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Army vows all-out support to govt for economic stability

JIT summons Imran Khan in murder case of senior lawyer on June 26

Syed Ali Shah

QUETTA: The Joint Interrogation Team (JIT) summoned former prime minister and chief of the Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf (PTI), Imran Khan regarding an investigation pertaining to the murder of Abdul Razaq Shar Advocate in Quetta. The summons notice would be delivered through Lahore police to the former prime minister Imran Khan.

The son nominated the former premier in the murder case of his father

The son of senior lawyer, Siraj Ahmed Advocate had nominated the former premier in the murder case of his father. An FIR has already been lodged against the PTI Chief at the Jameel



Shaheed Police Station in Quetta by police on the application of slain lawyer's son. "We have conveyed the summons notice through Lahore police to the PTI Chief", a senior police officer said. He requested anonymity since he was not authorized

to speak to the media. Since the son of the slain lawyer has nominated the former premier, therefore, the JIT wants to interrogate him, he mentioned. The PTI chief has been summoned on June 26 in Quetta by the JIT. Senior lawyer, Razaq Shar

Advocate was killed in a firing, incident on the Quetta's airport road on June 6. The slain lawyer was a petitioner at the Balochistan High Court (BHC) seeking registration of treason case against the PTI Chief for dissolving the assemblies etc.

Asad Umar, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Asad Qaiser's bail petitions rejected

AI and Climate Change completely missing in Balochistan budget

Syed Ali Shah Analysis

The future is all about the Artificial Intelligence (AI). The AI has the potential to significantly impact education and transform the learning experience for students across the globe.

AI-powered tutoring systems can provide interactive and adaptive support to students. These systems can assess students' knowledge, identify areas of weakness, and offer targeted guidance and resources to help them improve.

Experts say the AI has so far taken mere baby steps. Still a lot needs to be done. The AI is going to dominate education, politics, economy etc. in the future.

No word of AI in the Balochistan Budget

Despite its need and importance, the Balochistan government has not allocated a single penny for the AI in its financial budget for the year 2023-24. The provincial government allocated more than Rs.100 billions for primary, middle and higher education sectors. The finance minister Balochistan, Zamarak Achakzai did not utter a single word about the AI.

Besides AI, the government has not focused on the looming threat of climate change. Balochistan, the country's areawise largest province, is prone to all natural disasters because of its vulnerability to the



Rs. 71 crore allocated for Climate Change and more than Rs. 73 billions for C&W department

The government allocated Rs 71 crore rupees to tackle the climate change, whereas, more than 73 billion rupees were allocated for the communication and works department. The department is known for chronic corruption and most of the

amount is likely to go into some narrow pockets. Promotion of AI education provides an opportunity to our students to compete on national and international levels. Its promotion can open new vistas of opportunities for our students.

However, investment in the climate change department is extremely necessary in view of the province's vulnerability to the global warming. Devastating floods last year played havoc across Balochistan and life was completely paralyzed for a month.

The provincial government needs to change its priorities when it comes to AI and climate change since the former offers opportunities and the latter poses a serious threat to human life.

Balochistan shares schools, hospitals with refugees: Governor

Staff Reporter

QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Abdul Wali Khan Kakar on Tuesday said the province shared schools, hospitals, transports and shops with Afghan refugees. He expressed these views while addressing a function organized in connection with world refugees day in Quetta. He said that the problem of refugees is definitely a global problem, after the war in Afghanistan in 1978, people started coming here from 1980.

No steps taken to rehabilitate Afghan refugees

Malik Wali Kakar said that millions of people migrated from Afghanistan to Balochistan and then went to different countries of the world. He said that no one tried to know what happened to the people



of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa.

Afghan refugees are our brothers, Governor Balochistan

He said that the difficult conditions we are going through are known only to the country and especially to certain areas, Afghan refugees are our brothers, but since they migrated here, no effective steps were taken to support them.

He said that 10,000 to 25,000 refugees are given to the families of the refugees, but our schools, hospitals, markets and trade have been affected.

UNHCR fails to support Afghan refugees: Governor Kakar

Governor Balochistan said that the education of our boys and girls have also been badly affected. Until today, not a single rupee has been spent by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the local population.

"We know that the refugees are poor", he mentioned. He said that we were already weak, but the way they imposed on our business, our land, livestock has also been destroyed, on which UNHCR did not cooperate with us.

He said that the migrants are moving to other countries from here, where should we go? Our youth are dying in boats in connection with employment in different countries, the Governor lamented.

Army vows all-out support to govt for economic stability

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir has assured the Pakistan Army's all-out support to the government's efforts to deal with the economic challenges facing the country.

'Economic Revival Plan' unveiled to deal with economic challenges

The army chief made these remarks during a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif



in Islamabad on Tuesday. The huddle unveiled an elaborated Economic Revival Plan in the wake of economic hardships being confronted by the country, an official statement issued by the PM Office said. The COAS, while speaking on the occasion, assured the army's all-out support to complement the government's efforts for Economic Revival Plan, considered fundamental to the socio-economic prosperity of Pakistanis and reclaiming the country's rightful stature among the comity of nations, the communiqué quoted the army chief as saying. PM Shehbaz recalled

Asad Umar, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Asad Qaiser's bail petitions rejected

Dramatic scenes were witnessed in the district and sessions court in Islamabad on Tuesday as the central leaders of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) — Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Asad Qaiser and Asad Umar — slipped from the courtroom after their pleas seeking bail in cases related to the May 9 riots were dismissed.

Judge Tahir Abbas Supra while pronouncing the verdict dismissed the bail petitions of the PTI leaders.

As per details, Qureshi and Umar moved the court seeking bail in a case filed against them at the Tarnol Police Station in the federal capital. Qaiser, however, sought bail in a case registered against him at the Sangiani Police



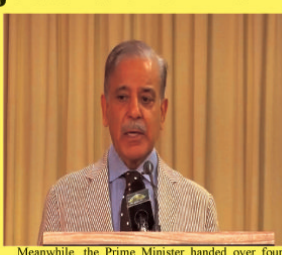
doorstep of the courtroom. As soon as the judge rejected their bail pleas, the trio hurriedly moved to the same vehicle and managed to run away from the scene. Qaiser, however, left the courtroom moments before the judge pronounced the verdict which was reserved earlier. It is pertinent to mention here that PTI Chairman Imran Khan's arrest in the AI-Qadir Trust case on May 9 and subsequent violent protests, during which unruly supporters and workers stormed Web Desk

PM Shehbaz inaugurates different development projects worth Rs 20bn

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif inaugurated different development projects of worth Rs 20 billion under Rural Development Package of Capital Territory in Islamabad on Tuesday.

Under the package, the Prime Minister inaugurated the newly constructed Margalla Avenue. The 10.4 kilometer long highway has been completed within the period of eighteen months. He unveiled the plaque of the project as well.

In this occasion, the Prime Minister was given a detailed briefing about the project. He was informed that due to construction of this avenue, traffic burden on Siranagar Highway will be reduced greatly and people will also get alternate route for travelling. The Prime Minister also inaugurated the construction and expansion of project of 7.5 km long Sikandar-e-Azam Road. He unveiled the plaque of the project as well. Chairman Capital Development Authority Noorul-Amin gave a detailed briefing about the project to the Prime Minister.



Meanwhile, the Prime Minister handed over four

vans to the Pakistan Sweet Homes to provide best transportation facilities to the students studying in the Sweet Home.

Inaugurating the Margalla Avenue, Shehbaz Sharif said that the government is taking concrete steps under the Rural Development Package of Capital Territory Islamabad to ensure progress and prosperity of Islamabad and its suburbs. The Prime Minister said despite passage of past one year in troubles and crises including the political crisis, the government made hectic efforts and work hard to complete these projects. He said despite financial constraints and hardships, the government launched scores of development projects during past one year. Strongly praising the prowess of government of PTI, he said that unnecessary delay was made in these projects, which is tantamount to criminal negligence. Highly appreciating the generous help of brotherly country China for carrying out development projects in Pakistan, the Prime Minister said the PTI Chief destroyed cordially relations with China by levelling baseless allegations. INP

A development project office attacked in Sibi

From Our Correspondent

An office of a development project by the World Bank was attacked in the Sibi city of Balochistan on Tuesday. Police sources said unknown miscreants lobbed a hand grenade at the office of the development project. Police said the hand grenade exploded in the balcony of the office. However, there was no human loss as a result of the attack. The attackers escaped unhurt from the spot. Police reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway.



World Refugee Day being observed today

ISLAMABAD: World Refugee Day is being observed on Tuesday, to honour the courage, strength and determination of refugees who are forced to flee their homes and under threat of persecution, conflict and violence.

The day also aims to build empathy and understanding for the plight of refugees and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives. This year's theme of the day is 'hope and home'.

Pakistan continues to be one of the world's largest refugee-hosting countries, providing assistance

to millions of people fleeing to flee their countries.

These include mainly Afghan refugees holding the Proof of Registration, besides a small number of refugees and asylum seekers from other countries such as Myanmar, Yemen, Somalia and Syria.

In his message on the occasion of World Refugee Day, the President of Pakistan Dr Anis Ali said Pakistan's unwavering resolve and commitment to the welfare and voluntary repatriation of refugees remained steadfast.

He said Pakistan continues to host one of the largest refugee populations in the world as the Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and the Government of Pakistan opened their arms to develop a resilient market solely on the principles of humanity and solidarity and extended support despite the challenges posed by meager resources. He said that Pakistan's unparalleled humanitarian efforts in providing refuge to such a large number of displaced individuals, despite limited resources, have earned Pakistan its spirit INP.



ISLAMABAD: Deserving People are stand in queue to take free food from the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation, at Tarnol area in Federal Capital.

Hot, dry weather expected in most parts of country: PMD

ISLAMABAD: Very hot and dry weather is expected in most parts of the country. However, dust with thunderstorm-rain is expected in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, North-east Punjab and Kashmir.

Temperature of some major cities recorded on Tuesday morning: Islamabad twenty-six degree Celsius, Lahore twenty-eight degree Celsius, Peshawar twenty-eight, Quetta twenty-five, Gilgit eighteen, Murree sixteen and Muzaffarabad twenty-three degree Celsius.

According to weather forecast of Met Office for India Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, partly cloudy weather with chances of rain with wind and thunderstorm is likely in Srinagar, Pulwama, Baramulla, Jammu, Leh, Anantnag and Shopian. Temperature recorded: Srinagar and Baramulla seventeen degree Celsius, Jammu twenty-six, Leh eight, Pulwama and Shopian sixteen and Anantnag eighteen degree Celsius INP.

Pakistani beef export to China to drive related industrial development

ISLAMABAD: "The export of Pakistani beef to China is expected to increase Pakistan's foreign exchange income and drive the development of Pakistan's related industries including breeding and processing," said Dr. Gu Wenliang, Agricultural Commissioner of Chinese Embassy in Pakistan.

He was commenting on the great benefit of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) granting Pakistani heated beef access to the Chinese market. China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

According to Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23, the cattle stock of Pakistan in FY 2022-23 is estimated to be 55.5 million, buffalo stock is estimated to be 45 million and beef production is projected to reach 2.4 million tons.

During the same period, Pakistan's export of meat and meat prepara-

tion is expected to reach \$302 million of a quantity of 69,072 tons.

These figures show that Pakistan has huge potential to be tapped in the export of meat and its products including beef. In recent years, China's beef imports have shown rapid growth driven by the upgraded consumption of Chinese residents.

Due to its proximity to China, the logistics and transportation costs of Pakistan's beef to be exported can be reduced considerably. Dr. Gu pointed out that heat-treated beef is expected to open up segmented markets such as snacks and pre-made dishes.

To promote more exports of Pakistan's beef to China, Dr. Gu pointed out the need to speed up the construction of foot-and-mouth disease-free zones in Pakistan.

Although Pakistan's animal husbandry sector is not well developed, it still needs advanced technologies for industrial upgrading and exten-

sion of the industrial chain.

"China has rich experience in forage cultivation, cattle breeding, cattle farm construction and management, waste treatment and utilization, veterinary drugs and animal vaccines, beef treatment and processing, meat product storage and refrigerated transportation," Dr. Gu added.

Both sides can introduce Chinese advanced technology and equipment to Pakistan in the production of meat products that meet Chinese and international standards.

In November 2021, China and Pakistan have signed 5 protocols on agricultural products exported to China, including onions, buffalo embryos, Rhodes grass, fresh cherries and heated beef. The two countries are currently conducting risk analysis on the exports of agricultural products such as dried chilies, potatoes, dairy products and donkey meat to China INP.

SECP notifies amendments in Securities & Futures Advisers Regulations

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has notified amendments in the Securities and Futures Advisers (Licensing and Operations) Regulations, 2017 with an aim to develop a resilient market solely on the principles of humanity and solidarity and extended support despite the challenges posed by meager resources.

The amendments include: facilitating ease of doing business, improving financial inclusion, and expanding the investor base.

The introduced amendments align the existing regulations with market developments and eliminate redundancies to facilitate ease of doing business.

One of the significant facilitations provided is reduction in financial resource requirement for Securities and Futures Advisers applying for a license as a distributor to PKR 500,000 in the case of a company and PKR 250,000 for individuals.

The requirement on sponsors, Securities & Futures Advisers to collectively hold shares of 51% or 25% shares in case of listed company has been eliminated.

In addition, scheduled banks, microfinance banks, non-bank microfinance companies and electronic money institutions are exempted from obtaining a separate license as a distributor. The notified regulations enable the distribution of voluntary pension funds offered by pension fund managers other than Asset Management Companies and allows competition in capacity of distributor to be

received from AMC's Pension Fund manager being distributor charging any advisory fees from clients related to distributions services.

For digital advisory/distribution platforms, the regulations now include requirements for compliance with data protection and cybersecurity. The amendments also introduce the need for 15 days prior intimation to the Commission before launching a platform and submission of information regarding existing digital platforms.

To further decrease regulatory burden, a single consolidated Affidavit is provided. Excessive documentation requirements in Annexure-B of the regulations have been removed INP.

Shah, President, Balochistan Medical Teachers Association, Balochistan, Abdul Aziz Ullah, Secretary, Health Department, Asfandyar Khan and other concerned authorities to increase the provision of emergency medicines in all health centres of the province, repair the out of order health machineries and equipments of government run hospitals of the province, increase the stipends being paid to the medical students studying in medical colleges of the province, repair the structure of medical colleges of Balochistan.

These views were expressed by Dr. Syed Zahoor Ahmed

Increase teaching allowance of medical teachers, President BMTA

QUETTA: Balochistan Medical Teachers Association (BMTA) has demanded that authorities to increase teaching allowance of medical teachers, restore health professions and fill vacant positions living vacant in Basic Sciences and Clinical Sciences, ensure provision of emergency medicines in all health care centres of the province, repair the out of order health machineries and equipments of government run hospitals of the province, increase the stipends being paid to the medical students studying in medical colleges of the province, repair the structure of medical colleges of Balochistan.

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PBS mobile application to be launched on June 22: Memon

KARACHI: Sindh Transport & Mass Transit Minister Shehzad Memon on Tuesday announced that Peoples Bus Service (PBS) mobile application will be launched on June 22. The minister made the announcement while chairing a transport department meeting here on Tuesday.

Memon was briefed on the operation of the bus service, its new routes. Under the intelligent transport system, vehicles will be monitored through GPS system, USB ports, Wi-Fi communication systems, driver alarms will also be installed in the buses, the meeting was held in the meeting room of the minister in tracking buses in real-time and make payments online, while CCTV cameras, screens, live tracking and monitoring system will be installed in the buses. The minister also issued instructions to resolve the problem of chargers of electric buses on a priority basis. The meeting was held at 20 green buses will reach Karachi by August 20 and will be inducted into People's Bus Service. The Sindh government wants to end the travel troubles of the people, plans will also be started to connect the rural areas of Karachi, Hyderabad, Larkana, Sukkur and Mirpurkhas with the urban areas through People's Bus Service, Sharjeel Inam Memon INP.

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ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan Enil Akander addressing during an event entitled "Rebuild for a Resilient Pakistan" under the slogan of Enabling a safe and sustainable Restoration of Pakistan in Alliance with Sweden, at Serena Hotel in Federal Capital.

Pakistan left with no option but to post debt payments: Shahid Rasheed

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt said on Tuesday, said that Pakistan was left with no other option but to seek respite from debt repayment.

In a statement issued here, he said that if China, Saudi Arabia and other friendly countries do not give a few years' time to repay the loans, the country will be bankrupt in a few months.

Shahid Rasheed Butt was of the view that the politicians want loans from IMF to save the country from default, but at the same time they are also making continuous accusations against it.

The IMF program does not seem to be restored in any way, and it will exceed the budget. The lender has asked Pakistan to manage six billion dollars in the budget, which he added.

The business leader said that IMF was also unhappy over Pakistan's interference in the currency in the budget, which was not according to their wishes.

Many international and local experts believe that no effort has been made to solve the economic crisis in the budget, but pressing problems have been avoided by temporary measures, which are worsening the situation, he said.

Shahid Rasheed said

that there was an urgent need to deal with the dangerous economic situation effectively but it was not done because political objectives were more important to the politicians than the economy of the country.

Now, Pakistan needs urgent debt restructuring efforts to improve the economy, which will recover the confidence of the business community, which is rapidly going down.

At present, we have four billion dollars in the country's treasury, while almost two billion dollars are to be repaid on a monthly basis, which will be impossible without getting new loans INP.

18th Amendment revives 1973 Constitution in its original shape: Raja

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf has said that the 18th Amendment played a vital role to revive the 1973 Constitution in its original shape.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of "Bagh-e-Dastoor" at Parliament House in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said the 1973 Constitution protects the rights of citizens irrespective of caste, color and creed with the major focus on the unity of all the units.

The Speaker asked the officials concerned of the Capital Development Authority to complete the project of "Bagh-e-Dastoor" within stipulated time as this piece of land is highly light meritorious services of the lawmakers who played their role in the drafting of 1973 constitution.

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said we will hand over the 1973 Constitution to new generation with this advice to remain stick to it as our safety lies in the implementing this constitution. INP.

Executive Director of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) Saifuddin Shekh said on Tuesday said the ruling coalition is at each other's throat after PTI's dispersal.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, he said that the ruling parties instead of making collective efforts for economic development of the country and removing the concerns of the countryside were engaged in destabilizing each other.

Saifuddin Shekh said that the politicians who claimed to bring the country's economy out of trouble are creating instability for their own interests, which worries the business community.

He said that the temperature should be lowered instead of raised in the interest, he asserted.

There is still some time left in the terms of the National Assembly, but the differences among the ruling coalition are increasing, and the members have started speaking against each other in public, he said.

The ED PEW said that instead of talking about their reservations to the Cabinet meetings, threats are being made in public. Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Bhroto is trying to resist approval of the budget if funds are not allocated for the rehabilitation of the victims of the Swat floods.

After the election of Azad Kashmir, the leadership of PML-N is accusing PPP of rigging, while the PML-N is frequently accusing PPP of rigging the election of Azad Kashmir.

Jamaat-e-Islami is bringing its war to Islamabad while its leadership and MOM are not ready to accept the results of census, he observed.

It's Naqemur Rehman has said that this party would stage a massive protest against the ECP office in Islamabad on June 23 against the PPP government's alleged use of force to win the Karachi mayoral election.

The JJ says that it will continue to protest unless the elections are declared invalid and all the mistakes are rectified.

Sheikh said that if the major leaders of the ruling alliance do not blame game, this alliance will be disintegrated, which will increase spread chaos in the country, which will be difficult to control even through elections.

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Chinese car maker stays optimistic amid turbulence in Pakistan's Automotive Industry

HEBEI: Public data from the Pakistan Automotive Manufacturers Association showed an 80% year-on-year decline in sales of locally assembled new light vehicles, amounting to only 463 units in April 2023.

Consequently, cumulative sales for the year are dropped by 66.5%, reaching a mere 30,753 units. Scanning the headlines of news articles available online, terms such as "shutdown" and "halt"

dominate the discourse of the Pakistan's automotive industry.

Starting this year, Pakistan has encountered unprecedented challenges, not only in the automotive industry but across various sectors. Many import-dependent industries and manufacturing sectors are grappling with production shutdowns and halts—a phenomenon that has become a normalcy, explained Shi Qingke, the vice president of Great

Wall Motors, "We have an encounter with supply shortages, similar to most of other automotive companies.

However, the problem has been considerably mitigated, and we have been working on the supply chain." Shi stated with confidence.

Last year on September 1st, in an event held in Lahore, Great Wall Motors (GWM)'s first factory in Pakistan has officially commenced production.

"Great Wall Motors is the first brand to achieve local assembly of hybrid vehicles in Pakistan, surpassing even Japanese brands, which have been deeply rooted in Pakistan for over 30 years," Shi shared. He further stated, "Moving forward, GWM will progressively introduce plug-in hybrids and fully electric models, bringing the latest in new energy technology to Pakistan and facilitating the country's transition from traditional fuel-powered vehicles to new energy vehicles." INP.

Corrigendum

The Executive Engineer Maintenance Division-I Quetta invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2023 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates TSE-222000338243 Tender Fee 1,000 PKR Bid Security 2%

S.No	Name of Works	Estimated Cost
1	DEVELOPMENT SCHEMS FOR QUETTA THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS PROGRAMME (SAP)(2022-23)	1,000,000.00

Changed Area

S.No	Slip Name	Remarks
1	Case Schedule	By Default
2	Eligibility Criteria	By Default

1. Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules-2014. 2. Eligibility of Bidders: o Eligibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents. 3. Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. 4. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Cash/Bank Deposit or Call of 2% specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. 5. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppgpp.gov.pk. 6. Source of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppgpp.gov.pk. 7. Last date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 04.06.2023 till 12:00 PM through supplier dashboard. 8. Tender opening: All bids will be opened on 06.06.2023 at 09:00 PM on 09/9. 9. The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Documents before 18.06.2023 are required to download the amended Bidding Document(s). 10. Other terms and conditions shall remain same. 11. Address: Office of the Executive Engineer Maintenance Division-I Provincial B&MR District Quetta/Phone no: 0333-26261 01/26263055

Proc No:AA46520-06-2023

Executive Engineer Maintenance Division III Quetta

Strengthening ties with Iran key to border & energy security: Sen Mushahid

Senate Body urges proactive counter-terror strategy to make border regions peaceful for trade & economic connectivity.

ISLAMABAD : The Senate Standing Committee on Defence met here on Tuesday with Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed in chair to discuss and address important issues pertaining to national security and the well-being of the citizens.

Senators Walid Iqbal, Hidayat Ullah, Mushtaq Ahmad Khan, Dr Zaqra Suhrawardy Taimur, Engr Rukhsana Zuberi, Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan and Mover, ex-Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan attended the meeting. Secretary Ministry of Defence Lt Gen (Ret) Hamood Uz Zaman HEM, Additional Secretary Ministry of Defence, Major General Khurram and DG Military Lands & Cantonnments, Major General Tariq, and CEO Rawalpindi Cantonment, also participated in the meeting. The meeting offered Fateha for the souls who lost their lives in the Greece boat tragedy and extended their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and expressed solidarity with them during this difficult time. The Senate Body discussed in detail the unauthorized commercial activities in Westridge, Rawalpindi Cantt. The Director General Military Lands and Cantonnments (ML&C) deliv-

ered a detailed presentation, highlighting the steps taken to address the issue. He informed the committee that the department has been actively combating illegal activities and commercialization. However, due to a Supreme Court order issued on 5th January 2022, the ML&C has been restrained from taking action against school premises. The DG ML&C assured the committee that once the Cantonment Board (Amendment) Act 2023 is passed by the Parliament, stringent measures, including heavy fines and property sealing, will be implemented to ensure compliance with the directions. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed assured the petitioner that he would expedite the process in the Senate, aiming for the prompt enactment of the act to resolve the long-standing concerns of the residents. Following a comprehensive discussion, the chair disposed of the matter by endorsing the petitioner's request. The Committee was also briefed on counter-terrorist operations conducted by the Pakistan Army in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as well as the security situation on the borders with Iran and Afghanistan. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed commended the recent meeting between the Pakistan Prime Minister and the President of Iran on the Pak-Iran border, considering it a positive step forward in strengthening ties between the two nations. INP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif interacts with Pakistan Sweet Homes Children's orphanage.

Greece boat tragedy: Court grants FIA 4-day physical remand of Talha

LAHORE: A judicial magistrate in Lahore has granted four days of physical remand to Talha Shahzad, the prime accused in the Greece boat tragedy.

The decision came after the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) launched a massive crackdown against human traffickers, leading to the arrest of 12 individuals involved in sending local youths to Libya for onward travel to Europe, following Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's order.

On Tuesday, FIA officials presented Talha Shahzad before Magistrate Gulam Murtaza Virk, seeking a seven-day physical remand for further interrogation. The officials emphasized that the accused had facilitated the illegal transportation of children to Europe, and it was imperative to apprehend him to recover the citizens' Rs5 million.

They argued that a seven-day physical remand was necessary to gather evidence. After considering all the arguments, the court rejected the request for a seven-day physical remand and approved a four-day physical remand instead.

As many as 14 Pakistani human smugglers are involved in the Greece boat accident and nine of them have been nabbed by the law enforcement agencies but five human smugglers from the Gujrat district have not been arrested. INP

FIA to launch massive crackdown on human smugglers in Sindh, Balochistan

KARACHI: Following the Greece boat tragedy, the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has decided to launch a crackdown on human traffickers and their facilitators in Sindh and Balochistan.

The decision was taken by the additional director general FIA South. The zonal directors have been directed to constitute committees in Karachi, Hyderabad and Quetta.

The relevant zonal director in each zone will be the head of his committee to coordinate with the law enforcement agencies by the FIA Additional Director General South.

The committee will submit a weekly campaign performance report against the agents involved in human trafficking.

Earlier, Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Director General Mohsin Hassan Butt issued directives to further intensify crackdowns against human traffickers after the Greece boat tragedy in which dozens of Pakistanis were killed and missing. DG FIA Mohsin Hassan Butt chaired a high-level session at the agency's headquarters in Islamabad.

A report was presented regarding the sorrowful boat accident off the coast of Greece last week. DG FIA Mohsin Hassan Butt directed the zonal directors to expedite the process of exchanging information from their link office in Greece. INP

Two robbers killed, arms, bike recovered after encounter

OKARA: Two robbers were killed, weapons and a motorcycle recovered after exchange of fire with police near Head Kharal Kalan late on Monday night.

The police engaged a four-member gang of robbers fleeing after committing a robbery in jurisdiction of Hujra Shah Mugeen police station.

DGP's initiatives to foster growth, excellence in Pakistani cinema unveiled

KARACHI: The Directors Guild of Pakistan (DGP) on Tuesday announced a series of ground-breaking initiatives aimed at promoting the growth and excellence of Pakistani cinema.

With a steadfast commitment to empowering and supporting the creative vision of talented filmmakers, the DGP aims to shape the future of the Pakistani film industry.

The DGP under the visionary leadership of its esteemed board members and renowned directors will spearhead several key programs designed to nurture artistic talent, foster innovation, and facilitate collaboration within the filmmaking community. These initiatives seek to create a vibrant ecosystem that encourages the production of high-quality, thought-provoking content that resonates with audiences both at home and abroad.

Highlights of the DGP's new initiatives include: 1. Filmmaker development program: The DGP is launching an extensive filmmaker development program that will provide aspiring directors with access to mentorship, workshops, and resources. This program aims to cultivate a new generation of filmmakers by offering guidance on various aspects of the craft, from storytelling techniques to technical expertise.

2. Collaboration and Networking Events: Recognizing the power of collaboration and networking, the DGP will organize regular events and platforms for filmmakers to connect, exchange ideas, and forge partnerships. These gatherings will serve as catalysts for innovation and provide filmmakers with valuable opportunities to showcase their work and attract potential collaborators.

3. Industry Advocacy and Support: The DGP is committed to advocating for the rights and interests of Pakistani directors. Through partnerships with relevant stakeholders, the guild will actively engage INP to address the missing craft while the remote area of the North Atlantic where the Titanic rests 400 miles (650 kilometers) off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, and some 13,000 feet (4,000 meters) underwater. Another passenger aboard the missing craft has been identified as British businessman Hamish Harding. Paul-Henri Nargolet, the French world-renowned explorer, was also onboard. OceanGate CEO Stockton Rush is believed to be the fifth crew member. INP

Speakers at Muzaffarabad event denounce attachment of properties in IIOK

MUZAFFARABAD: Speakers at a conference in Muzaffarabad condemned the confiscation of properties of Hurriyat leaders, detained of India and occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The conference was chaired by Dr. Waheed Ahmed, Younis Mir, Prof. Amin and Iqbal Khan. Others who addressed the event included Parvez Khan Durani, Tanveer Durani, Muslim Nisar Mir, Waqas Mir, Asif Durani, Naeem Ahmed War, Chaudhry Iftikhar and Fakhr Ali Mirzawar Muhammad Usman. A large number of Kashmiri youth were present in the conference.

The speakers said that confiscation of the property of APHC spokesman Ayaz Muhammad that is being jointly led by multiple government agencies and deep-sea companies is underway to reestablish contact with the submersible and bring them back safely. "We are very grateful for the concern being shown by our colleagues and friends and would like to request everyone to pray for their safety. Coastguards are scanning the remote area of the North Atlantic where the Titanic rests 400 miles (650 kilometers) off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, and some 13,000 feet (4,000 meters) underwater. Another passenger aboard the missing craft has been identified as British businessman Hamish Harding. Paul-Henri Nargolet, the French world-renowned explorer, was also onboard. OceanGate CEO Stockton Rush is believed to be the fifth crew member. INP

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PM donates 4 vans for kids of PSH orphanage, hands over keys to Chairman

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has donated four transport vans for the children residing at Pakistan Sweet Homes (PSH) orphanage.

Keys of the donated vans valuing Rs62 million were handed over by the prime minister to Chairman PSH Zamurrad Khan here on Sunday.

The prime minister while talking to students of PSH Cadet College urged them to work hard and focus on learning contemporary knowledge.

He termed the students, youth the "real future of the country", who could positively contribute towards the development of their homeland and advised them to explore the fields of medicine, engineering, scientific research, agriculture, and information technology.

PM Shehbaz lauded Zamurrad Khan for his tireless efforts in the upbringing of the orphan children at Pakistan Sweet Homes.

The prime minister along with students took a ride in the transport van. The children raised slogans of Pakistan Zindabad (Long Live Pakistan). Interior

Minister Rana Sanaullah was also present.

The Pakistan Sweet Home was started as a project of Bai-ul-Mal in 2009 when a single child from Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, was handed over to Zamurrad Khan.

Since then, the Pakistan Sweet Home family has grown to five five centers across the country. Keys of the donated vans valuing Rs62 million were handed over by the prime minister to Chairman PSH Zamurrad Khan here on Sunday.

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Pakistan, Russia to hold 5th round of bilateral political consultations today

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Russia are holding their fifth round of bilateral political consultations in Islamabad today Tuesday.

On the occasion, they will review the state of bilateral relations, identify areas of mutual interest for further cooperation, and exchange views on important regional and global developments.

Foreign Secretary Dr Asad Majeed Khan will lead the Pakistani delegation while the Russian side will be led by Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko.

Pakistan and Russia enjoy friendly relations marked by mutual respect, trust and understanding. The two countries are commemorating the 75th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations this year.

CM Naqvi annoyed over inapt facilities, non-provision of medicines at GTHS

LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi has expressed his annoyance over inappropriate health facilities and non-provision of medicines to patients at Government Teaching Hospital Shahdara (GTHS).

During his visit to the hospital on Tuesday, the caretaker chief minister observed the situation at various wards during which patients, attendants lodged dozens of complaints besides showing him the bills of the medicines purchased outside the hospital.

Noting the situation, Mohsin Naqvi expressed his discontent and said that he can never expect of such misconduct with the patients at a government hospital. He directed the provincial minister Specialized Healthcare and Vice-Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Medical University to reach the GTHS and observe the situation themselves.

The caretaker chief minister also observed the entire body including President Naveed Malik, General Secretary Naveed Malik, on the victory in the State Agents Association elections.

He said, "Gulberg Green Islamabad made name on the basis of excellent location, infrastructure and timely delivery. I congratulate the new body on its victory in Gulberg Estate Agents Association elections. Their victory is a reflection of the confidence of all members. These views were expressed by him on Tuesday on the occasion of his visit to Gulberg Islamabad. The ICCI President along with the delegation congratulated the entire body including President Naveed Elahi Malik, General Secretary Naveed Malik, on the victory in the State Agents Association elections.

Investigation report about Greek ship accident to be submitted within week: Interior Minister

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah assured on Tuesday that the government would take prompt action about Greek Ship accident and investigation report would be submitted within a week by duly fixing responsibility on those involved in negligence.

In response to the Greek ship accident, a committee had been constituted under strict directives of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif commenced its investigation, he said while talking to a private news channel.

The investigation committee will present its report in a week and further action will be taken by the federal government", he added.

He said the committee will ascertain facts of the Greece boat tragedy besides identifying loopholes and lapses in the legal mechanism in Pakistan that exposed precious human lives to the vagaries of human trafficking in this particular case and similar incidents in the past.

The committee will also analyze similar past incidents and actions will be taken according to the legal framework, adding, "Intentional coordination will also help to prevent, control, and punish human smuggling in the future, he added.

The government will also review short-term and long-term legislation to curb the issue besides envisaging laws for giving penalties to the people responsible for such kinds of incidents, he further mentioned. INP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabhani Khar addressing during mark the World Refugee Day

ISLAMABAD: Minister for State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabhani Khar addressing during mark the World Refugee Day organized by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at a local host.

Construction sector's performance role model for others: Ahsan Zafar

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and Industry (ICC) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the excellent performance of the construction sector of Pakistan during last two decades not only supported the government in fulfilling the residential needs of people but also created sustainable employment opportunities for millions of people.

He said, "Gulberg Green Islamabad made name on the basis of excellent location, infrastructure and timely delivery. I congratulate the new body on its victory in Gulberg Estate Agents Association elections. Their victory is a reflection of the confidence of all members. These views were expressed by him on Tuesday on the occasion of his visit to Gulberg Islamabad. The ICCI President along with the delegation congratulated the entire body including President Naveed Elahi Malik, General Secretary Naveed Malik, on the victory in the State Agents Association elections.

He said that the government cannot meet the basic housing needs of such more than 24 crores population without the support of the private sector. He said that the acceptance of Gulberg, Green Islamabad has received is a proof of how sincere each and every person associated with the society is in their cause. The society has set new goals. INP

LHC accepts plea to remove PTI chief, AML chief, Ameer JI from party positions

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Tuesday accepted a petition seeking the removal of Chairman PTI, Ameer JI, and AML chief, Ameer JI, from party positions.

Eradicating the objections of registrar office about plea, the LHC forwarded the case before a full bench for further proceedings and deliberation.

The petition highlights that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has already disqualified Imran Khan, warranting the court to order his removal from the chairmanship position. It further argues that both

Sheikh Rashid and Sirajul Haq were fully aware of Imran Khan's disqualification, rendering their alliance with the PTI chief illegal. Consequently, it asserts that Sheikh Rashid and Sirajul Haq should also be ousted from their party posts for unlawfully supporting Imran Khan.

The petitioner mentioned Imran Khan, Sheikh Rashid, and Sirajul Haq, ECP Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and others as parties in the case. It is pertinent to mention here that on October 21, the ECP disqualified the former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman in the Toshakhana reference under Article 63(1)(p). INP