



Stressed on the need to enhance bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, people to people contacts and climate

Foreign Minister
Ishaq Dar

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Pakistan & the UK had longstanding, historic relations with multifaceted cooperation, says Ishaq Dar

FM Ishaq Dar & British FS Lord David Cameron discuss important regional issues including Afghanistan & the situation in Gaza

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar received a telephone call from Lord David Cameron, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom on Monday. According to the statement issued by Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, the Foreign Minister thanked the British Foreign Secretary for his message of felicitations on his appointment as the Foreign Minister and said that he looked forward to working closely with the UK leadership to further strengthen bilateral relations. Reiterating the importance of Pakistan-UK relationship, the Foreign Minister said that Pakistan and the UK had longstanding, historic relations with multifaceted cooperation. The Foreign Minister emphasized the early conclusion of the Enhanced Strategic Partnership (ESP) agreement to take relations to the next level. Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar stressed on the need to enhance bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, people to people contacts and climate. The Foreign Minister stressed on the need for early resumption of PIA flights between Pakistan and the UK which would further bolster linkages, particularly in view of the large Pakistani diaspora in the UK. The two Ministers also discussed important regional issues including Afghanistan and the situation in Gaza. The Foreign Minister invited Lord Cameron to visit Pakistan on mutually convenient dates. SABAHI

Ahsan Iqbal inaugurates work on development schemes at Narowal University

NAROWAL: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal attended the foundation stone-laying ceremony of various schemes including roads, sewerage and water supply at the University of Narowal. Member National Assembly (MNA) Chaudhry Anwarul-Haq, Member National Assembly (MNA) Wajih Akram Chaudhry, Provincial Minister for Religious and Minority Affairs Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) Rana Manan and former Chairman Municipal Committee Narowal Syed Azharul-Hassan Jilani also attended it. Ahsan Iqbal was warmly welcomed by the university administration on his arrival. The technical team of University of Narowal gave a detailed briefing to the minister about the schemes. The minister formally inaugurated work by driving a road roller and handed over four buses bought for transport of the university to the administration and also planted a sapling in the admin block. APP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding implementation of Track and Trace System. APP

PM Shehbaz decides to take measures against tax defaulters & tax evaders on an emergency basis

Says sale of fake & unregistered cigarettes should be stopped & these should be seized & destroyed

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has directed the authorities concerned to make the track and trace system fully functional in all sectors, including tobacco, cement, sugar, and fertilizer industries, to prevent tax evasion. Chairing a meeting regarding the track and trace system in Islamabad on Monday, PM

Shehbaz Sharif decided to take measures against tax defaulters and tax evaders on an emergency basis. The Prime Minister instructed to establish an inquiry committee to identify the obstacles in the way of the track and trace system and determine the responsible for that. The committee, in seven days, will identify the obstacles in the way of the complete activation of the track and trace system and the people involved in tax evasion.

PM Shehbaz Sharif said the committee will also submit suggestions on the future strategy for the application of automatic tax system in factories.

The Prime Minister further said all legal hurdles in the way of track and trace system should be removed.

Prime Minister sought a comprehensive plan of action for the enforcement of automatic track and trace system and digital strategy.

He said all such factories which refuse to install track and trace system should be sealed immediately.

In addition to revenue collection, Shehbaz Sharif advised to use the track and trace system to prevent counterfeiting and substandard products.

He directed that the sale of fake and unregistered cigarettes should be stopped and these should be seized and destroyed.

He said country is suffering from economic problems and the mafia is colluding to damage the national exchequer.

The Prime Minister advised to hire services of internationally renowned organizations for the track and trace system.

The meeting was given a detailed briefing on the current status of the automated tax system and obstacles in the way of making this system fully functional in sugar, cement, fertilizer and tobacco industry.

PM, German ambassador discuss ties

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Germany Alfred Grannas called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday and discussed matters of mutual interest. The prime minister thanked German Chancellor Olaf Scholz for sending a congratulatory message to him on his re-election. The prime minister emphasized that Pakistan deeply valued its longstanding ties with Germany and considered it an important partner in Europe.

While noting the positive trajectory of bilateral ties, the prime minister expressed the desire to expand existing level of bilateral trade and investment, stating that there was great potential for enhanced German invest-



ments in Pakistan. The prime minister welcomed the German side's initiative to send a business delegation to visit Pakistan soon and assured the German Ambassador that the delegation would be facilitated in every way to ensure a successful visit.

Data availability vital for better service delivery: Shaza Fatima



VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, on Monday said that availability of data in the digital era is crucial. During a meeting with the Country Director of

Teradata Global Consulting Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd, Haroon Kanth, Shaza Fatima highlighted the significant role of data in decision-making processes. She said that a stable database is essential for enhancing service delivery, emphasizing the importance of a credible database for capacity building within government organizations. Shaza Fatima urged Teradata to collaborate with the Ministry of IT and Telecom to achieve these objectives. In response, Haroon Kanth assured that Teradata is prepared to work closely with the government of Pakistan.

Azam Nazir Tarar assesses prices, facilities at utility store

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazir Tarar, conducted a thorough inspection of a utility store in the provincial capital on Monday, focusing on product quality, facilities, and sales mechanisms. During his visit, Minister Tarar diligently observed the sales activity, assessed the availability of facilities, and scrutinized the stock of discounted products. Engaging with store staff, Minister Tarar inquired about any existing challenges and checked the rate list to ensure transparency. Speaking to the media, he emphasized the government's commitment to prioritizing economic improvement, citing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's leadership as pivotal to the nation's economic progress. Minister Tarar underscored the government's dedication to providing essential facilities, highlighting the announcement of the largest Ramadan package in the country's history. He elaborated on the inclusivity of the package, emphasizing special discounted rates for both Benazir Income Support Program beneficiaries and the general public. APP

Pakistan water crisis become a pressing issue, Jo Moir

By Sohail Majeed Butt

ISLAMABAD: British High Commission, FCDO Development Director, Jo Moir said the FCDO had initiated the journey to understand water and national security challenges of Pakistan and the solutions to resolve it. She added that the programme was relatively new and the FCDO was working out to comprehend Pakistan's situation which was one of the most water stressed country in the world. "We are looking to explore gaps and knowledge resources to fix the issue as in Pakistan water crisis has become a pressing issue and the country's bulging population is over 240 million with five million people added every year. Jo More said 70% of the total population lacked access to clean water, whereas the exports, and growth of industry is to be supported by water. The Tabadlab under its series of roundtables organized the 63rd dialogue titled "Water Con-



flict: Trends and Trajectories for 2024 and Beyond" that showcased a review of numerous studies done on water issues that served as an evidence to growing water scarcity of the country and ways to overcome those challenges. Director, Centre for Regional and Global Connectivity, Tabadlab, Zeeshan Salahuddin while moderating the roundtable informed that the Centre had identified some 26 studies on water related issues and conducted survey interviews to unearth the facts for detailed discourse.

Continued on Page 4

Power struggle causes disarray in PTI's ranks: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Monday said that there was a sheer power struggle within the ranks of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) that may lead to its disintegration or creation of a forward block. Addressing a press conference here, he said that top PTI leaders like Gohar Khan and Sher Afzal Khan were taking contradictory stances on different issues. He regretted the "childish attitude" put up by the PTI which was a national party. Tarar advised the PTI leaders to shun its internal politics and play its due role in strengthening the economy. Lambasting the PTI, he said sometimes they wrote a letter to the IMF, but sometimes asked the European Union to investigate the election process in Pakistan. If they had any complaint, they should knock the door of the Election Commission of Pakistan or Election Tribunals, he said.

He said once they were accusing the US of toppling the PTI government, now they had hired lobbying firms in the United States. The minister said that American diplomat Donald Lu had called the PTI founder as a "certified liar". He urged the PTI leaders to join mainstream politics and contribute to the nation building process. "We need to create unity and consensus at the national political scenario", he opined. The minister said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the government was fully committed to the agenda of economic reforms. He said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was holding meetings on the economy on a daily basis as the government's focus was on solving the people's problems. "We are focusing on measures like privatization, reduction of government expenditure, tax reforms, digitization of FBR, expansion of tax net and reduction



of tax burden on the poor segments of the society." He said that for the first time in the history, taxpayers would be honored with awards in the coming days. "The government of Pakistan will, for the first time, give awards to businessmen who increase the tax volume," he remarked. He said that in this regard, there would be a formal ceremony at the Prime Minister's House soon. The process of economic reforms is continued at a rapid pace, he added. Tarar said that to provide relief to the people during Ramadan, the Prime Minister had assigned the duties of ministers across the country. He said yesterday and today also federal ministers visited the utility stores and reviewed the arrangements to ensure relief to the masses. He said that a road map was being made and all measures were being taken to improve the country's economy as the focus of the PM was on economic reforms. Besides economic revival, he told that eradication of terrorism from the country was also the top priority of the incumbent regime. He said that in the past, the PML-N government under the leadership of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif established peace and now peace would be established

under the leadership of Shehbaz Sharif. Paying homage to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the country, he said, "in the war against terrorism, we have full confidence in the security forces, armed forces and police and law enforcement agencies", he maintained. He said Gwadar Port Authority was attacked and responsibility for this attack was accepted by the Balochistan Liberation Army. The terrorist Karim Jan killed during the attack on the Gwadar Port Authority was included in the missing persons list, the minister added and said, when Karim Jan's body was handed over to the heirs, it transpired that he was declared a missing person from August 2022, he noted. The minister said that it was very alarming that the BLA terrorist was involved in the Gwadar Port Authority attack, but the campaign was being conducted for

two years by dubbing him as a missing person. He said that these were very sensitive matters, adding that Gwadar was a commercial hub, part of CPEC, and attack on it was an attack on the national economy. The minister assured that the government would play its full role for establishing peace in the country. To a query, the minister said the Governor Punjab had decided on the matter related to the fee of Ahad Cheema's children in accordance with the law. On the occasion, he underlined the need for promoting inter-faith harmony in the country by discouraging sectarianism. The minister said that he had directed the officers concerned to ensure that more funds should be allocated in the next financial budget for the health insurance programme of journalists and media workers. APP

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No room to manoeuvre

ALMAZIA SHAHZAD

Even though the prospects of stable governance are far and bleak, the government must keep running and soon there will be chatter surrounding the budget.

Government revenues only cover around 60 per cent of total expenditures, with a fairly rigid fiscal spending structure and significant untapped potential sources of revenues.

Each of the three dimensions feed into one another to magnify the problem. Almost 80 per cent of the total spending is pre-committed obligations of the government in form of interest payments, salaries of government employees and pensions, defence, subsidies and grants.

In FY2023, these payments were 36 per cent of the government's expenditure, and are even higher at 45 per cent in H1 of FY2024.

Considering that there is no way out of meeting the interest liabilities or salaries of employees, dare we touch the subject of pensions and defence, at the very least expenditure on subsidies and grants merit a review.

Government revenues only cover around 60 per cent of total expenditures

the state-owned enterprises (SEOs) and the energy sector: gas and petroleum. Multiple policy papers have asserted that these are regressive, ineffective and distortive expenses which add about 13 per cent to the government's burden.

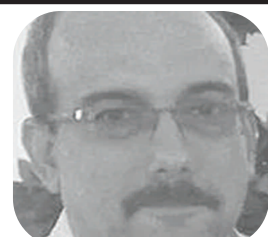
On the revenue side of the government's balance sheet, the highly skewed tax system creates distortions in the market, directing resources to unproductive investments. Under taxation of the real-estate sector has made it more profitable for firms and individuals to invest in property relative to the manufacturing sector in tradeable goods.

Ignoring the nuances of the matter, in non-technical terms, high levels of bank borrowing are facilitated through printing money which causes inflation. Higher inflation lowers the real value of household income, acting as a tax.

What in fact has happened to the economy is the crowding out of private investment through the banking sector, allocation of capital to unproductive sectors, minimal expense on human development and the debt burden reaching alarmingly high levels.

Unfortunately, our policymaking process is constrained by use of fiscal policy for economic growth rather than enhancing the economy's productivity capacity for gains and a short-term vision.

The writer is a research and teaching fellow at the Lahore School of Economics, and previously worked as an assistant director at the State Bank of Pakistan.



Dr Naazir Mahmood

The hopeful future of the Supreme Court

It is a new day in a new Supreme Court of Pakistan (SCP). Led by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, the SCP now appears to be making noble efforts to reintroduce some order into our judicial system.

Not that there was no order previously, but the steps that some of the former chief justices took betrayed their innocence.

On March 22, the Supreme Court set aside the dismissal of former Islamabad High Court (IHC) judge Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui, and by doing so added another feather to its cap. Just to recap: in January this year, a five-member bench including the CJ and Justices Aminuddin Khan, Jamal Mandokhel, Syed Hasan Rizvi, and Irfan Saadat reserved its verdict on Siddiqui's plea against his removal.

Credit goes to the court for broadcasting the proceedings of the case live on the SC's website. The former judge had challenged a decision by the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), dismissing him from service.

It is worth recalling that right after assuming power in 2018, the PTI government and its leader, Imran Khan, initiated a relentless attempt to acquire absolute power by crushing the opposition and intimidating other state organs.

Even the SJC, willingly or unwillingly, appeared to be toeing the official line. Accusations against Justice Siddiqui revolved around a speech he delivered at the Rawalpindi Bar Association. A major charge against Justice Siddiqui was that he had accused intelligence services of influencing the court proceedings and forming benches of choice.

In the 1950s, the CJ Munir-led Supreme Court that Chief Justice

Munir led set the tone for the future line of action that successive chief justices followed - of course, barring a few exceptions. In the 1960s, CJ AR Cornelius, otherwise a decent judge, could not stand up against the wrongdoings of the first military dictator of Pakistan, General Ayub Khan.

In the 1970s, Justice Hamoodur Rehman, again not a bad judge, wrote the daring Hamoodur Rehman Commission Report exposing the misdeeds of military action in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) that led to the breakup of the country in 1971.

In the 1980s, Justice Haleem, so far the longest-serving chief justice of Pakistan, did not challenge the usurper General Zia in any significant way. He did not object to the sham referendum and the unlawful imposition of the eighth amendment in the country.

In the 2000s, Justice Irshad Hasan Khan emerged as yet another judge who could not resist, or willingly accepted, military intervention.

Then the Imran Khan project of the 2010s had full support from many serving and retired generals who had like-minded judges in the courts. So given this background, when Justice Siddiqui levelled certain accusations against some officers, ideally there should have been a thorough investigation.

decision against him by the SJC in 2018, just weeks after the PTI assumed office.

Siddiqui nominated seven individuals in his amended plea, including the former chief of army staff and two retired brigadiers. The SC remarked that these three army officers had no direct connection with the case.

It is true that spymasters all over the world indulge in political shenanigans not only in their own countries but also in other countries. They make frequent attempts to dent people's freedom and democratic processes, while also trespassing into the judicial domain.

On various occasions, many of our high-level officers have displayed a particular type of self-deception that was not always in good faith.

In February 2024, a 23-page statement that Gen Faiz and Irfan Ramay submitted to the SC through their counsel, Khawaja Haris, said that the constitution does not provide for the continuation of the SJC proceedings against judges who either resigned from office or retired on reaching superannuation prior to the conclusion of such proceedings.

In the final verdict, the SC says the SJC's opinion about Siddiqui's dismissal and the subsequent notification issued on Oct 11, 2018 have been set aside. Though several of Justice Siddiqui's observations on various occasions are questionable, he deserved an impartial hearing, and the delay that occurred in the hearing and decision was inordinate,

leading to his superannuation. A judge of a high court retires at 62 years of age, and an early decision on the petitions could have saved Siddiqui a lot of trouble and humiliation.

The apex court has rightly observed that the failure to abide by the fundamental right of due process resulted in the unfair treatment of Siddiqui, and it was wrongly assumed that he was making false allegations.

Now this country and all its institutions must realize that if any allegations become known to the public, it is unfair to punish the whistleblower for highlighting wrongdoings at the highest level.

In this particular case, the SJC did not even state what misconduct Justice Siddiqui was guilty of, apart from speaking publicly, which is not a crime.

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Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect The Asian Telegraph's point-of-view

Today in History

History of Pakistan



According to this theory the safety of India's Muslim minority would be ensured by turning the Hindu minority in the proposed Pakistan into a 'hostage' population who would be visited by retributive violence if Muslims in India were harmed.

Muslim League won 425 out of 496 seats reserved for Muslims, polling 89.2% of the total votes.

Muslims, especially those Muslims who were living in provinces where they were a minority. The 1946 election in British India was essentially a plebiscite among Indian Muslims over the creation of Pakistan.

unity the British arranged the Cabinet Mission Plan.[27] According to this plan India would be kept united but would be heavily decentralised with separate groupings of autonomous Hindu and Muslim majority provinces.

To be continued....

Showbiz

Tech

Gwyneth Paltrow confesses she cares less of what people think after turning 50

Gwyneth Paltrow on binge-watching reality TV genre during her slow days in a new interview

Gwyneth Paltrow has recently confessed she cares less of what people have to say about her after turning 50. In a new interview with Sunday Times, the Iron Man star said, "I don't care, I've turned 50, I don't care what anybody thinks."

Paltrow revealed she focused on eating well, balancing her gut health and looking out what went into her mouth. However, there are times when she just wanted to curl up on the sofa ordered take-out and binge-watched reality TV.

"I love on a Sunday to not do anything, watch rubbish TV and not make dinner and order in food. I really need one slovenly day," stated the Great



Expectations actress. Addressing reality TV, Paltrow shared she found out about reality show during the pandemic, mentioning her

favourites which included Love Is Blind and Love On The Spectrum. "It's a slippery slope," said the actress about watching reality TV genre. Earlier in November 2023, Paltrow spilled the tea on various wellness rituals as she played a game of "Slay or Nay" on social media.

Lunar Eclipse 2024: This is what Worm Moon celestial show means for your zodiac signs

A radiant Worm Moon is set to shine in the sky on Monday along with a celestial show for people seeking out for a penumbral lunar eclipse. Referred to as the Worm Moon by the Farmers' Almanac due to its proximity to the spring equinox, March's full moon will be at its fullest at 3am ET.

Cancer; Let go of any unnecessary belongings as you decorate, allowing for a sense of lightness in your home. Leo; It might be a good time to try practicing positive affirmations, if you've been experiencing fluctuations in your confidence.

Beware gamers: Video games can make you blind sooner than you think

Video games are not only harmful for professionals but affect everyone

Video games remain a popular leisure activity in the fast-evolving digital entertainment landscape, drawing millions into increasingly sophisticated and realistic gaming environments.

as gamers were surveyed and a striking correlation between long gaming sessions and increased reports of physical ailments such as eye fatigue, neck and back pain, and wrist and hand discomfort was found.

across all demographics, including different age groups and genders, as well as among casual and aspiring professional gamers, according to researchers. The adverse physical effects of gaming are not isolated to a specific demographic or type of gamer, as suggested by the findings.



منگل 26 مارچ 2024ء

پنجاب اسمبلی، نازیبا اشاروں پر عظمیٰ بخاری کا واک آؤٹ

لاہور (پہلو رپورٹ) پنجاب اسمبلی میں اجلاس کے دوران اپوزیشن کے نازیبا اشاروں پر صوبائی وزیر اطلاعات عظمیٰ بخاری نے واک آؤٹ کر دیا۔ نازیبا اشاروں کے معاملے پر انکوٹری کا حکم دے دیا۔ سالانہ صوبائی بجٹ اسمبلی کا اجلاس 24-2023 عام بجٹ کے لیے پنجاب اسمبلی کا اجلاس ڈپٹی اسپیکر ظہیر چوہدری کی صدارت میں 22 مارچ 2023ء کو شروع ہوا۔ اجلاس کے دوران اپوزیشن اراکین نے بائیں جانب بانی تحریک انصاف کی رہائی کے سلسلے میں ہونے والے احتجاجی مظاہرے کی طرف اشارے کیے۔



اسلام آباد، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی زیر صدارت اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس جاری ہے۔

سپریم کورٹ، ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کیخلاف مقدمہ مات واپس لینے کی یقین دہانی

پاکستان میں میڈیا صحافیوں کیساتھ کیا ہوا، اس پر کئی بار لکھی جاسکتی ہیں، ہم بھی جانتے ہیں کہ ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کیخلاف مقدمہ مات واپس لینے کی یقین دہانی

اسلام آباد (پہلو رپورٹ) سپریم کورٹ میں وفاقی تحقیقاتی ادارے (ایف آئی اے) کی جانب سے صحافیوں کو جاری کیے گئے مقدموں کی سماعت کے دوران چیف جسٹس قاضی فائز عیسیٰ نے فیصلہ سناتے ہوئے کہا کہ ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کے خلاف مقدمے کو واپس لیا جائے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کے خلاف مقدمے کو واپس لینے کے لیے ایف آئی اے کو ہدایت کی جائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کے خلاف مقدمے کو واپس لینے کے لیے ایف آئی اے کو ہدایت کی جائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایف آئی اے کی صحافیوں کے خلاف مقدمے کو واپس لینے کے لیے ایف آئی اے کو ہدایت کی جائے گی۔

عمران خان اور بشری کے پروڈکشن آرڈر جاری، 4 اپریل کو عدالت طلب

اسلام آباد (پہلو رپورٹ) ڈسٹرکٹ ایجنڈیشن کورٹس اسلام آباد کی عدالت نے عمران خان اور بشری کیخلاف پروڈکشن آرڈر جاری کر دیے۔ عدالت نے کہا کہ عمران خان اور بشری کو 4 اپریل کو عدالت طلب کیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ عمران خان اور بشری کے خلاف پروڈکشن آرڈر جاری کر دیے گئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ عمران خان اور بشری کو 4 اپریل کو عدالت طلب کیا جائے گا۔

راولپنڈی کو بڑا مسئلہ تجاوزات، مزید نرمی نہیں کر سکتے، کمشنر راولپنڈی

راولپنڈی ڈویژن میں اب تک 280,822 مستحقین نگہبان رشن چیک سے مستفید ہوئے، 118 پرائس جموش کو شوکار نوش دیا گیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ راولپنڈی ڈویژن میں اب تک 280,822 مستحقین نگہبان رشن چیک سے مستفید ہوئے، 118 پرائس جموش کو شوکار نوش دیا گیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ راولپنڈی ڈویژن میں اب تک 280,822 مستحقین نگہبان رشن چیک سے مستفید ہوئے، 118 پرائس جموش کو شوکار نوش دیا گیا ہے۔

ماسکو، کنسرٹ پر حملہ کر نیوالے 4 ملزمان پرفرہ جرم عائد

ماسکو (پہلو رپورٹ) روس کے دار الحکومت ماسکو کے کراچی میں ہال میں کنسرٹ پر حملہ کرنے والے 4 ملزمان کو پرفرہ جرم عائد کیا گیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ماسکو کے کراچی میں ہال میں کنسرٹ پر حملہ کرنے والے 4 ملزمان کو پرفرہ جرم عائد کیا گیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ماسکو کے کراچی میں ہال میں کنسرٹ پر حملہ کرنے والے 4 ملزمان کو پرفرہ جرم عائد کیا گیا۔



ذریعہ بلدیاتی ارشد ایڈیٹوریل کونسل بورڈ ملازمین کی پیشین ہارے اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں

تمام سرکاری دفاتر شہر سے باہر منتقل ہونے چاہئیں، خواجہ آصف

ذریعہ اعلیٰ پنجاب سے ملاقات کے بعد خواجہ آصف نے کہا کہ تمام سرکاری دفاتر شہر سے باہر منتقل ہونے چاہئیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ تمام سرکاری دفاتر شہر سے باہر منتقل ہونے چاہئیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ تمام سرکاری دفاتر شہر سے باہر منتقل ہونے چاہئیں۔

فتح جنگ، قصابوں کی من مانیاں، گوشت ناپید، مرضی کا ریت مقرر، انتظامیہ خاموش

شہر میں گوشت کا معیوی بحران پیدا، قصابوں کی من مانیاں، گوشت ناپید، مرضی کا ریت مقرر، انتظامیہ خاموش۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ شہر میں گوشت کا معیوی بحران پیدا، قصابوں کی من مانیاں، گوشت ناپید، مرضی کا ریت مقرر، انتظامیہ خاموش۔

وزیر اعظم کیس کی قیمت میں اضافے پر برہم، اوگرا کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لینے کا فیصلہ

ایران پاکستان گیس پائپ لائن منصوبہ کی مانیٹرنگ کیلئے فوری طور پر بین الوزارتی کمیشن قائم کیا جائے، شہباز شریف، ضروری نہیں سوئی گیس نے جتنا اضافہ مانگا اتنا دیدیا جائے، تمام پہلو دیکھیں گے، چیئرمین اوگرا

اسلام آباد (پہلو رپورٹ) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے وزیر اعظم کیس کی قیمت میں اضافے پر برہم ہوئے اور اوگرا کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لینے کا فیصلہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اوگرا کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لینے کا فیصلہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اوگرا کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لینے کا فیصلہ کیا۔

سینیٹ انتخابات، قوم اسمبلی کا جلا س یکم اپریل کو بلانے کا فیصلہ

اجلاس میں دو اپریل کو سینیٹ انتخابات سے متعلق منظوری لی جائے گی، قومی اسمبلی ہال پولنگ اسٹیشن میں تہذیبیاً کیا جائے گا، وزارت پارلیمانی امور نے سری وزیر اعظم ہاؤس کو ہدایت کی

اسلام آباد، پشاور، راولپنڈی، کوئٹہ، گلگت بلتستان، خیبر پختونخوا، آزاد کشمیر اور قبائلی علاقوں کے اجلاس کے لیے قومی اسمبلی ہال پولنگ اسٹیشن میں تہذیبیاً کیا جائے گا۔ وزارت پارلیمانی امور نے سری وزیر اعظم ہاؤس کو ہدایت کی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سینیٹ انتخابات سے متعلق منظوری لی جائے گی۔

عمران خان اور بشری کے پروڈکشن آرڈر جاری، 4 اپریل کو عدالت طلب

اسلام آباد (پہلو رپورٹ) ڈسٹرکٹ ایجنڈیشن کورٹس اسلام آباد کی عدالت نے عمران خان اور بشری کیخلاف پروڈکشن آرڈر جاری کر دیے۔ عدالت نے کہا کہ عمران خان اور بشری کو 4 اپریل کو عدالت طلب کیا جائے گا۔

پی ٹی آئی اداروں کو خط لکھنے کے بجائے ایکشن ٹریبونل میں جائے، عطاء تارڑ

گورنر پروٹ اتھارٹی جسٹس مارے جاہنجا، ڈسٹرکٹ جج کراچی کے بجائے ایکشن ٹریبونل میں جائے، عطاء تارڑ۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی اداروں کو خط لکھنے کے بجائے ایکشن ٹریبونل میں جائے۔

اسلام آباد (شٹاف رپورٹ) وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات عطا تارڑ نے پی ٹی آئی اداروں کے خلاف خط لکھنے کے بجائے ایکشن ٹریبونل میں جائے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی اداروں کو خط لکھنے کے بجائے ایکشن ٹریبونل میں جائے۔

جرم پیشہ عناصر کیخلاف کارروائی، ایڈیٹیو سنگرسیت 15 ملزمان گرفتار

راولپنڈی (شٹاف رپورٹ) راولپنڈی پولیس نے جرم پیشہ عناصر کیخلاف کارروائی کی۔ 15 ملزمان گرفتار کیے گئے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ راولپنڈی پولیس نے جرم پیشہ عناصر کیخلاف کارروائی کی۔

کیاس ملکی معیشت کا پھیر چلانے میں کلیدی کردار، افتخار علی سہو

عمر زراعت، کاشتکاروں کی محنت کے باعث کزشتہ برس کیاس کی پیداوار میں 30 لاکھ ٹن اضافہ ہوا، بیکٹری زراعت پنجاب معیشت کا پھیر چلانے میں کلیدی کردار، افتخار علی سہو۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ عمر زراعت، کاشتکاروں کی محنت کے باعث کزشتہ برس کیاس کی پیداوار میں 30 لاکھ ٹن اضافہ ہوا۔

بلوچستان ٹروپ میں نزلے کے جھٹکے شدت 4.8 ریکارڈ

ڈوب (تعمیر پاکستان) بلوچستان کے علاقے ڈوب میں نزلے کے جھٹکے شدت 4.8 ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بلوچستان ٹروپ میں نزلے کے جھٹکے شدت 4.8 ریکارڈ کی گئی۔

انتخابات میں سیٹ نہ جیتنے والی جماعت مخصوص نشستوں کی اہلی نہیں، پشاور ہائیکورٹ

پشاور ہائیکورٹ نے جماعتوں کو مخصوص نشستوں کی اہلی نہیں ہونے کی ہدایت کی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جماعتوں کو مخصوص نشستوں کی اہلی نہیں ہونے کی ہدایت کی۔

KSrelief distributes 5,000 Ramadan packages in Punjab, completing aid mission



VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief) completed the distribution of 5000 food packages across four districts of Punjab in Ramadan.

In an unwavering commitment to address the pressing nutritional needs of the residents of Punjab, (KSrelief) has initiated the distribution of 5000 essential food packages across four districts – Muzaffargarh, Kotaddu, Rajanpur and Rahimyar Khan in Punjab. Each package, weighing 97 kg, contains essential food items to support a family for an entire month of Ramadan. The contents comprise 80kg of flour, 5 litres of cooking oil, 5kg of sugar, 2kg dates and 5kg of Daal Chana. Around 35,000 individuals across these four districts will be benefitting with this humanitarian effort. The project is being executed with collaboration with the National Disaster Management, local governments, and implemented through the coordinated efforts of KSrelief and its partner organization Hayat Foundation.

Sirajul Haq in a letter to Russian President expresses his utmost condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack on Crocus City Hall in Moscow

Says we stand in solidarity with the govt of Russia in all their efforts to keep their country secure & peaceful

LAHORE: Emir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Sirajul Haq on behalf of the Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan has expressed his utmost condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack on Crocus City Hall in Moscow. Sirajul Haq has written letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday.

"On behalf of Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan, I express my utmost condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack on Crocus City Hall in Moscow" Sirajul Haq wrote. Sirajul Haq wrote "We share the grief of the bereaved families, and of the people of Russia in general. Our thoughts are with those who lost their loved ones in this ruthless attack. We stand in solidarity with the government of Russia in all their efforts to keep their country secure and peaceful". SABAH

Inflation, improvement of trade major challenges: Jam Kamal Khan

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Monday said that the control over increasing inflation and improvement of trade in the country were big challenges for the incumbent government. He said that the federal government was seriously contemplating the current situation and would address it in the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. While talking to media during his visit to pay homage to father of the nation Quaid-e-Azam

Mohammed Ali Jinnah at the mausoleum, he said that the federal and provincial governments would have to jointly address the challenge of rampant inflation.

He said that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had set conditions under that the government could not provide subsidy. The Federal Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan said that the governments would have to make efforts for balancing supply and demand chain to provide relief to the people. APP



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh is Presented with memento during his visiting Pakistan National Shipping Corporation(PNSC).

Pakistan water crisis become...

Continued from Page 1

The issue of water conflicts was divided into three different categories of transnational, inter-provincial and local, he added. The first transnational study on Kabul River was presented by Policy Analyst, Tabadlab, Memoona Mohsin. She noted that despite the fact that Kabul River was shared between Pakistan and Afghanistan, there was lack of comprehensive water sharing treaty.

Moreover, out of the nine rivers that flow across the border none have formal agreement and treatment between the two countries, she added. She noted that lack of any treaty could trigger any conflict on water in the future. On the Inter-provincial: Kala Bagh Dam, Haleema Abbasi said the environmental concerns associated with Kala Bagh Dam were irreversible for Indus River ecosystems with a plethora of climate change impacts that would create provincial tensions like arbitrary water allocations by Punjab, mistrust of the government and inadequate advocacy efforts. She added that there was a need to clearly define the National Water Law and upgrade the national water policy and water charter 2018. On the local study on Ghazi Barotha by Maheen said it

was the only project where the local communities affected by this run of river project were successfully managed and the key element was Ghazi Barotha Tarqiati Idara which was a dedicated project NGO that developed benefit sharing focus and advocated among the communities on the project. In the second part, during the panel discussion, Climate Change and Communications Consultant, Afia Salam said Pakistan's geographical locations moved it towards solutions and way forward despite its disaster prone terrain and vulnerability due to climate change. She said amid rapid rate of urbanization in the country, there was a need for relocation of water resources to the provinces with more migration to its urban areas.

"Population is not discussed in many contexts and the social fabric unraveling because of it as everything revolves around population like increase in it will lead to deterioration of other ecosystems," she added. Water Resource Specialist, World Bank, Basharat Saeed said the disputes and disagreements on water leading to protracted conflicts were archaic, whereas the agreement, terms of engagement, use of vernacular, respect for data and outcomes was crucial to implement decisive policies.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Science & Technology Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui is chairing a meeting at PCSIR Laboratories Complex.

President Zardari appreciates performance of Wafaqi Mohtasib & urges the need to take further steps to enhance its outreach

Wafaqi Mohtasib Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi presents the Annual Report of the Federal Ombudsman to President Zardari

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has appreciated the performance of the Wafaqi Mohtasib and urged the need to take further steps to enhance its outreach so that the maximum number of people could benefit of its services. Meanwhile the Wafaqi Mohtasib of Pakistan has processed a record 194,099 complaints against the maladministration of government departments in 2023, which is 18% higher than the previous year. Out of these, 193,028 complaints were disposed of which is 22% higher than the year 2022.

This was reported by the Wafaqi Mohtasib, Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi, who called on President Asif Ali Zardari and presented the Annual Report of the Federal Ombudsman, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Monday.

The Mohtasib briefed the President about the performance and initiatives taken by the Federal Ombudsman. He said that the Ombudsman was providing speedy and free-of-cost justice to the complainants against the maladministration of various government departments. He informed that 49,190 complaints were received online in 2023, which was an increase of 47% from last year. He added that 22,321 complaints were received through the Mobile App, showing an increase of 21% as compared to the year 2022. He stated that the Ombudsman was using the latest technology to help in the speedy redressal of cases and



to enhance its outreach to the people in remote areas of the country.

The Mohtasib highlighted that the opening of new regional offices, holding of Khuli Katcheries, launching of the Informal Resolution of Disputes mechanism, and visits of Mohtasib's inspection teams had helped in addressing complaints, besides leading to

an increase in the registration of complaints. He further said that the office of Overseas Pakistanis in the Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat had processed a record 202,367 complaints received through Pakistan Missions abroad, and One Window Facilitation Desks at all international airports of the country. SABAH

Mohsin Naqvi greets Hindu community on Holi



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotic Control Mohsin Naqvi on Monday sent greetings to the Hindu community on the festival of Holi.

"Happy Holi to the Hindu community living in Pakistan" he wrote in his message and heard a set of intra-court appeals (ICAs) against its October 23, 2023 unanimous ruling nullifying the military trials of civilians.

The case pertains to the trial of 103 civilians for their alleged role in attacks on army installations during the riots that followed ex-premier Imran Khan's arrest on May 9 last year. The appeals against the verdict had been filed by the then-caretaker federal government as well as the provincial ones in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. Sindh had denied filing a purported plea on the same matter and was not included among the petitions taken up earlier. The defence ministry had also moved an ICA, requesting the apex court to suspend the verdict's operation during the pendency of the appeal. In January, a petition was filed by Faisal Siddiqui Advocate on behalf of

People of Pakistan & Turkiye are bound to each other in the relationship of Islamic brotherhood: Nawaz

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb also holds meeting with Maryam Nawaz

LAHORE: Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan, Mehmet Pacaci, called on Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif and PML-N Quaid Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in Lahore on Monday. They discussed issues of mutual interest and increasing cooperation in various fields. PML-N Quaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif said that the people of Pakistan and Turkiye are bound to each other in the relationship of Islamic brotherhood.

Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz said Pakistan and Turkiye want to increase cooperation in commercial, economic and other fields. She said that the Punjab Government will provide all possible facilities to Turkish investors for

investment in the province.

On the occasion, Turkish ambassador assured to increase cooperation with Punjab government in various fields.

Meanwhile Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz in Lahore on Monday. During the meeting, they discussed country's economic situation besides matters of mutual interest. The Finance Minister felicitated Maryam Nawaz on assuming charge as first woman Chief Minister of the province, terming it a milestone. He also appreciated Punjab Chief Minister's measures for social welfare. SABAH

Apex Court seeks details of the military trials of 103 civilians for their alleged involvement in the violent events of May 9

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Monday sought details of the military trials of civilians for their alleged involvement in the violent events of May 9.

A six-member larger bench — led by Justice Aminuddin Khan and including Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Syed Azhar Hasan Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Musarrat Hilali and Justice Irfan Saadat Khan — heard a set of intra-court appeals (ICAs) against its October 23, 2023 unanimous ruling nullifying the military trials of civilians.

The case pertains to the trial of 103 civilians for their alleged role in attacks on army installations during the riots that followed ex-premier Imran Khan's arrest on May 9 last year. The appeals against the verdict had been filed by the then-caretaker federal government as well as the provincial ones in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. Sindh had denied filing a purported plea on the same matter and was not included among the petitions taken up earlier. The defence ministry had also moved an ICA, requesting the apex court to suspend the verdict's operation during the pendency of the appeal. In January, a petition was filed by Faisal Siddiqui Advocate on behalf of

some of those challenging the trials to restrain federal and provincial governments from engaging a private counsel to plead the matter.

At the last hearing on Jan 29, Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, who has since retired, referred the ICAs back to a three-judge committee for the constitution of a larger bench.

On March 19, former CJP Jawwad S. Khawaja, who is one of the petitioners to challenge the military trials, had requested the apex court for an early hearing of the appeals, contending that the continued presence of civilians in military custody was "beyond compensation".

On Monday, Khawaja Ahmad Hosain appeared before the court as the counsel for ex-CJP Jawwad S. Khawaja while Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan and KP Additional Advocate General (AAG) Syed Kausar Ali Shah were also present. Salman Akram Raja and Faisal Siddiqui appeared as the counsels for their clients who had challenged the trials while Barrister Chauhdry Aitzaz Ahsan, who was also one of the petitioners, was also present. The KP government requested the court to withdraw its appeal against the Oct 23 verdict, presenting a reso-

lution passed by the provincial cabinet.

The SC ordered AGP Awan to furnish the details of the verdicts reserved by the military courts till March 28 and adjourned the hearing till then.

At the outset of the hearing, Justice (ret'd) Khawaja's counsel objected to the size of the bench. "103 suspects are in custody. Their families want to observe the case proceedings," Khawaja Ahmad Hosain said, urging the court to allow the suspects' families to be present for the proceedings. To this, Justice Aminuddin Khan replied that the courtroom was fully occupied, adding, "There is no objection on [the families] coming to the court; we will look at this matter."

Justice (ret'd) Jawwad Khawaja's counsel further requested the SC to constitute a nine-member larger bench to hear the appeals. Khawaja Ahmad Hosain argued that his client had sought the same in his petition. "It is my request to the court to urge the SC committee to constitute a nine-member bench," he said.

At this point during the hearing, the KP government urged the court to allow it to withdraw its appeal against the Oct 23 verdict, presenting a resolution passed by the provincial cabinet.

"We want to withdraw the intra-court appeal," the KP AAG said, at which the court noted that the plea could not be withdrawn based on a cabinet resolution and told the lawyer to file an official application.

During the hearing, the petitioners challenging the military trials also objected to a private counsel pleading the matter. Faisal Siddiqui said the AGP had filed five ICAs and "certain ministries" had sought the services of private counsels. "The AGP himself has filed the appeals so why should the public's money be spent on private counsels?" he asked.

Ex-CJP Khawaja's counsel urged the court to refer the case back to the judges' committee to reconstitute the bench. Khawaja Ahmad Hosain recalled that his petition had sought the same earlier.

"If a nine-member bench was formed earlier, then a hearing on the appeals would not have been possible today," Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar observed.

Khawaja Ahmad Hosain argued that as a five-member bench had nullified the military trials of civilians, a 4-2 verdict of a six-member bench striking down the Oct 23 ruling would make the verdict "controversial". SABAH

Khalid Maqbool vows to play proactive role for improving education in Sindh

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Science and Technology Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, Monday said that federal government will play proactive role for improvement of education sector in Sindh with an aim of creating job opportunities for the youth.

The minister while talking to media persons during visit of Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) Laboratory Complex Karachi said that a large chunk of country's population was consisted of youth and ministry of Science and Technology was ready to take measures in coordination with the provincial government for training the youth in skills required in the global market.

All the organizations working under the ambit of MoST as well as higher education institutions will start technical courses for secondary and higher secondary students having proficiency in subjects of English and Mathematics, he said and added that after the skill building the trained students will be able to acquire jobs around the world.

"It will not be brain drain but actually it will be brain train" as they will be able to practically contribute in development of the country, he said and elaborated that highly skilled workers from Pakistan will not only send precious foreign exchange to the homeland but they will also get the first hand knowledge of latest developments in different fields.

Stressing the need of unified efforts to deal with challenges confronted by the country Khalid Maqbool said that we may steer the nation out of crisis if every stakeholder prioritize state over political or individual motives. We have to set our direction towards an inclusive and participatory democratic approach by going into the masses for strengthening the democratic system in the country, he opined and added that his party was playing a constructive role to bring democratic stability in the country.

Responding to a query the minister stated that the people of Karachi have given the mandate to his party once again and MQM-Pakistan has joined the coalition government for bringing political stability in the country. His party neither put forward nomination for the post of Sindh Governor nor they have demanded certain ministries in the federal cabinet, he clarified on a question. However, it was our point of view that if Chief Minister of the province belongs to rural areas then Governor should be from the urban populace, he added.

The minister, on a query about financial issues particularly non payment of salaries to PCSIR employees, assured prompt measures for resolving the issue. Earlier, the federal minister visited various sections of the laboratory complex received briefing on functions of the council and facilities available at the complex. The minister was briefed that PCSIR is mandated to conduct quality tests and issue certification that is recognized nationally and internationally. The meeting was informed that council was facilitating regulatory bodies, industries and small and medium enterprises through its different research centers in various fields including pharmaceutical, food and marine resources, applied Chemistry, environment, applied Physics, computer and instrumentation and engineering. APP