear of mortality. One of the central aspects of Operation Bunyan Numerous videos have cir- Marsoos was the ideologiculated on social media, cal clash between the religious zeal of the Pakistani expressing their deep forces and the secular desire and joy at the nationalism of the Indian

In the context of Operation Bunyan Marsoos, the message was clear: those who die in battle are not seen as victims but as witnesses to their faith. For Pakistani Muslims, the operation presented an opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to Islam by participating in

what they viewed as a holy war. The connection between religious duty and military engagement provides significant psychological strength, transforming death from an obstacle to a goal. In this context,

Shahadat is viewed as a reward rather than a loss. This perspective offers those fighting a sense of peace and acceptance in the face of potential death, as they

believe their sacrifice serves a higher, divine purpose. On the other hand, Indian soldiers faced a different psychological reality. They confronted an enemy whose motivations are rooted deeply in spiritual and religious beliefs. For the Indian military, the battle is primarily focused on national defense and territorial sovereignty. rather than a religious or spiritual mission.

Global cooperation key to regulating AI REMIER Li Qiang's bold proposal at the **Harvey Dzodin**

. World our master.

In his keynote speech, Li called for the establishment of a global framework of work be shaped by a broad those pioneered by Chinese called for striking a balance and security. Also, he warned that in the absence of coordinated global gover- and legal safeguards. nance, AI could become the exclusive domain of a few countries and companies, primarily benefiting wealthier nations while leaving others, especially countries in

the Global South, behind. Throughout his address, Li reaffirmed China's commitment to multilateralism irresponsible political dia-and to sharing its AI technol- tribe against China which ogy achievements with the broader international community, while underscoring the importance of ensuring universal access to this transformative technology, and calling for international collaboration, including joint scientific research and open-source initiatives. His policy that could split global address highlighted China's commitment to playing a choose sides and undermine leading role in building a fair universal safety guardrails. and inclusive global AI

ecosystem. Concurrently,

Artificial Governance Action Plan, Intelligence Conference in which proposes that a Shanghai on July 26 for United Nations-led internaestablishing a global tional organization coordiorganization to promote nate AI development and international cooperation regulations and emphasizes for guiding and regulating the importance to uphold AI promises is a milestone multilateralism, promote in using AI for the com- inclusivity and ensure equal mon good of humanity. At participation for all counthe same time, it will help tries. The plan envisions prevent AI from becoming open-source cooperation, technology-sharing, joint research, and accords priority to the bridging of digital divide through AI rules to govern AI. He education, infrastructure and emphasized that this frame-talent-cultivation such as

international consensus and companies like Huawei. Among the bedrock princibetween AI development ples are responsible, peoplecentered AI with clearly defined and enforced ethical China's plan is in sharp contrast to the United States administration's irresponsible zero-sum "Winning the AI Race: America's AI Action Plan" released a few days earlier. It is not a win-

win plan to save humanity

from runaway AI, but an

would further widen global divisions. It aims to create a "US AI exports program" that bundles US chips, models and standards into full-stack packages for allies, while increasing export control against "adversaries" in a markets, force countries to

Not surprisingly, it even released its Global AI US president Joe Biden's existential threat to all leading the way forward.

"AI Bill of Rights". To add to the urgency, Geoffrey Hinton, considered by many to be the "godfather of AI" and 2024 Nobel Physics laureate, warned the responsible approach, China World Artificial Intelligence Conference that advanced AI could soon surpass human intelligence and become uncontrollable. He compared super-intelligent AI to a tiger cub that grows ever more dangerous as it and policy wonks, which has

shut AI off may not work. Hinton's plea brought back memories of Stanley Kubrick's 1968 classic and prescient film 2001: A Space Odyssey.

In this science fiction movie, set in 2001 but which is still a must-see, the onboard AI computer, HAL 9000, kills several crew members due to a contradictory programming error the computer was unable to resolve. Now Hinton is afraid that life will soon be lethally imitating art.

Hinton made a passionate plea for global cooperation to align AI with human values, proposed an international safety consortium, and urged young researchers to proceed boldly but emphasized the urgent need to ensure AI remains beneficial to humans, while warning that unchecked AI could harm or replace humans if not trained within the frameestablished tion. of work guardrails.

the two plans Hinton thinks posal is swiftly implement reverses the modest protec- is urgently needed, and ed. Time is of the essence, China tions enshrined in previous which one he considers an and, once again, China is

humanity. No wonder the 77-year-old Canadian scientist chose the WAIC for his first trip to China as the venue to emphasize the urgency of his message.

In taking the more

is not in uncharted territory There is a little-known precedent, similar to what China is proposing: an organization based Switzerland Geneva, known mostly to scientists matures, and warned that an unblemished record of eventually even trying to success. It is called CERN by its French acronym, or the European Organization Nuclear Research. for founded in 1954 by 12 European countries seeking to re-establish peaceful sci entific cooperation after World War II and it is where among other technologies the World Wide Web was spun and touch-screen tech-

> decades smartphones came in. CERN is governed by consensus among its 25 politically diverse member states. The organization's leadership rotates to avoid favoritism and it is known for its transparency and oper decision-making. Knowing how thorough the Chinese government's decision-mak ing is, it's likely that CERN was considered when Premier Li proposed at the WAIC the establishment of a global organization to pro mote international coopera

nology was invented in the

I hope that for the sake of It is clear to me which of humanity this important proprospect of martyrdom. forces. For Pakistan's mili-For them, the fear of death tary, Jihad is not only a is often replaced with a profound sense of divine purpose and spiritual fervor. Death is no longer divinely ordained mission, seen as an end but as a transition to paradise.

frequently emphasize the value of Shahadat, with the belief that a martyr's soul is granted eternal peace and divine favor. This belief dramatically alters the psychological approach to warfare. Soldiers motivated by these teachings are driven not by fear or hesitation but by a sense of honor, duty, and commitment to their religious cause. In the context

Operation Bunyan Marsoos, the message was battle are not seen as victims but as witnesses to their faith. For Pakistani Muslims, the operation presented an opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to Islam by participating in what they viewed as a holy war. The connection between religious duty and military engagement provides significant psychological strength, transforming death from an obstacle to a goal. In this context, Shahadat is viewed as a reward rather than a loss. This perspective offers those fighting a sense of peace and acceptance in the face of potentheir sacrifice serves a the other hand, Indian soldiers faced a different psychological reality. They confronted an enemy whose motivations are and religious beliefs. For ing faith.

geopolitical struggle but a spiritual one. The soldiers see themselves as part of a aligning their actions with larger narrative of The Quran and Hadith Islamic resistance. The concept of strengthens the Pakistani soldiers' sense of purpose, as they view their participation in the war as an act

of devotion to Allah. On the Indian side, however, the conflict was viewed primarily in terms of national sovereignty. The Indian military doctrine focuses on protecting the state, its territory, and its people. Indian soldiers face the inherent fear of death that comes from knowing their sacrifices clear: those who die in carry no spiritual or religious reward. Death in combat is seen as a tragic loss rather than a transition to eternal life or a source of divine blessing. The stark ideological difference between these two perspectives creates a situation where religious passion and national survival intersect.

The outstanding success of Pakistan and the Pakistani Bunyan Operation Marsoos serves as a wakeup call to both internal and external adversaries. For the Pakistani people and the armed forces, defending the country is not just tial death, as they believe a duty, but a matter of faith, and they are unafraid higher, divine purpose. On to give their lives for this noble cause. Our enemies should reconsider their actions and think carefully before launching any form of aggression against a rooted deeply in spiritual nation with such unwaver-

Tapes, transcripts, subpoenas, and legal twists: Trump's Epstein storm deepens again

tal scandal over Jeffrey to advance his personal reported Tuesday that on next steps on a tran-Donald Trump's admin- script has not been made, istration has recorded one of the officials said. conversations with Epstein's convicted sex day when the Epstein **trafficker** accomplice question broke the surface Ghislaine Maxwell and is in Washington again working on a transcript, just when the White House which it may even hoped it was fading.
release. News came Tuesday

from sectors of the presifiles and information relat-dent's base that first ed to Epstein. whipped the Epstein storm into overdrive.

President JD Vance's resi-

a top Justice Department Court to take up her official to spend two days appeal.

salking to someone con
"Jeffrey Epstein is as a witness, given the conviction." victed of grooming, abus- dead. Ghislaine Maxwell nature of the conviction the House would reinforce ing and trafficking young is not," Maxwell's attorgirls for a figure as reviled ney, David Oscar Markus, as Epstein. The idea diagonal ing.

officials would then coning.

The aphorism is factual. as Epstein. The idea that wrote to the judge in a fil-Trump's second term.

releasing a transcript of women and girls. interview

move would risk repeating them all over again. They the damaging cycle that told the judge in the grand has plunged the White jury documents case that House ever deeper into a survivors supported transpolitical morass.

tration takes a step designed to quell the scandal, all it succeeds in script might make the doing is raising expecta- scandal even worse tions and brewing new MAGA activists obsessed with the case while widen- Epstein and Trump, both who appointed him. And doubts about whether it's ing public exposure to an New York and Florida Blanche is Trump's former really seeking full transepisode that has blotted celebrities, in the 1990s personal lawyer. out the president's summer and the early 2000s, winning streak.

tration officials told CNN cier out of his Mar-a-Lago that discussions are taking club. Epstein "stole" his place about releasing the employees, Trump told transcript of Maxwell's reporters last week. interviews with Blanche in Florida two weeks ago. that Trump did anything victims. But this would have often been ignored in vious scandal — Comey That was before she was legally wrong during his surely moved, without explana- friendship with Epstein, intriguers who argue that — on the subpoena list. tion, to a less draconian and he has never been the prison in Texas — a step charged with any crimes involved in a massive York University law pro- with Trump: "Lordy, that itself launched new related to their connection. cover-up. It's the nature of fessor, said the omission hope there are tapes.

tapes. In the latest tions that Trump was misturn of the immor- using presidential power CNN first interests. A final decision

But this news came on a

The revelation about that the House Oversight Deputy Attorney General Committee had issued a thing about the case, but I and run Todd Blanche's conversa- dozen subpoenas to the know I have the right to do tions with Maxwell last Justice Department and month is certain to renew high-profile Democratic view with Newsmax, a the Justice Department demands for transparency and Republican figures for conservative outlet, last calls for the provision to tions and legal battles

a complex dance with the And it comes as senior administration, Maxwell's administration officials lawyers warned against plan to meet at Vice the release of sealed grand jury transcripts about the dinner Epstein case. They said the Wednesday to discuss how move — one way the DOJ to better handle the is seeking to appease Epstein case, CNN's team demands for transparency from the Trump base — Taking a step back, it's would prejudice her due an extraordinary use of an process interests as she administration's power for petitions the Supreme ted no crimes.

of the meeting to brazenly But Epstein's poisoned help a president escape a influence on politics has political scandal raises never been so alive, six ethical, legal and political years after he was found questions that reflect the dead by suicide in his cell unfathomable times in while awaiting trial on a rump's second term. catalogue of horrific But it's hard to see how charges of abusing young

Many of those victims Maxwell could end up on Tuesday questioned the making people less inter- motives of the Trump ested in the intrigue — administration in its dealwhich would be the osten- ings with Maxwell and sible purpose of the exer- said that indications that she was being "legit-More likely, such a imized" had traumatized parency but said the "safe-Every time the administy, privacy and dignity" of

victims must be protected. Why a Maxwell tran-

There's been intense friendship Three senior adminis- threw the disgraced finan-

Stephen Collinson

commutation for Maxwell. Trump instead keeps notone who has a huge incentive to help him.

"I'm allowed to do it, but nobody's asked me to MAGA activists. do it. I know nothing about it. I don't know anyit," Trump said in an inter-

Blanche and Maxwell vicuins names reducted a spoke about. But the point The GOP-led panel also stay.

Communications The inclusion of the state of t people and not just Trump. and cerns about the president's case. past relationship with him.

might also be unfair to sitive documents to people who came across Congress: They often leak. drum Epstein but who commit-

There would be issues for which she is serving a the demand for action in People would ask what she got in return for her cooperation. Already, survivors family of Virginia Giuffre, going to see many victims one of his most well-know victims, who took her life about how this is importhis year, have warned tant for them, in terms of there should be no lenien-cy. Trump insisted, as he transparency," Khanna nothing about the contents closed-door depositions of Blanche's talks with Maxwell.

"So, I know this. I didn't discuss it with him, but Merrick Garland, William cover. anything he talked about Barr, Jeff with her, or the fact that he Loretta did that — not unusual, Holder number one, and most Gonzales; former FBI importantly, is something Director James Comey; that would be totally former special counsel and above board," the presi- FBI Director Robert dent said.

But it is highly unusual imprisoned inmate con- Clinton. victed of child sex traf-

And in any case, any drama feels far-fetched. avoid revealing sensitive 2008. There are also no Washington fuel government is

efforts to squelch them nas was "very glaring," The president, however, only spark new tributaries since a subpoena sent to keeps refocusing attention of unhinged speculation. former President Bill on Epstein's case by refus- This has already hap- Clinton said Clinton could ing to rule out a pardon or pened. Previous disclo- have information regard-Pam Bondi of documents relevant to the investigaing that he has the power and details in the case only to ease the plight of some- conjured claims of a deep state plot to hide the truth reason that if you are lookwhen the release fell far short of her promises to

> Oversight House ensures this drama will run

The House Oversight Committee's subpoena to knew multiple famous administration officials the Justice This might defuse con- Department related to the

But such a release often resist releasing sen-But Democratic Rep. Ro House with Maxwell's credibility Committee, told CNN's Jake Tapper on Tuesday bipartisan bill demanding the full release of informa-Khanna CNN's Kaitlan Collins on panel additionally subpoebetween August and mid-October. Those are: former Attorneys General Sessions, Lynch, Eric and Alberto

Mueller III; former Secretary of State and first for a deputy attorney gen- lady Hillary Clinton; and eral to meet with an former President Bill But there are huge between swirls around the president subpoenas that raise go on.

sures by Attorney General ing Epstein that may be tion. The same is true of Trump. "It only stands to ing around for the people that would provide information for the investigation, he (Trump) would be pretty close to the top of that list," Goodman told CNN's Erin Burnett.

The subpoenas likely mean months of negotiales and information relat-to Epstein.

Week.

Congress of any Epstein about the timing and scope to Epstein.

It is unclear what files in its possession, with of testimony. So the And in the latest step of Blanche and Maxwell victims' names redacted. Epstein saga is here to

> might be to show Epstein between former Biden names of high-profile Democrats and past Republican officials may be an attempt to spare Trump from being the only Departments of Justice person tainted by association with Epstein.

Maxwell's legal conun-

warning Khanna, who serves on the Maxwell's lawyers that Oversight grand jury testimony should not be released potentially puts their client in opposition to the Justice Department at a time when 20-year prison sentence. September, when Khanna she has strong incentives is hoping for a vote on his to help the administration.

The DOJ went to court to ask for the release of of Epstein's abuse and the tion. "I think soon you are grand jury transcripts Epstein and about speaking out themselves Maxwell, hoping to pla-about how this is impor-cate the MAGA base. The testimony, however, is thought to be only a fraction of investigative mateanswered a question from said. The Republican-led rial the DOJ is holding. Some observers question Tuesday, that he knew naed 10 individuals for whether officials really want grand jury documents released or whether they petitioned the judge only to create political

> Senior Legal Elie Honig Analyst explained that Maxwell's lawyers are protecting her interests in the event that Supreme Court accepts her appeal. Her lawyer would "not want this grand jury material out there for the public," he told CNN's Kasie Hunt.

Taken together, Tuesday's developments conspiracy theories among speculation about the past ficking as a related scandal omissions on the list of mean Epstein drama will

> And the history of tapes American scandals parency. Like Trump, who from Watergate onward was mentioned multiple create evocative echoes. before the future president notion that a transcript times in the Epstein files, Audio and questions about would end the Epstein and his first-term Labor its release, redaction and Secretary Alex Acosta, editing have been insepa-The document would need who handed Epstein a rable from lore about to be heavily redacted to sweetheart plea deal in cover-ups and chicanery in There's no evidence details like the names of victims — people who That's why — amid a prefringe the current political uproar replied, when asked whether there were record-Ryan Goodman, a New ings of his conversations

students from Gaza? Logain Hamdan

Accepted but trapped: Why

won't the UK evacuate its

am supposed to start a new life, not no centre in Gaza to supin war-torn Gaza, but port me, not for training, in a lecture hall in the not even to register. Most United Kingdom. After UK universities would nearly a year of endless not accept Duolingo, the efforts, applications, only test I could afford exams, and navigating and access online. So I stretched every resource displaceblackout and applied for each zones just to apply, I institution's approved was accepted. Not once, test, juggling freelance France and Italy did the but five times, by the mobile programming by same. Students were Universities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Exeter, and Ulster. I even night, often under a mobile flashlight. secured funding.
But instead of board-Some tests required

N September 2025, I

bombings,

ment and

remains silent.

constant camera and ing a plane, I remain microphone monitoring, trapped in Gaza, a place difficult in a war zone where war has flattened where homes, stolen futures and noise and unstable intercaged dreams. net made focus nearly bombs have not stopped. impossible. One infraction and the test would be Neither has our will. void. My laptop battery Unlike students in other war-torn areas, we, Gaza often died before the test Palestinian students, are ended. But I endured and not being offered any path out. Many countries, succeeded. hunger for education. My such as France, Ireland and Italy, have successbrother is a mechanical fully evacuated their stucompetitive dents through government-coordinated efforts and humanitarian corridors, like via the International Committee

gramme at the University of Liverpool in January of the Red Cross (ICRC). 2025, but it has been These governments made deferred. My sister was it clear that their students matter. The UK has not. Despite its global standing and historic reputa-Samsun tion for championing justice and education, it dreams and drive, are This is not just my story. It is a collective stuck in Gaza. We did cry from dozens of us, everything right. So why are we left behind?

admitted to top British universities, with schol-After much struggle, I arships or personal sav-ings, who survived finally passed the tests and converted my condibombs and sieges only to tional offers into unconbe abandoned at the final ditional ones. I even secured funding, enough border: there is no visa for at least the first year's centre in Gaza to submit fingerprints, and no route tuition fees and living out without evacuation. expenses.

I was also promised After the war broke out in late 2023, I was forced to pause my only on submitting my online university studies, as both the classes and visa application. But when I tried to the fees became impossible to maintain under the apply for a visa, I hit a siege. But I did not give up on education. Instead, I began applying to UK universities through complete the process, I UCAS, a process that demanded a carefully border that is shut unless written personal state-

ment, recommendation tion. letters, detailed documentation and weeks of I submitted everything ties, 48 with full scholar- the very system that welships, who face the same comed us in writing? using borrowed internet in relatives' homes or deadlock. from paid co-working

running out of time. Inside the UK, instituspaces that I reached on foot, under the midday sun or pouring rain, with Scholarship Initiative values. There were days when (GSI) have stepped in to sat on a plastic chair in government because they leges and researching believe in us.

entry requirements while Some have carried their offers from 2024, chooses to act. missiles flew overhead. universities after universities generasked for English qualifi- ously deferred their when? cation submissions, I had admission.

universities,

however, will not offer such flexibility again. For all of us, 2025 is our last chance.

Other countries acted. Ireland coordinated directly with Israel to evacuate its students via the Karem Abu Salem (known to Israelis as Kerem Shalom) crossing. day to support myself transported to nearby and studying English by countries to finish visa processing and begin their studies. They understood the stakes, not just academic, but human. These governments coordinated with humanitaridisplacement, an agencies to get their students out, then facilitated visas and asylum claims.

The UK has done nothing similar, despite numerous appeals from students, universities, advocacy groups like My family shares this GSI, and members of parliament. We have written letters to MPs, engineer who won the university heads and the Qaddumi British Council. Even scholarship last year to university leaders who begin a master's pro- support our admission cannot help unless the UK government steps in.

This silence hurts most because it is not due to accepted into a Turkish incapability. The UK can government-funded med- act but it simply chooses ical programme at not to. If the government University, coordinated with Israeli which was also post- authorities and humani-poned because of the tarian groups like the war. Three of us, all with ICRC, students could be evacuated Kerem Shalom into Egypt or Jordan, where they could finalise visas and travel.

This is not speculative. It is exactly what other democratic nations have done. The difference? They cared enough to try. What does this say about whose futures mat-

The UK has invested support from private for decades in internafoundations, conditional tional education, offering prestigious scholarships like Chevening and the Commonwealth.

It champions learning dead end: biometric fin- and opportunity and gerprints. The UK has no leads countless internavisa centre in Gaza. To tional partnerships. But when it comes to Gaza would need to cross a students, who embody that very ethos, we are I am listed for evacua- being forgotten.

What message does There are more than that send? Does our sur-100 Gazan students vival, our future, matter accepted to UK universiless? Are we invisible to

I still believe in British Many, like me, are education. I am inspired by its professors, challenged by its rigour, and tions like the Gaza drawn to its diversity and

I fought for my place amplify our voice to the there. I hope, not just for me but for my peers, that the UK government remembers its legacy and

Because if not now,

— Aljazeera

Building smarter cities for an AI century **Michael Jansen**

decade moving from Intelligence. Already, 22 will eventually move in the IMD Smart City urban governance. strategy to execution, strategy to execution, embedding digital transformation into the city's DNA. From AIenhanced healthcare to real-time mobility systems, we are not preparing for the next era of cities; we are already living it.

At the heart of this transformation is Digital Dubai, with which I am intricately involved. ['] Dubai Digital launched to leverage technology to build a globally competitive digital city, bolster the emirate's digital economy, and nurture national talents for the future.

In recent years, Dubai has emerged as a practical case study on how digital vision can become tangible value, both for governments and the communities they serve. chief AI officers have 20,000 passengers an Index.

approach unique is the ernment operational behind its ambition. AI use cases span sectors successfully Initiatives don't remain such as healthcare, transon paper for long; they port, urban planning and are swiftly turned into energy management. action across public servapplications and equip- ning outcomes. ping civil servants with

What makes Dubai's approach unique is the operational agility behind its ambition. Initiatives don't remain on paper for long; they are swiftly turned into action across public services, infrastructure, and business processes. Through public-private collaborations, we are

■ HE future is no National Strategy for streamline auditing. In longer a destina- Artificial Intelligence transport, the Dubai tion; it is in daily 2031 and the recently Loop, designed in part- supporting it.

operation. In Dubai, we unveiled Dubai Universal nership with Elon Musk's have spent the last Blueprint for Artificial "The Boring Company", has ranked 4th globally enabling comprehensive tion output and ranks are moving beyond pas-

building privacy-first AI applications and equipping civil servants with tools to make data-driven decisions. Dubai's AI deployment is guid-

ed by the UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031 and the recently unveiled Dubai Universal Blueprint for Artificial

Intelligence. Already, 22 chief AI officers have been appointed in government departments, and more than 100 live AI use cases span sectors

such as healthcare, transport, urban planning and energy management. The Dubai State of AI Report 2025 showcases this spectrum, from

early disease detection in hospitals to digital twins that simulate citywide planning outcomes. In energy and sustainability, AI helps opti-

mize smart grid performance in real time. In finance, algorithmic models streamline auditing. In transport, the Dubai Loop, designed in

partnership with Elon Musk's "The Boring Company", will eventually move 20,000 passengers an hour underground at high speed. And the roads and transport authority has successfully tested eVTOL air taxis, with their commercial launch targeted for 2026. This momentum

aligns with the broader goals of the Dubai Economic Agenda, which aims to unlock 100 billion UAE dirhams (\$27,22 billion) in annual digi-

tal value. The UAE cloud computing market, expected to reach \$38.5 billion by 2029, provides the infrastructure backbone for supporting

According to the Stanford AI Index 2024,

no transportation.

When

the street, emailing col-

safety, healthcare and China continues to lead long-term ambitions. In among the top nations for sive digitalization toward

challenges and realize

connects local authorities with international partners, technology firms, start-ups and academia. We benefit from global best practices even as we contribute to them. This spirit of mutual learning is something we see mir-

It's also about collabo-

ration. Dubai's ecosystem

rored in China's innovation hubs, where pilot programs often serve as test-beds for nationalscale initiatives. As the world's urban population grows, the stakes of city-level digital transformation have never been Whether it's

improving energy use, protecting public health, or designing inclusive mobility, cities must lead, not follow, the global digital shift. Dubai and Chinese cities may differ in geography, scale and political

systems, but they recognize that innovation must be operational, not aspirational. Our shared goal is to

an insight that resonates build cities that are safer, globally: digital maturity smarter and more sustainable, cities where data serve people, and not the other way around.

In this journey, diaholders and scale initia- logue matters. alignment tives in a coordinated, opportunity to learn from each other across cul-Our success in inte-tures, regions, and govergrating AI and data nance models will define across sectors is not just the next era of progress. After all, the digital cenalso about cultivating an tury isn't coming. It's here, delivery of services are ported by regulation, in Dubai, it's already

it. And this year, Dubai has ranked 4th globally in the IMD Smart City Index. Chinese cities, too, are advancing along a parallel trajectory. In Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shenzhen and Chengdu, we see examples of how digital governance and artificial intelligence are reshaping the public sphere. Hangzhou's City Brain 3.0 platform, for instance, is an apt example of urban intelligence in action. As detailed in the city's 2025 Vision, the platform integrates real-time data across transportation, public safety, healthcare and administrative services, enabling comprehensive urban governance. It has reduced traffic congestion by up to 15 percent in key zones, while improving emergency response times by

as much as 50 percent. Through the platform, more than 1,000 application scenarios have been developed, showcasing how digital infrastructure can enhance both efficiency and citizens' well-being in a complex urban environment. And in Shenzhen, digital ID systems and AI-powered citizen services are setting new benchmarks for efficiency and reach. According to the Stanford AI Index 2024, China continues to lead the world in AI publication output and ranks among the top nations for AI talent and adoption. Its smart city pilots, supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, are pushing forward digital infrastructure and governance models that are both people-centric and tech-driven. This alignment between Chinese cities and Dubai isn't coincidental; it reflects a deeper global trend.

The Dubai State of AI ices, infrastructure, and Report 2025 showcases processes. this spectrum, from early the Dubai Economic sphere. Through public-private disease detection in hoscollaborations, we are pitals to digital twins that building privacy-first AI simulate citywide plan-

In energy and sustaintools to make data-driven ability, Al helps optimize ing market, expected to the city's 2025 Vision, tems and Al-powered cit- Al, data and digital infra-Dubai's AI deployment in real time. In finance, is guided by the UAE algorithmic

What makes Dubai's been appointed in gov- hour underground at high agility and more than 100 live transport authority has lel targeted for 2026.

Agenda, which aims to unlock 100 billion UAE 3.0 dirhams (\$27.22 billion) instance, is an apt exam-

tested Hangzhou,

platform, 2029, provides the infra- real-time data across new benchmarks for effistructure backbone for transportation, public ciency and reach.

Chinese cities, too, are congestion by up to 15 Its smart city pilots, sup-dvancing along a paral-percent in key zones, ported by the Ministry of departments, speed. And the roads and advancing along a paral- percent in key zones, trajectory. In while improving emer-thou, Suzhou, gency response times by Rural Development, are eVTOL air taxis, with Shenzhen and Chengdu, as much as 50 percent. their commercial launch we see examples of how Through the platform, digital governance and more than 1,000 applica-This momentum aligns artificial intelligence are tion scenarios have been with the broader goals of reshaping the public developed, showcasing how digital infrastructure Hangzhou's City Brain can enhance both effifor ciency and citizens' well- and Dubai isn't coincibeing in a complex urban in annual digital value. ple of urban intelligence environment. And in The UAE cloud comput- in action. As detailed in Shenzhen, digital ID syssmart grid performance reach \$38.5 billion by the platform integrates izen services are setting

It has reduced traffic AI talent and adoption. proactive digital leaderinfrastructure and governance models that are cities apart is their ability both people-centric and tech-driven.

This between Chinese cities dental; it reflects a deeper global trend.

Cities that integrate structure into the daily positioned to education and public working.

alone isn't enough. What high-performing sets to act fast, align stake-

> secure way. about investment; it's innovation culture sup- already

Dubai's journey offers



PSX hits new milestone, surges 2,051 points

ing 2,051.33 more points, a 7.04 per share. positive of 1.43 percent, reaching 145,088.50 points imum increase of Rs 285.15, respectively.

shares were traded during Nestle Pakistan Limited the day as compared to with Rs869.83 rise in its 326.20, according to the St-549,719,494 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at last trading day.

As many as 484 compasustained losses, Rs2,130.99. whereas the share price of 28 companies remained against US Dollar unchanged.

shares at Rs 14.24 per ing and closed at Rs 282.67

ISLAMABAD (APP): The share, National Bank XD against the previous day's Rs1,300 to Rs359,300 per Pakistan Stock Exchange's with 49,133,499 shares at closing Rs 282.57. benchmark KSE-100 Index Rs139.22 per share and

against 143,037.17 points 1,419.87 per share price, closing at Rs 30,935.90, A total of 788,463,721 whereas the runner-up was per share price to Rs ate Bank of Pakistan (SBP). by Rs 1,114 to Rs.308,041

Rs 52.780 billion against Limited witnessed a maxi- closed at Rs 1.91, whereas Karat went up by 1,022 to Rs 37.040 billion on the mum decrease of Rs321.66 an increase of 62 paisa was Rs 33,092.14 followed by nies transacted their shares Ismail Industries Limited in the stock market, 264 of with Rs49.04 decline in its 375.55 compared to the by Rs39 and Rs33 to them recorded gains and share price to close at

Rupee sheds 10 paisa

Rupee The The three top trading Wednesday depreciated by companies were Bank of 10 paisa against the US Punjab with 67,554,764 Dollar in the interbank trad-respectively.

However, according to continued with bullish First Dawood Prop with the Forex Association of The price of 24 karat per trend on Wednesday, gain- 44,652,962 shares at Rs Pakistan (FAP), the buying tola gold witnessed an and selling rates of the dol-PIA Holding Company lar in the open market stood hitting new mile stone by LimitedB witnessed a max- at Rs 284.35 and Rs Rs359,300 against its sale

> increased by 96 paisa to stan Sarafa Gems and Jewclose at Rs 327.16 against elers Association reported. the last day's closing of Rs

per share closing at Rs witnessed in the exchange 281,359. rate of the British Pound, which was traded at Rs ten gram silver increased previous day's closing of Rs4,010 and Rs 3,437

The exchange rates of the Emirates Dirham and international the Saudi Riyal went up by increased by \$13 to \$3,366 02 and 01 paisa to close at from \$3,353 whereas silver Rs 76.95 and Rs 75.33, increased \$0.39 to \$37.77

Gold prices up by Association reported.

Business

ISLAMABAD (APP): increase of Rs1,300 on Wednesday and was sold at at Rs358,000 on the previ-The price of the Euro ous trading day, All Paki-

The prices of 10 grams of 24 karat also increased The Japanese yen rem- from Rs 306,927 whereas Unilever Pakistan Foods ained unchanged and the price of 10 grams of 22 282,381 from Rs

> The rates of per tola and respectively.

> The price of gold in the against



ISLAMABAD: Japanese Ambassador Akamatsu Shuichi meeting with Special Assistant to Prime Minister Haroon Akhtar Khan at Ministry of Industries and Production.

Dawlance CEO meets **Turkish Ambassador** F.P. Report

KARACHI: Umar Ahsan Khan, CEO of Dawlance, met with the Ambassador of Türkiye to discuss strengthening bilateral economic relations and exploring investment opportunities.

The meeting emphasized the deep historical ties between Pakistan and Türkiye and highlighted the potential for increased cooperation in trade and investment sectors. Umar Khan shared that since Dawlance became a part of Beko, the company has achieved significant milestones over the past nine years in Pakistan, including notable local value addition, retail innovation, technology transfer, and longterm strategic planning in the market.

Both parties acknowledged that while progress has been made, bilateral trade has not yet reached its full potential.

They agreed that deeper and mutually beneficial economic engagement is essential to unlock this opportunity. Umar Khan stated that Dawlance and Beko are among the largest Turkish investors in Pakistan and serve as a reliable bridge for attracting further investment from Türkiye. However, he emphasized the need to resolve operational challenges to promote further investment and growth.

The Turkish Ambassador appreciated the contributions of Dawlance and Beko to Pakistan's economy and reaffirmed Türkiye's commitment to strengthening trade and investment relations between the two countries.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to further enhance this stra-

policy essential — to unlock Pak's economic potential President Nasir Mehmood

President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), has urged the government to take concrete and practical steps to establish an investor-friendly environment that encourages both foreign and local investment.

visiting businessmen Wednesday, alongside ICCI Senior Vice President Abdul Rehman Siddiqui and Vice ment policy formulated in

lighted Pakistan's immense investment potential across diverse sectors.

tion technology, cement, pharmaceuticals, textiles, surgical instruments, sports goods, mining and minerals, and unique commodi-

He emphasized that the

The ICCI President pointed out that strategies must be grounded in practical realities and address the genuine challenges facing the business community, particularly in terms of regulatory complexities and the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR)

Profit Before Tax in H1 2025 — declares second interim cash dividend of 90%F.P. Report Net interest income invest in innovation and tal- remains a key partner in

MCB Bank delivers Rs58.06b

LAHORE: The Board of year, primarily due to mar-Limited (MCB), in its a downward revision in the meeting held under the policy rate. However, this Chairmanship of Mian impact was partially offset Mohammad reviewed the Bank's per- focus on no-cost deposit formance and approved the condensed interim financial strong 27% growth in curing response to prevailing (CAR) at 19.61% and statements for the half year rent deposits. ended June 30, 2025. The Non-markup income Board declared a second decreased by 4% to Rs. ended June 30, 2025. The interim cash dividend of 17.5 billion. Fee and com-Rs. 9.00 per share (90%), in mission income declined by addition to the 90% divi- 13% to Rs. 9.8 billion, pridend paid earlier, bringing marily due to intensified the total cash dividend for competition in the routing H1 2025 to 180%.

1 2025 to 180%. of foreign currency remit-MCB Bank reported a tances through MCB's Profit Before Tax (PBT) of channels. Rs. 58.06 billion for the six in the effective tax rate rising by 18%. compared to H1 2024. On a consolidated basis, the increased by 18% year-on-Bank posted a PBT of Rs. year, primarily driven by 62.5 billion. These results investments in talent, techdisciplined risk gover-

declined by 5% year-on- ent development.

Foreign exchange

Operating

Directors of MCB Bank gin compression following side, MCB Bank's total mote formal remittance assets grew by 25% to Rs. channels and drive finan-3.38 trillion, supported by a cial inclusion across the 78% increase in invest- country. Mansha, by the Bank's strategic ments. Gross advances declined by 36%, reflecting strong capital position, with macroeconomic challenges. Asset quality remained 7.42%, and coverage ratio

Rs. 256 billion increase in current deposits, reflecting were reaffirmed by the the Bank's continued focus Pakistan Credit Rating months ended June 30, income remained stable at on cost-effective deposit Agency 2025. Profit After Tax Rs. 4.9 billion, while divi- mobilization. This shift in (PAT) stood at Rs. 27.31 dend income posted a sig-deposit mix helped reduce 'A1+' for short-term billion, translating into nificant increase of 55%, the domestic cost of through its notification Earnings Per Share (EPS) reaching Rs. 2.6 billion. deposits to 5.23%, down dated June 23, 2025. of Rs. 23.04 versus Rs. The Bank continued to ben-significantly from 10.76% 26.95 in H1 2024. The efit from the momentum in H1 2024. The Bank lenges, MCB Bank remains decline in net profitability gained in digital banking, reported Return on Assets firmly positioned for longalso reflects a 4% increase with card-related income (RoA) of 1.80% and Return term growth, backed by its on Equity (RoE) of prudent risk management expenses 23.66%, with Book Value

maintained at 91.71%.

Deposits grew to Rs.

per Share at Rs. 197.84. leading role in the remit- transformation and cushighlight MCB's prudent nology and marketing, tance business, processing tomer-centric innovation. balance sheet management, However, the cost-to- USD 2,303 million in home The Bank's strategic focus focus on core banking operations, and commitment to 38.05%, reflecting disci- 2025, an increase of 16.7% cost efficiency, and value plined financial manage- over the corresponding creation for all stakeholders ment while continuing to period last year. The Bank remains unchanged.

supporting the State Bank On the balance sheet of Pakistan's efforts to pro-

The Bank maintained a Common Equity Tier-1 (CET1) at 15.26%, well strong, with non-performabove the regulatory thresing loans at Rs. 52.0 bil-holds. Liquidity buffers above the regulatory threslion, infection ratio at also remained robust, with Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) at 260.71% and Net Stable Funding 2.23 trillion, with a historic (NSFR) at 155.73%.

The Bank's credit ratings (PACRA) 'AAA' for long-term and short-term

Despite external chalpractices, strong capital and liquidity buffers, and a con-MCB continued to play a tinued emphasis on digital

Federal Cabinet appoints Shoaib Javed as CEO of SLIC

F.P. Report

Cabinet, on the recommenments in service delivery. dation of the Ministry of appoints Commerce, Shoaib Javed Hussain as MSc the Chief Executive Officer Management from Bayes of State Life Insurance Business School, Corporation of Pakistan University London, and is a (SLIC), for a further 3 years Fellow of the Institute of effective August 6, 2025.

undergone a significant experience across Europe, transformation, marked by North America and Asia. innovation and significant Before joining SLIC in growth, since Hussain took 2021, he held senior execucharge in March 2021. In tive roles in institutions just four years, SLIC has including AIA Group, grown its market share, Milliman, Prudential, EY, recording an extraordinary and HSBC. He also serves +300% increase in profit, a as Chairman of the +181% surge in revenue Insurance Association of growth, and a +100% Pakistan and holds board

ated digital transformation, the launch of innovative KARACHI: The Federal products, and enhance-Shoaib Javed Hussain is

a qualified actuary with an Actuarial Actuaries (UK). He has The corporation has more than 20 years work



Fertilizer Company Established in 1972, the

Life life and health insurer, it to policyholders. Growth Gas Company, Pakistan a AAA rating and remains a to individuals, families, and has been driven by acceler-Cables Limited, and Fauji trusted institution for milbusinesses across Pakistan.

lions of Pakistanis. Backed by the Government of bol of financial stability security, social protection, try's largest public sector providing accessible, reli-

Insurance Pakistan, SLIC plays a cen-Corporation of Pakistan tral role in advancing (SLÎC) has stood as a sym- national goals of financial and reliability. As the coun- and economic inclusion by able, and inclusive life and increase in profit allocated positions at Sui Southern has consistently maintained health insurance solutions

SECP records highest-ever company registrations in July 2025

Securities and Exchange tions, followed by single-Commission of Pakistan member companies at 39%. (SECP) has achieved a historic milestone by registering a record 4,065 compahighest monthly registra- ed by guarantee, and limittions to date, surpassing the previous record of 3,609 set

The Information Tec in May 2025.

rations processed digitally, porations, followed by tradthe total number of registered companies in Pakistan and real estate development tions. now stands at 262,309, said and construction (398). a press release.

limited companies account- marketing and advertise-

The remaining 4% comprised public unlisted companies, not-for-profit organies in July 2025—the nizations, companies limit-The Information Techn-

ology and e-commerce sec-With 99.9% of incorpo- tors led with 862 new incoring (530), services (468),

Other active sectors The total paid-up capital included tourism and trans- tum, with 96 newly regis- prehensive awareness drive for July 2025 amounted to port (295), food and bever-Rs. 4.96 million. Private ages (203), education (148),

ISLAMABAD (APP): The ed for 57% of new registra- ment (98), mining and quar- jurisdictions. rying (95), textiles (91), pharmaceuticals (86), agricultural farming (74), engineering (64), cosmetics and toiletries (59), and chemicals and healthcare (56). An additional 482 com-

panies across other sectors, including fuel and energy, non-profits under Section 42, nies (NBFCs), and fiftyauto and allied, power generation, and communica-

ons. Following the recent Foreign investment also Registrars Conference, the showed positive momentered companies receiving to promote the advantages capital from international

As part of its efforts to enhance market access and financial inclusion, the

SECP issued a total of 60 licenses during the month across multiple regulatory domains, including five in were registered capital markets, one in insurance, two to nontwo to not-for-profit associations

SECP is launching a comof incorporation among the investors across diverse business community

tegic economic partnership. Police, traders liaison may revitalise

economy FAISALABAD (APP): Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) President Rehan Naseem Bharara said that liaison between the business community and police could play a key role in revitalising the economy on a solid and sustained basis.

Addressing the under training ASPs (Assistant Superintendent Police) during a meeting, he briefed them about the economic pulse of Faisalabad and said that FCCI is an apolitical, elected not for profit body which has been recognized as a bridge between Government and business community.

He said that FCCI has the best working relationship with district police which helped in expediting the industrialization of this metropolis.

He said that the business community, fully aware of its CSR obligations, was also contributing towards the welfare of police officials, martyrs and rehabilitation of their dependents. He said that FCCI was

also sharing its role in the settlement of business related disputes to offload the police. He hoped that new

induction in the police department would help in promoting positive and healthy traditions in this department.

Pakistan's regional exports increase 2.08% in FY 2025 (APP): of 8.60 per cent from to \$13.838 billion during

\$558.032 million.

lion from \$392.899.

previous year.

lion, it added.

The country's exports to

19.08 per cent to

Bangladesh also increased

\$787.348 million from

\$661.192 million whereas exports to Sri Lanka decreased to \$376.612 mil-

decreased to \$2.438 million

from \$2.711 million in the

Maldives witnessed a nom-

inal decrease of 0.98 cent to

\$9.121 million from \$9.212

million while exports to

India decreased to \$1.429

million from \$3.447 mil-

recorded at \$16.699 bil-

Pakistan exports to million.

On the other hand, the during last year.

from seven

\$2709.901 million last year the previous year 2023-24,

whereas exports to 30.07 percent.
Afghanistan surged to The imports
\$773.892 million from during July-Ju

\$2476.790 million showing an increase of

imports

The exports to Nepal whereas imports from

The imports from China

during July-June 2024-25

were recorded at \$16.312

billion against the \$13.504 billion during July-June 2023-24, showing an

increase of 20.79 percent.

Among other countries,

lion from \$206.892 million

Afghanistan also increased

by 116.53 percent from

\$11.960 million to \$ 25.898

Imports from Sri Lanka

surged by 2.45 percent

from \$58.302 million to

\$59.731 million whereas

imports from Bangladesh

recorded at \$ 78.312 mil-

lion from \$56.555 million

recorded at \$2.013 million

The imports from Nepal

from increased to \$220.580 mil-

ISLAMABAD Pakistan's exports to the seven regional countries increased by 2.08 percent during the fiscal year 2024-25 compared to the previous year 2023-24.

The country's exports to the regional countries including Afghanistan, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Maldives remained small amount of \$4.427 billion, which is 13.70 percent of Pakistan's overall exports of \$32.295 billion during July-June (2024-25), State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported on Wednesday. China tops the list of the

countries in terms of Pakistan's exports to its neighboring countries, leaving behind other councountries, tries such as Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

Pakistan carried out its border trade with farther imports neighbour Sri Lanka, India, regional countries were into the country were

Nepal, and Maldives. Pakistan's exports to lion during the period as compared to \$0.418 mil-China witnessed a decrease under review as compared lion last year, it added.

Long-term investment

ISLAMABAD Nasir Mansoor Qureshi,

Speaking to a delegation

Chaudhry, Qureshi high-

These include informaties like pink salt.

country urgently needs a long-term, consistent invest-

close consultation with real stakeholders. "Only through inclusive policy-making we can ensure sustainable economic growth and investor confidence," he stated.

taxation practices.

Pakistan mart in **UAE** aims to elevate Pakistani exports

major leap towards boosting Pakistani exports, a delegation from National Logistics Corporation (NLC) and DP World, led by Director General NLC, met the Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan.

Also present were Mr. Fakhr Alam, Vice Chairman DP World and CEO of Pakistan Mart Project in the UAE, Rana Ihsaan Afzal, Coordinator to the Prime Minister, and Muhammad Ashraf, Executive Director General from the Ministry of Commerce, said a release ssued here on Wednesday.

The delegation unveiled a comprehensive presentation on the upcoming "Pakistan Mart"—a landmark commercial hub to be established near Jebel Ali, UAE.

The DP World has pledged its full support by constructing this flagship project at zero construction cost for Pakistani stakeholders. The proposed Pakistan Mart will include commercial units, designed to house warehouses, retail shops, showrooms, and e-commerce fulfillment centers for Pakistani exporters and traders.

It is envisioned as a onestop marketplace to showcase Made-in-Pakistan prod-

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a ucts to Middle Eastern, African, and international buyers

Minister Jam Kamal

Khan hailed the initiative as a "transformational project' for Pakistani trade and export visibility. He emphasized the potential of sectors such as textiles, garments, surgical instruments, sports goods, food items, perishables, and nutraceuticals noting that they are wellpositioned to take advantage of this opportunity.



with FBISE at SSC level under registration I 2214951023 and passed the SSC Annu xamination 2022 under Roll no. 1011378 here my name is HANZALA MUJAHID BIN IFTIKHAR and my father name is IFTIKHAR AHMED KHAN. 2. That I have decided hange my name from HANZALA MUJAHII IN IFTIKHAR to HANZALA IFTIKHAR which itten as HANZALA MUJAHID BIN IFTIKHA nd correction in my father's name fro FTIKHAR AHMED KHAN to IFTIKHAR AHME nich is written as IFTIKHAR AHMED KHAN atement given above is true and correct he best of my knowledge, belief and nothin nas been concealed or withheld

Document Lost

I had lost my original docunents of State Life Insurance pearing No: 606229556-7. anyone founds then send to Nargis Begum daughter of Ghulam Muhammad on Street No#4 Pohan Colony, Post Office Baghdada tehsil and district Mardan

Name Correction

I correct name Mustageem Ahmad while it is mistakenly written Mustageem Ahmed in Matric and F. Sc DMCs and certificates. Please correct it

PUBLIC NOTICE It is published through this

Notice That I Mr Noshad Gu

Son of Nawab Gul Resident o House no 7,Sector no IV KDA Kohat is the owner of Plot no 85 Sector no E-3 Size 10 Marla Phase 2 KDA Kohat Has Appointed has is Brother Mr Ghaffar Gul Son of Nawab Gul Resident of House no 7,Sector no IV KDA Kohat Through (Special) Deed no 185 Bahi no 04 Volume no.300 Dated 02/05/2025 which is Registered in The office Kohat of Tehsildar/Sub Registerar The Attorney Holder now wants to Transfer The Above Said Plot if any Bank/ Institution/ Firm/ Persor has any objection About The Transfer he Should Contac The.Housing officer UADA Within 15 Days in Wirting with Proofs otherwise Plot will be Transfer and no objection will Be Accepted (Housing Officer Urban Area KDA Kohat)





In brief

Pak to participate in **World Games**

For the first time in history, Pakistan's senior squash players will be representing the nation in the World Games Chengdu scheduled to be held in China from August 8 to 12. Led by Head Coach Fahim Gul, the Pakistani contingent includes players Nasir Iqbal and Noor Zaman, said a press release. The Pakistan Squash Federation (PSF) said the World Games is a mega event that brings together top athletes from around the globe, and it is an honor to have Pakistan's squash team participating in the mega event. This is a momentous occasion for Pakistani squash, and we're thrilled to see our players take on the best in the world. Let's wish our players the best of luck and show our support as they make their mark on the world stage,

PFF to hold national futsal team tryouts

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Football Federation is set to conduct its first-ever national futsal team tryouts ahead of the AFC Futsal Asian Cup Indonesia Qualifiers. Open to futsal players across the country, the tryouts will take place on 10th August 2025 at the 5th Generation Sports Complex in DHA Phase 8, Lahore, from 9am to 6pm, said a press release. The players must bring valid identification, including a passport and CNIC, to be eligible for selection. The Pakistan Football Federation's technical team will finalize the squad in due course, with a training camp scheduled to begin in the first week of September. Pakistan has been drawn into Group D alongside Iraq, Chinese Taipei and host nation Saudi stage matches will be played in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, with Pakistan set to face Iraq on September 20, Saudi Arabia on September 22 and Chinese Taipei on

Maguire cleared to resume bowling

September 24.

DUBLIN (Agencies): Ireland left-arm spinner Aimee Maguire has been cleared to resume bowling in international cricket with immediate effect. Maguire, 18, was suspended from bowling earlier this year after being reported during the first ODI against India in Rajkot on January 10. Her action was deemed suspect under the ICC's Illegal Bowling Regulations. Maguire has since remodelled her action subsequently underwent an independent re-assessment at an ICC-accredited testing centre where she was cleared. "An independent assessment of Maguire's remodelled bowling action at an ICC accredited testing centre concluded that the amount of elbow extension was within the 15-degree level of tolerance permitted under the ICC Illegal B o w l i n g Regulations," an ICC release said. Maguire made her ODI and T20I debut against West Indies in July 2023. She has so far played 11 ODIs, where she has picked 16 wickets, with best bowling figures of 5 for 19 against England last year. Maguire has also played nine T20Is, where she has nine wickets at an economy rate of 7.20. The 18-year-old is not part of the Ireland squad that faces Pakistan in a threematch T20I series, which begins in Dublin on Wednesday.

Pakistan players move up in ICC rankings after WI win

Messi ruled out of Miami's

clash with Pumas

legend Lionel Messi won't timetable for Messi's helped guide Miami to the

Miami in their important remained hopeful the star shortly after joining the Leagues Cup match against forward would be back on Herons.

"He usually recovers very well from injuries and,

above all, normally does so

with speed, so we will see.

described as a "minor he is unavailable. Then muscle injury" in his upper right leg during he progresses."

Miami's win over Necaxa

Messi, who leads the fixture is scheduled for

Sports key to student

health: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD (APP): also be given priority, as a Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani

Advisor to the Prime student should be both for promoting education

Minister on Political and mentally and physically and healthy sports activi-

Public Affairs, Rana fit. He highlighted the ties in the federal capital.

significance of sports women, saying that it is Naz congratulated Rana

activities in student life, equivalent to educating the Sanaullah and Mohyuddin

while inaugurating a Padel Provincial Coordination Prime Minister's vision.

(IPC), said that the gov-

ny was attended by Ms. already made Padel courts Akbar, and Mohyuddin

Parliamentary Secretary, federal capital, providing tive, stating that ICG stu-Secretary Inter Provincial mind games rooms and dents will greatly benefit

He also announced

(IPC) track suits to students.

Naz Akbar, in three colleges in the Ahmad Wani for the initia-

good

cricketers' ICC T20I rankings surged after respectively. a strong showing in their recent threematch series against the West Indies.

climbed 24 spots to reach 30th place with 569 rating points, following a consistent run that saw him score 79 runs across the series.

Top-order batter Saim Ayub, who led the series with 130 runs including two half-centuries, jumped 25 places to claim the 37th position, earning 559 points.

Fellow opener Sahibzada Farhan, who scored 91 runs in the series, surged 34 spots to claim the 63rd spot with 484 rating points.

Captain Salman Ali Agha and experienced batter Fakhar Zaman also saw improvements in their rankings, moving up 15 and three places to 76th and 78th positions, respectively.

However, seasoned players Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan, who have been inactive in T20Is since 2024, experienced a drop in rankings. Babar now sits at 17th, and Rizwan at 19th, both slipping three places.

Wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Haris, who struggled during the Caribbean tour, dropped 21 places to 86th with 413 points.

top position among T20I batters, fol- Afghanistan's Mohammad Nabi in seclowed by Australia's Travis Head and ond and third, respectively.

MIAMI (AFP): Football

The star forward has

adding that the the foot-

baller needs time to recover

The Argentinian striker

before playing again.

picked up a minor muscle it's

injury, his coach said, Mascherano told reporters.

suffered what Mascherano But clearly, for tomorrow

Sanaullah, has stressed the importance of educating

College for Girls F6 ernment is giving top pri-Wednesday. The ceremo- ority to sports and has

Ministry

saying that students are whole nation.

not healthy if they are not

court at the Islamabad

Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani,

Sanaullah emphasized

that besides education, the co sports activities should Sanaullah

He made these remarks

involved in sports.

Coordination

and other officials.

Pumas UNAM.

be taking the field for Inter return,

Sports

In the bowling rankings, no Pakistani bowler features in the top 20. Fast bowler Middle-order batter Hassan Nawaz Haris Rauf maintained his 26th position with 575 points, while young pacer Abbas Afridi dropped three spots to 27th.

Left-arm spinner Sufiyan Muqeem made a stunning jump of 69 places to reach 34th with 542 points. Meanwhile, Shaheen Afridi slipped one position to 36th, and Mohammad Nawaz climbed 51 places to 56th with 489 points.

Abrar Ahmed dropped nine spots to 60th, and T20I vice-captain Shadab Khan fell five places to 72nd.

New Zealand's Jacob Duffy continued to top the bowling rankings, followed by England's Adil Rashid, while West Indies' Akeal Hosein moved up to third, replacing India's Varun Chakaravarthy.

In the all-rounders category, Shadab Khan dropped two spots to 19th. Rising star Saim Ayub made a massive leap, climbing 70 places to 24th with 119 rating points.

Mohammad Nawaz jumped 13 places

to 36th, while Abbas Afridi dropped four places to 56th. Iftikhar Ahmed fell six places to 70th, and Faheem Ashraf moved up five spots to 77th with 58 points. India's Hardik Pandya remains the

number one T20I all-rounder, followed India's Abhishek Sharma retained the by Nepal's Dipendra Singh Airee and

Mascherano Leagues Cup title in 2023

their final group stage match

to reach the quarter-finals of

the Leagues Cup, which includes teams from MLS

and Mexico's top division.

knockout stage, Messi

If Miami progress to the

Meanwhile, Ms. Farah

Ahmad Wani for their ini-

ICG Principal Shazia

Shamim thanked Rana

Sanaullah, Ms. Farah Naz

dents will greatly benefit

Earlier, Rana Sanaullah

from the game of Padel.

days, sented with souvenirs at

praised the end of the ceremony.

Inter top priorities under the

While there is no set MLS matches this season,

the pitch soon.

"Within the bad news, need a win over Pumas in

league with 18 goals in Sunday against Orlando.

Sanaullah, who also tiative, emphasizing that

holds the portfolio of the education and health are

plans to construct more inaugurated the Padel

Padel and Futsal courts in court and was also pre-

news,"

'belief' to end trophy drought, says Arteta LONDON (AFP): Arsenal

Arsenal have

manager Mikel Arteta said the Gunners believe this season will be different as they aim to get over a series of near misses at winning silverware.

Arteta has not won a trophy since lifting the FA Cup in his debut season in charge in 2019/20.

However, he has transformed Arsenal back into serial contenders for major trophies. Arteta's men have finished second in the Premier League for the past three years and reached the Champions League semifinals for the first time since 2009 last season.

The pressure is now on the Spaniard to get over the line after another major investment in new players in the transfer window.

Nearly £200 million (\$266 million) has been spent on new striker Viktor Gyokeres, midfielders Martin Zubimendi and Christian Norgaard, centreback Cristhian Mosquera as well as winger Noni Madueke and goalkeeper

Kepa Arrizabalaga.
"We know what our targets are and what we want to achieve this season -there is a big belief in our ability to achieve that," Arteta said in his programme notes ahead of Wednesday's pre-season friendly against Villarreal.

"We have been very, very close the last few seasons and the whole team is going to determine whether we achieve that or not.

"But at the same time, we have to make sure that we don't lose sight of what we have to do on a daily basis to get to the levels that we want.

"We have to set the demands that we want within this goal, because that's the most important -- the internal thing demands have to always exceed any external demand. That is what we are trying to achieve every single day." Arteta added he wants his players to feel "invincible" at home thanks to a special connection with the club's fans.

"We want our people to start connecting with our players straight away, to start to build momentum and to start to feel that at home we are invincible," he said. "That we play here with such passion, energy and connection with our people, that we are going to win the game." Arsenal begin their Premier League campaign with a blockbuster trip to Manchester United on August 17.

Rublev held on. "That game was so shaky for me, we had both been holding serve easily, everything felt calm and chill," he said. "It came out of nowhere, the pressure of that game. It was

tight and my brain just

turned off.

The only thing to do is ing Australian Alex de put a lot of balls onto the to come back and try to win the set. That's what is able to make it all feel not

Fritz did just that, closing out the win 15 minutes later in the second-set tiebreaker with a serve winner. Fritz struck a personal-best 20 aces (for three-set matches) among his 29 winners. He now

stands 6-4 over Rublev. The American has now won 19 of his last 22

KP welcomes football hero on return from Norway Cup

PESHAWAR (APP): A the international stage. grand reception was held at the Peshawar Sports Complex under the auspices of Directorate lauded his remarkable General of Sports Khyber achievement, stating that Pakhtunkhwa to welcome Muhammad Anees, a distinguished member of the Pakistan team that won the Norway Football Cup, said a press release issued here on Wednesday.

DUBLIN: Amy Hunter top-scored for Ireland, Ireland Women vs Pakistan Women, 1st T20I.

Muhammad hails from Landi Kotal, District Khyber and has fully committed to providbrought great pride to the ing all possible support Muhammad Anees and country through his out- and patronage to such tal- expressed pride in his interstanding performance on ented individuals.

DG Sports, Tashfeen Haider, appreciated Muhammad Anees and young athletes like him are not only the pride of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but of the entire nation.

He added that Anees hard work, dedication and success serve as a beacon Anees of inspiration for the youth. The government is

Baloch, Regional Sports Officer Peshawar Kashif Farhan, Assistant Director Sports for Merged Districts Muhammad Riaz, Chief Coach Shafqat Ullah, Vice President Pakhtunkhwa Association Akhtar Rasool, Administrator Afridi, Coach Aman Ullah and other officials were

also present. They extended

their congratulations to

Over 35,000+ youth join PMYP-Lahore Qalandars talent hunt



FAISALABAD (Monitoring Desk): The cricketing heartbeat of Pakistan is growing louder with every passing day as the Prime Minister's Programme Youth (PMYP) Lahore Qalandars talent hunt cricket trials continue to

inspire and empower thousands across the country.

From the land of across both cities. Shaheens, Sargodha, to the industrial capital Pakistan, Faisalabad, more in the talent hunt, reaffirming the belief that Pakistan's cricketing future lies in its grassroots.

Sargodha witnessed a turnout of over 15,000 plus passionate young cricketers, while Faisalabad surpassed expectations with more than 20,000 aspiring The nationwide initiative, a collaborative

between PMYP and the Lahore Qalandars' globally acclaimed Development Program (PDP), is unlocking oppor-

tunities for youth who have

long been overlooked.

Lahore Qalandars CEO Atif Rana expressed his pride in witnessing the overwhelming participation energy, talent, and sheer numbers we have seen in Sargodha and Faisalabad than 35,000 male and are nothing short of female youth participated extraordinary," he said. "These cities have always had cricketing spirit, but through this platform, we are channeling it in the

right direction. 'We are deeply thankful to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, PMYP Chairman Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, and the entire PMYP Qalandars and for enabling mobility, and this national movement. Pakistan through.

Our Player Development Program, which started as a dream, is now a model being replicated globally,'

The trials in both cities were managed by professional coaches, analysts, and Lahore Qalandars management, who closely monitored every participant, ensuring that no talent goes Participants unnoticed. from rural backgrounds, urban centres, and marginalized communities stood shoulder-to-shoulder, proving that cricket knows no boundaries.

The youth themselves expressed heartfelt gratitude to PM Shehbaz Sharif, Rana Mashhood Ahmad and Khan, Qalandars for this unprecedented opportunity. "We are now dreaming bigger. We are ready to work harder than ever and represent Pakistan at the highest level."

PMYP Chairman Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan emphasized the broader vision of the project. "This program is more than just talent identification; it's a national transformation strategy. Through Lahore Qalandars' proven PDP model, we are giving our youth the recognition, mentorship, and platform they deserve. We are building players attending the trials. team for trusting Lahore careers, promoting social

Fritz, Shelton set up all-American Toronto semi-final

coming



TORONTO (AFP): US second seed Taylor Fritz overcame a late niggle while serving for the match on Tuesday to beat Andrey Rublev 6-3, 7-6 (7/4) and reach the ATP Toronto Masters semi-

The American claimed his place in a fifth semifinal of the season after match win streak for last match points with his final losing serve while trying to close out what had been pion de Minaur. looking like a quick win, finally coming through into the last four at this level for the first time after 83 minutes.

Thursday final when he the semi-final.

takes on fourth seed Ben Shelton, who won a me as a server, not much Masters quarter-final on of a grinder, but when I go his fourth attempt, defeat- into lockdown mode and Minaur 6-3, 6-4.

Shelton laid down 11 aces in his 91-minute victory and dominated on ral- is all part of my evolulies longer than nine shots. tion. The result ended a seven-

"I'm really happy with ner. that performance. It showed mental toughness struck by brain freeze as from start to finish,' Shelton said. "This win leading a set and 5-4. The Californian will gives me a lot of confi- After saving three break matches including reachplay for a spot in the dence, I'm excited about points he put a return ing the Wimbledon semi-

"People often just see court, it surprises guys sometimes.

Winning longer rallies as bad.'

Shelton set up three week's Washington cham- ace and needed only one chance to emerge the win-

> Fritz admitted he was he served for victory into the net for 5-all as finals.

West Indies announce squad for ODI series

TRINIDAD (Agencies): earlier this year. West Cricket Indies announced their 15-member squad for the upcoming Pakistan vs West Indies ODI series on Wednesday.

Set to begin on August 8, the three-match ODI series will be played at the iconic Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad.

As per the schedule, the second ODI will be played on August 10, while the third and final Pakistan vs West Indies ODI will be held on August 12.

The hosts would look to secure their fourth consecutive ODI series win, having won their previous home series against England and Bangladesh in 2024 and the tour of the United Kingdom different test and chal- Romario Shepherd.

"Alzarri Joseph has been given an extended

rest to continue workload management Romario Shepherd makes a return after missing the matches against Ireland and England earlier this year," Cricket West Indies said in a statement.

According to the board, the upcoming ODI series will provide an opportunity for the side to build its team ahead of the Men's Cricket

World Cup 2027. Coach Daren Head expressed his Sammy excitement for the three home ODI games against

the Men in Green. "Pakistan presents a Jayden

push for automatic qualification for the 2027 World Cup," he said.

"While qualifying is our immediate goal, maintaining a winning mentality and team cohesion is essential for long-term success, Sammy added.

West Indies Squad Pakistan vs West Indies **ODI series:** Shai Hope (c), Jewel

Andrew, Jediah Blades, Carty, Roston Keacy Chase, Matthew Forde Justin Greaves, Jangoo, Shamar Joseph. King, Brandon Lewis, Gudakesh Motie, Rutherford, Sherfane Seales,



In brief **IRSA** releases 297,200 cusecs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Wednesday released 297,200 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 343,100 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1545.00 feet which was 143.00 feet higher than the dead level of 1402.00 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 211,800 cusecs and 182,400 cusecs, respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1203.75 feet, which was 153.75 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 24,500 cusecs and 8,000 cusecs, respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 188,200, 253,200 and 210,300 respectively. cusecs, Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 29,400 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 47,300

Wanted criminal arrested

cusecs released from

River Chenab at Marala.

RAWALPINDI (APP): Kahuta Police arrested a fugitive wanted for killing his daughter-inlaw over a domestic dispute. The arrest was made more than a year after the tragic incident took place in June 2023. According to a police spokesperson, the suspect had allegedly shot and killed his daughter-in-law. His son, who was also involved in the murder, was already arrested earlier in the case. The fugitive is now in police custody, and further investigation is underway. SP Potohar Muhammad Nabeel Khokhar, said the accused will be presented in court with solid evidence. He praised the efforts of the police team involved in the arrest and reaffirmed the department's commitment to delivering justice. He ded that protecting citi-

Rickshaw driver nabbed

zens' lives and property

remains the police's top

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Sadiqabad Police on Wednesday nabbed a rickshaw driver for allegedly misbehaving and manhandling a man and her wife after exchanging hot words over a minor issue. According Rawalpindi to spokesman, the plaintiff in a complaint with the Town Police claimed that during an altercation with him and his wife, the accused not only abused them but also thrashed them. The accused escaped from the scene after the incident. The Sadiqabad Police registered a case against the accused, and trace and nab him using all means including human intelligence, the spokesman said.

19 outlaws held

ISLAMABAD Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police, Kohsar, Karachi Company, Phulgran and Shahzad Town police station teams have apprehended seven accused involved in various criminal activities. An official told APP on Wednesday that police teams also recovered 274 grams of Ice, 48 wine bottles and a pistol with ammunition from their possessions. Cases have been registered against the accused while further investigation is underway. Additionally, during a special campaign launched for the arrest of proclaimed offenders and absconders, various police teams took 12 criminals into custody. Following the special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, the Islamabad Police continues its effective crackdown against crime.

for Rawalpindi-Islamabad water project: Talal

Interior, Talal Chaudhry said that Prime rainwater seeps into the ground, and the Minister Shahbaz Sharif has constituted a high-level committee, headed by the Interior Minister, to oversee a mega water supply project for Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

Speaking in the National Assembly on Wednesday, in response to a call-attention notice by Anjum Aqeel Khan regarding the dangerously low water table in the capital, he explained that the underground water level in Islamabad, which stood at 10 metres in 1960, has now dropped to over 120 metres.

He attributed this alarming decline to rapid population growth and urban expansion. The capital requires approximately 120 million gallons of water daily, but the Capital Development Authority (CDA) is currently supplying only 60 million gallons—meeting 90% of urban and just 15-20% of rural water needs. He said a mega water project is essential to bridge this gap adding that a feasibility study is already underway.

He further informed the house that, in a bid to raise groundwater levels, CDA has revised its building by-laws, making rainwater harvesting mandatory for all new residential and commercial constructions.

practice of groundwater extraction through boring is being actively discouraged.

To address the shortfall, treated water from Sangjani and water tankers from Khanpur are being used. He revealed that residents of a 10-marla house pay Rs192 per month for water, while those living in onekanal houses are charged Rs280-rates that cover only half the actual cost of supply.

Highlighting the situation in rural areas, he said the government has launched 44 water supply schemes worth billions of rupees, but only 12 are currently operational. The remaining projects are hindered by issues such as faulty motors or unpaid electricity bills.

Meanwhile, Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry noted that water supply remains limited to urban parts of Islamabad, leaving over 1.2 million people in rural areas without regular access. He said the government is working to address this imbalance, with plans underway for the construction of small dams in Shahdara, Chirah, and parts of Rawalpindi. "We are committed to resolving this crisis during our term in office," he said.

Pakistan ramps up fight against climate change: Dr. Shezra

ISLAMABAD Minister of State for employs nature-based solu-Change Climate on Wednesday stated that and floodwater. Pakistan is stepping up its fight against the devastating effects of climate change through initiatives like the National Adaptation Plan and the Recharge Pakistan programme.

Addressing the National Assembly in response to a question from MP Shahida Řehmani, Dr Shezra Mansab Ali underscored the severe challenges posed by climate change, which has made Pakistan one of the world's most vulnerable nations.

"We are witnessing its counter this, we have developed the National grammes are being implemented." Among these is Recharge Pakistan, a major initiative aimed at conserving and storing water Naeema r e s o u r c e s . Shezra elaborated

tions to manage rainwater

water to natural lakes, ensuring it is stored and used effectively rather than Amendment. "We are workwasted," she explained. ing closely with provincial The initiative also includes governments to curb treethe National Capital Land cutting and other harmful Water project, designed to practices," she said. bolster water management.

focusing resilience. She highlighted ter new regulations mandating She added, "These rules impacts through recent ensure that new buildings public alerts for natural heavy rains and earth-quakes," she said. "To mentally and environ-Efforts are also underway do more to raise awareness to address illegal encroach- so people avoid high-risk Adaptation Plan, under ments, with the Capital areas during flood or heavy which several key pro- Development Authority rainfall warnings and take (CDA) tasked with control-necessary precautions, she

ling such activities. mentary question from MP Kishwar, Partnering with the World Recharge Pakistan's role in tackle climate change head-Wide Fund for Nature water conservation and on, she said.

(APP): (WWF), the programme storage, describing it as a "pivotal programme."

She noted that environmental issues, including "We are diverting this deforestation, are now a provincial responsibility following

To mitigate the risk of In addition to water con- natural disasters, she servation, Pakistan is stressed the importance of urban public awareness and disasmanagement. "The National Disaster green building standards Management Authority for future constructions. (NDMA) has established warning systems and issued calamities," she said.

"However, we need to stated. Pakistan's multifac-Responding to a supple- eted approach, from innovative water management Dr to resilient urban planning, on reflects its determination to

Preparations finalized for Bari Imam Urs

ISLAMABAD (APP): The personnel. Surveillance are being removed to Capital Islamabad Territory (ICT) administration has finalized arrangements for the Urs celebrations at Bari Imam, scheduled to begin on August 7.

this regard, Additional Deputy Commissioner General had visited the area to workers inspect the preparations, which include parking cleanliness, facilities, administrative coordination, and security arrangements, said the spokesman of ICT administration here Wednesday.

Secretariat provided a pliance with basic food detailed briefing about the safety standards. measures in place for crowd management and convenience. intensified vehicles and pedestrians, operation disruptions in traffic flow during the event.

have also been tightened

has arranged designated and government land. parking areas, shuttle servhave liness throughout the Urs.

rary shops set up around encroachments. the shrine. Health and safety teams are expected

administration has also others. its anti-Officials reviewed the encroachment campaign Imam is one of the most entry and exit routes for across the city. A targeted has ensuring there would be no launched in the Bari Imam attracting devotees from area under the supervision various parts of the counof Assistant Commissioner try. The district adminis-

around the shrine area, istration, illegal structures throughout the event to with deployment of police and encroachments around ensure everything runs and other law enforcement the shrine and nearby roads smoothly.

systems and walk-through ensure smooth movement gates have been installed at of visitors. This operation key entry points to monitor is part of a broader citythe movement of visitors. wide initiative to clear pub-To manage the expected lic spaces and restore crowd, the administration access to walkways, streets.

Officials said that shopices, and clear signboards keepers and vendors had (ADCG) Sahibzada Yousaf for guidance. Sanitation been issued prior warnbeen ings, and action is now deployed to maintain clean- being taken against those who failed to comply. Special attention has Heavy machinery is being been given to the hygiene used to remove illegal of food stalls and tempo- stalls, sheds, and other

The administration has urged citizens and visitors visit, to remain present during to cooperate with the Assistant Commissioner the event to monitor com- authorities during the Urs and avoid any activities that may disrupt the event Meanwhile, the district or cause inconvenience to

The Urs of Hazrat Bari attended religious gatherbeen ings in the federal capital, Security arrangements Secretariat Uzair Ali Khan. tration plans to keep moni-According to the admin-toring the situation

Committee formed | NA adopts resolutions on Palestinian support, digital harassment and honour killings

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly on Wednesday adopted a resoreaffirming Pakistan's historic and unwavering support for the Palestinian people and their struggle for freedom, dignity and justice. The resolu-tion, moved by PPP lawmaker Shazia Marri, expressed deep concern over the continuing and escalating Israeli military aggression in Gaza, which has resulted in the killing of civilians and widespread destruction of homes and infrastructure.

Capital

It strongly condemned indicating plans for the emphasizing that these acts constitute war crimes under international law.

The House called upon Palestinian people be sup-



statements and the United Nations and the actions by Israeli authorities international community to fulfill their moral and legal long-term occupation of responsibilities by taking Gaza, forced displacement immediate and concrete of its population, and steps to end Israeli military attempts to erase the aggression in Gaza, ensure Palestinian identity of the protection of civilians, territory. The resolution also and guarantee unhindered denounced the use of starva- delivery of humanitarian tion, siege, and collective assistance. It further urged punishment as tools of war, that the occupying power be held accountable for war crimes and crimes against humanity, and that the

ported in their quest for justice and self-determination. The resolution also urged the government to continue

to raise its voice for the Palestinian cause at all international forums, including the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

moved by Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar of Pakistan Muslim the formation of an interthe House urged the federal government to strengthen these crimes.

the legal framework to ensure strict punishment for unauthorized video recording, cyber harassment, and digital defamation.

It stressed enhancing the capacity of law enforcement agencies, including digital forensic units, to investigate and respond promptly and effectively. The House also called for targeted public awareness campaigns on digital rights, legal remedies, and safe reporting channels, in addition to establishing dedicated complaint desks in police stations. It further recommended introducing educational modules on digital ethics, privacy rights, and anti-harassment laws in institutions.

The National Assembly also adopted a resolution strongly condemning the unlawful acts of so-called honour killings. Moved by Shahida Rehmani, In another resolution, emphasized zero tolerance for such acts and proposed League-Nawaz (PML-N), provincial task force for coordinated action to curb

ANF recovers 44 kg of drugs

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Anti-Narcotics (ANF), conducting 5 operations across the country, recovered as many as 44 kilograms of drugs worth more than Rs 6.4 million and arrested 8 suspects, including 2 women, said an Headquarters spokesman on Wednesday.

He informed that 479 grams of ice-filled capsules were recovered from the stomach of a Bahrainbound passenger at Faisalabad Airport. In In another operation, 16.8 kg of hashish was recovered from a vehicle near Toll Plaza, Sangjani Islamabad and the accused was arrested.

Similarly, 12 hashish was recovered from 3 accused, including two women, riding in a bus near the Islamabad Motorway Toll Plaza. 10.5 kg of ice was recovered from a rickshaw near Golra Mor, Islamabad, and the accused was arrested As much as 5 kg of ice was recovered from a vehicle near Sher Shah Toll Plaza, Multan and 2 accused were arrested. Cases have been registered against the arrested

PO arrested for murder

Narcotics Control Act,

and further investigations

suspects under

are underway.

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Police Kahuta Wednesday arrested a pro-claimed offender who along with his son had killed his other son's wife over a domestic dispute about two years ago.

The accused after killing his daughter-in-law had gone into hiding while his son (the deceased's brotherin-law) was already taken into custody by the police, the Rawalpindi Police spokesman said.

A case of the incident was registered in June 2023. Superintendent of Police Saddar Muhammad Nabeel Khokhar directed the Kahuta Police to prepare the challan against the accused with solid evidence to get them convicted from the court of law.

Commissioner directs for completion of RRR project timely RAWALPINDI (APP): Interchange immediately Chakri,

Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has asked the Chairman National Highway Authority to convene a meeting for approval of the revised design of the Rawalpindi Ring Road further directed to amplify (RRR) and issue a No Objection Certificate (NOC) promptly.

He said this during a

visit to review the pace of work at RRR here on around 70 per cent work Wednesday. Commissioner, who is also ished, while backfilling the Project Director of the work was in progress on

RRR, reviewed the overall the drains, rivers and sub-fective contractors. progress of the project and way from Thallian to directed the officials to Banth Interchange. speed up the work to In addition the w achieve the target timely.

planning in view of the weather conditions and said that a strategy should be made in such a way that the monsoon rains do not affect the pace of work. Aamir directed the offiacquiring land at Thallian four sections: Thalian to were also present.

and kick off the construction of the bridge at Chakri Interchange.

where the sub-base work progress on the railway and Banth Interchange. On the occasion, the officials briefed the Commissioner that The on the project has been fin-

superstructure He stressed the need for launching) of bridges was that an activity and component-wise daily progress report be pre- Deputy Project Director pared on the project. He Ring Road, concerned cials to start the process of ect should be divided into representatives of FWO

Khasala, Khasala to Chak Belly and Chak Belly to Banath, and a detailed Slope cutting and devel-schedule of remaining opment work must be activities should be precompleted at the earliest, pared for each section.

In addition, the roads has not been started. He for the construction structures are in poor condition; they should be repaired immediately. Aamir directed the concerned to complete the fencing around the RRR well in time. He directed Frontier Works Organisation to review the performance of subcontractors and replace inef-

Director Rawalpindi Development Authority Kanzi Murtaza. (deck Director Development Zenia, DG Parks and also being resumed. The Horticulture Authority Commissioner directed Ahmed Hassan Ranjha, Additional Commissioner (Revenue), further said that the proj- Assistant Commissioners,

Rigorous preventive actions, zero dengue case in 48 hours

The District cases confirmed in the last 48 hours. Targeting the hotspots, particularly in Murree which has recently been declared as a dengue epicenter, the health authorities have ramped up anti-dengue operations

across the district.

An intensified surveillance focused on the outbreak's epicenter in Kohati, Union Council Murree. Ghel in According to the details, teams have targeted hotspots such as Hoteer, Baraiti, Barsaka, Chapri, Bright School area in admissions,

Authority Rawalpindi has have produced positive 59,946 with larvae detectreported a significant results, with health facilied. breakthrough in dengue ties reporting no new Punitive actions taken prevention, with no new dengue cases", said Dr. by the authorities include Waqar,

Spokesman. A district-wide surveillance program has also been strengthened to monitor and manage the situation, reflecting a compre-hensive public health strategy. Officials are urging a continued public cooperation to sustain this progress.

According to the latest data shared by the health department, 4,173 patients have been screened in hospitals this year, with review meeting and to 34 confirmed dengue share performance data Upper Kahkahri and the cases, 11 suspect patients and no Murree, through rigorous deaths. The data shows larvae elimination, envi- that vector surveillance actions against health offironmental sanitation, and since January this year cials found negligent in targeted fogging to con- was conducted with 4.1 rendering dengue preventrol the mosquito popula- million houses checked, tive activities.

RAWALPINDI (APP): tion.

The District Health "The escalated efforts detected positive, and 59,946 with larvae detect-

the DHA 1879 FIRs registered against the violators, 1130 points sealings including houses, shops, offices etc. challans were issued and fines were imposed totaling Rs.3.49 million

Dr. Waqar confirmed that the authority was fully cognizant of the situation to yield potential outcomes.

On the other side, the district administration has decided to hold a daily with the media on a weekly basis. Moreover, it has been decided to take stern

NAB hosts high-level seminar on anti-money laundering

(NAB), in collaboration with combat this issue.

The seminar was attended by the Federal Minister for Law and as the chief guest. In addition, officers from NAB's seven regional offices participated online.

Challenges and Responsibilities.'

The purpose of the seminar agreed-upon solutions. was to review financial crimes (money laundering) occurring in money laundering is a signifi- by Raja Riffat Mukhtar, DG; bilities to eradicate these crimes efforts. He emphasized that now,

on "Anti-Money Laundering, Tarar expressed that this seminar the world. was a milestone for the topic at

He also mentioned that Pakistan, assess the efforts of cant challenge for any country Sameera Azam, Director FIA; from Pakistan and fulfill their it is the responsibility of all and reputation.

National Accountability Bureau collectively chart a strategy to failure to take strong action against the perpetrators would Adam Smith International and During the seminar, the not only harm the national econthe British High Commission, Federal Minister for Law and omy but would also distort organized a high-level seminar Justice Senator Azam Nazir Pakistan's image in the eyes of

The Federal Minister urged hand. He emphasized that the all relevant agencies to carry out best strategy for addressing such their responsibilities with dedi-Justice, Senator Azam Nazir Tarar, sensitive matters is for all rele-cation and efforts towards providing an overview of their vant Stakeholders to come increasing public respect and agencies' work and successes, together under one roof, raise trust in these institutions. He while also identifying challenges issues, and find mutually also lauded the performance of and offering effective solutions. all LEAs, especially NAB.

The law enforcement agencies, and and its economy. He warned that Aqeel Ahmed Siddiqui, DG national responsibilities. ureau collectively chart a strategy to failure to take strong action FBR; Major General Abdul On this occasion, Moeed, DG; Israr Ahmad, Director ANF; Waseem Ahmad Chairman AML/CFT; and Umar Riaz Cheema, DIG UPSCALE.

They shared their thoughts, They emphasized that all agen-The event was also attended cies would utilize their best capa-

On this occasion, NAB's Deputy Chairman, Sohail

Nasir, expressed that the goal Khan, Additional IG CTD; of bringing all agencies togeth-Muhammad Javed Ismail, DG er through this seminar was not FMU; Mushtaq Ahmed Sukhira, only to learn from each other's expertise and working methods but also to identify and correct any mistakes. NAB Chairman, Lt. Gen

(Retd) Nazir Ahmad, welcomed the seminar participants and stated that NAB had taken the money laundering through joint

agencies to organize such events periodically, benefiting from each other's expertise, experience, performance, and successes, thereby enhancing their own capabilities. He further stated that tackling such crimes can only be successful if all agencies work together to fulfill their duties in the national interest.

The Chairman also thanked the Federal Minister for Law and Justice for his participation and assured that despite challenges, first step towards fighting all agencies would perform their duties without any negligence for the sake of national security

1 killed, 7 hurt in explosion

PARUN (Pajhwok): One individual was killed and seven others were injured in an explosion at a gemstone mine in the Doab district of central Nuristan province on Wednesday. According to a statement from the Nuristan police, the blast occurred in the Mawe area of Doab district due to the detonation of explosives used at the mine. The statement confirmed that one person died in the incident, while seven others sustained

The Frontier Post Safar 12, 1447 — Thursday, August 07, 2025

3 schools get new buildings

GHAZNI CITY (Pajhwok): New buildings have been constructed and put into service at three schools in the Ajristan district of southern Ghazni province, at a cost of 33 million afghanis. Maulvi Izzatullah Saeedi, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the funding for these projects was provided by the government of Japan. He added that the total cost on the three buildings amounted to 33 million

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

Over 1,000 Afghans

returned from Pakistan

KABUL (TOLOnews): In

the past five days, more

than one thousand Afghans

have returned to the coun-

try through the Spin Boldak

crossing, including 400 prisoners. Migrants say that

mistreatment of migrants in

Zabihullah, 22, after

pending five days in a

Pakistani prison, says the

arrest, imprisonment, and

torture of Afghans in Paki-

He told TOLOnews

There was only rice, noth-

ng else. They took us to

prison and did not even

give us water. They also

stani jails still continues.

Pakistan continues.

Kabul trade township inaugurated

KABUL (TOLOnews): A Afghans to return have this township will be built trade township aimed at been made favorable. The like warehouses. Imported attracting investment from pleasing point is that goods from Europe will be returning Afghans and cre- Afghans ating job opportunities was traders are returning to the inaugurated in the Lattaband area of Kabul.

This township will serve contracting company says as a processing hub for traders will first process goods imported from and package imported Europe and other countries goods from Europe and and will facilitate the activ- other countries here and ities of returning traders.

Officials emphasize that and international markets. the investments made reflect

Director General of the Administrative Office of Pakistan, Iran and Tajikistan. the Prime Minister, said at the inauguration ceremony: township's director, said: "Now the conditions for "The markets and shops of "Now the conditions for

and migrant the country after decades.

On the other hand, the then sell them in domestic

According to the compaimproved security and eco- ny official, significant effonomic growth in the country. rts have been made to trans-Noorul Haq Anwar, fer the capital of traders who previously operated in

Abdul Basir Mashal, the

processed here, and most will be re-exported to Asian countries.

Political analyst Fazel Rahman Oria stated: "Hundreds and thousands of people will work here. Many workers will benefit both directly and indirectly. Trade facilities will be established in the country.

Lack of employment opportunities is considered one of the main challenges for citizens, but analysts believe that any investment in various domestic production sectors can reduce issues of unemployment

Several other recently returned migrants from Pakistan also complained about the mistreatment by that country's security forces toward Afghans.

tortured us.

Noor Mohammad, who was deported from Pakistan, said: "They were very cruel to us. They took everything we had. We were imprisoned for twenty days and treated very unjustly.

another Shafiullah, deportee from Pakistan, said: "In Quetta and Qala-e- Saifullah, there was harassment. We moved to another place, thinking they would come there too, so we decided it was better

to return to our country." Officials at the border migration office in Spin Boldak, Kandahar, say that since August 1, 2025, 950 migrants and 400 prisoners have returned to the country.

Abdul Latif Hakimi, head of the migrant registration committee in Spin Boldak district, said: "From August 1 to 5, 180 families, totaling 950 people, and 400 prisoners have returned to the country."

In addition to humanitarian and cash assistance. emergency aid is also being provided to returnees for resettlement in their origi-

Kabir, IOM team discuss support for returnees

KABUL (Pajhwok): The Acting Refugees and Repatriation Maulvi Abdul Kabir and officials from International Organization for Migration (IOM) have discussed measures to prevent the forced deportation of Afghan refugees.

Maulvi Kabir also called on the organisation to support the construction of permanent shelters for returnees. According to a statement from the Ministry Refugees Repatriation Kabir met with Mohammed Afghan refugees. Abdiker, Chief of Staff at IOM, along with a delegation accompanying him.

The meeting was also forced attended by Eiori Kato, Afghan IOM's Regional Director for Asia, and Mihyung Park, the organisation's Chief of Mission in Afghanistan.

The ministry said that national humanitarian aid discussions focused on until they could achieve strengthening future cooperation and supporting

national community to provide support for building agencies to address the permanent shelters, warning that the challenges facing returnees would worsen with the onset of winter.

Mohammed Abdiker, for his part, said that the purpose of his visit to Kabul was to find solutions to the difficulties faced by returning Afghan refugees and to mobilise additional financial resources.

was coordinating with other needs of returnees and described the efforts of the Islamic Emirate Afghanistan in this regard

as effective. Referring to his recent visit to Herat, Abdiker said he would share detailed information regarding the situation of returnee and internally displaced families with UN officials and

He added that the IOM international donors.

Iraqi investors eye energy production opportunities



Ahmed Saeed, an Iraqi investor, to such as oil, gas, or water. discuss potential investments in energy produc- comed the initiative,

Abdul Latif Mansoor, the ating device developed by Minister of Energy and his team, which reportedly Water, held a meeting operates without the need Hamed for traditional resources

Minister Mansoor wel-During the meeting, necessary conditions for Saeed introduced a ground-such investments. He high-

foreign investment in enhancing the country's energy capabilities and integrating modern technologies into the sector.

The collaboration with Iraqi investors could pave tion projects utilizing expressing the ministry's the way for a more innovative technologies. readiness to facilitate the resilient and efficient energy production system in the country.

Apple yield estimated to reach 19,000mt this year

PUL-I-ALAM (Pajhwok): Apple yield in central province Afghanistan are expected to reach 19,000 metric tons this year — a nearly five percent increase compared to last year's harvest.

Abdul Basir Shahid, spokesman for the Department of Agriculture, told Pajhwok Afghan News that orchard owners in the province produced around 18,000 metric tons

of apples last year.
"This year, yields from Pul-i-Alam, the provincial capital, and other districts are estimated to reach approximately 19,000 metric tons — a 4% increase over the previous year," he said.

Sahid added that with support from various institutions and personal investment by farmers, seven hectares of new apple orchards and 150 acres (about 60 hectares) of other fruit orchards have been established this

He attributed the growth in production to the expansion of orchards and the delivery of professional training and agricultural guidance to local farmers.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Salim, an orchard owner Charkh district, from expressed satisfaction with the increased yields. However, he urged the

Department of Agriculture and Livestock to assist in securing reliable domestic and international markets for their apple produce.

Health Ministry seeks enhanced cooperation

KABUL (BNA): Mawlavi Control and Prevention, Haqqani expressed strong Abdul Wali Haqqani, and Dr. Hakim Hemat, support for the initiatives Deputy Minister for Health Head of the Mass discussed and emphasized Services, has called for increased cooperation from the Bill Gates Foundation during a recent meeting aimed at bolstering vaccination efforts and eradicating polio in Afghanistan.

During the meeting,

Maulvi Abdul Kabir reiter-

ated his call to end the

forced deportation of

emphasised the need to

safeguard their assets and

possessions. He noted that

Afghan citizens would

remain dependent on inter-

He also urged the inter-

self-sufficiency.

refugees and

The Ministry of Public Health issued a statement today detailing the discussions that took place, which included key figures such as Dr. Haidarkhan Haidar, Director General of Disease

Immunization Program. Representatives from the Bill Gates Foundation were also present. The meeting centered on

critical issues such as the effectiveness of the mass immunization program and strategies for eliminating the polio virus, particularly in six districts identified as having low vaccination coverage.

Mawlavi Abdul Wali across the country.

the need for further collaboration with the Bill Gates Foundation to enhance health services in the region.

Additionally, Ministry highlighted that the mass immunization programs encompass not only polio vaccination but also campaigns against measles, with ongoing joint monitoring efforts to ensure the well-being of children

Residents of Herat demand healthcare

serious daily challenges.

Noor Gul, a resident of to take myself or my sick trict centres alone. relative to the city for treat-

districts so that people could increasing, but no one is transfer their patients in there to help," he added. time and get them treated.

In remote villages of west-said: "There are no doctors, ern Herat province, pover- no medicine and no clinics ty, lack of inadequate infra- in our area. People see with structure and long distances their own eyes their loved from health centres are ones are dying from simple daily realities and the illnesses. A neighbour's absence of medical services father lost his eyesight behas become one of the most cause of the lack of medicine and healthcare facilities.'

He added that hundreds Pashtjoy village in Injil dis- of families in Pashtun trict who has been suffering Zarghun lived far from the from an illness for a long district centre and available time, says: "I am jobless; medical services. He also there are no jobs and our believed that remote areas farming land yields very lit- were in dire need of healthtle. In this harsh economic care and these services situation, how can I afford should not be limited to dis-

"This pain is not ours alone—neighbouring dis-He urged the caretaker tricts face the same condigovernment to establish tions. We have no clinics, health centres in far-flung no doctors. Diseases are

Similarly, Sediq Ahmad, areas as Shamoun, a resident of a resident of Zawal district, emphasised that the gov- only impoverished but also

the cost of transport and medical care.' According to him,

> or nearby districts for treatment. At the same time, social affairs experts stress acknowledge that many every citizen.

> They say the government, in collaboration with its partner organisations, help. must strive to provide widespread and accessible healthcare worker at a prihealthcare—especially in vate hospital, warned that districts and remote regions.

affairs expert, described the could lead to a humanitaricurrent situation in remote an catastrophe because, as Pashtun Zarghun district said: "In our villages, there ernment must provide lived far from healthcare who had brought a patient to is not even a single clinic. If essential healthcare servictions facilities."

HERAT CITY (Pajhwok): Herat city for treatment, someone falls ill, they must es for these communit go to Shindand district. But such as free local clinics, most people cannot afford mobile health teams and ambulance emergency services.

> According to him, the unemployment and the lack of basic health services poor economic situation not only endangers individhave forced many people to ual wellbeing but also cregive up on taking their sick ates a fertile ground for the family members to the city spread of dangerous diseases. Healthcare workers also

> that access to healthcare is patients from remote areas a fundamental right of only reach hospitals when their condition is deteriorated so severely that even ment, in collaboration with doctors could no longer

Rasouli, the spread of contagious Gulab Haidari, a social diseases in remote areas "tragic" and he noted, people were not

Besides treatment, drug addicts learning skills

HERAT CITY (Pajhwok): Alongside ongoing treatment, vocational training is being provided to 500 drugs addicts in western Herat province, an official said on Wednesday.

Maulvi Hayatullah Rohani, director of counternarcotics department at the Police Headquarters, said the initiative was aimed at empowering recovering patients and paving the way for employment opportunities after overcoming addiction.

He said the programmes were being implemented in different two-month, three-month and sixmonth phases, depending on individuals' abilities and circumstances and would have a positive impact both on their psychological and economic conditions.

Meanwhile, some patients undergoing treat- the past two and a half expand these initiatives.



ment and enrolled in trainlearning skills such as vehicle maintenance and other trades has given them greater motivation to start a new life.

Abdul Samad, an inhabi-Herat, who has been receiving treatment at the provin-

months, said: "I was familing programmes said iar with radio and other electoral appliance repair fridge repairs, tailoring, since teenage. Now these training programmes have been launched, I believe after full recovery, I will not only be free from addition but also able to earn tant of Obeh district in livelihoods for myself and my family.

He urged the entities cial rehabilitation centre for concerned to continue and

Dozens of girls stich a new future at Shukria's workshop

client's



(Pajhwok): Shukria Shams, a woman in and warm atmosphere, 38-Kabul, has established a year-old Shukria Shams sewing workshop, not only a mother of several children supporting her family but also creating employment opportunities for dozens of other women and girls.

Emirate of Afghanistan rebuilding lives. (IEA) to support domestic products by reducing imports of foreign clothing.

In a bustling old alley of and needle each day.

In the heart of this lively

founded the "Afghan Women's Business Center", where sewing is not just a job, but a path to independ-She calls on the Islamic ence, self-confidence, and

From Iran to Kabul: reducing Starting with empty hands

Shukria developed a love for sewing in child-Sang-i-Tarashan in Kabul's hood. While living as a Shor Bazaar, the rhythmic refugee in Iran, she learned hum of sewing machines is tailoring from her mother intertwined with the dreams and later earned a bacheof young girls who stitch lor's degree in fashion hope and future with thread design. When she returned to Afghanistan after many

years, few believed she

would succeed. But she says, came from Iran, most of my to friends told me there's no monthly profit. work here. But I started from zero, with minimal machine and my skills. I had no fear."

Initially, she worked from home, sewing clothes for neighbors and friends. But over time, word of her talent spread, and customers began coming from various parts of Kabul.

Turning passion into enterprise: Launching a large workshop

Shukria's dream was

bigger than a small shop. art of tailoring Her passion for sewing inspired her to transform her alongside her colleagues, tailoring shop into a full- Shukria said: "The dress I'm more women could work.

Two years ago, with a Including fabric and materiinvestment of al costs plus profit, I'm \$30,000, she purchased 25 making it for 25,000 afghamachines and nis — whereas a similar dresewing essential equipment, ss could cost up to 45,000 launching a large workshop afghanis in the market." in Shor Bazaar. Today, it employs more than 30 women and girls.

These women work daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. trained and can eventually in areas such as stitching, cutting, ironing, and more. Shukria is pleased with her growing business and says she earns between 50,000 100,000 afghanis in

She acknowledges the challenges she's faced capital, just one sewing along the way but says she never gave up. Her ambition is to expand her business enough to one day provide jobs for thousands of Afghan women.

Designing women's dresses

environment of the workshop, the sound of sewing machines, scissors, colorful breathes new life into the As she stitched a dress through sewing

fledged workshop where working on now is for a ing to the center for nearly tribute to their country henna night. panel designs. She says she wants to fight economic hardships

She not only shares her skills with her students but puts in every effort to ensure they are properly

work independently A message to girls, government Shukria

other women and girls not to neglect their talents and abilities. "Our youth should start from small things and take action. They should bring their ideas to life and never lose hope. What matters is their mindset and motivation to reach their goals," she said.

She also calls on families to support their daughters in learning practical In the warm, energetic skills and urges the government to back local production and limit foreign clothing imports to increase job Pajhwok that women entrethreads, and cut fabrics opportunities for Afghan preneurs play a vital role in

Girls making a living and household economies. Since the Emirate's return

Hasna, a resident of Shor Bazaar who has been comtwo years, says she sews Punjabi dresses, Gand-i-Afghani dresses, and six-

through tailoring, become of establishing her own center to empower other girls. Pleased with the workshop's environment, Hasna

says the manager is deeply committed to helping girls learn proper tailoring skills encourages and supports all trainees with dedication. woman, has been sewing at

the workshop for a year. She works daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., making a variety of women's clothing. She urges other girls to join tailoring so they can meet their financial needs

and become self-reliant. **Experts: Women entre**preneur should be sup-

Lima Shirzai, a women's rights strengthening both national been issued to women.

"The government must provide easy, long-term loans to women so they can con-

ilies," she said.

while supporting their fam-

Abdullah Kakar Nissari, a professor of law and political science in Kabul, also emphasized the significance of women's ecoself-sufficient, and dreams nomic participation: "It enhances their social role and gives them a sense of employed by businesses self-sufficiency and finan-

cial independence." He that roughly 50,000 women stressed that women must be supported by both their families and the government, adding, "Creating job opportunities for women Zainab, another young not only boosts family incomes but also contributes to national economic growth.'

Ministry Commerce and Industry says 1,200 Licenses were issued to women entrepreneurs since the re-establishment of IEA

Akhundzada Abdul Salam Jawad, spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, told Pajhwok activist, told that before the return of the Islamic Emirate, more than 9,000 business licenses had

to power, around 1,200 licenses have been granted to female investors. He added that currently,

businesswomen are active

in seven sectors - includ-

ing health, agriculture and

livestock, construction,

humanitarian work, business advocacy, services, and industry. While he did not specify how many women are run by women, he noted are currently engaged in informal work such as

poultry farming, dairy propoultry ramms, duction, and tailoring.

Salma Yousafzai, head of the Afghan Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that 10,661 women of across the country are actively involved in various

types of businesses. She also emphasized the importance of women entrepreneurs in improving household income and reducing poverty, saying, "Creating more opportunities for women leads to stronger financial stability for families and a healthier economy for the



ISLAMABAD: President, Asif Ali Zardari exchanging views with Fahad Sulaiman Khalaf Al Kharusi, Ambassador of Sultanate of Oman to Pakistan during meeting held at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

38 more Palestinians killed seeking aid in Gaza

while seeking aid from United Israeli-backed American contractor, according to local health officials. The Israeli military said it had fired warning shots when crowds approached its forces.

ment from the Israeli military on the strikes. The latest deaths came as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was expected to announced further Experts say Israel's ongoing military offensive and blockade are already pushing the territory of some 2 million Palestinians into famine.

Another escalation of the nearly 22-month war could put the lives of countless Palestinians and around 20 living Israeli hostages at risk, and would draw fierce opposition both internationally and within Israel. Netanyahu's far-right coalition allies have long called for the war to be expanded, and for Israel to eventually take over Gaza, relocate much of its population and rebuild Jewish settlements there. US President Donald Trump, asked by a reporter Tuesday whether he supported the reoccupation of Gaza, said he wasn't aware of the "suggestion" but that "it's going to be pretty much up to Israel.

Of the 38 Palestinians killed while seeking aid, at least 28 died in the Morag Corridor, an Israeli military zone in southern Gaza where UN killed by Israeli fire. convoys have been repeatedly overedly opened fire. The Israeli military disturbing example of how humaniand that it was not aware of any casudas in serious breach of international

Azam backs

May 9 trial

convictions

F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for

Law and Justice Senator

Azam Nazeer Tarar on

Wednesday apprised the National Assembly that con-

victions in May 9 cases were

the outcome of a lawful judi-

cial process, adding that there

was no role of the govern-

Responding to a point raised in the National

Assembly by Barrister Gohar

Ali Khan, he said that once a

case reached the trial stage, it

was the court's domain to

conduct proceedings and deliver judgments. "This is a

lawful process; objections

can be raised, but the forum

to do so is also the court," he

Citing a recent example,

he referred to Jamshed

Dasti's case in which the

Lahore High Court granted

interim relief after hearing

arguments, despite objec-

to decide the merits of ongo-

ing prosecutions, adding that

the constitutional framework

required respect for judicial

independence.

Palestinians were killed overnight Gaza run by the Israeli-backed Gaza and into Wednesday in the Gaza Strip Humanitarian Foundation, an American contractor. The Al-Awda

Nations convoys and sites run by an Hospital said it received the bodies of six people killed near a GHF site in central Gaza. GHF said there were no violent incidents at or near its sites. Two of the Israeli airstrikes hit Gaza City, in the north of the territory, Another 25 people were killed in killing 13 people there, including six Israeli airstrikes, according to local children and five women, according hospitals in Gaza. There was no com- to the Al-Ahli Hospital, which received the bodies.

The Israeli military says it only targets militants and blames civilian deaths on Hamas because its militants military action — and possibly plans are entrenched in heavily populated for Israel to fully reoccupy Gaza. Israel facilitated the establishment of four GHF sites in May after blocking the entry of all food, medicine and other goods for 2 1/2 months. Israeli and US officials said a new system was needed to prevent Hamas from siphoning off humanitarian aid.

The United Nations, which has delivered aid to hundreds of distribution points across Gaza throughout the war when conditions allow, has rejected the new system, saying it forces Palestinians to travel long distances and risk their lives for food, and that it allows Israel to control who gets aid, potentially using it to advance plans for further mass displacement. The UN human rights office said last week that some 1,400 Palestinians have been killed seeking aid since May, mostly near GHF sites but also along UN convoy routes where trucks have been overwhelmed by crowds. It says nearly all were

This week, a group of UN special Palestinians advanced toward them, covert military and geopolitical agen-

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Navy

and Turkish Navy have suc-

marks a significant mile-

stone in strengthening mar-

itime collaboration and

interoperability between two

The exercise featured a

comprehensive range of

training activities including

combat firing techniques,

amphibious operation drills,

convoy escorting drills and

military operations in urban

terrain. Live firing drills and

close combat scenarios,

designed to sharpen tactical

coordination and readiness

cessfully

Bilateral

Exercise.

friendly navies.

concluded first

The exercise

Amphibious

Pakistan, Turkish Navies

conduct excercise

also a part of the exercise.

both navies. The conduct of tiatives.

GAZA STIP (AP): At least 38 route leading to a site in southern The Israeli military says it has only fired warning shots when crowds threatened its forces, and GHF says its armed contractors have only used pepper spray and fired into the air on some occasions to prevent deadly crowding at its sites.

Israel's blockade and military offensive have made it nearly impossible for anyone to safely deliver aid and aid groups say recent Israeli measures to facilitate more assistance are far from sufficient. Hospitals recorded four more malnutritionrelated deaths over the last 24 hours, bringing the total to 193 people, including 96 children, since the war began in October 2023, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

Jordan said Israeli settlers blocked roads and hurled stones at a convoy of four trucks carrying aid bound for Gaza after they drove across the border into the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Israeli far-right activists have repeatedly sought to halt aid from entering Gaza. Jordanian government spokesperson Mohammed Al-Momani condemned the attack which he said had shattered the windshields of the trucks, according to the Jordanian state-run Petra News

The Israeli military said security forces went to the scene to disperse the gathering and accompanied the trucks to their destination. Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, in the Oct. 7 attack and abducted another 251. Most of the hostages have been released in ceasefires or other deals. Of the 50 still held in Gaza, around 20 are believed to be alive.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has whelmed by looters and desperate rapporteurs and independent human killed over 61,000 Palestinians, crowds in recent days, and where wit-rights experts called for the GHF to according to Gaza's Health Ministry, nesses say Israeli forces have repeat- be disbanded, saying it is "an utterly which does not say how many were fighters or civilians but says around said troops fired warning shots as tarian relief can be exploited for half were women and children. It is part of the now largely defunct Hamas-run government and staffed law." The experts work with the UN by medical professionals. The UN Nasser Hospital, which received but do not represent the world body. and independent experts consider it the bodies, said another four people The GHF did not immediately the most reliable source for the numwere killed in the Teina area, on a respond to a request for comment. ber of war casualties.

President seeks stronger ties with Oman F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The Amba-Sulaiman Khalaf Alkharusi, met with President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwane-Sadr to explore avenues for enhanced bilateral cooperation. Both leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening the rela-tionship for the mutual advantage of their coun-

President Zardari affirmed the strong bond between Pakistan and Oman, rooted in shared faith, cultural heritage, and principles. He suggested that increased high-level engagements would further solidify the positive relationship. The President advocated for expanded commercial and financial partnerships. He expressed Pakistan"s eagerness to grow bilateral commerce and investments in sectors like information technology, infrastructure development, medical services, food security, and power generation. He stressed that government involvement would stimulate private sector collaboration, thus propelling trade and invest-

President Zardari thanked Oman for its back ing of Pakistan's successful bid for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for 2025-2026. He acknowledged Oman"s hospitality towards the large Pakistani community residing there, recognizing their contributions to Oman"s progress and their role as a bridge between the two nations.

Kashmir **Solidarity** marked

F.P. Report

DUBAI: The Consulate General of Pakistan in Dubai organized a ceremony on Kashmir Siege Day to mark the sixth anniversary of India's unilateral actions in Jammu and Kashmir, taken on August

Members the communities in the UAE attended the event, reaf-Illegally Occupied Jammu incident cases. and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Consul General Hussain Muhammad, while addressing the gathering, condemned India's actions as violations of UN Security Council resolutions and the UN Charter. He stated that these illegal steps have worsened the human rights situation in Kashmir but have failed to suppress the Kashmiri struggle for self-determina-

He reiterated Pakistan's unwavering political, diplomatic, and moral support for the Kashmiri people and called for a resolution based on UN resolutions and the will of the Kashmiri population. Messages from Pakistan's leadership were read out, and a documentary high-lighting human rights violations in the region was screened during the event.

Wildfires, heatwaves grip S Europe

MADRID: Southern Europe is battling deadly wildfires and extreme heat this week, with record temperatures and dry conditions forcing evacuations across Spain France,

southern France's Aude son, injured nine others, The blaze, which erupted scorched at least 15,000 hectares (37,000 acres) – an area larger than the city of Paris - in less than 24 hours. Fires have consumed forests, ravaged villages and damaged or destroyed at least 25 homes, with emergency officials warning that the blaze remains

President craft. — Aljazeera

KP jirga discuss law, order situation

F.P. Report

ssador of the Sultanate of PESHAWAR: The third Oman to Pakistan, Fahad consultative sitting of the Sulaiman Khalaf Alkha- ongoing series of local jirgas to deliberate on the restoration of normalcy in the merged districts was Chief Minister's House, Peshawar with Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Khan Gandapur as its host.

The jirga brought together tribal elders, representatives of political party, and concerned members of the provincial and national assemblies from North Lower South Waziristan, as

Darazinda, and Jandola. Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, Senator Noor-ul-Haq Qadri, the Chief Secretary, the Inspector General of held here on Wednesday in Police, concerned commissioners, deputy commissioners, and senior police officials also attended the jirga.

Participants held detailed consultations on the current law and order situation and presented unanimous recommendations for the way forward. ty. They noted that without Waziristan, Upper and Minister for convening jir- effort towards development gas of tribal elders on peace and prosperity can yield well as the tribal subdivi- and security, stressing that lasting results.

need. "We want peace, and Adviser to the Chief we stand united against ter-Minister on Information, rorists and terrorism," they affirmed.

The jirga recommended forming a delegation comprising representatives from the federal and provincial governments, tribal elders, and political leaders to engage in dialogue with Afghanistan for lasting peace in the region. Participants emphasised that they aspire to development, which is intrinsically linked to peace and stabili-They praised the Chief a secure environment, no

Imran announces countrywide strke on 14th

F.P. Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf founder Imran Khan has called on the public to take to the streets on August 14 to demand "true freedom," condemning what he described as an unlawful and oppressive system.

Speaking through family members after a meeting at Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail, Imran Khan also declared that no new candidates would be nominated to replace the PTI leaders who were disqualified, as he considers those disqualifications illegal and unjust. Aleema Khan, who met him along with their sister Uzma Khan, spoke to the media afterwards. She said it was a blessing that their and if we want real freemeeting with Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, had taken place, and that the sisters had waited outside the prison together.

Imran Khan had inquired about his children's possible return to Pakistan and expressed satisfaction over people for taking to the streets despite state oppres-According to her, Imran

that citizens in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab had shown strong participation in the demonstrations. He paid tribute to the nation and compared the current repression to even more severe than that under past dictators. Imran Khan reportedly

said: "Yahya Khan divided the country to retain power—today, we're again being pushed toward a similar fate. Media is gagged, dom, we must stand up sider his next steps. This now." He made no com-Aleema said, but he firmly and crackdowns on PTI

protests on August 14, asserting that rule of law no longer exists in the country. He urged PTI leaders not to recent protests, praising the fear arrests or imprisonment. Additionally, Imran Khan has sent a clear mes-Pakhtunkhwa government, Khan was pleased to learn demanding an immediate halt to ongoing operations in the province. He emphasised that actions against their own people only fuel resentment against the

He advised that conflict resolution should be pursued through traditional jirgas (tribal councils), not force. Addressing Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, Khan warned that if the government cannot stop the operation, the CM must seriously reconplaints about the treatment mobilization comes amid he personally faced in jail, escalating political tensions Aleema revealed that reiterated his call for members and supporters.

PHC grants protective bail to Shibli, Zartaj Gul

Humayun Khan

PESHAWAR: The Pesha-Pakistani and Kashmiri war High Court (PHC) granted protective bail to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf firming their support for (PTI) leaders Shibli Faraz the people of Indian and Zartaj Gul in the May 9

According reports, the High Court announced its reserved ruling on the bail plea submitted by the two leaders. Both Shibli Faraz and Zartaj Gul were awarded protective bail until August 11. The court further instructed them to appear before the relevant High Court and file appeals by the given date. It also ordered that the two leaders must not be arrested until then. This legal development provides temporary relief to the PTI figures amidst ongoing legal proceedings tied to

the events of May 9. Court sought compliance report in contempt of court petition: The Peshawar High Court (PHC) has expressed indignation over the non-compliance with its orders regarding the restriction on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Azam Swati's foreign travel and the failure to remove his name from the Exit Control List (ECL). The court has sought a report from the relevant authorities on the implementation of

orders, on Wednesday. PHC's divisional bench

court's orders. Azam Swati immovable properties was stopped at Peshawar airport and prevented from traveling abroad.

Justice Syed Arshad Ali expressed strong displeasure over the non-compliance with the court's orders, questioning the Additional Attorney General about the authorities' failure to implement the court's directives. The Additional Attorney General attributed the noncompliance to possible miscommunication and sought time to verify the facts.

PHC directed the relevant authorities to submit a report on the implementation of its orders by 12th August. The court also issued notices to the authorities, seeking their response to the contempt petition.

NAB decides to freezes accused: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has decided to freeze the assets of seven more accused involved in the Kohistan mega corruption scandal. The decision ities in the province.

Farah Jamshed heard the provincial government's contempt of court petition accounts, with Rs25 billion filed by Azam Swati. already recovered. The During the hearing, Justice accused individuals have Syed Arshad Ali asked allegedly built assets worth Azam Swati's lawyer, about hundreds of millions of the status of the petitioner's rupees through corrupt travel plans. The lawyer means. The freeze on assets replied that despite the includes both movable and

> The seven accused individuals including of four men named as Habibullah, Riaz, Naseer and Touseef along with three women whose names are not disclosed. Some of these individuals are alleged to be Benamidars (front-men) for the main accused, who have built assets in their names

NAB has already issued 32 freezing orders, and with these seven additional orders, the total number will reach 39. The bureau is expected to file applications in the accountability court to confirm the freezing orders. The investigation into the Kohistan corruption scandal is ongoing, with more arrests expected. NAB has been probing the assets of seven more roles of government officials and private contractors in the scandal.

The scandal involves the misappropriation of funds from the provincial government's through fake bills, inflated comes as part of the ongo- contracts, and other finaning investigation into the cial irregularities. The massive financial irregular- investigation has revealed es in the province. serious flaws in the The scandal involves a province's financial syscomprising of Justice Syed whopping Rs40 billion tem and hints at deliberate Arshad Ali and Justice embezzlement from the sabotage.

Ghana's ministers among 8 killed in helicopter crash Portugal. An enormous wildfire in

in littoral environments were bilateral exercise reflected

with a comprehensive Türkiye and reaffirmed

amphibious drill in the des- shared commitment towards

ignated coastal area validat- regional peace through regu-

ing operational readiness of lar collaborative training ini-

The exercise culminated ship between Pakistan and

tions raised against the com-GHANA: A helicopter crash position of the bench. He said has killed all eight people on similar principles applied to board, including the nation's the current cases, and if interpretation of constitutional defence and environment provisions like Articles 63(g) ministers, according to Ghana's government. Defand (h) was required, it Minister Edward would ultimately be determined by the Election Omane Boamah and Envir-Commission and the courts. onment Minister Ibrahim The minister said that in Murtala Muhammed were among the victims of the criminal law, separate trials could take place if the consecrash in the southern Ashanti region of the country, said quences or participation differed in each case. Julius Debrah, chief of staff to President John Mahama, He also mentioned prece-

dents from cases involving on Wednesday. former prime ministers "The president and the government extend their where multiple references were filed for separate matcondolences and solidarity to ters, adding that former the families of our comrades prime minister Nawaz Sharif and soldiers who fell in their had faced all such cases in service to the nation," said Debrah. Also among the victhe courts in accordance with the law. He advised that Alhaji tims were Parliament was not the forum Mohammad Muniru

Limuna, deputy national

security coordinator and for-

National Congress (NDC) party. Boamah was helming Ghana's defence ministry at in May

a time when armed groups across its northern border in Burkina Faso had become increasingly restive. While Democracy, about former Ghana has so far avoided a President John Atta Mills, rebel spillover from the who died in 2012. The Sahel – unlike neighbours Ghanaian Armed Forces had Togo and Benin – observers have warned of increased arms trafficking and of fighters from Burkina Faso crossing the porous border to use Ghana as a rear base.

ing, Boamah's career in gov- of the capital. The statement ernment included stints as had said that three crew and communications minister five passengers were on during Mahama's previous board, without specifying at 2012-2017 tenure. Before the time that the ministers that, he was the deputy minister for the environment. As Ghana has pursued increased staff, Debrah said, while the diplomacy with Burkina presidency said Mahama mer minister of agriculture, Faso, Mali and Niger - all had cancelled his official

Democratic the ECOWAS West African regional bloc - Boamah led a delegation to Ouagadougou He had been set to release a book titled, A Peaceful

deep rooted defence partner-

Man in an Africar reported earlier Wednesday that an air force helicopter had fallen off radar after taking off from Accra just after 9:00am (09:00 GMT). It had been headed towards the A medical doctor by train- town of Obuasi, northwest were among them. All flags were to be flown at half and Samuel Sarpong, vice ruled by military govern- activities for the day. chairman of Mahama's ments who have broken with Aljazeera

region has killed one permarking the country's largest wildfire this season. on Tuesday, has already out of control.

"All of the nation" resources are mobilised,' Emmanuel Macron said in a post on X, urging people to act "the utmost cau-More than 1,800 firefighters have been sent to battle the flames, backed by 600 vehicles and water-dropping air-

India's flood rescue efforts hampered by landslides been rescued. Telephone earthmoving

NEW DELHI: Rescue workers are battling heavy rain and blocked roads after at least four people were killed and dozens reported missing after flash floods and landslides swept through parts of India's northern Himalayan state of Uttarakhand.

The flood struck Dharali, a village in Uttarkashi district and a popular stop on the way to the Hindu pilgrimage town of Gangotri, after a sudden surge of muddy water mixed with debris engulfed the valley on Tuesday. The flooding was triggered by intense monsoon rains, which continued to lash the region into Wednesday, complicating rescue efforts.

least eight soldiers from a nearby army base, while more than 190 people have

lines remain damaged, and communication with the affected area is limited. Roads leading to the village have either collapsed or been blocked by large boulders, according to local official Prashant Arya. "A large part of the village is engulfed in mud," he told the news agency Reuters. "Some areas are covered up to 15 metres deep – enough to bury entire

buildings.' The Indian army said it is leading efforts to find approximately 50 people still unaccounted for. Mohsen Shahedi of the National Disaster Response Force said "the search for the missing is continuing". The Al Jazeera understands army's central command that among the missing are at confirmed that "additional military columns" have been

Military helicopters are delivering supplies, including medical aid, and evacuating those stranded. Mobile and electricity towers were swept away by the floodwaters, forcing authorities to issue satellite phones to rescue teams. Television footage showed torrents of dark, debris-filled water crashing through Dharali, sweeping away buildings and roads as residents fled for their lives. A video shared the office Úttarakhand's chief minister

showed parts of the village buried under mud. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami confirmed that about 130 people had been rescued by Tuesday night, and that helicopters were ready to deliver relief supplies to deployed, along with tracker remote areas cut off by the dogs, drones and heavy flooding. - Aljazeera

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