



Approved the appointment of retired Justices Sardar Tariq Masood and Mazhar Alam Khan Miankhel as ad hoc judges of the Supreme Court of Pakistan for a one year term

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Price Rs 8 | Pages 4

## AI Policy to be presented before Cabinet for approval next month: Ahsan Iqbal



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said the final draft of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy would be presented to the Federal Cabinet for approval in August.

Addressing a meeting of the Special Task Force on Artificial Intelligence, he directed the quarters concerned to complete the consultation process with all stakeholders as soon as possible, according to a news release.

He highlighted the importance of AI in the modern era, saying "Artificial intelligence is not the future but the present reality in the world," and highlighted it as an essential tool for advancement in multiple fields. The minister recalled that it was the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government that established the National Center for Artificial Intelligence in 2017 and the National Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in 2023. "We have created National Centers for Excellence in Advanced Technologies under Vision 2025 and linked each centre to engineering labs in eight to ten universities," he added.

Had these centres not been established on time, Ahsan Iqbal said the country would have been left far behind in this field. He noted that in the past, inconsistencies in various policies had hindered development activities and the uplift of the national economy. Under a conspiracy, he said, the nation's self-confidence had been eroded, with some elements causing serious damage to its image abroad, contrary to the true depiction of an intelligent and hardworking nation.

Whenever Pakistan's economic progress began to gain momentum, he said, some elements appeared to obstruct it. Now, he added, with the initiation of the second phase of the Pakistan-China Economic Corridor (CPEC), the "characters of riot and anarchy" were active once again.

During Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to China, the minister said the brotherly country pledged to provide IT training to 200,000 Pakistani youth, equipping them with the skills needed to meet modern challenges. He said the world was developing rapidly in various aspects of artificial intelligence, and Pakistan has to catch its pace.

He noted that some countries were not granting visas to Pakistani students for education in modern technology, but "we will obtain modern technology at any cost." He asked to share recommendations from the task force with the provinces; expressing confidence that artificial intelligence would lead to revolutionary health, education, finance and agriculture results. Ahsan Iqbal announced that experts from across Pakistan would be invited to participate in a National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, which will be organised soon. "Pakistan will emerge as an IT and information power in the world."

He questioned why Pakistani youth could not develop successful platforms like social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter.



BEIJING: Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue and Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Laghari Minister for Energy (Power Division) held meeting with Mr. Wang Weidong Vice President, China Development Bank.

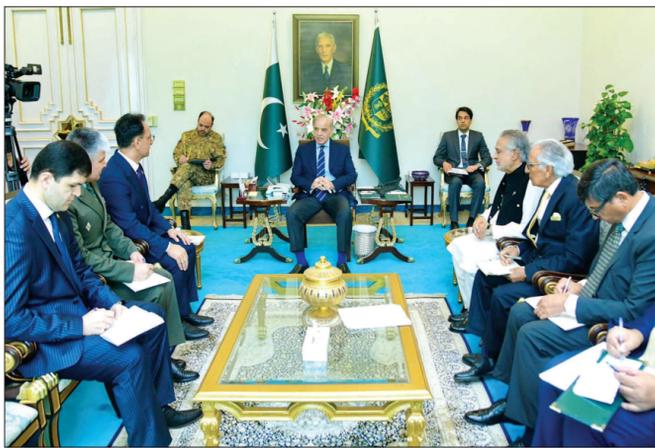
## Ambassador of Tajikistan calls on PM Shehbaz Sharif

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Tajikistan to Pakistan Sharifzoda Yusuf Toir Friday paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at the PM House. The prime minister welcomed the ambassador and wished him a successful tenure in Pakistan. While fondly recalling his recent visit to Dushanbe earlier this month, the prime minister said he was touched by the warm welcome extended to him and hailed the friendly and productive discussions with President Emomali Rahmon during the visit. Expressing satisfaction at the MoUs/agreements signed between the two sides during his visit, PM Shehbaz Sharif urged that timely implementation and follow up would help to strengthen bilateral ties even further.

He renewed his invitation to President Rahmon to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his earliest convenience, while adding that Pakistan was looking forward to Tajikistan's participation in the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad in October this year.

The Tajik Ambassador briefed the prime minister on a number of proposals aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation in various



fields including education, agriculture and defence as well as connectivity through land and air routes.

While noting the proposals, the prime minister tasked relevant ministries to get in touch with the Tajik Ambassador for further discussions. Regional connectivity projects

including CASA-1000, also came under discussion.

The Tajik Ambassador thanked the prime minister for receiving him, conveyed greetings of his President to him and expressed his country's desire to further enhance its relations with Pakistan.

## PML-N pledges for no to malicious smear campaign against women in politics: Romina



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam on Friday said the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) along with its female leadership has pledged to say no to malicious smear campaigns against women in politics.

Addressing a media briefing flanked by Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, women Members of the National Assembly, Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar and the others, the PM's aide vehemently condemned the malicious campaign against Punjab Information and Culture Minister, Azma Zahid Bokhari launched after an alleged so-called objectionable video of the provincial minister intending to damage her prestige.

Romina Khurshid Alam said the women serving in politics, media, and all other fields of society deserved great respect, whereas her party and the current government vowed to snub such filthy tactics and those who think they could disregard women of Pakistan would have to face their fate. She underlined that the culprits of this heinous crime should be taken to task as per the law. "The Constitution of Pakistan protects women and the State of Madina and our religion including all other faiths do not allow such disrespectful attitude towards women," Romina Alam said.

She while alluding to the PTI founder said the people who were perpetrating such dirty tactics needed to know their character. "A woman who leaves her home has determination for her family and loved ones. We are thankful to our leadership and our party that supports its party members and never plays the woman card. The cursed faces (perpetrators) will be watching us and I want to tell them that we as women can compete with thousands of people like you," Romina said. Senior MNA, Shaista Pervaiz Malik on the occasion also condemned the video incident. She said she was representing 50 per cent of the population, the entire women of the society, adding, "It was an adage in our culture that women, the mothers and daughters are respectful and their honour prestige belongs to all in our society but a political party has used women for its political mudslinging." She added that no society allows disrespect of women and their use as a tool for nasty politics. "Azma Bokhari is a brave woman and we all as women are supporting her," she said.

Malik alleged that (the PTI founder) does politics under the garb of religion, women, international powers and maligning of state institutions. There should be a redline for all to avoid using foul language and crooked political gimmicks against women, she said. "Mian Nawaz Sharif always snubbed the use of bad language against women on the floor of the Parliament and public processions. We as women have achieved our space with great effort in this society and we don't want to lose it," she added. APP

## Shaza, Australian High Commissioner discuss digitalization, fiberization issues



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja and Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Neil Hawkins discussed matters of bilateral interest, IT and Telecommunication, digitalization, fiberization, and cyber security.

Minister of State for IT Shaza Fatima during a meeting said that the present government is focused upon digitalization in the country. She said that digitalization of the economy is top

government topmost priority. Governance and society are also being digitalised under National Digitalization Plan, she added. She said that work is going on National Fiberization Policy, as robust fiberization is utmost necessary for 5G technology in the country. Shaza Fatima said Ministry of IT & Telecom is committed for ending digital gender divide. She said that startups exchange program can be started between Pakistan and Australia.

Director General International Coordination, MoITT Syed Jawwad Ali Sherazi was also present in the meeting.

## Security Forces gun down terrorist in N Waziristan



RAWALPINDI: The Security Forces on Friday killed a terrorist involved in numerous terror activities and killings of innocent masses and soldiers during an intelligence-based operation in North Waziristan District. During conduct of the operation, after intense fire exchange, Khawarji Terrorist Razaq was sent to hell, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

He was a close associate of Khawarji Gul Bahadur and was actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in the area including target killing of Malik Sher Muhammad, grandson of Faqir of Ippi on 6 January 2023 as well as facilitation of suicide bombing attack in North Waziristan on 16 March 2024 which resulted in shahadat of seven brave soldiers.

"Sanitization operation is being conducted to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area as Security Forces of Pakistan remain determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the country," the ISPR said. PR

## Pakistan Navy Commissions 3rd offshore patrol vessel PNS HUNAIN in Romania

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Navy has commissioned its Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV), PNS HUNAIN at Constanta Port, Romania, where Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Chief of the Defence Staff of Romania General Gheorghita Vlad and Chief of Romanian Navy Vice Admiral Mihai Panait also attended as guests of honour, a Pakistan Navy news release said. While addressing the ceremony, Chief of the Naval Staff emphasized on the significance of the project and highlighted the additional set of capabilities added to PN sphere of operations with the induction of PNS HUNAIN. He expressed his confidence that induction of these multipur-



pose and highly adaptive platforms; equipped with state-of-the-art weapons/ sensors suite, will further enhance PN forward presence and perpetual operational readiness vis-à-vis deployment on Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP) in the Indian Ocean Region.

Continued on page 4

## Govt ready to negotiate with JI for country's development & prosperity: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar on Friday announced the government's readiness to negotiate with the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) on their demand in a bid to end their sit-in causing inconvenience to the general public.

"We are ready to talk for peace, security and development of the country which is the main agenda of our government," the minister said while addressing a news conference along with Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Amir Muqam. The minister said JI Chief Hafiz Naem ur Rehman was a seasoned and far-sighted leader whose guidance would be instrumental for the government to address the existing issues within the existing framework.

He said the government was ready to form a three-member committee which would comprise of him, Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Amir

Muqam and PML-N Senior Leader Tariq Fazal. Tarar called upon the JI leadership to sit and guide the government in resolving the issues instead of doing the "politics of agitation".

The JI was given permission only to stage their sit-in at Liaquat Bagh, Rawalpindi, he said, urging them to use only the dedicated place for the purpose.

There was no need to obstructing a public servant in discharge of his/her duty and creating hurdles for the people, he said, regretting one or the other group had made it a routine to swarm the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad that caused traffic issues for the people including patients and professionals.

The minister urged the JI leadership to follow the Standard Operation Procedures agreed with the local administration. Protest at the D-Chowk would not be allowed at any cost since there was a possibility of a mischief due to involvement of any miscreant, he maintained.



The minister urged the JI leadership to have a faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who had been working 20 hours a day to implement the agenda of home grown economic reforms that included privatization of loss making entities, digitization of the Federal Board of Revenue for documentation of non-documented economy, addition of new filers in the tax net and other initiatives.

He said it was top priority of the government to achieve home grown economic reforms that had started providing fiscal space to offer subsidy to the people in electricity bills.

He said the privatization of the FBR was underway to plug loopholes in system to stop billions of rupee leakage and add new filers into the tax net. "We are moving forward rapidly on economic reforms to bring positive changes in people's life,"

he added. The minister said PM Shehbaz Sharif led the government during the tenure of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and took concrete measures to stabilize the rupee, reduce inflation and on top of that successfully averted a default for the country. It was speculated that Pakistan may get default and foreign investors would withdraw their investment, but PM Shehbaz Sharif saved the country from economic collapse despite the efforts to sabotage a deal with the International Monetary Fund, he added. Tarar recalled the achievements of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government in 2018 when the economy was growing at 6 per cent and inflation was clocked at 4 per cent with the unit of electricity cost only Rs 8 per unit.

The minister said the PML-N government had steered the country out of the crises in the past and would do so in future with the grace of the Almighty. Inflation had been brought down to 11 per cent, stock

exchange witnessing highest activity in the last couple of months with all the economic indicators on upward trajectory, he added.

Tarar regretted a halt on the country's development during the tenure of the PTI government which was led by a "corrupt person" who borrowed money massively and benefited himself and his close aides by selling Toshakhana gifts and striking a shady deal worth 190 million pounds.

"We understand the issues faced by the chief minister of KP as on the one hand, he has to assure cooperation in official meetings while on the other side, he was answerable to the PTI founder on maintaining a (specific) public posture," he said. Referring to the Pakistan Theerke-Insaf (PTI), he said those who allegedly resettled Taliban in the country should come up with a plan in accordance with their claims of having a capacity to maintain the law and order and establishing the writ in the province. APP



# دینی امین کی گرفت

اسلام آباد

ہفتہ 27 جولائی 2024ء

### پاکستان کی برآمدات میں تقریباً 3ارب ڈالر اضافہ ریکارڈ

اسلام آباد (اے اینف) پاکستان کی برآمدات میں تقریباً 3ارب ڈالر اضافہ ریکارڈ کیا گیا۔ گزشتہ مالی سال برآمدات میں 10.65 فیصد اضافہ ریکارڈ کیا گیا تھا۔ ایکسائز، سینٹ، ٹیکس اور دیگر محصولات کی برآمدات میں اضافہ ہوا۔ برآمدات میں 36 کروڑ ڈالر کی اضافت ملاحظہ کی گئی۔ برآمدات میں اضافہ ہونے کی وجہ سے برآمدات میں اضافہ ہوا۔ برآمدات میں اضافہ ہونے کی وجہ سے برآمدات میں اضافہ ہوا۔



اسلام آباد، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف سے تاجکستان کے سفیر ملاقات کر رہے ہیں

## مریم نواز نے زرعی ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی

پہلے مرحلے میں 7 ہزار ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے ٹیوب ویل سولارائزیشن پراجیکٹ کی منظوری دیدی۔



اسلام آباد مختلف جماعت کی طرف سے ہر باور دہنوں کے پیش نظر تعمیراتی کامات بند کیا ہوا ہے

## خیبر پختونخوا میں آپریشن نہیں ہونے دینگے، علی امین گنڈاپور ہمارے آباؤ اجداد نے ہمیں قربانیاں دینا سکھایا، ہم اپنے فیصلے خود کریں گے کوئی اور نہیں کرے گا

ہر ماہ چھوڑا، ہمارے نام پر ڈالر لیکر گئے ہیں جس پر ہم نے سختی سے جواب دیا ہے۔ ہمارے آباؤ اجداد نے ہمیں قربانیاں دینا سکھایا، ہم اپنے فیصلے خود کریں گے کوئی اور نہیں کرے گا۔ علی امین گنڈاپور نے کہا کہ انہوں نے ہمیں قربانیاں دینا سکھایا، ہم اپنے فیصلے خود کریں گے کوئی اور نہیں کرے گا۔

## پنجاب سے مرئی نقل و حرکت پر روک لگائی گئی

لاہور (جیو نیوز) پنجاب کی تمام علاقوں میں نقل و حرکت پر روک لگائی گئی۔ پنجاب سے مرئی نقل و حرکت پر روک لگائی گئی۔ پنجاب سے مرئی نقل و حرکت پر روک لگائی گئی۔ پنجاب سے مرئی نقل و حرکت پر روک لگائی گئی۔

## عوام کو زیادہ ریلیف فراہمی کیلئے عملی اقدامات کیے جا رہے، حاکم خٹک زائد زرخوں کی شکایت کیلئے عملی اقدامات کیے جا رہے

لاہور (جیو نیوز) حاکم خٹک نے کہا کہ عوام کو زیادہ ریلیف فراہمی کیلئے عملی اقدامات کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ حاکم خٹک نے کہا کہ عوام کو زیادہ ریلیف فراہمی کیلئے عملی اقدامات کیے جا رہے ہیں۔



اسلام آباد، ای این پی کے پیما تہاس کی مستند تقریب سے مرکزی صدر لیگل خان، سابق صوبائی وزیر ایم اے افسانہ اور دیگر خطاب کر رہے ہیں

## جماعت اسلامی کا دھرنا، پی ٹی آئی کا احتجاج، اسلام آباد کارڈرزوں کنٹینرز لگا کر سیل

پنجاب کے مختلف علاقوں میں پولیس نے چھاپے مار کر متعدد رہنماؤں اور کارکنان کو گرفتار کر لیا، امیر اعظم کے گھر پر بھی چھاپے مار کر متعدد رہنماؤں اور کارکنان کو گرفتار کر لیا۔ جماعت اسلامی کے دفتر پر بھی چھاپے مار کر متعدد رہنماؤں اور کارکنان کو گرفتار کر لیا۔

## پٹی آئی کا احتجاج کی اجازت دینے کی درخواست پر فیصلہ محفوظ

اسلام آباد (جیو نیوز) اسلام آباد پولیس نے پٹی آئی کا احتجاج کی اجازت دینے کی درخواست پر فیصلہ محفوظ رکھا۔ اسلام آباد پولیس نے پٹی آئی کا احتجاج کی اجازت دینے کی درخواست پر فیصلہ محفوظ رکھا۔



لاہور، وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز صاف تھرا پنجاب پروگرام کے حوالے سے اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں

## ڈینٹسٹی کیلئے حکومت پنجاب زیر و نوا فرانس پالیسی پر عمل پیرا، وزیر آفتاب

راولپنڈی (سٹاف رپورٹر) انسداد دھمکی کی اجلاس ڈینٹسٹی کیلئے حکومت پنجاب زیر و نوا فرانس پالیسی پر عمل پیرا ہے۔ وزیر آفتاب نے کہا کہ حکومت پنجاب زیر و نوا فرانس پالیسی پر عمل پیرا ہے۔

## اسرائیلی فوج کی خان یونس میں بمباری فلسطینی قبرستان میں پناہ لینے پر مجبور

اسرائیلی فوج کی خان یونس میں بمباری فلسطینی قبرستان میں پناہ لینے پر مجبور۔ اسرائیلی فوج کی خان یونس میں بمباری فلسطینی قبرستان میں پناہ لینے پر مجبور۔

## پبلک سروس ڈیپورٹی کے معیار کو بہترین بنانا اور لیکن ترقی، واحد محمود

پبلک سروس ڈیپورٹی کے معیار کو بہترین بنانا اور لیکن ترقی، واحد محمود۔ پبلک سروس ڈیپورٹی کے معیار کو بہترین بنانا اور لیکن ترقی، واحد محمود۔

## پاکستان میں کسی طرح کی شری پسندی افراتفری کا میاں نہیں ہونے دینگے، لطیف اکبر

پاکستان میں کسی طرح کی شری پسندی افراتفری کا میاں نہیں ہونے دینگے، لطیف اکبر۔ پاکستان میں کسی طرح کی شری پسندی افراتفری کا میاں نہیں ہونے دینگے، لطیف اکبر۔



اسلام آباد، ای این پی کے پیما تہاس کی مستند تقریب سے مرکزی صدر لیگل خان، سابق صوبائی وزیر ایم اے افسانہ اور دیگر خطاب کر رہے ہیں

## Pakistan rejects Indian Prime Minister's belligerent remarks: FO

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has rejected the Indian Prime Minister's belligerent remarks made in Drass, Ladakh on 26 July 2024. Bravado and jingoism undermine regional peace, and are totally counter-productive for resolution of long-standing disputes between Pakistan and India, especially the core dispute of Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian leaders' rhetorical statements cannot deflect international attention from India's heavy-handed approach to suppress the Kashmiri people's just struggle for realization of their fundamental rights and freedoms, particularly their inalienable right to self-determination. Instead of maligning others for terrorism, India should reflect on its own campaign of orchestrating targeted assassinations, subversion and terrorism in foreign territories. Pakistan stands resolute in its intent and ability to safeguard its sovereignty against any aggression, as exemplified by its robust response to India's reckless incursion in February 2019. While Pakistan is ready to counter India's aggressive actions, it remains committed to promoting peace and stability in the region. SABAH

## British High Commissioner Jane Marriott reflects on warm hospitality & natural Beauty of Pakistan



ISLAMABAD: As British High Commissioner Jane Marriott marks her first year in Pakistan, she expressed her profound gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality.

From hiking in Margalla Hills to savoring the country's culinary delights, Marriott shared her fond memories and acknowledged the current challenges Pakistan while emphasizing UK's commitment to support the country. Upon completing her first year in Pakistan, Jane Marriott in her message said that she had arrived in Pakistan with high expectations and has been impressed by the country's natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and warm hospitality. She expressed her gratitude to the people of Pakistan for making her feel at home. She fondly recalled her hiking trips to Margalla Hills and Nathia Gali, and her experiences with Pakistani cuisine, from Peshawar's Kebabs to Karachi's Biryani. Marriott also acknowledged the challenges Pakistan was facing including economic reforms, climate change, and education. However, she expressed the confidence in the resilience and innovative nature of the Pakistani people, and reiterated the UK's commitment to support Pakistan as a close friend and partner. The British High Commissioner's positive experience in Pakistan is a testament to the country's warmth and hospitality, and a reminder of the strong ties between the UK and Pakistan. APP



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain launched PCI-POWERCHINA SEZ Policy Report.

# Tanveer emphasizes role of SEZs in attracting investment

### VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Industries and Production, Rana Tanveer Hussain on Friday emphasized the significance of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and fostering industrialization, noting that the relocation of Chinese industries presents a significant opportunity for Pakistan. While addressing a report titled 'Aligning Special Economic Zones Policies of Pakistan and China' the minister said that the government is committed to offering more incentives and concessions to attract Chinese businesses, ensuring full security for their operations, and adopting Shenzhen as a benchmark for SEZ development. The Pakistan-China Institute, in collaboration with China Chamber of Commerce in Pakistan and PowerChina on Friday has launched a report titled 'Aligning Special Economic Zones Policies of Pakistan and China'.

The report aims to provide a strategic framework for enhancing the economic and industrial collaboration between Pakistan and China through Special Economic Zones (SEZs), said a press release. Speaking on the occasion, the minister highlighted that a few SEZs in Pakistan are already functional and stressed the importance of export zones in driving economic growth. The Minister underscored the need for Pakistan to compete with other regions, such as ASEAN, Bangladesh, and Central Asia, by creating a favourable environment for industrial relocation. Executive Director of Pakistan-China Institute, Mustafa Hyder Sayed emphasized the timeliness of the report. He noted that its release coincides with increasing collaboration between China and Pakistan, making it a pivotal moment for both nations. He highlighted the critical need for Pakistan to adopt export-oriented policies to attract Chinese industries that are relocating to the global south due to rising production costs, business-friendly environments, and market

access to regional markets. Media and News Director, China Chamber of Commerce in Pakistan, Su Dong, underscored the successful completion of 47 projects in Pakistan, with several others under construction. He expressed PowerChina's readiness to continue working closely with Pakistan, extending best wishes for the report's success. Chief Administration Officer of China Overseas Ports Holdings Company Pakistan Ltd., Zou Yaodong extended warm congratulations on the launch of the report and noted that in the past few years, SEZs have achieved significant development and become engines of economic growth. Additional Secretary and Executive Director General-II (EDG-II) at the Board of Investment (BOI), Dr Erfa Iqbal shared her insights on the report, emphasizing that the topic is very close to her heart. She highlighted that economic survival depends on robust SEZ policies and that China serves as a valuable example for Pakistan, a model followed by countries like Cambodia and Vietnam.

## Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin calls on President Asif Zardari



KARACHI: Head of Dawoodi Bohra community Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin called on President Asif Zardari here at Bilawal House on Friday. Speaking on the occasion, President Asif Zardari said that the Bohra community was playing a significant role in the socio-economic development of Pakistan. The President said that the Bohra community was actively participating in the economy and business sectors of Pakistan. President Zardari said the services of Bohra community in education, health and other sectors are commendable. The President also appreciated the services of Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin in Pakistan in the field of social services.

## Mohsin Naqvi praises security forces for successful operation against terrorists in Hoshab

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi has lauded the security forces for their successful operation against terrorists in Hoshab, Balochistan. He praised the swift response of the Security Forces in defeating the nefarious designs of the terrorists. He emphasized that the nation stands united with the security forces in the fight against terrorism and salutes their professionalism and valour.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization and Board of Investment, Abdul Aleem Khan visited site of Business Facilitating Centre.

## NA speaker, Italian envoy discuss bilateral ties, parliamentary cooperation



ISLAMABAD: Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Friday said that Pakistan and Italy enjoy a long-standing cordial relations based on a shared commitment to global peace and sustainable development. "It is high time to enhance political, cultural, economic, and people-to-people connections between the two countries for the mutual benefit of the people on both sides, the speaker said during a meeting with the Italian Ambassador to Pakistan, Mrs. Marilina Armellini, who called on him.

According to news release, during the meeting, the two sides discussed a wide range of regional and global developments. They underscored the significance of continuous collaboration to maintain a positive trajectory in bilateral relations and explore new areas of engagement. While discussing parliamentary cooperation, the speaker called for regular interaction between parliaments, mainly through parliamentary friendship groups and the exchange of parliamentary delegations, in order to share and learn from each other's experiences. The Ambassador expressed gratitude to the speaker for his kind remarks and reiterated that Italy considered Pakistan as an important regional stakeholder. She expressed a desire to further strengthen linkages in all areas of mutual interest, in addition to fostering parliamentary and cultural exchanges.



ISLAMABAD: ECO Secretary General Ambassador Khusrav Noziri calls on Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan to discuss regional trade dynamics and the future direction of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

## Pakistan Navy Commissions 3rd...

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Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf commended the exceptional professionalism and dedication of DAMEN Shipyard and expressed confidence in the prospects of future cooperation in delivering cutting-edge technologies to Pakistan Navy. The newly commissioned, PNS HUNAIN is a multipurpose and highly agile platform of medium size tonnage. The ship is a state-of-the-art electronic warfare, anti-ship & anti-air

warfare capable platform with modern self-protection and terminal defence systems. The ship is also capable of embarking multi-role helicopter and can operate independently as well as part of a Task Force for enhanced duration to undertake a number of missions while safeguarding the Maritime interests of Pakistan. The commissioning ceremony was attended by high level dignitaries from Pakistan, Romania and Netherlands, including the Pakistani community in Romania.

## Pakistan embassy hosts event with athletes representing Pakistan at Paris 2024 Olympics



PARIS: The Pakistan embassy Paris hosted a meet and greet event on Friday with the athletes representing Pakistan at the Paris 2024 Olympics. Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination Rana Sanaullah Khan who will represent Government of Pakistan at the Olympics Opening Ceremony was the Chief Guest of the event. Members of Pakistani diaspora, media and many other friends attended the event and were excited to mingle with the members of the Pakistan Olympic contingent including Javelin Thrower Arshad Nadeem, swimmers Jehanara Nabi & M. Ahmed Durani and sprinter Faiqa Riaz.

## NA body on Parliamentary Affairs recommends legislation for parliamentary secretaries

ISLAMABAD: The Standing Committee of the National Assembly for Parliamentary Affairs Friday recommended the initiation of legislation to codify the roles, responsibilities, salaries, perks, and privileges of Parliamentary Secretaries. The meeting was chaired by Rana Iradat Sharif Khan.

The Secretary of the Ministry for Parliamentary Affairs provided a comprehensive briefing on the Ministry's operations, highlighting its crucial role in establishing a liaison between Ministries/Divisions and the Parliament, essential for coordination in both official and non-official business. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Azam Nazeer Tarar, informed the Committee that the Ministry is in the process of finalizing its "Parliamentary Outreach Policy." The meeting was attended by MNAs Shaikh Aftab Ahmed, Raja Qamar-ul-Islam, Naveed Aamir, Nikhat Shakeel Khan, Sahibzada Sibghatullah, Ali Muhammad, Hameed Hussain, and Shahida Begum. Additionally, the Secretary of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and other senior officers of the Ministry were present.

## 100,000 laptops to be distributed among students on merit; Chairman PMYP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Friday said that around 100,000 laptops would be given to the students on merit during the year 2024. According to the PMYP office spokesperson, as many as 600,000 laptops have been distributed to the students under the Prime Minister Laptop scheme so far while during the last three years 64 per cent were successful in getting jobs trained under the Youth Skill Development Programme. The Chairman PMYP said that the government was working with the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission on skill development, especially the provision of education, training and IT skills to youth through youth development programmes. "This year, we aim to provide direct training to over two lac youth and indirect training to over six lac youth to meet the demand for skilled labourers abroad which will enable Pakistan to send skilled youth abroad for positive engagement." APP

## Ambreen Jan appointed Federal Secretary Information and Broadcasting

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Friday appointed Ambreen Jan, a senior officer of the Information Group, Grade 21, as the Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting. The Cabinet Secretariat's Establishment Division issued a notification confirming Ambreen Jan's appointment to the position of Secretary for Information and Broadcasting. Ambreen Jan appointed Federal Secretary Information and Broadcasting. Prior to this appointment, Ambreen Jan served as the Executive Director General of the External Publicity Wing within the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Her appointment was made under Section 10 of the Civil Servants Act, 1973, the notification added.



## Kashmiris to continue freedom struggle till achievement of freedom from Indian occupation: AJK PM

MIRPUR: Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) Prime Minister (PM) Chaudhry Anwar Haq reiterating Kashmiris' pledge to continue the ongoing struggle for freedom to its logical conclusion, said that the movement would continue until the people of the Indian Illegally Occupied Kashmir (IIOJK) achieve their goal of freedom. He made these assertions while addressing a public gathering in Town, Tatta Pani of Kotli district. Denouncing the barbarism and brutality inflicted upon the people of occupied Kashmir by India, the prime minister expressed the optimism that the day was not far when India's imperialistic presence in the occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir would come to end and brothers and sisters who made unprecedented sacrifices would be free from the Indian bondage. He also paid great tributes to valiant people who had been bearing the brunt of Indian firing and shelling across the Line of Control (LoC).

Reiterating his government's all-



out support to Kashmiris' struggle, the PM said the people and AJK government would never leave their brethren in IIOJK alone in their battle against India's illegal occupation. Referring to the age-old political, cultural and religious bond between the people of Kashmir and Pakistan, the PM said that the bond between the people of both regions was unbreakable. "The basic relationship between Pakistan and Kashmir is based on Islamic faith", he said, adding that no one could harm the relationship. Taking a jibe on the Indian prime minister, the PM Haq said

that nobody could dent this relationship even if thousands of Modi come together.

Prime Minister Haq said that his government would focus on developing far-flung areas of the state which were neglected in previous tenures.

"Hollow slogans, empty assurances and false announcements have spoiled us", he said adding that time had come to change this culture. The prime minister said that the government was providing a subsidy of Rs 71 billion on electricity and flour.

The PM said that despite limited resources the government had fulfilled its demands adding that there was a dire need that the people must also acknowledge their duties towards the state. He said that the government was keen to address the issue of unemployment and provide basic amenities of life to the people. The PM also announced a slew of development schemes including the grant of town committee status and police station for Tatapani. APP