**ABC** Certified

🔟 🏏 🖪 Quettavoice

## ETTA VO CE

Email adderss: quettavoice@gmail.com

> Saturday 11 June .2022



Solar panels be provided to domestic consumers in Gwadar: PM

Https://www.quettavoice.com/



Imran rejects 'anti-people, anti-business' budget

Federal budget 2022-23: Govt employees salaries increased by 15% Development allocations take a hit in Rs9.5tr FY23 budget

Dawood Ahmed

ISLAMABAD: Federal government has increased the salaries of government employees by 15% on Friday afternoon. The government has increased the salaries during the federal budget for the financial year 2022-23.

The government has also increased the pension by 5 percent in the budget.

A notification regarding an increase in the salary of govern-ment employees was also issued. An increase in the salaries was an outstanding demand of the government employees. Finance Minister Miftah Ismail presented the budget for fis-

cal year 2022-23 (FY23) in the National Assembly on Friday. This year the budget session was less chaotic than the last few presentations during the PTI-led government as there is no opposition present in the House since PTI members have tendered their resignations.



Ismail began his speech by bashing the previous PTI government, saying its policies had hurt the economy and damaged the lives of the country's masses.

"An inexperienced team brought the country to the brink. Different people presented the budget every year presenting different policies which hurt investor sentiment," the finance minister said, adding that his government had begun repairing the economy by taking the tough decisions that were the need of the hour. Shortly after the budget was presented in the lower house of parliament, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took to Twitter to assure the public that the government was prepared to take tough decisions in an effort to rectify "years of economic mismanagement". "These are difficult times brought upon us by recent years of economic mismanagement. Through this budget, my government will steer our way out of these challenges by taking tough decisions while minimizing [the] impact on vulnerable segments of [the] population," he said.

## 100 primary health centers upgraded in Balochistan: Farah **Azeem Shah**

'No direction, more

unemployment': Opposition

rejects coalition govt's budget

Staff Reporter

Spokesperson government of Balochistan, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah has said that the government has upgraded 100 primary health centers to the status of basic health units (BHUs) plus across the province. "The government has also upgraded 30 rural health centers", she told media on Friday in Ouetta.

Quetta.
The Spokesperson reiterated that improving education and health sectors were top priorities of the present government. She said the provincial cabinet has decided to allocate substantial funds for the two sectors to ensure the provision of quality medical treatment and education to the people. Also Read: Patients sufferings in Balochistan

"Our government goes beyond words and does something practi-cal", Ms. Shah claimed. She said

The coalition government unveiled the "toughest" federal budget for the next fiscal year 2022-23 with an outlay of Rs9.5 trillion as it seeks to fulfil the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) conditions, but the Opposition rejected the budget, criticising it for having "no direction" which would lead to "more unemployment".

unemployment".
The federal government unveiled

the budget amid strict conditions laid forth by the IMF for the revival of the \$6 billion loan programme stalled for months over policy

breaches.

In a statement, PTI Chairman Imran Khan said that his party rejects the "anti people and anti business budget presented" by the



the Chief Minister Mir Quddus Bizenjo was fully aware of the dif-ficulties of the masses in terms of the acquisition of medical treat-ment. That's why we have upgrad-ed primacy health centers to address the grievances of the mass-

Balochistan spends a substantial amount on the health sector. However, government-run hospitals paint a bleak picture despite the government's

"imported government".

"Budget is based on unrealistic assumptions on inflation (11.5%)

according growth (5%).

and economic growth (5%). Today's SPI of 24% indicates that

inflation will be between 25/30%

which on the one hand will destroy
the common man," predicted the
former prime minister.
The PTI chairman said that the
"retard economic growth" will also
hit Pakistan "due to high interest

rates".
"All our progressive tax reforms such as and pro-poor programmes such as Sehat card, Kamyab Pakistan are

being shelved. It is an unimagina-tive, Purana Pakistan budget creat-

ing more burdens and misery for the nation," said Imran Khan. Web



ISLAMABAD: Government has allocated Rs1,523 billion for defense expenditure and Rs3,950 billion for domestic and external debt servicing for fiscal year 2022-

Budget 2022-23: Cabinet okays 15pc

raise in salaries of

govt employees

ISLAMABAD: A special meeting of the federal cabinet on Friday approved the proposed federal budget for the fiscal year 2022-23.

The special cabinet meeting headed by PM Shehbaz Sharif and attended by federal ministers, special assistants

advisers, special assistants approved the Finance Bill 2022-23.

announced that the federal cabinet has approved a 15 per cent increase in the salaries of government employees and a 5 per cent hike in

Taking to Twitter, Information inister Mariyum Aurangzeb

Finance Minister Miftah Ismail has unveiled the federal budget with a total outlay of Rs9.5 trillion in the National Assembly.

Presenting the budgetary pro-posals, Miftah Ismail said 3950 billion rupees will be spent on debt servicing while 800 billion rupees have been earmarked for the next year's PSDP.

He said 1523 billion rupees has been set aside for country's defence and 550 billion rupees for civil administration's expenditure. Besides, 530 billion rupees have been allocated for pension, while 699 billion rupees for targeted sub-sidies for the benefit of the poor people.
An amount of 1242 billion

rupees has been proposed for grants, which include the grants of Benazir Income Support Programme, Bait-ul-Mal and other departments INP

### Govt to overcome economic challenges: Shahid Khaqan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior leader and former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Thursday said the coalition government would succeed in overcoming the economic challenges faced by the country due to bad governance under the PTI's regime. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi criticized the Pakistan Tehreekee Jusef icized the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Inasf (PTI) government for violating the agreement it had signed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).INP

## Solar panels be provided to domestic consumers in **Gwadar: PM**

News Desk

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has announced the provision of solar panels to domestic consumers in Gwadar, the country's port city. The Premier took to the social media network Twitter and said that he has directed for the completion of the transmission line in Southern Balochistan by December.

The provision of solar panels was a long-standing demand of the residents of Gwadar because of power outages and unarmounced load-shed-Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has

outages and unannounced load-shed-

ding added
The prime minister announced this while chairing a meeting to review the progress over power transmission lines in Balochistan.

The meeting was attended by Federal Ministers Ahsan Iqbal. Engineer Khurram Dastagir, DG Frontier Works Organization Major General Kamal Azfar and con-



cerned senior officials.

The PM Shehbaz Sharif, in this regard, directed an action plan to be submitted within 10 days. PM Sharif also directed a comprehensive off-grid system for immediate supply of electricity in Gwadar.

He called for the formulation of strategies to set up offshore and onshore wind power projects in Gwadar. The meeting was given a detailed briefing on construction of

power transmission lines between Jeewani, Gwadar, Pasni, Ormara,

Panjgur and Iran.
PM Sharif emphasized speeding up the work of transmission lines in

South Balochistan and ordered completion in December this year.

The PM Shehbaz Sharif said delay in completion of projects would not be tolerated. He urged

would not be folerated. He urged the relevant departments to ensure cost-cutting in long term plans.

PM Sharif said an uninterrupted power supply would be ensured to make Gwadar port the most modern port in the world.

The meeting was informed that short term and long term plans regarding transmission lines were being launched. Within six months, the government will be able to supply Gwadar with an additional 100 megawatts of electricity from Iran.

It was informed that the feasibil-

It was informed that the feasibility of Hub-Ormara transmission line is being prepared.

## DC Quetta handing over certificate to heroic driver Muhammad Faisal

Staff Reporter

Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Shehak Baloch handed over a reward and an appreciation certificate to the city's heroic driver Muhammad Faisal Baloch on Friday. The city's heroic driver drove away a burning oil tanker and saved human lives and properties in the Qambrani Road area.

"Faisal deserves appreciation", Shahak Baloch said after handing over the reward to the hero driver. The DC had invited the driver and appreciated him for his bravery

Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Quddus Bizenjo had also announced a special reward of Rs.5,00,000 for the driver Muhammad Faisal Baloch in recognition of his bravery

The video of the burning oil tanker went viral on social media across the country and abroad. It was widely shared on various social media forums. People hailed the bravery of the heroic driver who

saved human lives by endangering his own life.
Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's office also contacted the driver and invited him to Islamabad.

Very soon, this here would be in Islamabad". Salman Sufi, the head of the Strategic Reforms at the Prime Minister's office said.



## Imran rejects 'anti-people, anti-business' budget

PTI Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan on Friday rejected the budget for the new fiscal year, terming it "anti-people" and "anti-business".

The budget is based on "unrealistic assumptions" regarding the 11.5 per cent target for inflation and 5pc target for economic growth, he added.

Earlier in the day, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail presented the budget for the upcoming fiscal year in the National Assembly. During his speech, he said the government had to move towards "sustainable growth".

For FY23, overall deficit is budgeted at Rs3,798 billion, which is 4.9pc of the GDP. Last year, the deficit was budgeted at 6.3pc of the GDP. Reacting to the budget in a series of tweets, Imran said that weekly inflation, as measured by the Sensitive Price Index (SPI), came in at about 24pc. "[This] indicates that inflation will be between 25-30pc, which on the one hand will destroy the common man, and on the other hand, retard economic growth due to high interest rates.

All tax reforms and pro-poor programmes intro-duced during the PTI government had been shelved, he claimed. "It is an unimaginative, purana (old) Pakistan budget creating more burdens and misery for the nation.

Former energy minister Hammad Azhar, who had also served as the finance minister for a short period of time during the PTI government's tenure, said the budget was not of "special importance". Web Desk

## Sindh stealing Balochistan water share: Zahoor Buledi

### Syed Ali Shah

QUETTA: Former Minister Balochistan, Mir Zahoor Buledi has accused Sindh of stealing the province's water share. Speaking on point of order during the provincial assembly session, Mr. Buledi said the Indus River System Authority (IRSA) has failed to ensure fair distribution of materials. bution of water among the provinces.

Balochistan Assembly session resumed here with deputy speaker Sardar Babar Khan Musakhail in the chair. "Sindh continues to steal our water share", Mr. Buledi said during the ses-

Lawmakers from the treasury and opposition benches strongly con-demned the continued stealing of Balochistan's water share. They urged the IRSA to take notice of

stealing the water share. "Farmers suffer as Sindh continues to steal water' Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, the Balochistan

Minister Communication and Works (C&W) said Sindh and the federal government were stealing the water share of the province. "This has severely affected the farmers and growers in the green belt of Balochistan",

Sardar Khetran said. Balochistan has always accused Sindh of stealing its water share. The farm-ers in Balochistan's



Naseerabad and Jaffarabad districts have been protest-ing against this practice for the last few years.

The house unanimously urged the Sindh government to take notice of this practice and bring an end to address the grievances of the farmers of the area.

The house also criticized recent delimitations in Balochistan and demanded the Election Commission of Pakistan to review its decision in this

The house criticize ECP for recent delimitations in Balochistan

Pakistan Tehrik e Insaf (PTI) member, Mubeen Khilji drew the attention of the House to the objection raised by the Election Commission towards the

delimitation of constituencies and said that the con-stituencies should have been formed on the basis of merit and not on anyone's personal wish. All the constituencies of

Quetta have been affected by the recent delimitation. The Election Commission has given a month for objections to be heard. Malik Naeem Khan Baazi of the Awami National Party said that Nohsar and Panjpai have been removed from his constituency and included in another con-stituency but he does not care about it.

Most of the lawmakers from the opposition and treasury benches demanded of the ECP to address the grievances of the political parties in this regard.

By Kamila Hyat

# QUETTA VOICE Editor Asim Khan Balochistan needs

## inclusive development

Balochistan, the country's resource-rich province is lagging behind all other provinces in terms of key social indicators including education, health, sanitation, clean drinking water etc. Mismanagement, injudicious distribution of development funds coupled with a lack of political commitments are the underlying reasons behind backwardness of

Track record shows, successive governments have always launched politically motivated development schemes to please their influential supporters. Constituency, individual and political schemes always dominated the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) in every year's financial budget. Nexus among the Chief Minister's Secretariat, the Planning Development and Finance Department continue to deprive the constituencies of other lawmakers.

Opposition's constituencies were ignored

Opposition s constituencies were ignored Opposition lawmakers constituencies remained ignored during last three-years of former chief minister, Jam Kamal Khan's government. Despite agitation in and outside the assembly, the opposition lawmakers were not able to force government to allocate funds for their constituencies

This is irony of fate that the mandate of the lawmakers is to frame laws since the assemblies are called legislative assemblies. But legislators are least bothered about the legislation rather they take keen interest in construction of roads, buildings etc. That's why, provincial governments prefer not to hold local bodies elections rather decentralization of development projects.

Development deficit of Balochistan is likely to be Rs. 100b Balochistan government announced to have allocated Rs. 172 bs for the PSDP during the financial year 2021-22. However, currently the government has more than Rs. 40bs as per the statement of ruling party's Spokesman Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran. The province has already spent Rs. 40bs and it has more than 40bs for the remaining year. It means the deficit is close to Rs. 100bs.

Chief Minister Quddus Bizenjo needs to put his house in order and introduce a strict financial policy to ensure completion of development projects. The government should ensure inclusive development and end the practice of exclusive development so that this backward province could come at par with other parts of the country. Action should match

## Pakistan and the future

Pakistan at the moment is attempting to crawl out of a crisis created by three and a half years of incompetent governance. But all of us know that the PDM government which has assumed power for an indefinite period of time will strug-gle to solve the problems created both due to domestic inadequacies and the international mar-

**EDITORIAL** 

Rs30 per litre of the price of petroleum demanded by the IMF after Imran Khan originally offered a subsidy on the product will make everyone's lives a little harder, a little more difficult to sustain. This includes not just the poorest of the poor but also the salaried middle class which is of course far more reluctant to seek handouts. Creating an economic policy for Pakistan is also being complicated by the lack of consistency seen over the years and the changes which come in with every government. Across the country are scattered half finished projects begun by one government but which the next has refused to complete, instead beginning its own development plans. This serves no one.

The four finance minis-ters who served under the PTI's three years in power achieved little, and the last of them, Shaukat Taien, himself said that

lack of planning has left the economy in a mess. It does not take an experienced expert to tell us this. There are really only a handful of ways to build up the resources Pakistan urgently needs as the millions in the country face a situation akin to slow starvation. The 50 per cent of children who are stunted and unable to reach the expected height reach the expected height for their age are proof of this. The Rs2,000 additional cash handout offered by PM Shehbaz to 14 million families may offer a minuscule amount of relief but Rs2,000 in this age of inflation vanishes quickly.

If we are to bring real benefit to people, there are only three sources from which we can add money to the exchequer, while also increasing our exports. The decision made by the PML-N to prevent the import of luxury items will really offer very little in terms of resources given the very small number of people who actually bought imported cheese, chocolate or other similar items. What we really need is to increase our exports and consider why Bangladesh for example has moved ahead of us in the export of cotton textile items, a market once held by Pakistan.

The real issue however is how to add substantial resources to what we

have. We cannot cut on debt servicing given the huge debt we have accumulated and will pass on to future generations, for other reasons we cannot cut on defence - so we are left with attempting to cut back on administrative expenses. These three sectors make up the largest amounts which go largest amounts which go out as expenditure. Cutting administration means cutting down on what is spent by ministers, bureaucrats and others in official positions. After all, not every official needs to drive a car with a flag or be escorted by dozens of policemen.

by dozens of policemen.

They are also other huge wastages in departments which can be cut back on to help save money. After all, for many years, India, which notably until the Covid-19 crisis was faring far better economically than us and is still predicted to assume position as a world economic power in the years ahead, had no issues of pride or ego with ministers and even the prime minister riding the prime minister riding in the tiny Marutis made mainly by the country itself. For us, nothing but exported luxury limou-sines or even helicopters will do. We also need to think of our country as a whole, even though it is of course a federation with each province hold-

ing considerable power.
The federation needs to

order to solve the water disputes currently disrupting relations between Punjab and Sindh while Balochistan too cries out for water. These needs can only be met if we plan carefully and per-haps most importantly put curbs to prevent Pakistan's population reaching the anticipated mark of 380 million by 2050. This would be a disaster – perhaps a big-ger disaster than anything

We already lack resources to offer to the people we have. Water is running shorter by the day, Pakistan now ranks among countries with increasingly severe water scarcity mainly because we have over the last seven decades polluted the abundant water we the abundant water we had and not developed programmes to conserve rainwater or devise other solutions beyond large trams, although environ-mentalists and water experts suggest far small-er reservoirs and other systems to harness water necessary even from

We know that the PDM government will not be able to manage much. In the first place, it is unlikely that the parties will hold together for long given that the alliance consists of eight groups, most with different ideologies and separate plans. If only the PML-N and PPP, the two biggest

parties in the group, stay united this alone will be a miracle. But what the PDM can do is work out a plan for the future and put it on paper. It is a wel-come sign that we are hearing more open talk from the media since the Imran Khan government departed, especially on Balochistan and its problems. Popular artists have also attempted to high-light the existence of a province that has too often been virtually forgotten and subjected to an immense amount of abuse. Families still look for loved ones who disappeared years or even decades ago and as PM Shehbaz Sharif himself said the resources of Balochistan are taken away from people and packed out to the Punjab and other provinces. This is a travesty of justice and

equity.

Efforts need to be made to draw back Balochistan into the mainstream. School textbooks often fail to highlight what other parts of the country look like or what their main features are in terms of features are in terms of culture or production, beyond the cliched picbeyond the cliched pic-tures of children in Sindhi topis and ajrak or whatever other garment is deemed to reflect the culture of that province. This offers no real meaning and builds no real empathy for other real empathy for other Putin's goals

## Accountability of the educator

Everyone who is even a little bit familiar with how governance works knows that only those systems work that can be held accountable. Absolute power corrupts absolutely. There is a dire need of checks and balances for the systems to work Those systems that have in-built checks and bal-ances work and those systems that lack effective accountability do not work or do not work that well.

Capitalism is a highly exploitative economic sys-tem and it has historically evolved due to the value generated out of colonialism, slavery, exploitation of the labour, and chang-ing the terms of trade in favour of the emerging capitalist class through state patronage. Capitalism still works through the exploitation of the peripheral regions of the world, labour exploitation, exploitation of the free environmental commons, imperial wars and imperial proxy wars.

However, capitalism is also dynamic, productive, and has in-built correcting mechanisms. It has an automatic feedback loop. So, when there is no demand for a certain commodity, that commodity or market for those com-modities perishes and new commodities, markets, and technologies take over Capitalism works on market demand and supply signals. It minimizes the red tape of bureaucra-

cies and inefficiencies. That is why capitalism

has survived as an eco-nomic system for the past few centuries and periph-eral capitalism even thrives in developing countries like Pakistan. There have been many endogenous and exoge-nous shocks to capitalism nous shocks to capitalism in the last few centuries and these shocks are inbuilt in the way capitalism functions and they will continue to take place till a better economic system replaces capitalism. Maybe the Chinese and Southeast Asian countries' state capitalism will replace the unbridled free market capitalism in this

However, capitalism has survived as an economic system because it is dynamic, productive, and has an in-built accounta-bility feedback loop. The planned economic system collapsed with the fall of the USSR because it was an inefficient system and did not have an in-built feedback loop. Th Chinese and Southeas Asian countries' state-led capitalism has been very successful and needs to be studied more to learn lessons for the development

of countries like Pakistan. However, the success of the Chinese and East Asian Tigers state-led capitalism has been that their states and bureaucracies had ample state capacity and they have guided the private sector and continue to guide the private sector, but they have ultimately let the private sector to lead by carefully monitoring and calibrating it. Even the public sector and the local governments in China work on the basis of a competitive model of capitalism; and that is why

they have been successful.

In short, you need state capacity to plan, guide, calibrate, implement, monitor, provide incentives, punish in the case of non-delivery but you also need accountable systems that change their market behaviour on the basis of the laws of demand and supply and feedback loop in-built in the system Peripheral capitalism works its way through caste, gender, ethnic, and local and regional net-works. There is enough political economy litera-ture that has analysed and researched what is written The literature on educa-

tional outcomes in Pakistan both by the national Idara Taleem-o-Agahi (ITA) and research by Harvard academic Asim Ijaz Khwaja and his co-authors shows that edu-cational outcomes for children are better (even if marginally) in the private schools in Pakistan than the public schools even by using fewer financial resources that the public sector. This set of research on educational outcomes does not refer to elite private schools in the urban areas necessarily whose educational outcomes are bound to be better than the resource-crunched public sector. This research refers to low-fee private schools that have opened up in every nook and corner of urban areas including the urban slums and also in the rural areas in the more developed provinces of

And one of the possible explanations for better educational outcomes for low-fee private sector schools could be that these schools are more accountable to their customers parents, neighbourhoods, and communities. Despite the fact that teachers in public-sector schools have received more education and training and they are paid more than the teachers who teach in low-fee private schools, the educational outcomes for children are still marginally better even in the low fee private-sector schools compared to the public schools because of less teacher absenteeism, bet-ter motivation, and better accountability.

to the Growth We refer International Centre (IGC)'s Policy Brief on Educator Accountability by Saher Asad et al., 2020 in this article today to take this debate forward. The IGC research team conducted a randomized control trial (RCT) in 240 rural pri-mary schools of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) during the education year in 2017-18. The learning levels are low for children in Pakistan, and they are even lower in KP compared to Punjab.

The government of KP wanted to reform the

### By Foqia Sadiq Khan

accountability system of educators. It wanted to link the educator promotions to performance rather than seniority (that is the prevalent system) The RCT of the IGC research evaluated two criteria: it linked teachers' promotion to the teachers and their students' per-formance, and it linked the head teacher's promotion to the head teacher and their subordinate teachers

performance. The research team of the IGC found out that there has been no signifi-cant impact on the learn-ing levels of students or performance of educators during this RCT and the reform process. According to the authors, "This may be due to system incoher-- the accountability relationships created for educators and district officials were not sufficiently aligned around improving learning because of design constraints but also seri-ous implementation chalommendations of this pol-icy brief, the researchers state that changing district officials' mindset is difficult and it is not easily possible to make it more pro-accountability and oriented towards a perform-

he last of the Ukrainian defenders in the port city of Mariupol surital punishment. The Russian effort to rendered at the

Azovstal plant on Friday. The fact that at least half of them belong to the Azov regiment, created by far-right militants in 2014, offers the Kremlin a chance to claim major progress with regards to one of the officially declared goals of its war on

Ukraine – the 'denazifica-tion' of the country. Inevitably, the Russian propaganda machine is now excitedly parading all the tattoos and patches on the uniforms of the surrendering Ukrainian soldiers, which betray the far-right sympathies of their bear-ers. In violation of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, pro-Kremlin outlets are circu-lating videos of POWs, who are being forced to strip and expose their tattoos for the cameras of propagandist TV channels. Filming POWs, including scenes of their interroga-tion and torture, is practised by both sides in this

Officials in both Russia and Russian-backed unrecognised statelets in eastern Ukraine are now calling for a trial of Azov fighters. Right at the end of the Azovstal siege, the Russian Prosecutor-Russian Prosecutor-General's Office appealed to the Supreme Court to declare the Azov regiment a terrorist organisation. This would potentially allow Russia to try the members of Azov in its territory as terrorists. Alternatively, the Kremlin could stage that trial in the Donetsk and Luhansk statelets, which - unlike Russia itself - practise cap-

highlight Ukraine's trou-bling tolerance of the far right would be more con-vincing if Russia itself weren't coopting them as well. The infamous Wagner Group, a private army that now fights on the Donbas front near the town of Popasna, for example, includes the Rusich unit, which is made up of open neo-Nazis from St

Petersburg. But such facts are virtually unknown to the Russian public, so with the help of its massive propa-ganda machine, the Kremlin will be able to tick off the goal of "denazifica-tion" as achieved, given that Azov is by far the most symbolic example of Ukraine's controversial relationship with the far But what about the other

goals?While many in the West seem to think that Putin aims to occupy the whole of Ukraine, Russia's territorial expansion goals officially declared at the start of the operation are not nearly as ambitious. They boil down to estab-lishing control over the Donetsk and Luhansk in eastern Ukraine, which Russian-backed separatists have only partially con-trolled since 2014.

This is a rather daunting task in military terms because it involves taking over the best-fortified areas of Ukraine, which have been carefully preparing for this battle for

By Leonid Ragozin The Russian progress in Donbas has been steady so far, but very slow. The Russians are now close to establishing full control of Luhansk region, but Ukraine's strongholds in Donetsk region will be a much harder nut to crack

In terms of selling the war to the jingoist part of Russian society, any Ukrainian territory outside of Donetsk and Luhansk claimed by Russia is just a bonus. The Kremlin does not need to obtain any territory outside Donbas to convince its support base that it achieved its goals and declared victory.

The fall of Mariupol to

the Russian military represents one of these bonus achievements. Russia now has a land corridor to Crimea, which it occupied in 2014. On top of that, it has ended Crimea's water and power blockade, maintained by Ukraine all those years. The freshwater canal connecting the Dnieper River to the arid Crimean Peninsula is now in Russia's hands. So is a nuclear power station to the north of the peninsula, not to mention the power southeasterr Ukraine which can be now connected to Russia.

Only historians looking into the Kremlin archives, years or decades from now, will be able to reveal the details of Putin's original plan for Ukraine.

For now, all we know is that the first stage of the war included an ill-fated march on Kyiv and a failed attempt to encircle Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv. Was it a part of the plan for a broad occupation or a way of dis-tracting Ukrainian.

## Inescapable facts

Israel's coalition government of right-wing Prime Minister Naftali Bennett is on the verge of collapse, which is unsurprising. Israeli politics, after all, is among the most fractious in the world, and this particular coalition was born out of the obsessive desire to dethrone Israel's former leader, Benjamin

leader, Benjamin Netanyahu. While Netanyahu was successfully ousted in June 2021, Bennett's coalition has been left to contend with the painful reality that its odd politi-cal components have very cal components have very little in common.

On April 6, Israeli law-maker Ildit Salman defected from the coalition, leaving Bennett and his temporary allies wrangling with the fact that their Knesset (Israel's Parliament) coalition no longer has a majority. Now that the Knesset count stands at 60-60, a single defection Israelis back to the voting booth, which has been quite habitual recently.

Two current Bennett allies, Abir Kara and Bir Orbach, are possible defectors. Even Bennett's old Bayit Yehudi (Jewish Home) partner, Ayelet Shaked, could ultimately betray him, once his coalition ship begins sinking, And it is. Both Bennett and

Shaked left the Jewish Home in 2018 to form Yamina. Although the latter won only seven seats in the March 2021 elections, the far-right party proved to be the kingmaker, which allowed the anti-Netanyahu coalition to be formed. The only alternative to this current coalition would have been a government in which Netanyahu and Bennett would alternate the prime minister post. Though Bennett is a protegé of Netanyahu, the current prime minister knew too well that his former boss cannot be trusted

trusted.
So, instead, Bennett opted to join a hotchpotch coalition of political desperados, each joining an unlikely government for simply having no other option. For example, Yesh Atid (17 seats), and Kahol Lavan (8 seats), once part of the Blue and White center-right coali-White center-right coali-tion, betrayed their political base by joining farright Yamina and, consequently, leaving behind Telem of Moshe Yalon, which now has no Knesset representation.

The same can be said of Labor (7 seats) and Meretz (6 seats) who, earlier, were the backbone of the Israeli politi-cal establishment – in 1992 they had 56 seats combined. Losing faith in their own political base, they opted to join their supposed ideological nemesis, instead of enduring the painstaking process of breathing life. process of breathing life

into a dying camp. The captivating part of the story is the United Arab List of Mansour Abbas, which is rightly perceived to have betrayed its Arab base in Israel and its own Palestinian people every-Palestinian people every-where else. As the Israeli army is cracking down on Palestinian communities throughout historic

Palestine, including Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Naqab – Mansour Abbas' own base – this strange political creature remains committed to Bennett, though nervous about future possibilities, especially that the nature of the Israeli attacks on Palestinians are increasingly shifting towards a religious war. Consequently, it is hard

to imagine that Bennett's government could realis-tically survive till 2025. In fact, it is quite rare in Israeli politics that any government coalition has served its full four-year term. Still, Israel's his-toric political instability is worsening. In fact, Bennett's government is the outcome of an agonizing political process that saw Israeli voters cast their votes in four different general elections in only two years.

Perhaps, what is keep-ing Bennett's coalition together, though precariously, is the menacing image of Netanyahu, the current opposition leader, sinisterly watching from across the Knesset aisles while waiting for the right opportunity to pounce. Some Israeli analysts even argue that the defection of MK Salman was largely instigated by the abuse and intimidation she received from Netanyahu's Likud party, which saw her as a traitor to their right-wing agen-da Regardless of the fate of Bennett's government, Israel's political crisis will continue indefinitely and there are reasons for this. Though the Israeli right has dominated the country's politics for

many years, especially since 1996, it remains fractious and opportunis-tic. The constant need to feed the insatiable appetite of the country's powerful right-wing constituency keeps pushing Israel's right-wing parties further to the right. They are merely united around such values as the racial and religious supremacy of Israeli Jews, their hate

for Palestinians and Arabs, the desire to expand the illegal Jewish settlements and the rejection of any mediated solution that would provide Palestinians with vide Palestinians with their basic human rights.

their basic human rights. The left in Israel is, frankly, not a left at all. It is recognized as such, largely because of its 'peace-process' legacy, which died with the assassination of Labor Minister Yitzhak Rabi, in 1995. Tellingly, Rabin was not a peacenik but one of Israel's most militant and violent leaders. tant and violent leaders. However, the erroneous association, linking any Israeli leader with the 'peace process', automatically classified that individual as a 'leftist'. According to Israeli analyst Oz Aruch, this also applied to Ariel Sharon. The name of the late notorious Israeli prime minister and Army minister and Army General is associated with the Sabra and Shatila massacre, along with other horrific

episodes. Without a real ideology and without a 'peace process', or even the desire to engage in one, the Israeli left has become irrelevant. The same applies to the By Ramzy Baroud

ance-based rewards system. The inspection sys-

tem of the education department has low incen-

tives and low stakes

therefore, incentives and stakes for the inspection

increased.

should

The

very

center which, by definition, is the political camp that occupies the space between the right and the left. With the right being in constant redefinition and the left having no strong ideological base, the Israeli center has proven equally hopeless. The outcome of the April 2019 elections, when the center coalition Blue and White obtained 35 seats should have been a water shed moment for Israel' political center. This ulti mately culminated to nil and eventually led to the collapse of Blue and White itself.

While this is taking place in Israel, the Palestinian body politic has been slowly reani-mating. Though mating. Though Palestinian Arab parties in Israel remain divided, and Palestinian groups in the occupied territories are yet to find their common ground, Palestinian communities, especially the younger generations, have been articulating a new political discourse. With grassroots leader-ships, they are coordinating their actions from occupied Jerusalem to Gaza, to the Naqab to the West Bank and to Palestinian communities in Israel itself.

For the first time in many years, Israel finds itself in a position where it is no longer the only party that is shaping events or determining outcomes in the country. outcomes in the country. Therefore, Israeli politi-cal instability will worsen. Contrastingly, Palestinians are finally becoming a factor in Israeli politics and, through.

## Inequality and hunger

eginning on May 24, the W o r l d E c o n o m i c Forum is gath-ering in Davos, Switzerland for an in-per-son meeting, discussing the global tax system and financial inclusion, financial inclusion.
Thanks to protests and
new research, however,
participants will not be
able to avoid the elephant
in the room; the surging
inequality of wealth during the pandemic.

As the Institute for
Policy Studies (IPS) and
Inequality org have documented over the last two

mented over the last two years of a global pandemic, billionaire assets have surged while millions lost their lives and livelihoods A new report from Oxfam dramatizes how hundreds of millions of people around the world have slid further into poverty during this time period. In a detailed examination of the food and agriculture industry, Oxfam found that billion-aires in that industry saw their wealth increase by \$382 billion during the pandemic. An emergency windfall tax on their wealth increase alone (to say nothing of their pre-pandemic billions) could end world hunger and double the incomes of 545

million small-scale farmers.
In January, an analysis by the Fight Inequality Alliance. Institute for Policy Studies, Oxfam, and the Patriotic Millionaires found that an annual wealth tax starting at just 2 percent for those

with more than \$5 million, over \$50 million, and up to 5 percent for billion-aires could generate upwards of \$2.52 trillion a year. That's enough to lift 2.3 billion people out of poverty, fund vaccines for everyone in the world, and deliver universal health-care and social protections for all the citizens of lowand lower-middle-income countries.

A group of over 150 millionaires released a strong statement calling on Davos attendees to face the dangers of runaway wealth inequality and speak out in favor of national efforts to levy progressive income and wealth taxes on the ultra-wealthy. "The truth is that 'Davos' doesn't deserve the world's trust right now," the statement reads. "For all the countless hours spent talking about making the world a better place, the conference has produced little tangible value amidst a torrent of self-congratulations."

"Until participants acknowledge the simple, effective solution staring them in the face - taxing the rich - the people of the world will continue to see their so-called dedication to fixing the world's prob-lems as little more than a

performance."
The letter is signed by actor and activist Mark Ruffalo, as well as sup-porters of the In Tax We Trust movement including Abigail Disney, Morris Pearl, and Nick Hanauer. These millionaires delivered the In Tax We Trust

By Chuck Collins letter directly to the World Economic Forfum offices in New York and Geneva, and attended pro-taxation demonstrations at the out-skirts of the elite com-

pound in Davos itself.

As the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) and Inequality org have documented over the last two years of a global pandemic, billionaire assets have curred while millione lest surged while millions lost their lives and livelihoods.

A new report from Oxfam dramatizes how hundreds of millions of people around the world have slid further into poverty during this time period. In a detailed examination of the food and agriculture industry, Oxfam found that billionaires in that industry saw their wealth increase by \$382 billion during the pandemic. An emergency windfall tax on their wealth increase alone (to say nothing of their pre-pandemic billions) could end world hunger and double the incomes of 545 million small-scale farm-

In January, an analysis by the Fight Inequality Alliance, Institute for Policy Studies, Oxfam, and the Patriotic Millionaires found that an annual worlds to the contract of the patriotic Millionaires found that an annual worlds the characteristics. annual wealth tax starting at just 2 percent for those at just 2 percent for those with more than \$5 million, 3 percent for those with over \$50 million, and up to 5 percent for billionaires could generate upwards of \$2.52 trillion a year. That's enough to lift 2.3 billion people out of 2.3 billion people out of poverty, fund vaccines for everyone in the world.

Mandviwalla

appointed head of Senate body

on finance

ISLAMABAD: Senator Saleem Mandviwalla has been appointed as head of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance on Friday. Reportedly, Senator Maulana Attaur Rehman suggested the name of Mandviwalla as chairman of Senate Standing Committee on

of Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Senator Farooq H. Nack seconded his name.

The newly appointed chairman of the committee resolved to improve matters with mutual

Senators Attaur Rehman, Zeshan Khanzada, Anwarul Haq Kakar Farooq Naek, Saadia Abbasi, Dilawar Khan, Yousaf Raza Gilani and Maulana Ghafoor Haidri attended the session of the

Hadri attended the session of the committee today.

Besides them, Senator Shibli Faraz, Maulvi Faiz Muhammad, Senate secretary Muhammad Qasim Samad Khan, and other high-ranking officials of the upper house also attended the session. INP

Family rushes

to Dubai as

Musharraf's

health worsens DUBAI: The condition of for-

cooperation.

# 03 NATIONAL

## PML-N govt allocates Rs9.45b for PTI's Billion Tree Tsunami project

ISLAMABAD: The federal government is to present the budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023 on Friday.

fiscal year 2022-2023 on Friday.

In the next budget, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz-led government has decided to continue the 10 Billion Trees Tsunami Project. The project was launched by the previous Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government.

government. The current government has proposed Rs9.45 billion for PTI's flagship project, Rs4.5 billion less than last year's funds. In addition, it has been

suggested to change the name of the project be changed from Billion Tree Tsunami to "Green Pakistan Program"

The former prime min-ister and PTI Chief Imran Khan launched the project in September 2019. The total estimated cost of the project is more than Rs25.180 billion while Rs12.39 billion had already been spent by June 2021.

In the last financial year, Rs14 billion was allocated for this project while Rs9.50 billion was allocated for three climate

change projects. The federal govern-

## ment has released the Pakistan Economic Survey for the outgoing fiscal year 2021-22. The economic survey, which provides key indi-cators about the perform-

ance of the government, shows that Pakistan achieved Gross Domestic Product (GPD) targets

However, federal ministers Miftah Ismail and Ahsan Iqbal cautioned that the numbers should be toleral ministers with the property of the control of the property of the proper be taken with a pinch of salt as a widening current account deficit and a ris-ing external debt over-shadowed the nominal growth. INP

## "Disruptive **Technologies – Impact** on Future Warfare"

Pakistan needs to har-ness emerging technolo-gies to strengthen nationgies to strengthen national sovereignty. This was the key message of former senior military officers and eminent intellectuals at the seminar on 'Disruptive Technologies – Impact on Future Warfare' organised by the Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS) in Islamabad. General Zubair Mehmood Hayat (Retd), Former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee was the Keynote Speaker, while other eminent speakers included Dr Rizwana Karim Abbasi, Associate

included Dr Rizwana
Karim Abbasi, Associate
Professor, National
University of Modern
Languages (NUML); Dr
Adil Sultan, Acting Dean,
Faculty of Aerospace and
Strategic Studies
(FASS), Air University;
and Air Vice Marshal
Faaiz Amir (Retd),
Former Vice Chancellor,
Air University. The seminar was chaired by
President CASS Air
Marshal Farhat Hussain
Khan (Retd), while Air
Marshal M Ashfaque
Arain (Retd), Advisor to
Chief of the Air Staff on
CASS Affairs moderated CASS Affairs moderated the proceedings. Air Marshal Ashfaque Arain

(Retd), while delivering the Opening Remarks, highlighted that new technologies offered enormous opportunities for civilian as well as defence sectors, but also presented new vulnerabilities and security challenges. While analysing the role of state actors and non-state actors, he cautioned that the latter had greater prospects of (Retd), while delivering had greater prospects of exploiting many of the easily accessible techaccessive accessive technologies in inventive and disruptive ways. They also provided opportunities to smaller states to offset military asymmetry. He further noted that in the endeavour to stay ahead, rapid technologi-cal advancements had resulted in increasingly intense technological competition and rivalry between states. Looking at the impact of these changes on Pakistan, he urged that it was imporurged that it was impor-tant to stay abreast of such technological advancements and how they would affect military doctrines and strategy in the future. This was especially important in case of nuclear-armed adversaries with unre-solved disputes mutual solved disputes, mutual distrust, and shared bor-ders, significantly reduc-

ing reaction time, he said.In his Keynote Address, General Zubair Mehmood Hayat outlined how disruptive technologies had now become a new toolkit in the hands of policymakers and in his assessment, their greatest impact would be in the political domain as they would disturb the existing balance of power. He explained that such technologies would not only impact the military but also the economy significantly. On the military side, all three traditional domains would be tary side, all three tradi-tional domains would be impacted to the extent that the character of the war was likely to be changed fundamentally, the General said. He warned how Artificial Intelligence, if left unbri-dled, could threaten the very existence of very existence of mankind General Hayat recommended that as a nation, Pakistan needed

nation, Pakistan needed to be part of the debate and process to ensure human control over these technologies. Disruptive technology is likely to create technical apartheids. We, therefore, need to harness it as a catalyst of change to strengthen our national strengthen our national security and national sov-ereignty.INP



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani called on Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf.

## Railways hands over Tezgam express to private sector

LAHORE: The Pakistan Railways has outsourced commercial management of commercial management of three more passenger trains including Tezgam Express to the private sector in order to provide better facilities to passengers, sources said on Friday. According to well-placed sources, Pakistan Railways has outsourced three train services, which would now be run under the public-private partnership later this month. The PR has also issued instructions to the also issued instructions to the booking authorities to immediately stop their reserva-tions. The three outsourced

trains are the Subuk Kharam, the Rawal Express and the Tezgam. The Subuk Kharam, the Rawal Express would start operations under the private operator from June 16, while the operations of the Tezgam would start from July 1. In October 2020, it was reported that the Pakistan Railways had decided to outsource commercial management of eight passenger trains to the private sector in order to the private sector in order to provide better passenger facilitation to the travellers. The railway department sought proposals from the private sector for the out-

sourcing of commercial man-agement of the passenger trains. In a statement, the spokesperson of the railway department said that eight passenger trains are being privatised. privatised

privatised.
The trains include Karachi-Rawalpindi Sir Syed Express, Karachi-Havelian Hazara Express, Karachi-Lahore Shalimar Express, Lahore-Mari Indus Mianwali Express, Lahore-Sialkot Narowal Passenger, Karachi-Mirpur Khas Mehran Express, Lahore-Multan Mirpur Khas Mehran Express, Lahore-Multan Moenjo Daro Express and Lahore-Multan.INP

mer president and military ruler
Pervez Musharraf is critical as he
has been put on ventilator at a hospital in Dubai on Friday.
According to sources,
Musharraf's health has been worsened as he is being given oxygen through artificial ways.

The close relatives of former president have reached Dubai.INP

## Tehreek-e-Labbaik naib ameer acquitted in hate

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Lahore on Friday acquitted Naib Ameer of Tehreeke-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) Pir Syed Zaheerul Hassan Shah in hate speech case for want of evidence. The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) had registered a case against him in 2021. Pronouncing the verdict, ATC Judge Ijaz Ahmad Buttar said the prosecution had failed to prove the

speech case

prosecution had failed to prove the charges framed against him. Malik Iftikhar Ahmad Awan and

Shahzad Bhatti Advocate gave arguments on behalf of TLP Naib Ameer Pir Zaheer INP

## Karachi: IG Sindh orders snap checking operation throughout city

KARACHI: Sindh police have started conducting snap checking operations throughout the city on special orders by the Inspector General (IG) Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon.

According to details, the police have initiated the snap checking operation in coordi-nation with the special branch. Traffic police and other law enforcement agencies are also

taking part in the operation.

Police Dogs from Sindh
Police's K9 unit have also
been deployed to assist in the

search operations. The opera-tions are being conducted under the supervision of the Deputy Inspector General

(DIG) and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) special branch.

The snap checkings are being conducted at multiple locations including Sassi Toll plaza and Mochko. The police have been equipped with have been equipped with Criminal records holders (CRO) and fingerprint machines, IG Sindh said. The police have also

LHC disposes of

launched a crackdown on cars with tinted glasses and started checking and validity of driving licenses. The checking will be done regularly without prior notice, special branch and specialized units will assist in the snap checking operations, IG Sindh.

Earlier, Ghulam Nabi Memon had said that Karachi has a better crime index ranking than many major cities including Chicago, Kuala Lumpur, Dhaka and New Delhi.INP



QUETTA: Noorzai qumi moment hold protest outside QPC.

## **Construction sector offers** huge investment, job-creation opportunities: WealthPK

I S L A M A B A D : Pakistan's construction sector offers enormous investment and job-cre-ation opportunities which can provide a boost to the national economy.

Junaid Managing Director at Gold Land Estate and Builders, told WealthPK that construction and its allied industries were at a allied industries were at a standstill in August 2018, but the stimulus package boosted employment and created wealth for the country's economy. He said the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has announced a mark-up subsidy for house financsubsidy for house financ-ing. He said that tax breaks and cheaper inter-est rates encouraged peo-

est rates encouráged peo-ple to invest in real estate. According to Danish Ahmad, Sales Manager at AAA Associates Real Estate, the prices of con-struction material have increased dramatically due to the ongoing infla-tion and unstable dollar position in the market. WealthPK has explored that the construction

WealthPK has explored that the construction financing climbed to Rs60.5 billion during July-March FY2022 compared to Rs32.2 billion during the corresponding period of the last fiscal year.

The revenue of the global construction industry is expected to

global construction industry is expected to grow steadily in the com-ing years. The size of the construction market increased to \$6.4 trillion in 2020, and it is expected to reach 414.4 trillion in 2030.

Globally, the construccivil engineering, infra-structure projects, and real estate developments. Factors such as increasing private sector investments, technological development, and rising disposable income are expected to propel the

growth of market. Steel, cement, bricks, alumini-um, cables, fixtures, glass, kitchen.INP

NOTICE INVITING TENDER The Principal Balochistan Residential College Uthal invites sealed Tender from

eligible interested contractors / firms manufacturers / suppliers for the Installation Solar System for the BRC Uthal current year 2021-22 as under: S.# Name of Work

E/Cost Time limit INSTALLATION OF SOLAR SYSTEM BRC 2450000/- 01 Month UTHAL TSE-212206112531

Tender Fee for all Serials is Rs: 1000/- & Earnest money for each work is 2% The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014. BASIC ELIGIBILITY: The Contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category and registration with tax authorities i.e. (NTN/ BRA and Sales Tax Department), where applicable. Three Years Relevant Work Experience with Three Assignment completion Certificates. Turn-over of last three years 2.00 Million METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: SINGLE STAGE TWO ENVELOPE BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS: Issuance: The contractors/firms having registered with PEC in aforementioned category in relevant discipline can obtain the bidding documents from the address mentioned below on production of green challan form for an amount of Rs:1000/=(non refundable) deposited in the A/C No.1058420511001415 from any MCB Bank through Government Treasury/National bank of Pakistan or car be downloaded from website of BPPRA, from the date of publication of this invitation in newspapers till one day prior to the last date of submission. The contractors/firms who obtain bidding documents by downloading them from BPPRA website will also be required to produce deposited green challan form of above mentioned fee. The documents if requested by mail will be promptly dispatched by registered mail for which cost of mail will be borne by the applicant, however, under no circumstances the Procuring Agency will be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the documents so mailed. Earnest Money as mentioned above should be submitted in the form of bank guarantee or Deposit at Call from a scheduled Bank. Dead line of Submission: The Bidding Documents duly filled and attached with copies of supporting documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before 24.06.2022at 11:00 PM. Opening: The tender document will be opened on 24.06.2022 at at 12:00 PM before procurement committee in the presence of contractors or their authorized representatives / agents. Financial Bid will be open on 24.06.2022 at 01.00 PM before procurement committee in the presence of contractors or their authorized representatives / agents. Place of issuance and submission will be:- Address: Office of the Principal Balochistan Residential College Uthal Telephone No : 0331-4001013 E-mail shamskakar1963@gmail.com Principal, Balochistan Residential

PRQ No.4337/10-06-2022 College Uthal 🚭 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr\_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🛨 @dgpr.balochistan

### **POWERCHINA to** construct Nabisar Vajihar **Water Supply Project** teams of professionals will ISLAMABAD: POW-

QUETTA: Community teachers association hold protest rally

ERCHINA will construct Nabisar Vajihar Water Supply Project in Sindh, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. The

ground-breaking ceremony of the project was jointly performed by Murad Ali Shah, Chief Minister of Sindh Minister of Sindh Province and Abdullah Al-Mutairi, CEO of the project investor Enertech

Holdings.
Kuwait's Commercial
Counselor to Pakistan,
Minister of Irrigation of
Sindh Province, Minister of Energy, Minister of Education, and other dig-nitaries attended the cere-

Relevant personnel of POWERCHINA International and POW-EPCHINA Huadong ERCHINA Engineering Corporation also attended the ceremony The project is the largest PPP project in Sindh so far, where the

build a water plant with a capacity of 129,600 m3/d. There will be construction of two reservoirs (the starting point reservoir of 5.71 million cubic meters and the end reservoir of 3.52 million cubic meters).

The company will install and test the glass reinforced plastic pipes with a diameter of 1.4 meters and a total length of 60.71km.
"Although the project has complex groundwater

treatment requirements for the reservoir, we firmly believe that our technical competence and service can satisfy both the owner and the local people," Mr. Wu, Project Manager of the Nabisar Vajihar project. said in an interview with Gwadar Pro.

The reporter has learned that it is expected to be completed in December 2023, and once completed, the annual water supply of

the project will reach 40.185 million tons, main-19 for coal-fired power plants, including the Thar coal-fired power plant operated by Shanghai Electric under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic

"Our end point, Vajihar in the Thar region, is a desert area with an arid climate and sparse popula-tion. This project will effectively solve the overexploitation of groundwater to improve the local ecological environment for Vajihar side," emphasized Wii

Besides, as for employ ment, the project will cre-ate approximately 6,000 jobs in the surrounding area with significant social benefits. "We will recruit project management team including but not limited engineers. to(contract planning engineers, con-struction engineers INP

### Pakistan rejects India's remarks on Karachi temple incident

harassment plea of

Dua Zahra's

in-laws after girl

appears in court

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday disposed of the petition filed by mother and brother of husband of Dua Zahra, a girl from Karachi who had contracted marriage in Punjab against her parents' will, against police harassment after the girl appeared in the

Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh heard the petition filed by Noor Muneer and Bashir Ahmad. SSP Investigation Imran Kishwar, on the occasion

presented in the court a report on the recovery of the girl Following the hearing, police shifted Dua back to the

Dua's in-laws had stated in their petition that the girl had travelled all the way from Karachi to Punjab to marry

Zaheer Ahmad of her free will.

It was further stated that following the marriage, Dua had got her statement recorded in the court under section 164. INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has rejected the remarks made by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson regarding the unfortunate incident that took place at a Hindu temple in Karachi, a statement issued from the Ministry of Foreign Affair (MOFA) said Friday. The spokesperson, Asim Iflikhar Ahmad, said unlike the violence against the Muslim community that is orchestrated by religious fanctics who "enjoy ty that is orchestrated by religious fanatics who "enjoy full patronage" of India's state machinery, the government has seized on this matter and action is being taken against the perpetrators."An FIR has already been registered against the assailants and efforts are underway to identify and arrest them," the spokesperson said. "They will not escape justice and the Government will deal with them with the full force of law."He said the government of India would be well advised to intro-spect and ensure the protection of the fundamental rights, lives and places of worship of minorities across India, particularly Muslims who are facing brutal attacks from the proponents of "Hindutva" holding on to the reins of power in the country. The spokesperson added unequivocal condemnation by the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) top leadership and the Indian gov-ernment, as well as decisive and demonstrable action against the BJP officials responsible.INP

## PEC planning career fair for engineers: WealthPK

that the Pakistani engi-

neers receive the greatest possible benefit," he said.

ISLAMABAD, June 10 (INP): The Pakistan Council (PEC) is continuing its efforts to act as a bridge between academia and industry. To promote the branding of engineers and the engineering com-munity, the PEC is plan-ning to arrange a career fair for engineers to showcase cutting-edge technologies, research, and final year design projects (FYDPs). Mukhtar Hussain,

Mukhtar Hussain, Senior Vice Chairman of the PEC, informed WealthPK that the career fair for engineers is pro-visionally scheduled for July 22-23, 2022 at Expo

Centre Karachi. He stated that the PEC, which comes under the ambit of the Ministry of Science and Technology, also has a career portal to aid

The PEC has also registered Chinese compa-nies for China-Pakistan (CPEC) projects as con-tractors after being registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). Their registra-tion stipulates that their

"Biometric verification is required for registration of Pakistani engineers engaged by a Chinese enterprise. After all conditions are met, the case of registration of a Chinese company is pre-sented to the PEC, and the enrollment committee Corridor

then decides about the registration," he said.

Mukhtar mentioned that there are 30 engineering disciplines. He said Capstone Expo for engineering server to the said capstone expected to company must employ 70% Pakistani and 30% engineers is expected to be held in June. He stated Chinese engineers. The that the Engineering Development Board PEC has introduced this obligation to make sure

(EDB) must first approve the projects presented during the capstone exhi-

bition.

While talking about the collaboration of PEC and China, he said, "Such collaborations in academics will also solve the problem of outdated curriculum. And in industry, the idea of value chain management is very important. In accordance management is with the principle of value chain, if we import any raw material, we must now add value to it. If the students are cur-rently employed in the industry during their col-

lege, they are familiar with the stages involved

in adding value to items before leaving the col-lege. Adding value to products and managing the value chain can help increase trade."

increase trade."
The PEC and China Association of Science & Technology (CAST) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to establish a bilateral cooperation and exchange mechanism for engineering capacity building, improve the quality of engineering education and talents, and facilitate the mutual recognition of engineers from both countries, based on the principle of mutual bene-fit .INP

## Imran Khan's long march postponed till after Punjab by-elections: Pervez Elahi

Former prime minister Imran Khan has delayed his plans to march to Islamabad till after July 20, said a key

Talking to BBC Urdu, Pervez Elahi, a senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q), who has sided with Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), said that the former prime minister will be going on an election stump in Punjab next month and will not be marching to the federal capital to protest against the government anytime soon.

"Imran [Khan] will do the politics of dharna (sit-ins) after the elections," Elahi told BBC Urdu.

Last month, the Election Commission of Pakistan de-seated 25 PTI lawmakers in the Punjab Assembly for voting against party lines in the election for the CM of the province. By-polls will now be held on 20 out of 25 seats in July, for which a tough contest is expected between the PTI and the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-

N (PML-N).

When asked about rifts within his own party, the PML-Q, Elahi denied the rumours and insisted that his party will remain together. However, he was quick to criticise Salik Hussain, the son of PML-Q's chief, as being an inexperienced newcomer in politics. "Salik has come into politics for the first time," said Elahi. "He won a seat in Chakwal that my son and I prepared for him. His [voters] are now looking for him to ask what



ISLAMABAD: Outgoing High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam Pengiran Abdul Samad Bin Pengiran Haji Metasan called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr..

### Coronavirus kills another two, infects 72 in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan after a gap of several days has recorded two coro-navirus deaths and 72 infections dur-ing the last 24 hours (Thursday), showed the statistics released by the National Institute of Health Pakistan

As per the latest NIH data, the toll has climbed up to 30,381 after adding the two deaths, whereas the number of total infections now stood at 1,530,886 after adding the fresh 72

During the last 24 hours (Thursday), 15,129 tests were conducted throughout Pakistan whereas the positivity ratio stood at 0.48 percent. The num-ber of patients in critical care was recorded at 50.INP

### Urdu subject paper for class first year leaked in Larkana

LARKANA: Despite tall claims being made by the Sindh government to control incidents of paper leakage and cheating in exams, there is no change in situation on the ground as paper of the Urdu subject for class first year (Larkana Board) that was held Friday was leaked before the start of

The moment the paper was leaked, it was shared on student's WhatsApp

The students could be seen solving their paper inside the examination hall by looking at their mobile phones. INP

### PTI Red Zone breach: IG Islamabad submits report to SC

ISLAMABAD: Inspector General (IG) Islamabad Dr Akbar Nasir Khan on Friday submitted his report regarding PTI's long march in Islamabad and protesters breaching the Red Zone despite the Supreme Court's orders.

The IG's report says that the admin-

The IG's report says that the administration implemented the court's orders in letter and spirit. Roads leading to the Red zone were sealed com-pletely, it added.

The report says that Police, Rangers and FC actions against the protestors were brought to a halt after the SC's orders. PTI leadership instigated their

workers to remove barriers and move towards D-chowk, the IG claimed. The Islamabad IG added that PTI's armed protestors threw stones at the police, set trees on fire and tried to run over policemen who tries to stop them from entering the Red Zone injuring at least 23 policemen. The protestors used heavy machinery to remove hurdles that the administrations had placed, the report said.

A total of 77 people were arrested by the police, the report said.INP

### Aamir Liaquat's family moves court to stop postmortem

KARACHI: Family of politi-cian and TV host Aamir Liaquat Hussain has moved court to stop government from conducting post

According to details, the peti-tion states that the heirs of the politician are against post mortem of their father, however, police is of the view that given the sensi-tivity of the issue, autopsy is

required. Earlier, SSP East Karachi Abdul Rahim Sherazi said that Hussain's body will not be given to the family without doing the postmortem, while he added if the family does not want it to be done then they should bring order from the court. Hussain's house was also sealed as the police launched investigations into his sudden death. Police also wrote a letter to welfare organization Chhipa that not to hand over his dead body to anyone.INP

## **BUDGET 2022-23:** government to limit dollar purchase to \$10,000/month

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to limit the buying of dollars in the budget 2022-23. There will be a ban on buying over \$10,000/month, and \$100,000/year.

According to government sources, the government has decided to add thorough limitations and add taxations in the budget for the fiscal year 2022-23. The budget will be presented in the National Assembly at 4 pm Friday, 2022.

The finance ministry has recommended lowering the income tax slabs from Rs10,00,000 annually to 700,000 annually. An increase in income tax on people over Rs10,00,000/ year has also been recommended. People earning via social media or freelancing will also be brought into the tax net.

International travellers via Business class will have to pay 4x tax for the fiscal year 2022-23 while purchases paid by

credit cards will be charged 1% tax. The credit card tax on non-filers will be 2%. Credit pay-ments for foreign purchases will also be taxed. The finance min-istry has also recommended limiting the dollar purchase to \$10,000/ month and \$100,000/ year for the fiscal year 2022year for the fiscal year 2022-23The coalition government has decided to allocate Rs800 bil-lion for the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) in the next fiscal year, (PSDP) in the next fiscal year, said sources. A development budget worth Rs800 billion has been proposed for the next financial year, out of which Rs538 billion will be allocated for federal ministries and departments. Meanwhile, the government has decided to allocate Rs 25 billion for Atomic Energy Commission, while Rs41.87 billion will be allocated to Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Rs2.5 billion for Aviation. INP

## Non-bailable arrest warrants issued as govt decides to arrest PTI leaders

LAHORE: The Gulberg and Shahdara police stations in Lahore have obtained the non-bailable arrest warrants for the leaders of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) from an anti-terrorism court (ATC), after the government has decided to arrest 17 PTI leaders over vandalism and damage to state property in Lahore on May 25 last, the day of the party's long march, it is learnt on Friday.

The police had approached the court for permission to arrest the PTI leaders, and, ATC Judge Abhar Gul Khan issued the arrest warrants for the PTI leaders.

The Shahdara police have obtained the arrest warrants for Hammad Azhar, Yasir Gillani, Nadeem Bara, Adeel Nawaz, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

Shafqat Mahmood, and Mian Mehmood-ur-Rasheed. The Shahdara police have also obtained the arrest warrants for Ejaz Chaudhry, Ikram Usman, Hassan Niazi, Zubair Niazi, Jamshed Iqbal Cheema, and Musarrat Jamshed Cheema. The Shahdara police have also

The Shahdara police have also obtained non-bailable arrest warrants for Imtiaz Sheikh, Andleeb Abbas, Murad Raas, Dr Yasmin Rashid, and Mian Aslam Iqbal.

Similarly, the Gulberg police have also obtained the arrest war-rants for the PTI leaders from the court of Abhar Gul Khan.

The Gulberg police have obtained the arrest warrants for Dr Yasmin Rashid, Hammad Azhar, Andleeb Abbas, INF

### Police surgeon to conduct Aamir Liaquat's post-mortem examination: Lawyer

KARACHI: A police surgeon would be conducting an examina-tion of deceased lawmaker and television personality Aamir Liaquat Hussain's body, his fami-ly's lawyer said Friday after the ly's lawyer said Friday after the matter of the deceased MNA's autopsy was taken up by a judicial magistrate at the City Court in Karachi following the family's refusal for an autopsy.

Hussain, 50, passed away at his house in Karachi's Khudadad Colony on Thursday and the cause of his death is yet to be ascertained, for which an autopsy needs to be conducted.

to be conducted.

According to a statement issued by a Karachi police spokesperson, the matter was referred to the court under Section 174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Section empowers a magistrate to order an inquest (an investigation, especially in cases of death).

especially in cases of death).

The statement said police and Hussain family had approached the court and the police would proceed in light of the court's directives. Subsequently, Hussain's family appeared before a magistrate, following which their lawyer, Advocate Khursheed Khan said the police surgeon had told the court he had not "examined it (Hussain's body) externally". The police surgeon "will now go and examine it", he told. Earlier, Police Surgeon Dr Summaiya Syed had told Hussain's body was brought to the Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Centre's emergency ward around 3pm on Thursday. INP

are you doing?"

Despite Elahi rubbishing a split in PML-Q between him and his cousin, Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, recent tweets by other members of his party suggest otherwise.

On June 8, Hussain Ellahi, a PML-Q member of the national assembly, announced ending his political journey with the PML-Q, adding that he could not be in a party "that supports [Prime Minister] Shehbaz Sharif led imported government."

On the same day, Pervez Elahi's son, Moonis Elahi also tweeted a video clip from a local news channel that stated the PML-Q had split up with Moonis Elahi, Hussain Ellahi and Pervez Elahi on one side and Tahiq Bashir Cheema, Salik Hussain and Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain on the other.

When asked why Imran Khan was insisting that the establishment play a role in politics, Elahi said that in Pakistan politicians cannot plan anything without the establishment.

"You will have to appoint a new Election Commission chief and chairman NAB, for example. They [establishment] will bring all the other parties together," he told BBC Urdu. On the vote of no confidence he was facing in the Punjab assembly, Elahi said that the vote of no trust was now with the speaker, therefore with him. "Is it necessary that I put it on the agenda? Why should I?" Web Desk

## Pro-poor, people-friendly budget to change economic landscape: Marriyum

Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb Friday said, pro-poor and people-friendly budget for the fiscal year 2022-23 would change economic landscape by stabi-

lizing the national economy.

"This budget will lead the country towards economic stability, help provide relief to the people especially the poor, and promote industry, trade and commerce in the country," Marriyum said while addressing protesting government employees here.

Gone were the days when the prime minister of country did not pay heed to the problems of govern-ment employees, she said, adding Pakistan was going through a difficult situation today due to the incompe-tence, inefficiency, theft and corruption of Imran's

The minister said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had directed for 15 per cent increase in salaries of the government employees, besides merger of adhoc relief in the basic pay

cent increase in the salaries of government employees, the Prime Minister rejected it and approved 15 per cent

increase in salaries of government employees during the meeting of Federal Cabinet.

There would be a big announcement for pensioners in the budget today, she added.

Today, when the Finance Ministry proposed a 10 per

Due to the incompetence of a gang which ruled the country for four years, the poor people were facing

### Court grants interim bail to 14 PTI leaders till June 17

LAHORE: Anti-terrorism court has granted pre-arrest bail to 14 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders till June 17.

Earlier the ATC in Lahore had issued non-bailable arrest warrants for the former ruling party's leaders at the request of Shahdara police station under charges of damaging public property, tortur-ing police officials, and creating chaos during the party's long march to Islamabad on May

Upon the issuing of warrants, former ministers Shafqat Mahmood, Hammad Azhar, Dr Yasmeen Rashid, Mian Aslam Iqbal, Jamshed Iqbal Cheema, Ijaz Chaudhary, Zubair Niazi, Nadeem Abbas Bara and others reached the court seeking bail.

The court had issued

The court had issued the warrants on the request of Shahdara police station. While the anti-terrorism court Judge Abhar Gul Khan had issued the arrest warrants.INP

### Prosecutor in Shehbaz Sharif's money laundering case faints in court

LAHORE: A prosecutor in the money laundering case against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif fell unconscious amid a hearing in a

amid a hearing in a banking court.

According to details, Farooq Bajwa, who is the prosecutor in the money laundering case against Shebaz Shareef fell unconscious during a hearing in a banking court in Lahore.

Faroog was moved to

Farooq was moved to a services hospital for medical treatment. However he has recov-

ered and is healthy.

It is to be noted that
the Sharif family's
renowned servant Malik Maqsood famously known as 'Maqsood Chaprasi' had passed away on Thursday. Maqsood was nominat-ed in the money laundering case against Shehbaz Sharif and his family.Sources said that Maqsood was living abroad nowadays. Former Accountability advisor Shehzad Akbar had claimed that mil-lions of unaccounted-for money were found.INP

#### maintained. The minister said despite the difficult circumstances, the budget would not only provide relief to the masses, but also boost the industry, trade, commerce, and agriculture sector in the country.

Historic announcements would also be made for agriculture, IT, industry, food security and youth in the budget, she added.

Now, the country was being ruled by the coalition government which not only had representation of all the political parties, but also the vision which would ensure welfare of poor people and the middle class, she

She vowed that the government would continue to provide relief to the poor people and government employees in the current and future budgets. Despite the strict conditions of the IMF, she said the

overnment and the Prime Minister were thinking of the poor and low-income people.

The minister said when Imran Khan was given power in 2018, the national economy was stable but he

The government wanted to save the poor people from inflation and unemployment caused by the bad

policies of the PTI regime. The government employees present in the rally

chanted slogans in favour of the present government, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Federal Minister for Information.INP

## Police bar Chhipa morgue from handing over Aamir Liaquat's body to anyone

KARACHI: The Brigade police station in Karachi on Friday has written a letter to Chhipa Welfare Association for not handing over the body of television presenter and politician Dr Aamir Liaquat to anyone else besides police "The body of Aamir Liaquat should not be handed over to anyone else," reads the letter written by police to the in-charge of the morgue of Chhipa Welfare Association.

Welfare Association.

"The body has been handed over to your mortuary as trust. It will be received by the staff of the Brigade police station. It must not be handed over to anyone else," it adds.

"Legal action will be taken if the body is banded over to anyone also.

is handed over to anyone else. The post-mortem of the body of Aamir Liaquat

Hussain is necessary. It is not possible to determine the cause of the death without post-mortem of the body," it states.

Earlier, it was learnt that the funeral prayers for Aamir Liaquat Hussain would be offered after Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid Abdullah Shah Ghazi, Clifton. Aamir Liaquat was to be buried on the premises of Abdullah Shah Ghazi Shrine. According to Manager Auqaf Abdullah Shah Ghazi Shrine Haji Pannu Khan, Dr Amir Liaquat had got the place of five graves allotted in 2007 on the premises of the shrine. It is to be noted here that Aamir Liaquat's first wife Dr Syeda Bushra had expressed grief over the death of her ex-husband and said that the family of the deceased had refused the family of the deceased had refused the post-mortem of his body. INP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting to review progress on electric city transmission lines in Balochistan.

## Wildlife in danger as fire in Muzaffarabad forest engulfs zoo

MUZAFFARABAD: There is no respite in sight as fires continue to rage in different hilly and mountainous forests of the country on Friday

The fire that had broken out in the jungles of Naseerabad, 17 kilometres jungles of Naseerabad, 17 kilometres from the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) capital Muzaffarabad, has now spread even further, engulfing zoo area, hence posing a serious risk to the lives of animals caged there.

On the other hand, seven employees of the forest department have been injured in yet another fire that had broken out in the jungle of Smahni area of AJK.

The injured employees are

The injured employees are Muhammad Shakoor, Ijaz, Mubashar, Muhammad Naveed and others.

According to the eyewitnesses, intense heat and strong winds are hampering the efforts to put out the

blaze.
After the provision of first aid, the

doctors of Pakistan Army have referred the forest department Hospital, Kharian for further treat-

Five cattle were burnt to death while three houses were reduced to ashes as fire that had erupted in the fields of Jalwal, a suburban village of tehsil Jand, district Attock yesterday (Thursday), later spread to a nearby

However, the locality was saved from further damage as rescue teams rushed to the site of the incident to douse the flames.

Several incidents of fire have been reported from a number of places in the country this summer season.

The areas include Sheerani forests of Balochistan, forests of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, forests on Islamabad's Margallah Hills and even from some areas of Punjab. INP

## Women-founded startups' share in Pakistan's market still negligible: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD,: Start-ups have witnessed a significant growth in the last few years but the share of those founded by the women is still negligible in the Pakistani market, reports WealthPK.

According to the Pakistan Startup Ecosystem Report (PSER) 2021 released by Invest2Innovate — a startup consultancy firm — there are only three

consultancy firm — there are only three female entrepreneurs for every 10 male entrepreneurs in Pakistan. This disparity is not just limited to the number of female entrepreneurs but also to the

female entrepreneurs but also to the amount of investment raised by the women-founded startups.

The report shows that the female-founded startups account for only 1.4% (\$7.91 million/\$563 million) of the total amount raised and 6.7% (17/225) of the total deals from 2015 to 2021.

In 2020, the female-founded startups raised \$1 million rounds for the first time, including Oraan, a fintech startup. Oraan raised \$3 million in seed round in 2021, which is the highest amount raised

by any female founded startup in Pakistan.

In comparison, the highest amount raised at the seed stage by a male founded startup QisstPay is \$15 million which is five times higher. This shows the gender disparity in access to the capital perder disparity in access to the capital persists at the same stage. According to a survey, responses show that only 15.6% of the female-founded startups had raised investment compared to 35% of the male-founded startups. The average ticket size by female founders was \$66,500, 32% lower than the average ticket size raised by the male-founded companies which was 2.1 million. The survey shows that an overwhelming majority of respondents think that women are really facing harder tasks. Among the respondents, 73% of startup founders and 75% of investors and Entrepreneur Support Organizations (ESOs) agreed that women face far greater challenges than their male counterparts when raising investment. INP



RAWALPINDI: Former Interior Minister and Head of Awami Muslim League Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad addressing to participants' of Namosa Resalat rally at Lal Haveli.