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A Portuguese tourist died in a road accident in Chaghi Balochistan



Nawabzada Haroon Raisani laid to rest in Kanak Mastung

NHA fails to reconstruct Pinjra bridge in Bolan valley

Syed Ali Shah Analysis

Much has been said and written about the historic Pinjra Bridge located in the rugged mountains of the Bolan Valley. The valley links Quetta and most parts of Balochistan with Sindh and Punjab provinces.

Last year, flash floods unleashed by torrential rains swept away parts of the bridge, causing the suspension of traffic between Balochistan and other parts of the country. For more than a year, the National Highway Authority (NHA) is yet to reconstruct the bridge located in the heart of the mountainous Bolan Valley. Now a fresh wave of torrential rains also swept away the remaining part of the bridge, which caused the suspension of traffic.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took notice of the non-construction and the Chairman NHA rushed towards the spot last week and assured the reconstruction. Nevertheless, the bridge is yet to be constructed despite repeated assurances.

Hundreds of stranded trucks loaded with food items can always be seen



Thousands of vehicles pass through the bridge on a daily basis. Since Balochistan is dependent on Sindh and Punjab for food supplies and other commodities, therefore, hundreds of trucks loaded with food items stranded in the Bolan Valley can always be seen.

The weak district administration merely deploy a bulldozer to make a temporary way for the stranded trucks and other small vehicles to cross the bridge. However, floods and torrential rains always wash away temporary mud stones roads.

NHA must ensure its immediate reconstruction

This situation has compounded the problems of the people of Balochistan in general and the passengers traveling on this important highway in particular. The province covers half of the country in terms of area and the NHA has been, in charge of all highways. It is the core responsibility of the NHA to break its criminal silence and ensure immediate reconstruction of the bridge to bring an end to the miseries of people.

Committed polio workers reaching out to children in Balochistan despite floods

Syed Ali Shah, Manan Mandokhail

QUETTA: Despite heavy rainfall and flash floods, committed polio workers in various parts of Balochistan have been making tooth and nail efforts to reach children to provide them with polio drops. A video of one of the committed and dedicated polio workers went viral on social media.

Wearing traditional shalwar kameez, a polio worker jumps in flood water to reach his destination in Balochistan's Wadh. Tehsil. Speaking in Brahvi language, the committed polio worker said he was on his way to reach one of the scattered



tered populations located in the rugged mountains of Wadh.

Despite threats and bad weather conditions, an anti-polio campaign is underway

Despite threats, intimidation and bad weather conditions, thousands of polio workers made the anti-polio campaign a

success and reached every part of Balochistan to administer anti-polio drops to children under the age of five years.

From two years and no poliovirus has been reported in Balochistan

Balochistan has been polio-free for almost two years and no poliovirus has been reported from any part of the province, which covers half of the country in terms of area. The polio is still underway in spite of an attack on a polio team, which left two policemen martyred in the Nawab Raisani area of Quetta the other day.

Nawabzada Haroon Raisani laid to rest in Kanak Mastung

From Our Correspondent

MASTUNG: Amid grief and sorrow, the funeral prayer of Nawabzada Haroon Raisani was offered in the Kanak area of Mastung district. Haroon Raisani, the nephew of former Chief Minister Balochistan, Nawab Aslam Raisani, was killed on Quetta's Sarab Road on Thursday night. Another young man Mir Bramdad Lehi and a levies constable were also killed in the firing incident.

At the funeral, Nawabzada Haji Lashkari Raisani, Nawabzada Mir Raees Raisani and others participated. However, Mir Bramdad Lehi was also laid to rest in Quetta. A large number of people also participated in his funeral.



The funeral prayer of the slain levies constable was also offered. A case was also registered on behalf of relatives of Haroon Raisani at the Sarab Police Station. The FIR includes terrorism and other acts since the latter was killed in the line of duty, a police source said.

A Portuguese tourist died in a road accident in Chaghi Balochistan

Riaz Baloch

CHAGHI: A Portuguese tourist died in a road accident in Balochistan's Chaghi district on Thursday. The incident happened in the Dalbandin area of the Chaghi district. A vehicle hit the Portuguese tourist identified as Nuno Miguel. The tourist was dead on the spot, whereas, two



people inside the car also suffered injuries. The injured were shifted to the Dalbandin hospital

for medical treatment. The dead body of the Portuguese tourist was also brought to the hospital.

The tourist from Portugal had entered Pakistan through Pak-Iran Border Taltan. He was on his way to Quetta on a bicycle when the tragedy struck. Levies personnel reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway.

Country's interests sole purpose of meetings held with army chiefs throughout political career: PM Shehbaz

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Thursday he had held several meetings with army chiefs during his 38 years in politics with the sole objective of making the country progress, as he acknowledged that he can be seen as "the establishment's man" by his detractors.

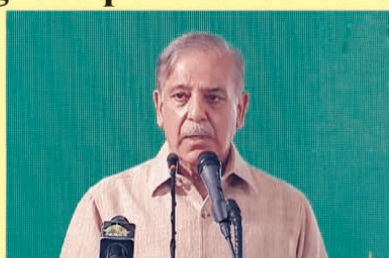
"The only objective of those meetings was that politicians and institutions work together to turn the country into a Pakistan for which several Muslims laid their lives," he reiterated during his address at the inauguration ceremony of Bhara Kahu bypass in Islamabad.

The premier went on to say, "People taunt me, calling me the establishment's man. But this doesn't bother me. Why? Because [...] I did not intend to get any personal gains."

He mentioned it was said that he was very close to former army chief and president Pervez Musharraf.

But did I get anything [out of it]? Nawaz Sharif went to jail and so did I. Nawaz Sharif went to Attock and so did I. Nawaz Sharif went to the Landhi jail and so did I. Nawaz Sharif was sent into exile and so were I and my family. So what did I get?" he said.

The premier also urged the nation on the occasion to make determined and concerted efforts for making Pakistan regain its "grandeur and stature" and so that country was able to compete with the rest of the world.



He highlighted that Pakistan's eastern neighbour, India, had progressed far ahead of it but at the same time said there would be nothing to worry about if the nation was resolved to work for the country's progress.

He recalled that the Bhara Kahu bypass project began in October 2022.

"It has been executed by the NLC (National Logistics Cell) in nine months at a cost of Rs6.25 billion," the premier said, adding that the bypass' construction had removed a major bottleneck and reduced travelling time for those commuting to Murree, Azad Kashmir and Galiyat.

The project, he said, would ease difficulties for several travellers commuting to these destinations from Islamabad, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He also mentioned that one of the challenges faced in the construction of the project was a land dispute with Quaid-i-Azam University, which was eventually settled through court. Had there been no such challenges, the project's construction could have been completed within the three-month period set by him initially, he added. PM Shehbaz directed the Capital Development Authority (CDA) to plant a million trees around the bypass, of which 70,000 have already been planted. Web Desk

Sanjirani, Iranian FM vow to boost bilateral trade, cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Saqib Sanjirani and Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian have expressed their resolve to enhance bilateral trade between the two brotherly countries.

The Iranian FM Abdollahian called on Chairman Senate at Parliament House on Thursday.

During the meeting, both leaders reaffirmed to expand cooperation in the fields of investment and the borders administration.

Sanjirani stressed the need for extending cooperation and strengthening the partnership between the two countries in all the fields of mutual interest.

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications and Postal Services, Maulana Asad Mehmood in a meeting with Mohammad Bin Thamer Al Kaabi, Minister of Transport and Telecommunication, The Kingdom of Bahrain, to discuss cooperation in postal service and road networks.

Pervez Elahi alleged of receiving Rs20m for awarding contract

LAHORE: Descendant of a contractor has alleged former chief minister Pervez Elahi of receiving 20 million rupees from his father for awarding a contract.

According to details, Muhammad Waqar, son of owner of a contract company in his statement in the court of Senior Civil Judge Muhammad Afzal said that his father contact Sohail Asghar for getting contract of road construction.

He said that Sohail Asghar asked father to arrange 20 million rupees and after arranging the desired amount, the said person organized meeting with Pervez Elahi.

Muhammad Waqar said that his father Rs20 million to former chief minister Pervez Elahi for getting contract of road construction.

He said that after receiving the amount, Pervez Elahi directed the Highway officials to award contract of road construction to his father INP.

Legal migration opportunities to EU discussed in steering committee

ISLAMABAD: The inaugural meeting of PM Steering Committee on Legal Migration Opportunities to European Union countries held here on Thursday was co-chaired by Minister for Overseas Pakistan and Human Resource Development Sajid Tariq and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khan.

Special Assistant to PM Tariq, Fatema, and representatives of NAVTTC, Overseas Employment Corporation, Overseas Pakistanis Foundation, Pakistan Software Export Board, Higher Education Commission, Federal Investigation Agency, TEVTA (Punjab) and NUML attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed progress and discussed opportunities as well as challenges the steering committee stressed the need for better coordination on skills development and certification, language proficiency and importance of regulations.

The participants also underscored the importance for curbing illegal migration INP.

China-Pakistan Economy & Trade B2B Forum held in Shenzhen

ISLAMABAD: The 10th Anniversary Ceremony for CPEC and China-Pakistan Economy & Trade B2B Forum was held in Shenzhen, China, Gwadar Port reported on Thursday.

At the forum, the Pakistani representatives introduced in detail the more than 50 agreements signed by the two governments since the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor was launched in 2013, which determined the "1+4" cooperation layout centered on the CPEC, with Gwadar Port, energy, infrastructure and industrial cooperation as the four priorities.

In response to these statements, all guests and Pakistani representatives conducted in-depth exchanges on the construction of Pakistan's national resources, economic situation, investment policy, financial system, security situation and other issues of common concern to both sides.

Subsequently, special guests from local enterprises conducted targeted project exchanges with

the Pakistani delegation, whom conducted policy interpretation, market analysis, project evaluation and resource docking for Chinese enterprises.

As for conference outcome, Chinese representatives expressed hope to promote the forum, and combine the industrial characteristics of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to cooperate with Special Economic Zone (SEZs) in Pakistan in an all-round way to go overseas to develop the form of industrial belts and clusters.

At the same time, invite outstanding Pakistani enterprises to visit China to establish a two-way cooperation mechanism, promoting the export of Pakistani products and undertake the transfer of China's industrial capacity.

development in China through the establishment of Bay Area headquarters base in Shenzhen.

This forum is hosted by the China-Pakistan Trade, Investment and Technology Cooperation Center, as well as under the joint by China-Pakistan United (Shenzhen) Economy & Trade Management Co., Ltd, which on site signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Pakistan's ElFendi Group to further promote the close cooperation between the two bilateral enterprises in the future.

At the invitation of the Shenzhen Municipal Government and the China-Pakistan Trade, Investment and Technology Cooperation Center, guest including Mr. Rana Hissan Afzal Khan, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the China Ocean Group Industry Ltd, Mr. Mu Chaoqiang, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the China Ocean Group Industry Ltd, Mr. Zhu Yanyan INP.

Chinese sesame testing farm ready for harvest in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) established a sesame testing farm near Lahore and is expecting their first sesame harvest next week. The trial yield will be 850-1000 kg per acre.

The company has started cultivation of 20 acres of sesame for testing purposes and performance. The testing farm started early this year will boost innovative farming and agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

Talking to Gwadar Port, Dai Bao, Vice General Manager of CMEC Pakistan said we are testing sesame and expecting their first sesame harvest next week. The trial yield will be 850-1000 kg per acre.

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Production costs per acre are modest and almost comparable to the cost of producing soybeans. Fertilizer costs are primarily for nitrogen, which can be met through organic sources.

Harvest costs are similar to other grains.

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Speakers term delay in LG elections harmful to democracy

LAHORE: Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister Kanwar Muhammad Dilshad on Thursday said that delay in local government elections is harmful to democracy.

He was addressing the opening ceremony of diploma in Local Self-Government for the second batch Punjab University Department of Political Science in collaboration with Sangat Foundation and South Asia Partnership Pakistan.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood, Additional Secretary to Government and Community Development Department, Punjab Maleeha Rashid, DG Monitoring Local Government Maheshwar Tamsina, Director Center for Social Involvement and Integrity Shabbir Ahmad Khan, Executive Director Sangan Zahid Islam, Chairperson Department Political Science Dr Iram Khalid, Deputy Executive Director South Asia Partnership Pakistan Irfan Mufti, Executive Director Wase Bushra Khalid, Analyst Salman Adil, representatives of various NGOs, faculty members and students were present.

Addressing the participants, Kanwar Dilshad said that the system of local governments is very old and the Election Commission and courts in Pakistan have always supported it.

He said that the caretaker government is running on good governance and law, and the Election Commission Dr Khalid Mahmood congratulated the first batch who completed their diplomas and welcomed the newly admitted students. He said that this diploma will promote understanding of local government system and public awareness.

Dr Iram said that we don't feel that we are good citizens that's why others don't care about it. He said that the constitution of the Diploma in Local Self-Government in Pakistan has always supported it. He said that in the upcoming elections, political parties should make the local

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif launching Prime Minister Digital Youth Hub.

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Maryam inquires after health of teenage maid Rizwana at LGH

LAHORE: Senior Vice President Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Maryam Nawaz on Thursday visited Lahore General Hospital (LGH) to inquire after health of the 14-year-old maid, Rizwana, who was subjected to a sexual assault.

Apprising Maryam of teenage maid's health condition, Medical Superintendent LGH Dr Khalid Bin Aslam said, "Rizwana's health is now out of danger."

Last week, Amer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Sirajul Haq vowed to play the role in providing justice to teenage maid Rizwana.

Siraj inquired after the health of the maid at the General Hospital. He said that what happened to Rizwana was shameful for the entire nation.

"This sad act has happened in the home of the judge who used to teach people the law. This judge's job was to provide justice to the people. But the atmosphere in his house was shameful," he rued.

"Such an incident has not happened before. The judge who used to teach people the law. This judge's job was to provide justice to the people. But the atmosphere in his house was shameful," he rued.

Assuring justice to the victim's parents, Siraj said he will fully cooperate with Rizwana INP.

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SC asked to take suo motu notice of Official Secrets Act amendments

ISLAMABAD: Senior lawyer and PPP leader Attarz Ahsan has requested the Supreme Court to take suo motu notice of the amendments to the Official Secrets Act.

The veteran politician made this appeal during the hearing of multiple petitions against the trial of civilians in military courts.

A six-member bench headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and

comprising Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Sayeed Mazaah Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Ayesh Malik, resumed hearing the petitions.

During the hearing, Attarz Ahsan said new law has been passed giving unlimited powers to spy agencies.

He told the court that according to the bench headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and

someone's house without a warrant, adding the authority to search homes without a warrant has been given through legislation.

The CJ said a chief justice alone cannot take suo motu notice as per a decision of the larger bench.

He added that the bill is still under discussion in parliament, and the court was not much aware of it.

bill so far?" the CJ asked. At this, Attarz Ahsan responded that it was a bill that has been passed by the National Assembly.

Just one forum has passed the bill, now let's see what the other forum decides, the CJ remarked.

Fortunately, the bill is still being debated in the House of parliament. He said that there is a martial law like situation in the country right now,

President for enhancing ties with UK, South Korea, Malawi

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday said that Pakistan wanted to enhance its relations with the United Kingdom (UK), the Republic of Korea, and Malawi in the fields of trade, economy, and culture.

The president made these remarks while talking to the High Commissioner-designates of the United Kingdom and Malawi, and the Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan.

The envoys presented their diplomatic credentials to the president and separately called on him, at Aitwan-e-Sadr.

Talking to Jane Marriott, the UK's High Commissioner to Pakistan, the president said that Pakistan attached utmost significance to its longstanding ties with the UK, which were grounded in historic connections and enduring people-to-people linkages.

He remarked that both countries needed to further expand and promote economic and trade relations for the mutual benefit of the two sides.

He also lauded the contributions of the Pakistani diaspora in the UK towards its socio-economic development.

President Alvi underscored the need for strengthening cultural ties and people-to-people contacts.



ISLAMABAD: The 67th meeting of the National Logistics Board (NLB) was held on Thursday. Chaired by Chairman NLB, the honourable Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (PDSI), Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, the meeting was attended by other members of the apex logistics body.

Govt to extend full cooperation to make Asia Cricket Cup 2023 successful: Dar

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance Ishaq Dar has said that the government will extend its full cooperation to make the Asia Cricket Cup 2023 event successful.

This was stated by him while talking to a delegation of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) headed by Chairman Muhammad Zaka Ashraf which called on him in Islamabad on Thursday.

Ishaq Dar reiterated government's support and cooperation to encourage sports activities all over the country, especially Cricket which has become more popular among youth.

Chairman PCB Muhammad Zaka Ashraf apprised the Federal Minister of matters related to PCB and hosting of Men's ODI Asia Cup-2023, jointly by Pakistan and Sri Lanka, this month INP.

10 BTAP first phase extended till July 2024, 700mn saplings planted in KP: Official

PESHAWAR: The first phase of the 10 billion trees afforestation project (10BTAP 2019-23) has been extended up to July 2024 by the government in order to achieve the set plantation target of 10 billion saplings in the country.

Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, Deputy Project Director, 10 BTAP KP Forest Department, while confirmed the extension of the mega project started in all provinces, Azad Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan in September 2018 after the successful completion of its first phase (2013-19) with the aim to counterbalance the effects of climate change and global warming.

He said that approximately 700 million saplings against the plantation target of 10 billion were planted during the last four years under the 10 billion trees afforestation project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He said that the remaining 300 million saplings would be planted in the extended year with the help of forest enclosures, farms, forestry and the general public.

Ibrahim Khan said the total financial share of KP in 10 BTAP is \$2.27 billion out of which \$812 billion was released including six billion each under the Public Sector Development Program of the Federal Government and the Annual Development Program of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government.

He said its overall objective was to revive forest and wildlife resources and improve the overall conservation of existing protected areas besides encouraging eco-tourism, community engagement and job creation in Pakistan.

KP CM chairs meeting to take detail review of census 2023

PESHAWAR: An important meeting was held here with caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Ahmad Khan in the chair to take a detailed review of the Census, 2023 to the extent of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Advisor to Chief Minister for Finance Hina Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Zubair Asghar Qureshi, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Amjad Ali Khan, Administrative Secretaries of the concerned departments, Provincial Census Commissioner, Director Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other relevant officials attended the meeting.

The participants were briefed in detail about the mechanism and methodology adopted for the Census, 2023 and other related matters.

It was told that for the first time in the history of Pakistan, modern technology was used in the Census. It was further informed that the entire Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was divided into more than 28000 blocks for the purpose of census adding that the final statistics of the census would be presented in the Council of Common Interest (CCI) for approval INP.

Women's participation in political, electoral process signify gender equality: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Niaz Tarar on Thursday said that women's full and equal participation in political and electoral processes signify their empowerment and gender equality.

While addressing the National Dialogue on Women Inclusive Electoral Processes, he said that when women participate in elections – as voters, candidates, electoral administrators, or party supporters, political processes are more inclusive and democracy is strengthened.

Azam Niaz Tarar added that women's full participation in political and electoral processes has been enumerated in international instruments such as the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), both of which have been ratified by Pakistan. The Commission may

declare the election void if the turnout of women voters is less than ten percent of the total votes polled in a constituency.

He said the Commission may conduct public awareness programmes and media campaigns, regarding the importance of maximum voter enrolment and participation in elections, especially by women. There shall be seats in the National Assembly allocated to each Province, Islamabad Capital Territory, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and seats reserved for women and non-Muslims, as specified in Article 51 of the Constitution.

The final status of the census will be presented in the Council of Common Interest (CCI) for approval. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs said this legislation is of immense importance and if enforced and properly implemented, it will make sure that Pakistan does not see the FATF's grey list.

Meeting held with KP CM in chair to take detail review of census 2023

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Chief Minister Muhammad Azam Khan chaired an important meeting here on Thursday to take a detailed review of the Census, 2023 to the extent of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Those who attended the meeting included Advisor to Chief Minister for Finance Hima Yataullah Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Zubair Asghar Qureshi, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Amjad Ali Khan, Administrative Secretaries of the concerned departments, Provincial Census Commissioner, Director Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other relevant officials.

The participants were briefed in detail about the mechanism and methodology adopted for the Census, 2023 and other related matters.

It was told that for the first time

PML-N talent promotion policy to propel youth-driven economic growth: Awais Leghari

DERA GHAZI KHAN: Former Federal Minister and PML-N Punjab general secretary Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari said on Wednesday that youth was the real engine of growth and PML-N was pursuing a talent-encouraging policy to harness their enormous potential to propel economic development.

He was speaking at a ceremony for the distribution of laptop computers among talented students at Ghazi University here. Securing the future of the younger generation was the top most priority of the government, Leghari said adding that youth were the real asset of the country. Bringing transparency and merit in projects was the hallmark of the PML-N government.

Sardar Awais said, younger generation should play an active role

in the national development process but added that they can do it better when they are properly educated and trained. Societies always need talented individuals to prosper and move forward, he said.

Leghari said that PML-N Minister Shahbaz Sharif was distributing 100000 laptop computers among talented students on merit under his education-friendly policies.

It will help them move forward. He said that positive politics should prevail in the country and added that his father, late former president Sardar Feroz Ahmad Khan Leghari rendered numerous sacrifices for the cause of democracy and progress in politics.

His father also suffered jail hardships, he added INP.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif received briefing regarding Barakahu bypass which was inaugurated today.

He highlighted that both governments were committed to establishing and maintaining a more robust and long-term relationship.

He also urged that the world needed to prevent and discourage the incidents of the Islamophobia in the world.

Speaking to Park Ki Jun, the ambassador of the Republic of Korea, the president said that Pakistan highly valued its multidimensional relationship with Korea, encompassing political, economic, scientific, cultural, and people-to-people linkages.

He mentioned that Pakistan and Korea had tremendous potential to increase bilateral trade to further strengthen economic relations.

He said that Pakistan was open for business and investment, and would welcome Korean investment in all sectors of its economy. The president informed that Pakistan offered some of the most exotic mountain scenery and religious Buddhist sites, and would welcome Korean tourists to visit and explore these sites. Talking to Yongsun Abdul Justice, the high commissioner of Malawi to Pakistan, the president expressed deep appreciation for his historical and brotherly ties with Malawi, which were marked by shared interests, values, and goals INP.

SC adjourns cases for indefinite time

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday adjourned the hearing for indefinite time in petitions against the trials of alleged rioters of May 9, in army courts.

A six-member larger bench of the top court headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Jiaz ul Hassan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Ayesh Malik heard the case.

At the outset of the hearing, on the request of Aitzaz Ahsan to take notes on the Official Secrets Act Bill, the chief justice remarked that there was a decision of the larger bench that the chief justice cannot take suo-moto notice solely.

Justice Munib Akhtar remarked that the provision of constitutional fundamental rights cannot be left at the mercy of the legislators. The CJP said that what happened on May 9 is very serious.

Attorney General of Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan adopted the stance that the arrested people have been charged under Section 2-D1 of the Official Secrets Act. Justice Munib Akhtar remarked that per the F.B. Ali case, there would be a court martial if the accused had been charged under the Army Act.

Pakistan fulfills important condition of FATF, IMF

ISLAMABAD: The government of Pakistan on Thursday fulfilled an important condition of International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Financial Task Force (FTF).

As per details, the National Assembly passed the National Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism and Transnational Crime Bill, 2023. It was moved by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs said this legislation is of immense importance and if enforced and properly implemented, it will make sure that Pakistan does not see the FATF's grey list.

Other bills that were passed by the house today included The Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals (Amendment) Bill, 2023, The Press, Newspapers and News Agencies and Books Registration Bill, 2023, Pakistan Civil Aviation Bill, 2023, the National Logistics Corporation Bill, 2023, The Gun and Country Club Bill, 2023, Pakistan Air Safety Investigation Bill, 2023, and Institute of Gujarat Bill, 2023. Later, the House was adjourned to meet again tomorrow at eleven am INP.

The federal minister said that dedicated efforts by the Ministry resulted in the surge of Pakistan's IT exports to \$ 2.6 billion while we fully determined to enhance the figure to \$15 billion in the coming years.

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Performance of NLC, contributions towards nation-building laudable: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (PDSI), Prof. Ahsan Iqbal chaired the 67th meeting of the National Logistics Board (NLB) held here on Thursday. The meeting was attended by other members of the apex logistics body.

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He noted that if the judicial precedents are seen, the provision of the Official Secrets Act do not apply to the arrested persons.

The attorney general said that the court martial is not a court established under Article 175 of the constitution. Justice Munib Akhtar said that the state cannot ignore basic human rights even if it wants to do this. He questioned that if it is not a court established under Article 175, then what is it? The chief justice remarked that the 21st Amendment had clearly stated this law is for those who fight against the army. It is not understood that why was there a need to bring the 21st Amendment as there were already laws exist.

Addressing the AGP, the chief justice remarked that according to you the crimes of civilians are already mentioned in the Army Act.

The CJP said that we appreciate that you are defending this case without any legislation or notification. The chief justice asked the attorney general to clarify at the next hearing how a parallel judicial system can be established. He remarked that the right of appeal is possible only through the legislation.

Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial said that he didn't know why Parliament is in a hurry in taking such legislation. The court adjourned the hearing of the case for an indefinite period INP.

Govt to take Pakistan to forefront of digital world: Amin ul Haq

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Information Technology Syed Amin ul Haq on Thursday expressed his resolve and determination to take Pakistan to the forefront of the digital world with a futuristic vision.

The minister, while addressing the graduation ceremony of 8th and 9th of National Information Technology Education Center (NITEC) at NED University of Engineering and Technology, said that Pakistan's efforts were required by the stakeholders for materializing the Vision 2025.

The federal minister said that dedicated efforts by the Ministry resulted in the surge of Pakistan's IT exports to \$ 2.6 billion while we fully determined to enhance the figure to \$15 billion in the coming years.

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