



Nobody allowed to disrupt SCO Conference in Islamabad: Tarar

Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaulah Tarar on Friday said Islamabad has been made fully safe and secure to welcome foreign delegations including 12 heads of the governments for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Conference, scheduled for October 15-16.



ECC okays export of 500,000MT of surplus sugar

The ECC of Cabinet on Friday okayed an additional export of 500,000 metric tonnes of surplus sugar. The approval was accorded at a meeting of the Committee chaired by Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb, a press statement issued here read. The export is subject to an undertaking by the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association that their mills will commence production by the 21st of next month for the next crop year.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Protest

Labourers gather to protest against the killings of coal miners in an overnight attack in Duki district of Balochistan on October 11, 2024.



Photo: AFP

Balochistan's Duki coal mines attack claims 21 lives

Amanullah Baluch

QUETTA: A devastating attack on coal mines in the Duki district of Balochistan has left at least 21 miners dead and several injured. The attackers reportedly used rocket launchers and hand grenades in the assault, setting fire to machinery within the mines. The deceased and injured have been transported to local hospitals. Police confirmed that the victims hailed from various regions, including Pishin, Qilla

Saifullah, Zhob, Muslim Bagh, Musa Khel, Quetta, and Afghanistan.

The attack by 40 armed men days before Pakistan hosts a summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization grouping is the worst in weeks in the mineral-rich province of Balochistan bordering Afghanistan and Iran. Businesses and shops were shut in Duki as hundreds of people gathered along with the bodies of the dead in a protest to demand the arrest of the attackers, police

said. "We were receiving threats from the militants for some time but there was no information about the attack," said mine-owner Khairullah Nasar, who is also the chairman of the district council. According to police, the attackers gathered the miners into groups before opening fire. SHO Humayun Khan stated that all of the deceased and injured were Pashtun. A security official, identified as

Ajmal, is also among the dead. The coal mines are owned by Duki District Chairman Haji Khairullah, who reported that the attackers set fire to ten coal engines at the mines. He further confirmed the use of hand grenades, rocket launchers, and other heavy weaponry in the attack. Authorities are currently investigating the incident. Balochistan has witnessed several terrorist attacks against ordinary labourer or wage earners in recent months but those

primarily targeted people from the Punjab province. This is the first major attack against Pashtuns who form a large proportion of population in Balochistan. Several attacks have targeted migrant workers, including some from Afghanistan, employed by smaller, privately operated mines. The government was "determined to root out all forms of terrorism", Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said in a statement.

President Zardari, Vladimir Putin emphasise strengthening bilateral ties



City Desk

ASHGABAT: President Asif Ali Zardari on Friday met his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin wherein they emphasised further strengthening of bilateral relationship.

The informal interaction was held on the sidelines of two-day international forum on "Interrelation of Times and Civilizations- Basis for Peace and Development" here in the Turkmen capital to commemorate the 300th birth anniversary of Magtymguly Faragi, a great Turkmen thinker, poet and philosopher.

Both leaders expressed good wishes for each other, according to a President House

press release. Earlier, the president, who arrived here on Thursday for a two-day visit, also addressed the Forum which was also attended by Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Tajik President Emomali Rehmon, Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov and others. In his address, the president lauded the Turkmen leadership and people for hosting the event which also provided him an opportunity to interact with the leaders of regional countries.

PM Shehbaz vows to root out terrorism in all its forms

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif on Friday condemned the terrorist attack in Duki, Balochistan, and vowed to uproot terrorism in all its forms.

In his telephonic conversations with Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail and Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, the prime minister expressed deep grief over the loss of lives and conveyed his sympathies to the

families of the slain miners. PM Shehbaz prayed Allah Almighty to grant the fallen souls rest and the injured people quick healing. He instructed the relevant authorities to ensure their best medical treatment for the injured persons. PM Shehbaz also sought a report from the authorities concerned on the incident and reiterated his government's resolve to purge the country of terrorism. He also assured to provide all possible support to the families of the martyrs.

No country can progress without a high-quality education system: PM



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday emphasized that the provision of quality education and technical training was the government's top priority, as no nation can progress without a high-quality education system. He was chairing an important review meeting on Federal Education and Technical Training Affairs. The Prime Minister stated that, in today's education landscape, skills development, information technology, and digitization have become indispensable, stressing the urgent need to align Pakistan's education system with these modern principles. He further highlighted that, in line with the government's commitment to ensuring no child in Pakistan is left out of school, the incumbent administration had implemented an educational emergency. Additionally, he underscored the importance of holding a National Curriculum Summit to facilitate the introduction of a uniform educa-

tion system across the country. The Prime Minister directed relevant authorities to expedite the construction of Daanish Schools in underprivileged areas, including Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and Balochistan. He also instructed that daycare centers be established in all educational institutions in Islamabad to support the convenience of female teachers. During the meeting, the Ministry of Education briefed the Prime Minister on the steps taken by the ministry. It was shared that, under the Prime Minister's directive, midday meals for children in Islamabad schools had already been introduced, significantly improving enrollment figures. The meeting also revealed that 100 Early Childhood Education centers had been established in Islamabad. Additionally, modern information technology and digital training centers had been set up in Islamabad's colleges, offering courses in data science, artificial intelligence, and blockchain technology, all linked

to the country's top universities. In collaboration with the National University of Modern Languages (NUML), courses have been launched to teach Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Japanese, and German to female students. The meeting was further informed that the construction of Daanish Schools in Islamabad, Shigar, Gilgit, and Bimber is in the final stages. The Planning Commission has also granted the necessary approvals for Daanish Schools in Balochistan. Finally, the Pakistan Education Fund is being set up to benefit students from underprivileged districts in Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Balochistan, and former FATA regions, the meeting was informed. The meeting was attended by Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Education Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, the Prime Minister's Coordinator for Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam, the Prime Minister's Coordinator Rana Ihsan Afzal, and other senior officials.

PPP reveals draft for constitutional amendment



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has released its draft proposal for constitutional amendments, including the establishment of a Constitutional Court under Article 175-A. This follows a parliamentary committee meeting chaired by Khurshid Shah, where the government and PPP presented their drafts, with the JUI-F expected to submit theirs the following day. The meeting, attended by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Maulana Fazlur Rehman, and Barrister Gohar, failed to reach a consensus, leaving a deadlock. The PPP's draft proposes the formation of a Constitutional Commission of Pakistan (CCP) to oversee the appointment of Supreme Court and High Court judges. The CCP would comprise the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, two senior judges, a representative from the Supreme Court (either a retired

Imran Khan's PTI announces protest at Islamabad's D-Chowk during SCO summit

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Imran Khan's party has announced its decision to protest at Islamabad's D-Chowk on October 15—the day the country would host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in the federal capital—to seek the incarcerated former prime minister's release. "We announce the cancellation of the protest in the districts of Punjab in view of the preparations for the peaceful protest of D-Chowk on October 15," the PTI said in a statement on X after the party's political committee meeting on Friday. Pakistan is set to host a two-day SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad on October 15 and 16, with leaders from the bloc attending the event. Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar will also visit the country to

participate in the summit. Chinese Prime Minister Li Qiang would also arrive in Pakistan where a MoU is expected to be signed for the reprofiling of debt related to power projects amounting to \$15.4 billion under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The SCO, which includes India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, is a significant economic and security bloc that has become one of the largest trans-regional international organizations. The government has already deployed army troops in the federal capital to maintain order ahead of the SCO summit. In addition to the high-profile leaders, around 900 delegations will be present in Islamabad for the event. Approximately 200 members of the International media, Continued on Page 8

Continued on Page 8

Gomal Zam Dam Documentary Competition Awards Ceremony held

Adam Khan Wazir

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: A grand prize distribution ceremony was held on Friday at the Gomal Zam Dam Short Video Documentary Competition, organized by the Mehsud Press Club South Waziristan and Gomal Scouts Force.

The event was attended by prominent guests, including Station Commander Brigadier Amir Hayat, Commissioner Dera Ismail Khan Division Jabbar Shah, Commandant Gomal Scouts Moeen Uddin Ahmad, and Dean Gomal Medical College Dr. Naseem Sabba Mehsud, who distributed prizes to the winners.

The competition saw three winners, with Afaq Burki securing the first position, Naeem Abbas winning the second, and Noman Sheikh bagging the third. Additionally, special awards were given to



Aleena Akhtar in the women's category and Hamdan Mehsud in the children's category.

Addressing the event, Chief Guest Station Commander and Commissioner Dera Ismail Khan highlighted the importance of such competitions in promoting creative work among

the youth and providing opportunities for their talents to contribute to the country's development.

Dera Ismail Khan Press Club President Lala Yasin emphasized that these competitions foster research, creativity, and quality improvement among the youth, essential for today's

journalism field.

Mehsud Press Club President Farooq Mehsud thanked the participants and acknowledged the support of the Gomal Scouts Force and FC Headquarter South KP in making the competition possible.

The ceremony was well-attended by civil and military authorities, regional elders, youth, and children, adding to its splendor. The event demonstrated the collective effort to promote journalism and creativity in the region.

The Gomal Zam Dam, located on the Gomal River in the north-western part in Wana, Lower South Waziristan of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, serves several purposes, including irrigation, flood control, and hydroelectric power generation.

The gravity dam, completed in 2011, is considered a showpiece infrastructure project in the country.

Climate Change Roundtable Conference Bahawalpur held



Quratul Ain Asim

BAHAWALPUR: In collaboration with the European Union and Concern Worldwide under the BRIDGE CSO Project, the Lodhran Pilot Project (LPP) and Local Support Organization (LSO) organized a roundtable conference in Bahawalpur to discuss the impacts of climate change and the challenges it poses for Pakistan. The event brought together key stakeholders from various sectors to engage in an important dialogue about climate resilience.

Notable attendees included Additional Deputy Commissioner of Bahawalpur, Ms. Sumaira Rabbani; Chief Executive Officer of Lodhran Pilot Project, Dr. Muhammad Abdul Saboor; District Disaster Management Coordinator Bahawalpur, Ms. Marukh; Chairman of the Social Work Department at Islamia University Bahawalpur, Dr. Asif Naveed Ranjha; Deputy Director of Local Government, Mr. Khurshid Ahmed; Assistant Professor of Environmental Science, Dr. Muhammad Ali; and representatives from the Agriculture Department, Local Support Organization, and other civil society actors. During the conference, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ms. Sumaira Rabbani emphasized the proactive measures being taken by the Bahawalpur district administration to address the growing risks of climate change.

Dr. Abdul Saboor, CEO of LPP, urged the adoption of best practices to mitigate the dangers posed by climate change. He expressed a strong desire to collaborate with Islamia University Bahawalpur.

Dr. Asif Naveed Ranjha highlighted the role of universities in tackling climate challenges, stating that numerous students at Islamia University are conducting research on climate change, and these findings are openly available worldwide. He welcomed deeper cooperation with LPP to strengthen the fight against climate change.

Ms. Marukh, District Disaster Management Coordinator, provided insight into the ongoing efforts to raise public awareness about the impact of climate change. Mr. Sheikh Dilshad Qureshi, former Chairman of the District Council, discussed the effects of recent climate changes on agriculture, particularly the sharp decline in cotton production, and called for urgent action to address this issue.

Dr. Muhammad Ali delivered a presentation on climate change strategies, emphasizing the need for research and practical measures to confront these challenges. Mr. Kumail Hassan, Program Coordinator at LPP, shared the findings of focus group discussions with local farmers, stressing the importance of incorporating their experiences into future policies.

Mehreen Arif, Project Manager at LPP, explained that the BRIDGE CSO Project is working to strengthen local civil society organizations to better serve their communities. She noted that this climate change conference is a vital step toward achieving that goal.

At the conclusion of the conference, the Local Support Organization distributed symbolic kitchen gardening tools to various farmers, and honorary shields were presented to the distinguished guests.

Sindh Agri University stages inter-university speech competition on Artificial Intelligence



Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam's Students-Teachers Engagement Program (STEP), in collaboration with the Prime Minister's Youth Program IEEE-SAUI, hosted an intra-university speech competition at the Dr. A. M. Sheikh Auditorium. Students from various faculties delivered speeches in Sindhi, Urdu, and English on the topic, "Artificial Intelligence and the Impact of Social Media on Society in the 21st Century."

Over 35 students participated in the competition. In the Sindhi category, Kashif Hussain secured first place, Gulshan Khan came in second, and Qamber Ali took third. In the Urdu category, Muhammad Husnain achieved first place, Muhammad Faisal secured second, and Amna Baloch placed third. Similarly, in the English category, Kausar Panhwar secured first place, Amna Habiba second, and Kirti Kumari third.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri stated that the world is advancing through the positive influence of artificial intelligence and social media, and it is moving toward modern technologies like AI, ChatGPT, and robotics. He stressed the need for the youth to enhance their skills and capabilities to remain competitive on a global scale.

Dr. Aijaz Ali Khooharo, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, highlighted that since the establishment of STEP, numerous co-curricular and healthy activity programs have been held weekly at the university.

Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Koondhar and other distinguished speakers also addressed the audience. Present at the ceremony were Dr. Munir Ahmed Mangrio, Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Mahar, Dr. Irfan Ahmed Gillal, and other esteemed faculty members. Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri awarded cash prizes and certificates of appreciation to the students who secured top positions.

Training Programme

Group photo of Participations with Shahana Sikandar TMO Jehangira KPK on training programme jointly organized by Pakhtunkhwa 1122 Rescue Department and Rehman Institute of Medical Sciences.



Photo: Spokesman

New Qasimabad principal hailed for his 'tribute to teachers'

Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

QASIMABAD: A salute and great tribute to the teachers who are the architects of the future, nurturing students with the wealth of knowledge. Among such distinguished educators is Professor Munir Karim Burro. His appointment at Qasimabad Boys Degree College has led to an increase in student enrollment and has also sparked greater interest among parents.

His efforts in promoting education are commendable and appreciated by

both society and the education department. A detailed article on Professor Munir Ahmed Burro's dedication and professionalism serves as inspiration for others, leaving a positive impact on the community.

The citizens of Qasimabad, parents, students, civil society, and journalists have warmly welcomed the recently appointed principal and have called his appointment a great decision by the education department. There is hope that Professor Munir Ahmed Burro will continue to play a pivotal role in



improving and maintaining the college's academic standards.

The Deteriorating Law and Order Situation in Khairpur: Drugs and Social Evils on the Rise

Khairpur District, once recognized as a cultural and educational hub of Sindh, is now caught in the grip of lawlessness, drug abuse, and widespread social evils. Various areas within the district, including Kingri, Gambat, Ranipur, Naro, Thari Mirwah, Faiz Ganj, Sobho Dero, Ropri, and Baharo, have become hotbeds of crime, where the local police have completely failed to maintain peace. Crime and drug addiction have escalated to such an extent that residents feel unsafe in their own neighborhoods, and the youth are on the brink of destruction.

The Growing Drug Trade and the Role of the Police:

The drug trade in Khairpur District is rampant. It is reported that not only are local drug dealers involved, but some members of the police force are also directly engaged in this illegal business. Allegedly, the police are providing protection to drug dealers, allowing their operations to continue unchecked.

One of the most notorious areas is Mill Colony, where social evils have taken deep root. Local sources claim that bribes (known as "monthly payments") collected from these illegal operations flow from the streets to police stations and even reach the SSP

office in Khairpur. This system of corruption prevents any real legal action from being taken, leaving the residents of the area at the mercy of criminals. The police, as a result, refrain from taking any effective steps, and law and order continue to deteriorate.

The Youth Facing Destruction:

The lawlessness and rampant drug abuse in Khairpur have had a devastating impact on the youth. Many young people are falling prey to drug addiction, ruining their lives and futures. There have also been reports of drug sales occurring within educational institutions, further jeopardizing the future



Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

of the district's students. Unfortunately, there is no comprehensive strategy or action plan in place to protect students from these harmful influences, leaving parents deeply concerned.

Corruption and Failure in the Police System:

The failure of the police in

Khairpur is glaringly evident. Not only have they been unable to curb crime and drug trafficking, but the police system itself is plagued by corruption and bribery. Officers who attempt to address these issues or take action are swiftly transferred, which undermines any genuine efforts to restore order. This has led to a complete erosion of public trust in law enforcement.

Possible Solutions for Khairpur's Crisis:

To address the escalating crime and social problems in Khairpur, urgent action is needed at both the district and provincial levels. First and foremost, police

reforms are essential. Corruption must be rooted out, and stringent legal measures should be put in place to end the drug trade. Independent oversight committees should be established to monitor police actions and hold corrupt officers accountable.

At the same time, efforts must be made to protect the district's youth from falling victim to drug addiction. Anti-drug campaigns should be launched in educational institutions, and positive activities should be organized to engage young people and keep them away from harmful influences. The government and civil society must work together to restore peace in Khairpur and

offer a brighter future to the next generation.

Conclusion: Khairpur District, once known for its peace and cultural richness, is now marred by lawlessness, drug abuse, and social ills. The failure and corruption within the police force are the primary contributors to this crisis. The local population is calling for immediate action from the government and higher authorities to rescue Khairpur from this downward spiral. It is high time that law enforcement agencies take responsibility and implement practical measures to make Khairpur a safe and peaceful place once again.

Islamabad
30° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Fajr | 4:47 am |
| Zohr | 11:55 am |
| Asr | 3:59 pm |
| Maghrib | 5:39 pm |
| Isha | 7:01 pm |

EMERGENCY

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Rescue (Police) | 15 |
| Bomb Disposal | 15 |
| Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad | 1122 & 16 |
| Emergency Ambulance | 1122 & 4451122 |
| Motorway Police | 9266044 |
| Motorway Police | 9270601-20 |

Women Police Stations

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Islamabad | 9222596 |
| Rawalpindi | 9270601-20 |

ENQUIRY

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Edhi Ambulance | 115 |
| PIA Flight Info | 114 |
| PIA Cargo | 9280979 |
| Railway Inquiry | 117 |
| Railway Exchange | 9270831-5 |
| WASA Rawalpindi | 5555489 |
| CAA | 9281092 |

HOSPITALS

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| CMH | 561111 |
| MH | 561116 |
| MH | 561116 |
| Cantt Hospital | 9270907-11 |
| DHQ | 5556311-4 |
| RGH | 9290301-7 |
| Holy Family | 9290322-7 |
| PIMS | 9261170-79 |
| Polyclinic | 9218300-09 |
| Shifa International | 4603666 |

DEPARTMENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| CDA | 9221334-43 |
| CDA | 9208301-04 |
| Met Office | 9250360-6 |
| RDA | 5555864 |
| TMA | 5770886 |
| Cantonment Board | 9270151-3 |
| Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation | 9209224 |
| Potohar Town | 9209224 |
| Rawal Town | 5773343 |

COMPLAINTS

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Water Tanker Service | |
| E-7, F-10 & F-11 | 9204654 |
| G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 | 9203883 |

Joint Ministerial Round Table Conference with Saudi Delegates

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: During the visit of Saudi Business Delegates headed by KSA Minister for Investment Shaeikh Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al Faleh, Round Table Ministerial Conference was held in which both the countries reviewed in details to strengthen more ties in G2G activities. Addressing this Conference Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan gave a briefing regarding the best investment opportunities and new trends in the country. He offered Saudi Investment Minister Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al Faleh along with the business delegation to come forward and invest in different public sector organizations. He said that there are many attractive and profitable projects for Saudi investment in Pakistan. We will welcome all kinds of partnership and investment in Pakistan from Saudi Arabia even in the mode of Public Private Partnership. Addressing the Conference, Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan invited Saudi investors to invest in the profitable projects like M6 and M9 motorways to develop the communication sector on modern lines. Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan and

the Saudi delegation discussed mutual cooperation in projects on the basis of "G2G" while the Saudi Business Community and Government officials expressed their great interest in various investment projects. On this occasion, Saudi Investment Minister Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al Faleh expressed special interest in the presentation of Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan and said that doing something for the people of Pakistan has always been the first priority of the KSA Government and will continue in the future as well to make more Joint ventures. Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan told the delegation that in order to reduce the distances and make the routes easier, we want to connect the Karachi Port with the existing Motorway, while the completion of the Karachi-Hyderabad and Sukkur Motorways as soon as priority of the present Government.

A reception was also hosted by Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan in honor of Saudi Investment Minister Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al Faleh and the Saudi business delegation in which a large number of businessmen including Saudi guests and Federal Ministers Attaullah Tarr, Jam Kamal Khan, Musadaq Malik and Shiza Fatima were present.



Deserted look

ISLAMABAD: A view of deserted Quaid-e-Azam University road due to University closed 11th to 20th Oct ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

IT industry in Pakistan to soar sky-high

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan's exports have catapulted in IT numbers as major industry players gear up for global expansion plans. Visionaries like Umar Saif, former Federal Minister for IT, Asif Peer, Usman Asif, Salim Ghauri, and Fatima Asad have been the key drivers of growth. Greatly admired in Pakistan's IT industry, they are equally well-recognized in the global tech scene. These industry leaders are collectively positively impacting Pakistan's IT potential, which is being tapped in North America, the Middle East, Europe, and even the APAC region.

Moiz Saleem Varind, Director of Global Marketing, is set to lead Devsinc's global marketing efforts as part of its broader expansion strategy. With over 11 years of experience in branding, marketing, and B2B-led growth across various industries, Moiz brings a wealth of knowledge to the role.

Usman Asif, CEO of Devsinc, extended a warm welcome to Moiz, stating "We are excited to have Moiz on the team. His expertise and leadership will be invaluable as we scale our operations in newer markets and strive for growth in existing verticals.

Commissioner hails women for their devotion to Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) at Milad Mustafa

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Under the auspices of the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Milad Mustafa (peace be upon him) was held. Commissioner Silwat Saeed attended as a special guest. President of the Women's Chamber Shahida Aftab and other members were present. In the Milad, Naat Khwan women recited before the Prophet.

The commissioner said that the followers of the Sunnah should follow the Sunnah with sincerity, because only by following the Sunnah can our worldly and hereafter life be enlightened. He said that



we learn respect for humanity, patience, peace and love from the blessed character and by developing such feelings we can overcome our problems. He said that we should make a firm commitment to follow

the Quran and Sunnah which is Love of the Prophet (peace be upon him) is the third most important requirement.

The Commissioner said that deep love for the Prophet of the Apocalypse is our faith and we

should make the character of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) cover our lives. Love for the Prophet (peace be upon him) is a part of our faith and we have an ideal unity and agreement through the passing of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Expressing deep devotion to the Commissioner appreciated the organization of the soulful gathering of Milad Mustafa. At the end of the celebration, prayers were prayed for the development and prosperity of the beloved country, peace and security and for the implementation of the good deeds of the Holy Prophet.

RCCI President calls on Dr. Maen Khreasat, Ambassador of Jordan in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) led by President Usman Shaukat visited the Embassy of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan-Islamabad and called on H. E. Dr. Maen Khreasat, Ambassador of Jordan in Pakistan.

Vice President Fahad Barlas, and EC member Ms. Falak Anjum were also present on the occasion.

Matters related to bilateral trade, investment opportunities, networking & chamber to chamber connectivity & visit of trade delegation from both sides to enhance trade relations and to explore the potential cooperation between both countries came under discussion.

During the meeting a wide range of areas for further enhancing bilateral



trade and economic relations between Jordan and Pakistan were also discussed. Ambassador Maen A. M. Khreasat

said that Jordan valued its historical and friendly relations with Pakistan and was keen to further enhance its trade ties

with it for mutual benefit.

He said that his country was keen to expand its trade ties with Pakistan through enhanced bilateral cooperation across various sectors including tourism, Agricultural, hospitality and health services.

RCCI President Usman Shaukat in his remarks emphasized RCCI's commitment to facilitating joint ventures, promoting bilateral trade, and enhancing investment opportunities. He also highlighted the chamber's readiness to assist in organizing business forums, trade delegations, and cultural exchange programs to strengthen the ties between the two nations.

He reiterated that RCCI would tirelessly support initiatives aimed at mutual growth and development, ensuring a prosperous partnership between Pakistan and Jordan.

Asma Butt assures support for end of dengue in Punjab



City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Chairperson of Dolphin Communication Asma Butt assured Senator Nasir Mehmood Butt and WASA administration of full cooperation in the ongoing awareness campaign to end dengue on behalf of Chief Minister Punjab Ms. Maryam Nawaz. And said that until the end of dengue, full practical services will be done from the platform of Dolphin Communication. Door-to-door campaign will be started.

Yesterday, an important meeting regarding anti-dengue campaign was held under the chairmanship of Pakistan Muslim League-N leader and Senator Nasir Mehmood Butt at Haji House Rata Amaral in Rawalpindi. In which the Chairperson of Dolphin Communication Ms. Asma Butt specially participated. On this occasion, President Youth Wing Rawalpindi Division Naem Pasha, MD Wasa Muhammad Salim Ashraf, Deputy MD WASA Zeeshan Shaukat Gondal, Assistant Director Muhammad Haseeb, WASA Deputy Director Muhammad Tauseef, WASA Deputy Director Shamsur Rahman, WASA Hafiz Abdullah Butt, Shoab Butt, Mrs. Mumtaz Malik and others were present. Senator Nasir Mehmood Butt appreciated Dolphin Communication Chairperson Asma Butt's previous services in the anti-dengue campaign. And said that as Ms. Asma Butt has performed prominently in the dengue awareness campaign in 2014 with the federal government. We want more benefit from her experiences, so that according to the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Ms. Maryam Nawaz, we can help to get rid of dengue and create a healthy society. He said that Government needs sincere and experienced people. On this, Asma Butt said that Dolphin Communication is ready for all kinds of support. Together we will make the dengue eradication campaign successful under the direction of Chief Minister Punjab Ms. Maryam Nawaz. Important information about dengue will be provided to the public at their doorstep. I have always preferred to serve the people of my country. She further said that under the supervision of Senator Nasir Mehmood Butt and WASA administration, a vigorous campaign against dengue will be conducted. Without further delay in the dengue campaign, people's lives will be saved.

Chairman Drug Court Rejected the Application of all the Accused involved in Fake Medicine Case



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Chairman Drug Court Multan Muhammad Salimullah rejected the application of all the accused involved in fake medicine case FIR No. 262/24 dated 29.03.2024 before arrest. Only the owner of the medical store and accused Fahadullah Ould Ashiq's bail application was approved because he submitted all the cell purchase records in the investigation. Which was also confirmed by the owner of FSA Pharma and accused Amanullah. Accused Amanullah said in his statement that he bought these medicines from Denim Pharma, but the main accused and owner of Denim Pharma Muhammad Sajjad is deviating from the warranty of his company.

After this case, when a team of 4 drug inspectors from Multan raided Denim Pharma, a large number of the same fake drugs were recovered from there, on which the name of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Karachi is listed, the name of the drug is Tab Caryon. which DTL Multan's report dated 27.02.2024 has declared as fake while there is no drug manufacturing company in the name of this company in Pakistan.

This was a unique case of its kind in which the company did not exist and medicines were being made in its name.

Pakistani have 'deep connection with Palestinians', minister says after Gaza, Lebanon crises

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal said on Friday the people of Pakistan have a strong bond with Palestinians, as he addressed a conference focused on the humanitarian response to the situation in Gaza and Lebanon, organized by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The NDMA has sent 11 relief consignments, totaling about 1,154 tons of medicines and other necessary items, to the two conflict zones in the Middle East since October last year. The national conference, organized by NDMA officials, brought together representatives from the media and various international and local non-governmental organizations to mobilize further support for the resi-

dents of Gaza and Lebanon. "The people of Pakistan have a deep connection with Palestine, a bond that dates back even before the creation of Pakistan," the minister said at the gathering. He noted that Pakistan's founding father, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, had voiced concerns for Palestinian Muslims as early as 1934. "The people of Pakistan have consistently stood shoulder to shoulder with Palestinians and highlighted their rights, just as we have advocated for the cause of the people of Kashmir on the international stage," he added. Iqbal emphasized the severe humanitarian needs resulting from Israel's war in Palestine and Lebanon, stressing the urgent necessity to extend support to the affected populations.

He announced the establishment of the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for Gaza and Lebanon, to generate and channel aid from Pakistanis to those living in Gaza and Lebanon. The Pakistani minister criticized the Western narrative on human rights, saying it had been exposed as Western states looked the other way while unarmed Palestinians were killed, and Israel was given the "license to carry out genocide." The war in Gaza has lasted over a year, leading to nearly 43,000 Palestinian deaths, mostly women and children. More recently, Israel opened another front in Lebanon, with the stated objective of destroying Hezbollah targets, raising fears of a wider war in the region, potentially involving Iran.



Honoring Dr. Nadeem ul Haque – A Legacy of Vision, Innovation, and Mentorship

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) proudly honors Dr. Nadeem ul Haque as he completes his transformative five-year tenure as Vice Chancellor, from 2019 to 2024. A renowned economist and former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of Pakistan, Dr. Haque has also been associated with several international organizations, including a distinguished career with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). His visionary leadership at PIDE has left a lasting impact, positioning the institute as a hub of innovative thought, groundbreaking research, and policy-driven dialogue. Under his guidance, PIDE addressed Pakistan's economic and development challenges with fresh ideas, fostering intellectual independence and creativity. During his tenure, Dr. Haque spearheaded several impactful initiatives, such as RASTA, Islaah, and EconFest, creating a robust network of researchers, policymakers, and thought leaders. These initiatives transformed PIDE into a leading national think tank. PIDE staff members expressed their gratitude, highlighting Dr. Haque's bold initiatives and tireless efforts to foster innovation. They acknowledged that PIDE's prominence today is a direct



result of his visionary ideas and leadership. Minister of Planning, Ahsan Iqbal, paid tribute to Dr. Haque's legacy, recognizing his pivotal role in shaping the future of economic discourse and development in the country. In addition to honoring his achievements, Ahsan Iqbal urged the PIDE staff to carry forward Dr. Haque's vision, stating that the best way to pay tribute to his service is to continue his

work for the betterment of the institution and Pakistan. Dr. Haque's legacy as a mentor, not just a leader, is perhaps his most lasting contribution. He nurtured talent, fostered collaboration, and created an environment where innovation thrived. As he moves on, his vision and wisdom will continue to inspire PIDE's journey ahead. As Dr. Haque embarks on the next chapter of his illustrious career, the entire PIDE community extends

its deepest gratitude for his exceptional service. His legacy of leadership, mentorship, and innovation will continue to inspire future generations of researchers, scholars, and policymakers. Dr. Nadeem ul Haque leaves behind an institution that is stronger, more vibrant, and ready to lead Pakistan's economic transformation. His vision will continue to guide PIDE as it builds on the foundations he so skillfully laid.

Former APTPMA Regional Chairman Arif Lakhani meets KCCI Officials



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Arif Lakhani, former Regional Chairman of the All Pakistan Textile Processing Mills Association (APTMA) and former member of the KCCI Managing Committee, visited the Karachi Chamber yesterday. During his visit, he congratulated the newly elected President Javed Balwani, Senior Vice President Zia Al Arfeen, and Vice President Faisal Khalil on their overwhelming victory in the recent Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) elections. He expressed confidence that the newly elected officials, with their immense capabilities, would prioritize addressing the issues of traders, industrialists, shutter power, exporters, and customs agents by conveying them to the government and relevant authorities to ensure resolution. Young industrialist Farhan Lakhani was also present at the meeting.

Inter-Ministerial Consultative Workshop on Anti-Trafficking Action Plan 2024-2025 held



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency and the Ministry of Interior organized an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Workshop today to discuss Pakistan's Anti-Trafficking Action Plan for 2024-2025. The workshop brought together representatives from various government departments and international organizations to review and strategize efforts to combat human trafficking in the country. The workshop was opened with remarks by Mr. Waqas Mehmood, Special Secretary, Ministry of Interior, and Mr. Muhammad Jaffar, Additional Director General, Law Wing, FIA HQ. Key discussions centered on the importance of Pakistan's Tier Ranking and the consequences of the United States State Department's findings on human trafficking, highlighted by Mr. Muhammad Hamza, Assistant Director (USA) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In a technical session, presentations were made to address the concerns raised in the U. S. State Department's 2024 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report. These presentations were delivered by Rai Nasrullah, Deputy Director, FIA CBC, and Ms. Seep Jan, Section Officer (MMC), Ministry of Interior, Islamabad. The role of international organizations in combating human trafficking was discussed by Ms. Shahida Gillani of the UNODC. During the workshop, the progress of the TIP committees with regards to the Anti-Trafficking Action Plan was reviewed and the targets for 2024-2025 were discussed. The session was moderated by Mr. Saqib Sultan Al-Mehmood, Director Anti Human Smuggling Wing, FIA.

Chairperson BISP visits Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme Senator Rubina Khalid visited the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry today on the invitation of President Chamber Mr. Rehan Naseem, who along with the other members welcomed the Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme. He welcomed the step of economic empowerment of the marginalized segments of the country through skill development along with other initiatives of the BISP. Chairperson Rubina Khalid while talking to the members of the chamber said that this program started in the name of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, which was patronized by the President of Pakistan, BISP is supporting 9.3 million families today. It has given an identity to the poor woman, it makes the housewife the head of the family, she gets her



own identity card, this is an important step towards the empowerment of women. Along with this, Benazir Kafaalat, Taleemi Wazaif and Nashonuma programs are also ongoing and

now a step ahead, skill development program is also being introduced under which different skills will be taught to deserving women and their children according to local and international

standards so they can improve not only their livelihood but also uplift economy of this country. She said that there is a great demand for skilled labor worldwide. Senator Rubina Khalid said that on the special instructions of the President of Pakistan, the payment model of 6 banks was introduced to ensure the payment of money to women in a dignified and transparent manner. Consultation with Bank of Pakistan is ongoing to further improve the system. Senator Rubina Khalid recorded her impressions regarding her visit to the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the visitor's book. Later, Senator Rubina Khalid along with Chairman Board Faisalabad Garments City Company Mr. Rehan Naseem also visited the Garments City where they also interacted with the female interns undergoing training there.

'SCO: A Catalyst for Regional Integration and Connectivity'

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) hosted a roundtable discussion on "SCO: A Catalyst for Regional Integration and Connectivity". The event brought together distinguished experts, diplomats, and scholars to discuss the multifaceted role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in fostering regional cooperation, security, and economic integration. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI, in his remarks, emphasized the SCO's global salience, its growing organizational and substantive evolution, its significance as the largest transregional platform, and its prominence within the evolving multipolar global order. He added that while ideal outcomes

from multilateral platforms like the SCO are desirable, the realities and challenges must be acknowledged. Progress, even if not perfect, should be supported and strengthened. He further added that patience is crucial, as the SCO, like other organizations, evolves at its own pace. Highlighting its growing economic influence, Ambassador Sohail Mahmood noted that SCO members' trade had risen from \$667 billion in 2001 to \$6 trillion in 2022, demonstrating the organization's increasing global relevance and economic left. Hosting the SCO-CHG meeting is a distinct honour for Pakistan and as the host country, it would ensure the summit's successful outcome. Dr. Saif Malik, Director of the Army Institute of Military History, spoke about the critical role of SCO in coun-

tering terrorism and ensuring regional stability. He addressed the challenges posed by extremist groups such as ISIS and ISKP and highlighted the need for a comprehensive SCO policy to combat these threats. He also discussed the complexities of regional geopolitics, particularly the relations between Pakistan, India, China, and Russia. Ms. Amna Masood, Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, International Islamic University Islamabad, emphasized the importance of leveraging the SCO forum to enhance Pakistan's trade and technological partnerships with Central Asian and South Asian nations. Dr. Uzma Siraj, Head of the International Relations Department at Federal Urdu University discussed the challenges and opportunities for SCO in promoting regional connectivity.



Ambassador Babar Amin, Pakistan's First National Coordinator for SCO, delivered the keynote address, focusing on Pakistan's achievements during its

chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government. Earlier in his Introductory remarks, Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director of the China Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at ISSI, welcomed all participants, emphasizing the importance of the SCO as a platform representing almost half of the world's population and nearly a quarter of the global GDP. In his concluding remarks, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman of ISSI's Board of Governors, commended the timely organization of the roundtable ahead of the CHG Summit. The event concluded with a lively Q&A session, during which participants discussed various aspects of regional cooperation, security, and the future of SCO in the evolving global landscape.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

| Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Current | Prev. Close |
| 85,483.40 | 85,453.22 |
| Day's High | Day's Low |
| 85,750.18 | 84,774.45 |
| Index Value | Change |
| 20,705,570,997 | +30.18 |
| Percentage | Time |
| +0.04% | 11 Oct, 2024 5:00 pm |

| Europe: FTSE 100 Index | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Index Value | Change |
| 8,253.65 | +15.92 |
| Percentage | Time |
| +0.19% | 11 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1 |

| USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Index Value | Change |
| 42,722.61 | +268.49 |
| Percentage | Time |
| +0.63% | 11 Oct, 1:23 pm GMT-4 |

| Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Index Value | Change |
| 39,605.80 | +224.91 |
| Percentage | Time |
| +0.57% | 11 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9 |

| Open Market Forex Rates | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|
| Currency | Buying | Selling |
| Australian Dollar | 186.75 | 188.86 |
| Bahrain Dinar | 731.71 | 739.71 |
| Canadian Dollar | 202.60 | 205.00 |
| China Yuan | 39.6 | 40.00 |
| Danish Krone | 41.12 | 41.52 |
| Euro | 302.05 | 304.80 |
| Hong Kong Dollar | 35.65 | 36 |
| Indian Rupee | 3.34 | 3.45 |
| Japanese Yen | 1.92 | 1.98 |
| Kuwaiti Dinar | 898.00 | 907.50 |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 63.55 | 64.15 |
| New Zealand \$ | 174.21 | 176.21 |
| Norwegians Krone | 26.26 | 26.56 |
| Omani Riyal | 716.67 | 725.17 |
| Qatari Riyal | 76.24 | 76.94 |
| Saudi Riyal | 73.65 | 74.20 |
| Singapore Dollar | 215 | 217 |
| Swedish Korona | 27.15 | 27.46 |
| Swiss Franc | 322.20 | 325.15 |
| Thai Bhat | 8.56 | 8.71 |
| U.A.E Dirham | 75.40 | 76.05 |
| UK Pound Sterling | 360.35 | 363.85 |
| US Dollar | 278.25 | 279.75 |

FPCCI leaders deserve recognition for their successful drive: Mian Zahid Hussain

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Chairman of the FPCCI Advisory Board and National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, as well as former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain, said on Sunday that the termination of agreements with five Independent Power Producers (IPPs) is projected to yield savings of Rs 400 billion.

It is important for other independent power producers to engage collaboratively and contribute to the nation's advancement, as our survival hinges on it, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the leadership of FPCCI merits commendation for the efficacy of their campaign, which will soon become a big achievement.

Speaking to the business community, the veteran business leader congratulated the



FPCCI Group Leader Dr. Gohar Ijaz, President Atif Ikram Shaikh, Patron Chief SM Tanveer, and the entire leadership team on the launch of a very successful awareness campaign.

He advised other IPPs to work with the government because excessive profit is not only hurting people and economy but it will also harm power production business.

The business leader noted that IPP owners should understand that electricity is a necessity, and its exorbitant prices are holding hostage Pakistan, its industries, and its people.

According to Mian Zahid Hussain, the government will save 411 billion rupees as a result of the termination of these contracts, bringing the capacity payment down from 2000 billion to 1600 billion rupees.

This is the beginning of a move in the right direction, the results of which will start showing soon. The government has initiated negotiations with other IPPs to review the agreements, anticipating positive outcomes.

Realizing the improved situation, a delegation of Saudi investors is also present in Pakistan under the leadership of the Saudi Invest-

ment Minister, and they have signed 27 MoUs.

As a result, there is a possibility of a two billion dollar investment from Saudi Arabia, which will restore the confidence of foreign investors, he observed.

According to Mian Zahid Hussain, the central and provincial governments have reached an agreement that will reduce costs and enhance tax collection in the provinces.

Many local and foreign experts have expressed concerns since the passage of the 18th Amendment, citing an increase in provincial revenue and irresponsible expenditures, while the federal government has been facing financial strain.

This amendment was not properly implemented, and the federal government now performs many province-based duties.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that now the government has no option but to control the rising expenditures and accept the IMF's words.

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Ahsan Iqbal had a meeting with the visiting Saudi Minister of Investment, Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al Faleh on Friday.



Photo: PID

JS Bank launches instant debit card service

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: JS Bank, one of the fastest-growing banks in Pakistan, has launched a game-changing service that allows customers to walk out with an instant debit card when they open a bank account. This new service enables customers to get their debit card instantly, providing immediate access to their funds and banking services without delay.

Currently available in selected JS Bank branches, the instant debit card issuance aligns with JS Bank's commitment to delivering innovative solutions that meet the evolving needs of its customers in today's fast-paced world. The service ensures that new account holders can immediately



enjoy the convenience of seamless transactions, without the traditional waiting time for card issuance.

Sharing his thoughts, Waqas Anis, Chief Digital Officer at JS Bank, said, "At JS Bank, we continually strive to enhance the customer experience through industry-leading services. The instant debit card demonstrates our focus on efficiency and convenience, helping customers manage their finances seamlessly. No wait, sounds great!"

Ahsan Bakhtawari inducted into the Central Core Committee of UBG

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Bakhtawari, former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), has been inducted into the Central Core Committee of the United Business Group (UBG). UBG Patron-in-Chief, S. M. Tanveer, made the announcement after the Federal Core Committee's approval. Tariq Mahmood from Lahore has also been approved to join the committee.

Ahsan Bakhtawari expressed gratitude to UBG's leadership, saying, "UBG is the largest representative platform for Pakistan's business community, and being part of its Central Core Committee is an honor." He pledged to contribute positively to resolving business community issues and promoting entrepreneurship, particularly among youth and women.

He said Youth Empowerment, Entrepreneurship



Promotion, Enhancing business opportunities and innovation, Women's Economic Empowerment are Key priorities.

He commended UBG's efforts in tackling key business issues, such as the IPP issue, demonstrating the community's strength and influence

in economic decision-making. He emphasized the need for unity and collective decision-making among business stakeholders.

MoU between AlBaik Food Systems and Gas & Oil Pakistan (GO) to Explore Opportunities

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Saudi Ministry of Investment Supports AlBaik's Expansion Efforts in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In a pioneering step that reflects the Kingdom's Vision 2030 to enhance national exports and knowledge and open new horizons for Saudi commercial expansion globally, under the patronage of the Saudi Ministry of Investment, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Saudi company AlBaik and the Pakistani company GO. This MoU aims to explore the possibility of establishing a strategic partnership to set up and operate AlBaik restaurants in the

Islamic Republic of Pakistan, as part of the company's expansion strategy in Pakistan.

The signing ceremony took place under the patronage of His Excellency, the Minister of Investment, Engineer Khalid Al-Falih, and in the presence of Mr. Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan as well as General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan and a high-level delegation from both Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. This event is the result of the dedicated efforts of the Ministry of Investment to enable Saudi brands to expand internationally and to enhance the Kingdom's position in the global economic arena.

FPCCI is facing the worst crisis ever

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Trade leader and founder president of the Attock Chamber of Commerce, Mirza Abdul Rehman, said on Thursday that the largest trade organization in Pakistan, the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), is going through the worst crisis, which has posed a serious challenge to its integrity.

Many employees have been appointed based on hefty packages, disregarding their merit, while life has become difficult for those who lack connections, he said.

Mirza Abdul Rehman said that some employees are being

forced to work on reduced salaries and in a very humiliating environment.

He said that commission agents are roaming in all the offices of FPCCI, while those elected by the voters are expressing the least interest in the affairs of the apex chamber.

He added that the arrogance of those who matter leads to a total disregard for the issues of the business community.

Mirza Abdul Rehman said that the FPCCI's staff has been bearing the brunt of the crisis, which has stemmed from mismanagement and lavish expenditures by the leaders of the UBG.

Mirza Abdul Rehman stressed that leaders of the



UBG and FPCCI are plundering the FPCCI's resources, which has pushed the business community into depression.

"They have always preferred personal interests over the interests of the community, and families of the leaders continue to enjoy luxuries at the cost of voters," he said.

Different standing committees are being distributed like sweets among those who have nothing on their credit.

He emphasized that the current leaders of UBG and FPCCI pose the greatest obstacle to the growth of the business community, which is unfavorable for Pakistan.

The ruling group have privately expressed their dismay over favoritism, nepotism, and the neglect of merit by those who matter.

They have pointed out that a significant number of representatives from various trade bodies lack a voice within FPCCI, and the apex body is failing to fulfill its role in enhancing businesses, exports, and its dwindling image.

They have further highlighted that important decisions are being made without any consultation, which has completely silenced their voices in shaping economic policies, causing significant harm to their respective sectors.

RCCI President calls on Dr. Maen Khreasat, Ambassador of Jordan in Pakistan

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) led by President Usman Shaukat visited the Embassy of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan-Islamabad and called on H. E. Dr. Maen Khreasat, Ambassador of Jordan in Pakistan.

Vice President Fahad Barlas, and EC member Ms. Falak Anjum were also present on the occasion.

Matters related to bilateral trade, investment opportunities, networking & chamber to chamber connectivity & visit of trade delegation from both sides to enhance trade relations and to explore the potential cooperation between both countries came under discussion.

During the meeting a wide range of areas for further enhancing bilateral trade and economic relations between Jordan and Pakistan were also discussed.

Ambassador Maen A. M. Khreasat said that Jordan valued its historical and friendly relations with Pakistan and was keen to further enhance its trade ties with it for mutual benefit.

He said that his country was keen to expand its trade ties with Pakistan through enhanced bilateral cooperation across various sectors including tourism, Agricultural, hospitality and health services.

RCCI President Usman Shaukat in his remarks emphasized RCCI's commitment to facilitating joint ventures, promoting bilateral trade, and enhancing investment opportunities. He also highlighted the chamber's readiness to assist in organizing business forums, trade delegations, and cultural exchange programs to strengthen the ties between the two nations.

He reiterated that RCCI would work tirelessly to support initiatives aimed at mutual growth and development, ensuring a prosperous partnership between Pakistan and Jordan.

Group Photo

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari in a group photo with Heads of States/Governments/Parliaments participating in the International Forum on "Interrelation of Times and Civilizations - Basis of Peace and Development", being held in Ashgabat on Friday.

MAGTYMGULY PYRAGYNYŇ DOGLAN GÜNÜNIŇ
300 ÝYLIGYNA BAGYSLANAN «DÖWÜRLERIN WE
SIWILIZASYALARYŇ ÖZARA ARABAGLANYSYGY
- PARAHATÇYLYGYN WE ÖSÜŞIN BINÝADY»
ATLY HALKARA FORUMY
AŞGABAT 2024

INTERNATIONAL FORUM
"INTERRELATION OF TIMES AND CIVILIZATIONS
- BASIS OF PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT"
DEDICATED TO THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY
OF MAGTYMGULY FRAGI'S BIRTHDAY
ASHGABAT 2024



Photo: Online

President for enhanced focus on regional connectivity, cultural cooperation

Spokesman Report

ASHGABAT: President Asif Ali Zardari on Friday addressed an international forum held here in the Turkmen capital, where he emphasized an enhanced focus on the promotion of regional connectivity as well as cultural and economic collaboration in the region.

The president, addressing the forum on "Interrelation of Times and Civilizations-Basis for Peace and Development" said that Pakistan and Turkmenistan shared a deep-rooted bond of brotherhood which was built on mutual respect and commonalities of faith and a shared vision for

a better and peaceful future.

The event, held to mark the 300th birth anniversary of Magtymguly Faragi, a great Turkmen thinker, poet and philosopher, was also attended by several regional leaders including Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Tajik President Emomali Rehmon, Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov and others.

President for enhanced focus on regional connectivity, cultural cooperation

President Zardari, who arrived here on Thursday

on a two-day visit, called Magtymguly Faragi a "towering figure" of Turkmen literature and a "beacon of spiritual enlightenment."

The great Turkmen poet and Pakistan's national poet Allama Muhammad Iqbal shared several commonalities in their poetry and thoughts on Sufism and nationalism, he added.

He lauded the Turkmen government and people for organizing the event to promote understanding of peace and dialogue among different cultures which also provided him an opportunity to interact with leaders of regional countries to help strengthen mutual friendship.

President Zardari said that his participation in the Forum reflected his country's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties.

He said Magtymguly Faragi was not only a poet but also an aspiration and symbol of the Turkmen people's love for their homeland.

President for enhanced focus on regional connectivity, cultural cooperation

"His works continue to resonate with us today providing guidance, inspiration and sense of unity," he said.

Magtymguly Faragi was born in the times of great political and social unrest when the the Turkmen tribe was scattered and divided, yet despite

this challenge, he dedicated his life to the dream of seeing Turkmen people united, the president added.

He expressed the hope that the discussions and deliberations in the Forum would not only honor the memories Magtymguly Faragi but also help explore new avenues for cultural collaboration.

President for enhanced focus on regional connectivity, cultural cooperation

The president also expressed his pleasure to meet Turkmen President Serdar Berdimuhamedov and recalled his several meetings with Gurbanguly Mälikgulyýewiç Berdimuhamedow, father of the incumbent president.

Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi and Rear Admiral Abdul Munib take over as Commander Karachi and Commander Pakistan Fleet

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi took over as Commander Karachi and Rear Admiral Abdul Munib assumed the Command of Commander Pakistan Fleet during Change of Command ceremonies held at Karachi.

Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi handed over the command of Commander Karachi to Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi.

Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi is a graduate of Pakistan Navy War College (Lahore), Naval Command



College (USA) and National Defence University (Islamabad). The Admiral has an illustrious naval career comprising vast experience of various Command and Staff appointments. His key appointments include Deputy Chief Of Naval Staff Opera-

tions, Director General Naval Intelligence and Commander Pakistan Fleet. In recognition of his meritorious services, the Admiral was awarded Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military).

Rear Admiral Abdul Munib is a graduate of Pakistan Navy



War College (Lahore), Naval Command College (USA) and National Defence University (Islamabad). The Admiral has an illustrious naval career comprising vast experience of various Command and Staff appointments. His key appoint-

ments include Deputy Chief of Naval Staff Operations, Director General C4I and Director General Naval Intelligence. In recognition of his meritorious services, the Admiral was awarded Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military).

Full court reference for outgoing CJP Isa set for October 25

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The full court reference honouring outgoing Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa is scheduled for October 25, as stated in a letter from the Supreme Court registrar.

The letter, addressed to Supreme Court Bar Association President Shahzad Shaikat, was issued by Registrar Jazeela Aslam.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah is expected to succeed CJP Isa following his retirement. Since August, there have been speculations about the government potentially extending CJP Isa's



term. Last month, CJP Isa clar-

ified that he had refused a proposed extension in

his tenure under age limit reforms.

The opposition has opposed any attempts to extend the incumbent CJP's tenure, with PTI founder Imran Khan threatening nationwide protests if such a move is made.

During an informal discussion with reporters in Islamabad, following a full court session marking the start of the new judicial year, CJP Isa responded to questions about his alleged willingness to accept an extension, provided it applied to all judges. He dismissed claims made by Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif's adviser, Rana Sanaullah, asserting that he had categorically refused any extension to his term.

In a subsequent statement, the SC expressed regret over how an off-the-record conversation between CJP Isa and journalists was reported, leading to "unwarranted sensationalism."

A press release signed by CJP's Secretary, Dr Muhammad Mushtaq Ahmad, emphasised that focusing undue attention on individuals detracts from the significance of institutions, which should prioritize serving the public.

PM announces pay raise for Islamabad Police



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday announced to immediately increase the salaries of Islamabad Police at par with Punjab Police and an Executive Allowance for the officers of ICT Police as well as the Islamabad administration, on the pattern of provinces.

The prime minister, addressing an event held at the Police Lines Headquarters here to pay tribute to the police force for their sacrifices and dutifulness, also announced to extend Shuhada Package to the families of the remaining 44 of total 64 officials of ICT Police martyred in the line of duty.

During the visit, the contingent

of Islamabad Police gave guard of honour to the prime minister who later laid a wreath at the Martyrs Monument at the Police Lines and penned his remarks in the visitors' book. He also offered Fateha for the police martyrs and paid tribute to the sacrifices of the police personnel.

Accompanied by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Federal Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, IG Islamabad Police Ali Nasir Rizvi, Islamabad Chief Commissioner Muhammad Ali Randhawa and parliamentarians, he also interacted with the family of members of police Constable Abdul Hameed who embraced martyrdom in the line of duty during the protest by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf on October 6, 2024.

Romanian Charge de Affairs, MD APP discuss cooperation between official news agencies



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Romanian Charge de Affairs in Pakistan Eduard Robert Friday called on the Managing Director, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) Muhammad Asim Khichi and discussed cooperation between the official news agencies of the two countries.

The Charge de Affairs was keen to enhance cooperation between the two countries on multiple fronts including education, culture, tourism and labour in several fields and also the news exchange agreement between Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) and Agerpres, the national news agency of Romania.

Eduard said its era of information technology and both the official news agencies should cooperate on exchange of news and information. He highlighted that both the countries have much more to share with each other, especially to enhance people to people contacts.

He said communication linkages between the two countries would pave way for future contacts.

FBR issues warning for 'under-filers' as tax deadline approaches

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has announced strict measures against individuals who under-file their taxes, urging compliance as the October 14 deadline for tax returns approaches.

FBR Chairman Rashid Mehmoos Langrial emphasized that those engaging in significant financial transactions, such as purchasing property or vehicles, will face restrictions if they are identified as under-filers.

Langrial stated that after the deadline, the government plans to eliminate the category of non-filers entirely, making it difficult for them to engage in major transactions. He noted that while ordinary citizens could still buy used vehicles and plots, anyone involved in substantial purchases exceeding Rs10 million would be barred from doing so.

The FBR is also considering additional restrictions, including potential bans on air travel for non-compliant taxpayers.

Highlighting the issue of under-filing, Langrial revealed that the FBR is working to enhance its audit capabilities to address tax evasion, which he described as a significant problem within Pakistan's tax system.

Imran Khan's PTI announces protest at Islamabad's D-Chowk ...

Continued from Page 1

including representatives from Indian media outlets, are expected to cover the conference.

The decision on the pro-Khan protest was due by October 14 when the party's demonstrations in Punjab were about to conclude.

"On October 14, before the culmination of protests, we will release our programme for new protests. Most probably it will be nationwide and not just limited to cities," PTI leader Raouf Hassan said while appearing

on News Insight with Amir Zia which was aired on Aaj News on Tuesday.

In the social media post, the party instructed all organisational officials and wings to finalise the preparations for the D-Chowk protest.

"Imran Khan's life, health and safety have been deprived of all his basic and human rights in order to deliberately expose him to serious threats," it said and accused the government of being engaged in conspiracies to endanger the former prime minister's security.

PPP reveals draft for constitutional amendment

Continued from Page 1

judge or a nominee of the Chief Justice), the Attorney General of Pakistan, a representative from the Pakistan Bar Council, and two members each from the National Assembly and the Senate.

The draft also clarifies the procedure for removing judges under Article 209.

The draft prepared by the PPP has also called for the establishment of provincial constitutional courts.

The release of the PPP's draft follows earlier statements by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari indicating that neither the JUI-F nor other opposition parties had yet submitted their proposals.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman confirmed that the JUI-F's suggestions were discussed, while Barrister Gohar criticized the lack of transparency regarding the government's draft, citing conflicting reports about the authenticity of a leaked version.