



Government will extend full cooperation to all foreign investors, including those from Malaysia

Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs
Kaiser Ahmed Shaikh

COAS, senior army, civil officers offer funeral prayers of Spinwam martyrs

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir along with senior army and civil officers, soldiers and relatives of the martyrs on Saturday offered the funeral prayers of Army martyrs who valiantly embraced martyrdom while fighting terrorists during a fire exchange in Spinwam area of North Waziristan at Peshawar Garrison, Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said. According to the military's media wing, these martyrs include Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat Shaheed (age: 43 years, resident of district Faisalabad), Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat (Age: 43 years, resident of: District Faisalabad), Lance Naik Muhammad Ullah (age: 31 Years, resident of District Khyber), Lance Naik Akhtar Zaman (age: 30 years, resident of District Lakki Marwat), Lance Naik Shahid Ullah (age:29 years, resident of District Tank), Lance Naik Yusuf Ali (age:31 years, resident of District Orkzai) and Sepoy Jameel Ahmed (age:26 years, resident of District Swat).

The bodies of the martyrs were sent to their native towns where they will be buried with full military honors. These sacrifices of our martyrs sustain our resolve and courage in the ongoing war against terrorism, the ISPR said. PR

Economic indicators showing positive growth: Jam Kamal

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Saturday said that in the country's economy, all economic indicators were showing positive growth for sustainable economic growth. The country's exports show improvements as compared to last year, the interest rate is falling and inflation drastically gone low, he said in a statement issued by the Ministry of Commerce. He said the foreign exchange stability achieved and stock exchange performing well as compared with other global and regional markets. The upcoming visits of Azerbaijan President and Malaysian PM, Saudi Business summit and SCO summit are positive signs for local economy, he said. Jam Kamal Khan said that agitations by PTI and the role of KP chief minister was not only discouraging but also bad for the country. The foreign investment commitments and delegates are regularly coming to Pakistan, he said. Kamal said that Privatization, FBR reforms, downsizing, ease of doing business and formation of Exim Bank were the key components of Small Medium Enterprise (SME) sector for betterment and growth of national economy. The commerce minister said that historical foreign business participation in Expo fairs was a sign of the sign of their confidence in government's performance. Now the energy rate challenge will be resolved soon and will contribute to a better industrial growth, he added. APP



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir along with senior army and civil officers, soldiers and relatives of the martyrs on Saturday offered the funeral prayers of Army martyrs.

Gandapur should not coerce the govt to take extreme measures: Naqvi

Says the govt would not let them sabotage the SCO summit, come what may

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Senator Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi said on Saturday Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur should not coerce the government to take extreme measures. Addressing media in Islamabad, Mohsin Naqvi said the KP chief minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers were already crossing the lines, and if they crossed any further, then extreme measures may be taken. "Apparently, he's not ready to back off from his ambitions [of storming the federal capital]," he said, in his remarks after development that unfolded due to PTI's protests. At the presser, the interior minister said the local administration had placed blockades at Pathargarh area, which the CM KP crossed with his convoy. "Live bullets were fired on police there. While they have continuously been using teargas [on law enforcers]," he said, claiming that around 80-85 police officials were injured who were being provided the first aid or shifted to hospitals for treatment. Mohsin Naqvi said the authorities were checking as to from where they got the teargas shells in such a large quantity. "Evidence have also surfaced that people were asked in the chats and groups to carry weapons with them," he said, pointing out that people of Bannu and other tribal areas were particularly asked to bring arms with them.

The interior minister said the government would not let them sabotage the SCO summit, come what may. Holding Gandapur responsible for all the crisis situation, Mohsin Naqvi said, the "KP chief minister is leading the group that's going to attack Islamabad". And if they did so then no room would be left for negotiations, he added. Contrary to their claims, he said, they were continuously attacking properties. "Even if I stormed a city, I must realise that I will have to pay the price," he warned. Mohsin Naqvi also said that Afghan nationals were part of PTI-led protests, which began yesterday in the federal capital. "Just last night 41 Afghan nationals were arrested, while total 120 have so far been apprehended in 48 hours," he maintained. On the arrests, he said it was an alarming matter because it was a different thing if local residents protested. The Interior Minister said he is in constant touch with the Prime Minister. He mentioned that the Army and FC have been deployed in the capital and that maximum deployment of security personnel will be ensured. Meanwhile Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited Federal Government Polyclinic Hospital to meet with police personnel injured during the protests. He inquired about their health and praised their high morale. The Interior Minister commended

the officers for showing patience despite facing resistance from miscreant, stating, "You have set a great example of dedication to duty and upholding the law. You are brave officials of Islamabad Police, and we are proud of you." Mohsin Naqvi further acknowledged their role in maintaining peace in Islamabad, saying, "We salute you for ensuring law and order in the city." During the visit, Mohsin Naqvi also directed the hospital administration to provide the best possible medical treatment to the injured personnel. IG Islamabad Police Ali Nasir Rizvi accompanied him during the visit. Meanwhile Mohsin Naqvi visited D-Chowk early in the morning to boost the morale of police and FC personnel. He praised and commended the officers on duty, appreciating their dedication and high spirits. The Interior Minister also met with female police personnel, acknowledging their hard work and commitment to duty. He paid tribute to the personnel for their selfless service, protecting citizens' lives and properties day and night. Mohsin Naqvi expressed pride in Islamabad Police and FC's high morale, stating that they are always alert and ready to serve the country. He commended all personnel for ensuring the rule of law, saying, "You deserve appreciation for fulfilling your national duty with dedication. We stand with you." SABAH

President, PM praise successful counter-terrorism operation in NW



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif have appreciated security forces' successful operation against Khawarij terrorists in North Waziristan. In a statement, President Asif Ali Zardari paid tribute to the brave soldiers including Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat for sacrificing their lives while fighting terrorists. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, in his statement, paid tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat and five other soldiers on embracing martyrdom while valiantly fighting the terrorists. The Prime Minister prayed for the elevation of the martyrs' ranks in Jannah and expressed condolences with their families. He said Pakistan Army has rendered unparalleled sacrifices in the war against terrorism. The Prime Minister said entire nation pays tribute to the martyrs.

PTI tried to sabotage SCO summit by attacking the capital, says Dr Musadik

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Petroleum, Dr. Musadik Malik, stated on Saturday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) attempted to sabotage the SCO summit and other high-level activities by attacking the federal capital. Speaking to a private news channel, he said that PTI's actions aimed to disrupt economic initiatives at a time when Pakistan was inviting international investment. He further claimed that the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa used official resources to attack the capital but, after failing to enter Islamabad, opted for an alternate route alone. Dr. Malik added that PTI's sole objective is to fulfill its anti-state agenda, driven by the personal ambitions of its former chairman. He emphasized the importance of blocking Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)'s actions, referencing their involvement in anti-state incidents such as those on May 9. APP

World acknowledging Pakistan's viable economic policies: Tarar



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said that the world is acknowledging country's viable economic policies as Pakistan's economic indicators are moving in the right direction. Addressing a press conference at PML-N Secretariat here on Saturday, he said that heads of different countries were coming to Pakistan and added that the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had raised Palestine and Kashmir issues in United Nations General Assembly session very effectively. He said when the late Iranian president Ebrahim Raisi had visited Pakistan, a novelty in diplomacy was witnessed. Attaullah Tarar said another delegation of Saudi Arabia was coming to Pakistan and cooperation was increasing. He said that Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim had left Pakistan after completing his visit, but unfortunately efforts were made to hold march towards D-Chowk during the presence of Malaysian prime minister in the country. He said that PM Shehbaz Sharif's speech in United Nations General Assembly session was widely hailed by all segments of society. He said, "Foreign guest always come to Pakistan to strengthen ties." It was agreed that Pakistan would export halal meat worth \$200 million and 100,000 tonnes of rice to Malaysia and hindrances in this regard would be removed, he said and added that different countries were interested for doing trade besides making an investment in Pakistan. Attaullah Tarar said that according to Bloomberg Pakistan economy was taking off and its stock market was one of the emerging market of Asia. He said that Public Works Department had been closed down and corrupt officers of FBR had been sidelined. He said that Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, China Turkey almost every country was appreciating the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's commitment and country's economic policies aimed at putting the country on road to progress. The information minister said that country's exports had increased by 14 per cent while the

FBR digitalization was done without spending a single penny, adding that privatisation matters of Pakistan International Airlines and other state owned enterprises were underway. He said that the number of FBR filers had doubled, adding that this would definitely yield positive results for the country. Attaullah Tarar said that economic vision of the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was being implemented and now the world was terming Pakistan's economy as emerging economy. He said that credit goes to PML-N that it saved the country from default. He said that World Bank President Ajay Banga was also terming Pakistan's economy policy as good policy. The minister said that subsidy had been provided on electricity while prices of essential items were reducing. Price of petrol had been reduced for five times, he said and added with the grace of Allah Almighty Pakiatan would become prosperous. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was again using tactics of holding public meetings and marches because they couldn't digest country's progress and stability. He said that PTI should focus on bringing change in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa instead of creating unrest and chaos. He said that KP Chief Minister should focus on providing health, education and other facilities to people of KP but unfortunately he was using all his energies to keep his leader happy. He said that credit goes to the PML-N for constructing motorways, China Pakistan Economic Corridor project, energy projects, growth of industry and many other big initiatives. He said that purpose of holding protest in red zone was just to halt the country's system. Tarar said that Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit was a matter for pride for Pakistan and nobody would be allowed to sabotage it. He said, "Incumbent government wants to highlight positive image of the country." Attaullah Tarar said that Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit would be held as per plan. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf had badly harmed the country during its tenure. KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur was using government machinery against the federation. PTI Barrister Saif invited Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar to attend PTI's protest. Attaullah Tarar said and added that one could imagine about PTI's mindset from this. APP

Military troops patrolling in Islamabad for security

ISLAMABAD: The military troops patrolling in Islamabad's Red Zone and other areas after the interior ministry notified deployment of troops for security in the federal capital city. The Ministry of Interior has issued military deployment orders under Article 245 of the constitution in aid of civil authority from 5th to 17th October 2024. The military has been called in for maintaining law and order situation with respect to 23rd meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Government meeting and visits of VVIP delegations for the said session. The military would have all policing powers to tackle a tense situation, and the local commander will act in coordination with the federal police. The military would have powers to act against miscreants and arrest them. It could exercise baton charge and teargas shelling against protesters with minimum use of force, according to the government circular. The military will act over reports about presence of miscreants or any other threat. "Perpetrators can be arrested in absence of the police force," the circular read. The army has been deployed in addition to the paramilitary Rangers and Frontier Constabulary personnel.

Ahsan Iqbal pays tribute to teachers on 'World Teachers' Day'

VOM Report

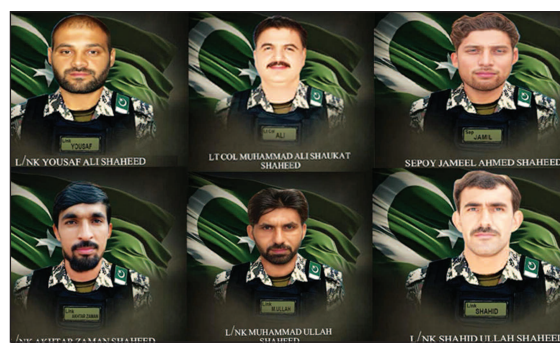
ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Ahsan Iqbal here on Saturday paid rich tributes to teachers on 'World Teachers' Day', saying they were the builders of nation. Addressing a ceremony at Islamabad Model College for Women, the minister praised teachers' great services and said that teachers were being paid tribute worldwide for their contribution in preparing youth for the future. He quoted Aristotle, saying, parents bring children into the world, but teachers teach them how to live. He said, teachers' services and mission are unforgettable, however deplored that today, when we should have been united in paying tribute to our teachers, some elements were spreading chaos in the country. He said, Pakistan needs to move forward so we must not become part in hindering its progress.

The federal minister also discussed Pakistan's economic growth, saying, the world acknowledges the country's progress. He said that Pakistan Stock Exchange was setting new records while China was discussing the new phase of CPEC. Emphasizing the importance of teachers in the digital revolution, the federal minister stressed the need to update the education system to promote creative and critical thinking skills. He said that there was need to revamp curriculum to eliminate rote learning and promote innovative capabilities. He appreciated the efforts of Federal Secretary Education, Mohyuddin Wani, in equipping all government schools and colleges in Islamabad with modern facilities, which he termed a significant step towards improving education standards. He announced that next year, Pakistan will host National Teacher Awards on World Teachers' Day to recognize and reward the best teachers across the country.

Lt Col Muhammad Ali Shoukat among 6 soldiers martyred in N Waziristan: ISPR

Security forces kill eight terrorists in two separate incidents

RAWALPINDI: Six security personnel including Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat have been martyred in North Waziristan District; meanwhile in security forces action eight terrorists have been killed in North Waziristan ans Swat. According to the statement issued by ISPR on Saturday, on night 4/5 October 2024, fire exchange took place between the Security Forces and Khwarji in general area Spinwam, North Waziristan District. Resultantly, six Khwarji were sent to hell due to effective engagement by own troops. However, during the intense fire exchange, Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat (Age: 43 years, resident of: District Faisalabad), a brave officer who was leading his troops from the front, fought gallantly and embraced shahadat



along with his five men. The five brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice include Lance Naik Muhammad Ullah (age: 31 Years, resident of District Khyber), Lance Naik Akhtar Zaman (age: 30 years, resident of District Lakki Marwat), Lance Naik Shahid Ullah (age:29 years, resident of District Tank) and

inate any other Khwarji found in the five area as Security Forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe-out the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve. Meanwhile on night 4/5 October, Law Enforcement Agencies conducted a joint intelligence based

operation in general area Charbagh, Swat District. During the conduct of operation, after an intense fire exchange, two khwarji including Kharji ring leader Atta Ullah @ Mehran were sent to hell, while one khwarji was apprehended in injured condition. Kharji Atta Ullah @ Mehran remained actively involved in numerous terrorists activities in the area including the Improvised Explosive Device blast on a Police Vehicle escorting the convoy of foreign dignitaries in Swat on 22 September 2024. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other Khwarji found in the area as security forces in coordination with law enforcement agencies are determined to wipe-out the menace of terrorism from the country. PR

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The case for a global climate assembly

LAURENCE TUBIANA AND ANA TONI

It has been nearly 10 years since the world came together in Paris and finally agreed to get serious about averting a climate disaster. But while there is an emerging consensus on the structural economic reforms needed to transform sectors such as energy, transportation and agriculture, the necessary investments are not being made fast enough. Instead, our governance systems are struggling to muster an adequate response to what is an increasingly obvious and severe climate and ecological crisis. Although many governments have proposed robust climate measures, these often trigger a social backlash because they are perceived as unjust and inequitable. Many see policies that pit the old against the young, the city against the country or the Global North against the Global South. Such controversies are tailor-made for social media, where they ripen and then rot in a hothouse of misinformation, incendiary rhetoric and polarization.

Although the argument for the necessity of major reform has been won, the argument for how to do it fairly has not. This challenge will only become more difficult the deeper we get into the net-zero transition. Most people care deeply about addressing the climate crisis: in a survey conducted across 18 G20 countries, 71 percent of respondents agreed that immediate major action is needed to reduce carbon emissions. But trust in government action is lacking, with only 39 percent believing that their own government will act effectively.

One way to address this gap is to allow citizens to participate in the elaboration and implementation of climate policies and measures designed by governments. Instead of having climate policies imposed by technocrats from above, governments should embrace approaches that combine "top-down" with "bottom-up" methods, with the latter bringing together ordinary people who are tasked with shaping a shared vision of the future.

Successful examples of those participatory methods already exist. Citizens' assemblies in France are decision-making bodies composed of randomly selected, demographically representative individuals who deliberate on a specific issue of public concern and provide policy recommendations. In addition to fostering consensus on divisive topics, citizens' assemblies educate the public about complex policy issues and give citizens a direct role in decisions that affect their lives. These elements are especially important for issues like the net-zero transition, which entails major economic changes that can leave communities feeling divided. Unlike politicians, assembly members make decisions free from electoral pressures and lobbying. Notable examples include Ireland's assemblies on marriage equality and abortion, which led to national referendums and breakthrough legislation, and France's climate assembly, which helped shape its most ambitious climate bill to date.

Brazil's long-standing participatory approach to policymaking has also proven successful. For example, its climate plan is being developed through a governance structure that includes several ministries of the federal government, together with representatives from the scientific community, subnational governments, the private sector and civil society.

Moreover, a climate participatory platform (involving both digital and in-person exchanges) has been launched to invite all Brazilian citizens to propose solutions. The National Environmental Conference and the National Social and Economic Development Council, by prioritizing the climate plan, have further contributed to strengthening this bottom-up process.

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Instead, our governance systems are struggling to muster an adequate response to what is an increasingly obvious and severe climate and ecological crisis. Although many governments have proposed robust climate measures, these often trigger a social backlash because they are perceived as unjust and inequitable. Many see policies that pit the old against the young, the city against the country or the Global North against the Global South. Such controversies are tailor-made for social media, where they ripen and then rot in a hothouse of misinformation, incendiary rhetoric and polarization. Although the argument for the necessity of major reform has been won, the argument for how to do it fairly has not. This challenge will only become more difficult the deeper we get into the net-zero transition. Most people care deeply about addressing the climate crisis: in a survey conducted across 18 G20 countries, 71 percent of respondents agreed that immediate major action is needed to reduce carbon emissions. But trust in government action is lacking, with only 39 percent believing that their own government will act effectively. One way to address this gap is to allow citizens to participate in the elaboration and implementation of climate policies and measures designed by governments. Instead of having climate policies imposed by technocrats from above, governments should embrace approaches that combine "top-down" with "bottom-up" methods, with the latter bringing together ordinary people who are tasked with shaping a shared vision of the future. Although the argument for the necessity of major reform has been won, the argument for how to do it fairly has not. Successful examples of those participatory methods already exist. Citizens' assemblies in France are decision-making bodies composed of randomly selected, demographically representative individuals who deliberate on a specific issue of public concern and provide policy recommendations.

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SINEM CENGIZ

How Israel's invasion of Lebanon poses risks to Turkiye

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's suggestion last week that "Israel's next target is Turkiye" marks a crucial shift in rhetoric as we approach the first anniversary of the start of war in Gaza. While Turkiye has consistently characterized Israel's aggression as endangering regional peace, framing it as a direct threat to Turkiye itself is a notable development.

Turkiye's geopolitical position inevitably ties it closely to the conflict in Gaza, especially in light of Iran's military responses to Israeli actions. Turkish statements reflect not only concerns for regional stability but also for the war's broader implications, and Turkish authorities have arrested and charged dozens of people suspected of having ties to Mossad.

Parliamentary Speaker Numan Kurtulmus expressed similar sentiments to Erdoğan, and some journalists and policymakers have also highlighted the Israeli threat to Turkiye. The Greater Israel or "promised land" mentioned in the Torah encompasses all or parts of Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, Iran, Kuwait and Turkiye. This perceived threat was fueled by a controversial article in The Jerusalem Post referring specifically to Lebanon. The article was deleted after a significant backlash, but it ignited heated discussions on social media, with critics accusing the publication of endorsing expansionist ideologies under religious pretenses. The incident has amplified Turkish concerns.

Nevertheless, it appears that Turkish policymakers are sending a message less to Israel and more to the US. As a NATO member, Turkiye is unlikely to be a direct military target for Israel, but unwavering US support for Israel is a real concern for Ankara. While Turkiye remained cautious after last week's Iranian missile attack on Israel, it was especially concerned after President Joe Biden's promise that the US would assist Israel in defending against further strikes. And although Israel's offensive into Lebanon came as no surprise, its intensity has begun to cause alarm in Ankara.

Turkiye's engagement in Lebanon reflects a broader Middle East strategy. While it is widely believed that Turkiye's actions in Lebanon aim to counter Iranian influence, another motivation appears to be a direct counter to Israel. For decades, Turkiye has been actively pursuing a multidimensional foreign policy in Lebanon, seeking to bolster its influence through humanitarian and

developmental aid, while also supporting the country's territorial integrity. As part of Turkiye's humanitarian policy, hundreds of Lebanese citizens arrived in Istanbul after fleeing Israeli airstrikes. Erdoğan has warned that the consequences of a ground operation in Lebanon would differ significantly from Israel's previous occupations, and said Turkiye would stand by Lebanon and support it with all available means. This has raised expectations that Turkiye might consider sending troops, but this is unlikely.

Turkish soldiers are already deployed in Lebanon as part of the UN interim force was established in 1978 when Israel withdrew from Lebanon. The peacekeeping force is intended to provide security and help the Lebanese government rebuild its authority. The force was supposed to create a buffer, but today it is being proved that it is not enough. Moreover, Israel has not hesitated to target UN personnel in defiance of international law. However, Turkiye's presence inside the UN force could deter Israeli military action against them. If Israel escalates its military operations in Lebanon, it could significantly alter the regional balance of power and further complicate the conflict dynamics. It could also draw in Syria and Iran. Although Turkiye may not be a key player and its direct invest-

ments in Lebanon are small, officials in Ankara are worried that a war between Israel and Hezbollah could trigger a widespread crisis, adversely affecting Turkiye's interests in various countries. The fear that further Israeli incursions in Lebanon could have widespread ramifications influences Ankara's geopolitical strategy. Policymakers are worried not only about the immediate implications for Lebanon but also the potential for a larger conflict that could affect Turkiye's interests across the region. In this context, by positioning itself as a supporter of Lebanese sovereignty and stability, Turkiye aims to strengthen its regional posture and send a significant message to the US and Israel's other allies to prevent further escalation of the conflict.

In the end, although Ankara has maintained a diplomatic tone so far, a significant Israeli escalation of its offensive in Lebanon could alter the situation. Can Turkiye, given its historical responsibilities, help prevent further conflict in the region just by maintaining a presence, all while ensuring the safety of its troops and avoiding direct involvement in the war?

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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

History of Pakistan

Such assistance continued following the withdrawal of Moscow's forces in the late 1980s, and the ISI was instrumental in raising the Taliban as a counterforce to the rival groups seeking control of the Afghan state at that time—the strategy being to give Pakistan a dominant role in Afghanistan as that country emerged from two decades of constant warfare.

Pakistan's political landscape changed dramatically with the events of September 11. It was quickly determined that the attacks on the United States had been staged by the Muslim militant organization al-Qaeda, which was operating out of Afghanistan near the Pakistani border with the support of the Taliban regime. Pakistan had diplomatic relations with Afghanistan, but Musharraf hesitated to put pressure on the Taliban to arrest al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. However, as al-Qaeda and the Taliban became judged a single entity, the United States demanded Pakistani assistance as it prepared to move militarily against both organizations. Musharraf chose to side with the U.S.-led coalition against the Taliban.

Musharraf's decision to join the American effort was met with out-

rage by Islamist conservatives in Pakistan. Thousands of pro-Taliban Pakistani volunteers crossed the border to help in the fight against U.S. troops and their coalition allies when those forces invaded and occupied Afghanistan in the fall of 2001. In the period following the September 11 attacks and the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, the population of Islamist militants boomed in the FATA, as Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters found refuge over the border in Pakistan. Many more Muslim recruits flocked to the FATA from abroad, eager to join the conflict.

Musharraf was pressured by Washington to take aggressive action against these Islamist operatives in the tribal areas, and the Pakistani military launched a major campaign to combat militants, particularly in mountainous Waziristan. However, the tribal Pashtun region historically had been off-limits to the central government, and Pakistan's military action not only challenged Pashtun tribal autonomy there, but it also affected members of the Pashtun community not involved with the militants. When government forces were met with stiff resistance, the soldiers—often paramilitary and

recruited from similar tribal orders—refused to fight or fought with little enthusiasm. Musharraf dismissed a number of army officers deemed sympathetic to the Taliban, and numerous foreign jihadists (including al-Qaeda militants) were arrested by Pakistani authorities and turned over to coalition officials, but the United States continued to accuse Islamabad (and particularly Musharraf) of not doing enough to contain the terrorist threat.

In April 2002 Musharraf, seeking to formalize his position as the head of state, held and overwhelmingly won a referendum granting him an additional five years as president. The referendum also reinstated the constitution, though modified with provisions spelled out in a document called the Legal Framework Order (LFO). In addition to extending Musharraf's term, the LFO expanded the president's powers and increased the number of members of both houses of the legislature. Parliamentary elections followed in October under the limitations imposed by the LFO, and Musharraf's adopted political party, the Pakistan Muslim League (Q) (PML-Q), took more of the seats in the National Assembly than any other

To be continued....

Showbiz Tech



Chris Martin, Chase Stokes, Sabrina Carpenter Appear On "Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (First Look)

"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" closes its week of originals with a loaded episode. Thursday's broadcast notably features Coldplay frontman Chris Martin as its lead guest. Martin appears for an

interview, during which he reprises the viral disguise he used at a Las Vegas karaoke bar. Chase Stokes also drops by for an interview, while Sabrina Carpenter delivers the show-closing performance. As a fourth guest, Demi Lovato partakes in a segment at Jimmy Fallon's "Tonights."

Open AI faces competition as Nvidia releases an AI model that is ready to rival GPT-4.0

Nvidia has unveiled its NVLM 1.0 family of open-source multimodal large language models, with its flagship model, NVLM-D-72B, rivaling proprietary systems like OpenAI's GPT-4 and Google's advanced AI offerings. This move grants developers and researchers unprecedented access to powerful AI technology, a departure from the industry trend of keeping advanced models closed. The NVLM-D-72B, which boasts 72 billion parameters, has demonstrated exceptional performance in both vision-language and text-only tasks. According to Nvidia's research, the model shows improved adaptability in interpreting complex inputs like images and memes, while achieving a 4.3-point accuracy increase on key text benchmarks after multimodal training—a unique feat compared to other models, which often suffer declines in text performance. By making the model weights publicly avail-

able and promising to release the training code, Nvidia hopes to foster greater collaboration and innovation in AI research. This move challenges well-established players in the AI industry, potentially pushing competitors to rethink their approach to proprietary systems. AI researchers have responded positively to Nvidia's open-source release, recognizing its potential to accelerate advancements in the field. One expert commented that NVLM-D-72B competes closely with Meta's LLaMA 3.1 in mathematical and coding evaluations, while also offering superior vision capabilities. The release also raises important ethical considerations. As access to powerful AI models broadens, concerns over potential misuse and the need for responsible AI practices are likely to grow. Nvidia's decision may prompt industry-wide reflection on how to balance innovation with accountability.

No-Sugar Meal Plan for Metabolic Syndrome, Created by a Dietitian

Metabolic syndrome is defined as having at least three of the following conditions: high blood pressure, a larger waistline, high blood sugar, high triglycerides and low HDL (often referred to as healthy) cholesterol. If you're one of the roughly 33% of adults in the United States with this condition, making some nutrition changes to your routine can help. In this seven-day no-added-sugar meal plan, we map out a week of delicious meals and snacks tailored to improve the conditions that make up metabolic syndrome. You'll find plenty of nutrient-dense ingredients, but there's one thing you won't see here—added sugars. While added sugars aren't totally off the table, many of us are eating more than we realize. The average adult in the U.S. consumes about 17 teaspoons of added sugar per day, significantly above the American Heart Association's recommended daily max of 6

teaspoons for women and 9 for men.^{2,3} While we skip added sugars here, we don't skip out on flavor. Whether you have metabolic syndrome or are looking to reduce your risk, this meal plan can work for most people. This meal plan is satiating and nutrient-dense, with each day providing an average of 93 grams of protein and 37 grams of fiber. Protein provides staying power to help keep you full between meals and snacks. It also helps reduce blood sugar spikes and provides stable energy. Fiber is an all-star nutrient that most of us don't get enough of, with just 7% of adults in the U.S. reaching their recommended daily intake.⁴ The health benefits of fiber include improved cholesterol, better blood sugar levels, reduced body weight and improved gut health. To reduce the risk of metabolic syndrome, we skip

added sugars. Added sugars are found in foods like desserts and sweetened beverages but they're also found in large amounts in less-obvious food items, such as dressings, crackers, bread, cereals, granola and jams. Research links a high intake of added sugars with an increased risk of metabolic syndrome.⁵ If you currently have metabolic syndrome or are looking to reduce your risk, cutting back on added sugars can be a good strategy. This 1,800-calorie meal plan has modifications for 1,500 and 2,000 calories to support those with different calorie needs. While we previously included meal plans and modifications for 1,200 calories, we no longer do. The 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans suggests that limiting your calories to 1,200 per day is too low for most people to meet their nutritional needs, plus it's unsustainable for long-term health and well-being.



دینی ائین کی طرف

اسلام آباد

عمران خان ہمارے ریڈ لائن، ہدف سے پیچھے نہیں
ہمیں گے، علی امین گنڈاپور

اسلام آباد (پبلک سروس) وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے کہا ہے کہ مساب کا اقتدار بانی بی بی آئی کے پاس ہے۔ عمران خان ہمارے ریڈ لائن ہیں، ہمارے ہدف سے پیچھے نہیں۔ گنڈاپور میں دینی ائین کی ترقی کے لیے کام کرنے والے لوگوں کو ہدف سے پیچھے نہیں ہٹانے دیا جائے گا۔



اسلام آباد، وزیر داخلہ گنڈاپور میں میڈیا سے گفتگو کر رہے ہیں

11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار، وزیر داخلہ

اسلام آباد (پبلک سروس) وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ گنڈاپور میں 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار کیے گئے۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ پولیس نے گنڈاپور میں 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار کیے گئے۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ پولیس نے گنڈاپور میں 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار کیے گئے۔

پی ٹی آئی مظاہرے سے 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار، وزیر داخلہ

اسلام آباد (پبلک سروس) وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ گنڈاپور میں 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار کیے گئے۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ پولیس نے گنڈاپور میں 11 کے پی پولیس اہلکاروں سمیت 564 افراد گرفتار کیے گئے۔

پی ٹی آئی دہشت گرد جماعت، بار بار اپنے ہی ملک پر حملہ آور ہوتی ہے، مریم نواز

پی ٹی آئی دہشت گرد جماعت، بار بار اپنے ہی ملک پر حملہ آور ہوتی ہے، مریم نواز نے کہا ہے کہ پی ٹی آئی دہشت گرد جماعت، بار بار اپنے ہی ملک پر حملہ آور ہوتی ہے۔ مریم نواز نے کہا ہے کہ پی ٹی آئی دہشت گرد جماعت، بار بار اپنے ہی ملک پر حملہ آور ہوتی ہے۔

میرا داماد پاکستانی ہے، ہم پاکستانیوں کی قدر کرتے ہیں، ملائشین وزیر اعظم

میرا داماد پاکستانی ہے، ہم پاکستانیوں کی قدر کرتے ہیں، ملائشین وزیر اعظم نے کہا ہے کہ ملائشین وزیر اعظم، میرا داماد پاکستانی ہے، ہم پاکستانیوں کی قدر کرتے ہیں۔

لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد

لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد نے کہا ہے کہ لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد۔

ہمشکر دانا سیت کے دشمن، ان کا کوئی مذہب نہیں، ایاز صادق

ہمشکر دانا سیت کے دشمن، ان کا کوئی مذہب نہیں، ایاز صادق نے کہا ہے کہ ہمشکر دانا سیت کے دشمن، ان کا کوئی مذہب نہیں۔

شمالی وزیرستان، خوارج کیساتھ چھڑپ، لیفٹیننٹ کرنل سمیت 6 جوان شہید، 6 خواتین جہنم واصل

شمالی وزیرستان، خوارج کیساتھ چھڑپ، لیفٹیننٹ کرنل سمیت 6 جوان شہید، 6 خواتین جہنم واصل۔

لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد

لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد نے کہا ہے کہ لاہور، جلاؤ گنڈاپور اور تمام مقدمات میں نواد۔

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شمالی وزیرستان، خوارج کیساتھ چھڑپ، لیفٹیننٹ کرنل سمیت 6 جوان شہید، 6 خواتین جہنم واصل

شمالی وزیرستان، خوارج کیساتھ چھڑپ، لیفٹیننٹ کرنل سمیت 6 جوان شہید، 6 خواتین جہنم واصل۔

ملک کی صورت حال انتہائی تشویش ناک، حکومت بوکھلاہٹ کا شکار، حافظ نعیم

ملک کی صورت حال انتہائی تشویش ناک، حکومت بوکھلاہٹ کا شکار، حافظ نعیم نے کہا ہے کہ ملک کی صورت حال انتہائی تشویش ناک، حکومت بوکھلاہٹ کا شکار۔

جو مرضی کر لیں اسلام آباد میں ان کے حملے کو کامیاب نہیں ہونے دیں گے: خواجہ آصف

جو مرضی کر لیں اسلام آباد میں ان کے حملے کو کامیاب نہیں ہونے دیں گے: خواجہ آصف نے کہا ہے کہ جو مرضی کر لیں اسلام آباد میں ان کے حملے کو کامیاب نہیں ہونے دیں گے۔

سکاری تجاویز، پی ٹی آئی کو ہلکی ترنی کی بڑی تکلیف ہے، کسی شہر پسند کو ڈی چوک کے قریب پھینک دیں گے، پریس کانفرنس

سکاری تجاویز، پی ٹی آئی کو ہلکی ترنی کی بڑی تکلیف ہے، کسی شہر پسند کو ڈی چوک کے قریب پھینک دیں گے، پریس کانفرنس۔

شری پسندوں سے کوئی بات نہیں کرنی، صرف ایکشن لینا ہے، آئی جی اسلام آباد

شری پسندوں سے کوئی بات نہیں کرنی، صرف ایکشن لینا ہے، آئی جی اسلام آباد نے کہا ہے کہ شری پسندوں سے کوئی بات نہیں کرنی، صرف ایکشن لینا ہے۔

آسٹریلیو سرمایہ کاروں کی مکمل معاونت کریں گے، نواز شریف

آسٹریلیو سرمایہ کاروں کی مکمل معاونت کریں گے، نواز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ آسٹریلیو سرمایہ کاروں کی مکمل معاونت کریں گے۔

بے شکور احتجاج میں شرکت کی دعوت ملک دشمنی ہے، عظمیٰ بخاری

بے شکور احتجاج میں شرکت کی دعوت ملک دشمنی ہے، عظمیٰ بخاری نے کہا ہے کہ بے شکور احتجاج میں شرکت کی دعوت ملک دشمنی ہے۔

دفاعی حکومت نے معاشی بحالی کے پروگرام کو حتمی شکل دیدی، جلد ہی وزیر اعظم کو پیش کیا جائیگا

دفاعی حکومت نے معاشی بحالی کے پروگرام کو حتمی شکل دیدی، جلد ہی وزیر اعظم کو پیش کیا جائیگا۔

گورنر راج کی ابھی بات نہیں ہوئی، کل کا پتہ نہیں، فیصل کریم کنڈی

گورنر راج کی ابھی بات نہیں ہوئی، کل کا پتہ نہیں، فیصل کریم کنڈی نے کہا ہے کہ گورنر راج کی ابھی بات نہیں ہوئی، کل کا پتہ نہیں۔

اجتاج رکوانے کا کیس، عدالت کوئی ڈائریکشن نہیں دے سکتی، اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ

اجتاج رکوانے کا کیس، عدالت کوئی ڈائریکشن نہیں دے سکتی، اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ۔

لاہور، امیر جماعت اسلامی حافظ نعیم پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

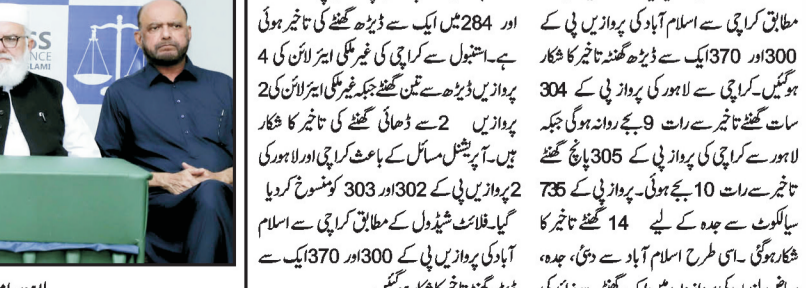
لاہور، امیر جماعت اسلامی حافظ نعیم پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں۔

آپریشنل مسائل، راہچی اور لاہور کی 2 پروازیں

آپریشنل مسائل، راہچی اور لاہور کی 2 پروازیں۔

عظمیٰ بخاری کی فیک وڈیو پبلک سروس

عظمیٰ بخاری کی فیک وڈیو پبلک سروس۔



Minister lauds teachers' role in shaping nation's future

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on World Teachers' Day lauded the role of teachers in shaping the future of a nation.

In his message on "World Teachers Day" being observed on Saturday across the globe including Pakistan, he stated: "Dear Respected Teachers" I extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to each of you for your tireless efforts in shaping young minds and building a better future.

"Your dedication, passion, and commitment to education are the cornerstone of our society's progress. You not only impart knowledge but also inspire, motivate, and nurture the next generation of leaders" the Education Minister mentioned.

"As I reflect on my journey, I am reminded of the profound impact my teachers had on my life. Their guidance, encouragement, and wisdom helped shape me into the person I am today" he appreciated.

To all the teachers, I say: you are the true nation-builders. Your selflessness, expertise, and love for teaching make a lasting difference in the lives of your students, the minister said. He urged "Let us celebrate your contributions, your perseverance, and your unwavering commitment to education. Thank you for all that you do". INP

Security beefed up at Nawaz Sharif's Jati Umra residence

LAHORE: Security has been beefed up at Jati Umra, the residence of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in Lahore amid Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Lahore protest.

As per details, the routes leading to Jati Umra from Adda Plot have been blocked with containers. It is important to note here that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is set to protest in Lahore today, as the Punjab government sealed Minare-Pakistan.

As per details, containers have been placed on all routes leading to the location, and the police have arrested over 600 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers in a bid to prevent the protest from taking place.

Over 10,000 security personnel have been deployed in Lahore to maintain law and order, whereas the metro bus service in Lahore have been partially suspended. The Punjab government has also imposed Section 144 in Lahore to ban political gatherings, sit-ins, rallies and protests for six days.

The restrictions will remain in effect from Thursday, October 3 (today), to Tuesday, October 8, to maintain law and order and protect lives and property. According to the notification, public gatherings could serve as soft targets for terrorists. The Punjab Home Department has issued the official notification for the imposition of Section 144. The move comes ahead of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) planned protest in Lahore today.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Army troops patrolling in the Federal Capital, ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit and several high-profile visits later this month in the wake of the protest calls given by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). ONLINE

Foreign investment in maritime sector to be enhanced: Qaiser

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh chaired a meeting with representatives from Malaysian companies, including Felda Global Ventures and KLK Malaysia, as well as the Pakistani Westbury Group to discuss foreign investment in Pakistan's maritime sector.

The statement issued by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs on Saturday stated that the Malaysian companies, including Felda Global Ventures and KLK Malaysia, expressed their commitment to expanding business operations through Pakistan's ports. The meeting was also attended by Pakistani company Westbury Group.

They Malaysian companies already engaged with Pakistan's ports reaffirmed their commitment to expanding operations through these ports.

Speaking on the occasion, Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh assured that the government will extend full cooperation to all foreign investors, including those from Malaysia. He said that the Port Qasim Authority, Karachi Port Trust, and other institutions under the Ministry of Maritime Affairs are actively addressing the concerns of importers and exporters.

The minister said, "My office is always open to investors, and if foreign investors face any hurdles, they can directly contact me." He further stated that a Memorandum of



Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Danish government recent week, under which Maersk will invest two billion dollars in Pakistan's maritime sector. Qaiser Shaikh said that this was proof that foreign investors were showing confidence in Pakistan.

He said that the success of CPEC was also connected with our ports. Upgradation of all ports including Gwadar and Karachi was in progress, he informed.

The minister assured Malaysian importers and exporters that they will have no reason for complaints regarding the ports. He thanked the representatives of the multinational companies for their participation in the meeting and expressed satisfaction with the visit of the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh expressed the hope that the two countries would strengthen cooperation in all sectors, including maritime.

PTI's prioritizing power over national interests commendable: Kh Asif

SIALKOT: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Saturday said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is prioritizing power over national interests with is commendable.

Addressing a press conference at his residence in Sialkot Cantonment area, the defence minister asserted that the loyalty of PTI and its leader, Imran Khan, lies solely in maintaining authority rather than serving Pakistan's interests. He said the pattern of behaviour from the PTI was continuing since 2014 when their protests had delayed the visit of the Chinese President and initiation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Khawaja Muhammad Asif said similar behaviour was being shown by the PTI leaders on Saturday, when the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit was round the corner, and the party was all out to undermine Pakistan's international standing.

He raised concerns about the involvement of armed groups, including hundreds of Afghans, during PTI's protests. He accused the PTI of hindering Pakistan's development through their demonstrations, stating, "PTI's protests have always sought to obstruct Pakistan's progress." He raised an alarm at the identification of some protestors as potentially linked to a banned militant group.

The defence minister said that the PTI was using the public resources to carry out its protests, led by Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur. He referenced historical precedents, reminding the public of PTI's past actions that delayed international visits and engagements, stating, "Political tensions have always existed, but no party has ever compromised their identity as Pakistanis like the PTI has."

He pointed out the stark contrast between PTI's actions and the sacrifices of Pakistani soldiers, noting that while many have fallen in defence of the nation, the PTI has not paid tribute to these martyrs nor addressed significant international issues such as the Palestinians' cause.

He also linked PTI's current unrest to fears over improving economic indicators in Pakistan, suggesting that the PTI leadership was anxious about legal troubles and was trying to create chaos in response to the government's successes. He asserted that the prime minister has effectively presented issues like Kashmir and Palestine on the international platforms, which he believes has unsettled the PTI.

Khawaja Asif called for accountability for the PTI actions and highlighted the necessity of exposing their alleged connections with foreign elements that did not align with Pakistan's interests.

To a question, he said that the PTI seeks to create chaos and violence. He praised the Punjab police for their resilience in handling the situation, stressing that the armed groups being brought in did not represent the values of Pakistan.

To another query, the defence minister remarked that the KP chief minister had crossed all limits, making it impossible to rule out any response. The PTI had already exploited the province and was now wasting resources in their assaults, which he labeled as acts against the nation. MPAs Muhammad Manshaullah Butt, Chaudhry Faisal Ikram, Shakeela Arthur, PML-N President Sialkot City Muhammad Rafiq Mughal, General Secretary Women's Wing Nasrat Jamshed were present on the occasion. INP

ECP postpones tests for various positions

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Saturday postponed the tests for various positions, including Deputy Assistant Directors (Accounts), Senior Assistants and Junior Assistants, which were originally scheduled for October 6, 2024.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) spokesperson announced in a statement that

due to unforeseen circumstances, candidates may face difficulties in accessing examination centers in Islamabad and Karachi.

The revised examination schedule will be announced at a later date," she stated, adding that the Commission regrets any inconvenience caused by the postponement and appreciates candidates' cooperation. APP



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Ahsan Iqbal here on Saturday paid rich tributes to teachers on 'World Teachers' Day', saying they were the builders of nation. (Story on Page 1)

CM Punjab reviews progress on different initiatives



LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif set a target to bring Bank of Punjab to the top in bank ranking. She directed the Bank authorities to take effective measures for cost control. She said, "The first choice of a depositor should be the Bank of Punjab." Madam Chief Minister was given a detailed briefing by President Bank of Punjab Zafar Masood on financial aspects of Chief Minister's Welfare Schemes. She reviewed the progress made so far in 'Green Tractor Scheme', 'Bike Programme', 'Himat Card', 'Apni Chhat... Apna Ghar' and other projects. She was presented report on the delivery of Interest Free Bikes, and directed the authorities concerned to

ensure further improvement so that students can apply for the bike digitally by sitting at their homes.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif was briefed, "The facility of paying installments of bikes online has been provided to the students." They added, "1591 bikes have been delivered under CM Interest Free Bikes." Madam Chief Minister was apprised, "40,000 farmers are being given Rs 2.5 lakh through livestock card, 65,000 special persons are being paid through Bank of Punjab ATMs across Punjab." She was assured, "Bank of Punjab is committed to fully support Kisan Card and other public welfare projects of the Chief Minister." Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Information & Culture Minister Azma Zahid Bukhari, Finance Minister Mujtaba Shujaur Rahman and MPA Sania Ashiq attended the meeting. Principal Secretary to CM, Secretary Finance, Bank officials and others relevant officers were also present.

'Indian FM's participation in SCO summit a positive sign for bilateral relations'



ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Party Leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) in Senate and Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman, Senator Irfanul Haque Siddiqui has termed the announcement of Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit as a positive development for the bilateral relations between Pakistan and India. In a statement posted on his social media account on platform 'X' on Saturday, the senior PML-N leader said the presence of the Indian foreign minister at the summit holds promise for easing tensions between the two neighboring countries. However, Senator Irfan Siddiqui expressed concerns regarding the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's approach toward this diplomatic event. He criticized PTI for extending an invitation to only the Indian foreign minister, among all SCO leaders, to participate in its protest demonstrations. Senator Irfan Siddiqui further remarked that PTI should showcase its 'remarkable achievements' by taking the Indian foreign minister to visit more than 200 destroyed defense installations and memorials of martyrs, hinting at recent unrest, to solidify the 'eternal ties' between PTI and India.

UAE Ambassador inaugurates art exhibition

KARACHI: On the 10th day of the ongoing "World Culture Festival Karachi" organized by Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, an art exhibition titled "The Legacy, Vision of the Old Masters & Contemporary Painters of Pakistan" was held at the Ahmed Parvez Art Gallery.

The exhibition was inaugurated by the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi, Provincial Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Archives, and President Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi. UAE's Consul General in Karachi, Bakheet Atiq Al Rumaithi, was also present on the occasion. UAE Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi expressed his pleasure at attending the beautiful exhibition. He said that he has organized an incredible festival in Karachi. Art is a global language, and 40 countries are participating in this festival.

The Provincial Minister for Culture has also supported the event's organization." He added, "I appreciate Pakistani artists who were also present at the Dubai Art Festival. The young generation of Pakistan is very talented, and there should be exchanges between artists from Pakistan and the UAE. I am grateful to



the media for showcasing the festival worldwide, and I hope that in the future, you will see joint projects between Pakistani and Emirati artists." Provincial Minister for Culture stated that we welcome the UAE Ambassador to Karachi; his presence is an honor for us. We will also organize visits to historical sites and buildings in Karachi. Due to the World Cultural Festival Karachi, our soft image is being projected globally."

He added that the UAE and Pakistan share brotherly relations, and we have requested an easing of visa policies because Dubai is a beautiful place to visit. We are also planning to hold a culture festival in Dubai.

At UN, Pakistan urges stronger int'l cooperation to promote social development

UNITED NATIONS: Amid multiple challenges facing developing countries, such as armed conflict, climate change, poverty and food insecurity, Pakistan has called for stronger international cooperation to advance social development, bridge the digital divide and alleviate poverty.

"Inclusive social development is at the core of the several actions outlined in the Pact of the Future," Ambassador Munir Akram told the UN General Assembly's Third Committee, which deals with social, humanitarian and cultural matters. He was referring to the Pact, which the world leaders adopted at UN headquarters in New York on Sept 22 at the Summit of the Future that includes a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations.

"Realizing the Pact's objectives of poverty eradication, social protection, education and health for all, empowerment of women and youth, sustainable development, and climate resilience, will require political will,



global solidarity and adequate financing," the Pakistani envoy said. "The world is witnessing a historic demographic transformation," Ambassador Akram said. He added that the number of persons over 60 is projected to rise from 1.2 billion in 2024 to 2.1 billion by 2050. "This will require adjustment to every aspect of our society, economy and public policy," he said, underscoring the need to prioritize social protection systems, promote decent jobs as well as access to healthcare and pensions. "While the number of elders expands mostly in developed coun-

tries, he said, the youth bulge grows in mostly developing countries, noting that Declarations on Future Generations reinforces the policy required to respond to these developments, the changing nature of work, legal and illegal migration and the impact of technology.

Referring to the upcoming thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, the Pakistani envoy urged the international community to reaffirm its commitment to supporting families as agents of sustainable development. "Our religion, Islam, promotes family well-being, intergenerational solidarity, and social protection for all," he added. About the need for improving social policies, particularly in areas such as social protection, healthcare, and education, Ambassador Akram also said it was critical to bridge the divide to ensure an equitable, inclusive and universally beneficial digital transformation. "The commitments made in the

Global Digital Compact must be fully implemented," the Pakistani envoy stressed.

The Pact, he said, had agreed on several actions to bridge the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Financing Gap to boost progress on making the world a better place to live in.

These include the commitment to re-channel 50% of the unused 2021 allocation of SDRs (Special Drawing Rights); to explore ways for speedy issuance and rechanneling of SDRs in response to future shocks; to consider capital increases for MDBs (Multilateral Development Banks); to support negotiations on a UN Framework Convention on International Social Cooperation; and to deliver a robust IDA (International Development Association) replenishment and establish a pathway for larger IDA funding by 2030. Ambassador Akram urged the UN Secretary-General to focus, in his next report on social development, on the fulfillment of the commitments made in the Pact of the Future.APP