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## Terrorist Incidents Cannot Affect Fencing Of PakAfghan Border: Langove

Home Minister Balochistan, Ziaullah Langove chairs a high-level meeting on Wednesday

### News Desk

Home Minister Balochistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove on Wednesday said terrorist incidents cannot affect the fencing of the Pak-Afghan border. The Minister chaired a high-level meeting regarding settlement issues relating to the porous border.

The meeting also reviewed the pace of work on the fencing of the Pak-Afghan border in the aftermath of a terrorist incident at Zohb that claimed four precious lives of four Frontier Corps (FC) soldiers.

Additional Chief Secretary (Home), Arshad Majeed, Brigadier from the Southern Command, Commissioner Quetta, Division, Asfandiyar Khan, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Police Muhammad Azhar

Akram, Deputy Commissioner Killa Abdullah, Tariq Javed Mengal, and other security officials participated in the meeting.

Minister directs officials to address grievances of tribal elders. Speaking on the occasion, Home Minister directed the concerned quarters to address the issues of people living in divided villages and address the issues of settlement. The meeting also reviewed the provision of solar tube wells to residents of the divided villages to solve their power supply issues.

Mr Langove stated that the fencing of the border would help improve bilateral trade with Afghanistan and improve people-to-people contact. He however vowed that the terrorists involved in the martyrdom of FC soldiers would be brought to justice.

"Such coward acts cannot affect the fencing of the border", Home Minister Balochistan mentioned.

Tribal elders from the bordering villages also participated in the meeting.

213km fencing of the border completed so far. 213km fencing of the border completed so far and remaining 27km would be fenced off, the officials informed the meeting. The meeting thoroughly reviewed issues relating to the border.

The meeting decided to address the grievances of tribesmen living on both sides of the border in the aftermath of the fencing. The meeting directed the district administration and board of revenue to file reports regarding the settlement issues at the border.

## PM directs Pakistani ENVOYES to give special treatment to Pakistani diaspora

Islamabad: Prime Minister Imran Khan has directed Pakistani Embassies around the globe to give special treatment to Pakistani diaspora and resolve their problems on priority basis.

Addressing Pakistani Ambassadors through video link on Wednesday, he said there should be complete monitoring of the complaints of overseas Pakistanis.

He said embassies must work with the approach to resolve issues being confronted by the Pakistani labourers abroad.

Imran Khan said overseas Pakistanis are our asset and any negligence to serve them is unacceptable.

He said we received massive complaints from our labour class working in various countries on the Pakistan Citizen Portal. He said the government will provide all possible assistance to our foreign missions to facilitate our people in different countries. Imran Khan also directed ambassadors to focus on bringing Foreign Direct Investment to Pakistan and it must be evaluated that which embassy facilitated how much FDI to Pakistan. He said Pakistani prisoners in foreign jails need special attention and efforts should be made for their release as well. Online



ISLAMABAD: Secretary General Markazi Ulema Council (MUC), Punjab Chapter, Hafiz Maqbool Ahmad called on Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi at Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## RDA approves Implementation of Private Housing Scheme, Land Sub-Division Rules-2020

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) has approved implementation of Private Housing Scheme and Land Sub-Division Rules-2020 in the District Rawalpindi regarding approval of Private Housing Schemes, in order to implement the vision of Prime Minister of Pakistan "ease of doing business".

Chairman RDA Tariq Mehmood Murtaza chaired the 54th meeting of RDA Governing Body held here on Wednesday which gave the approval.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman RDA said ease of doing business policy of the government is in the larger public interest to solve the issues and speed up the approval process to boost the construction industry and create employment opportunities and to run the business connected with the construction sector. He said for the purpose One Window Operation Centre is online working to ease the general public and to reduce the approval processing time. The Director General RDA Capt. (R) Abdul Sattar Isani gave a detailed briefing on the agenda items before the governing body. The governing body approved criteria for the two posts of Chief Planner BPS-20 and Chief Architect BPS-20 which will be filled through depuration from the Government or by Selection. The Governing Body also approved/decided to form a policy for the transfer of schemes, flats, departments and shops so that all RDA records should be maintained. Chairman RDA Tariq Mehmood thanked all the members who attended the meeting. Members of Governing Body including Vice Chairman RDA Haroon Hashmi, Haji Amjad Mahmood Chaudhary (MPA), PPP-13, Mianfar Ali Technical Member, Director General RDA Capt. (R) Abdul Sattar Isani, Director Admin & Finance RDA Asif Mehmood Janjua, Director EM RDA Samra Younus, Director LD RDA Malik Ghazifair, Director MP&IE Shahzad Haider INP.

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court directed on Wednesday the Ministry of Industries and Production to fix the price of oxygen cylinders within two days' time. An apex court bench gave this direction on a plea filed by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government.

The court further instructed the ministry to explain how the price of oxygen cylinders is set.

The Advocate General of KP said suppliers are charging exorbitantly for oxygen cylinders in absence of official rates.

A Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) lawyer said the Ministry of Industries and Production made with the supply of medical oxygen INP.

29pc increase in power tariff in a year height of animosity with public: Bilawal

KARACHI: Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday said that increasing power tariff by 29 percent in just one year is height of animosity with public.

Bilawal Bhutto, in his statement about rising inflation in the country, said that rents of houses have increased by 9.3 percent while prices of everyday commodities increased by 15.9 percent.

PPP Chairman further said that in these difficult times, Sindh government has issued Benazir Mazdoor Card, which will provide medical grant to 0.6 million registered industrial workers INP.

He further announced that the card will also provide grant for medicines and medicines and medicines. PPP will issue the card to all labourers of the country when it forms federal government, he added. INP.

With double-digit inflation, govt spells disaster for country: Shehbaz

LAHORE: President of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that with inflation in double digits, PTI government spells disaster for the country.

Shehbaz Sharif, in a tweet, lashed out at Pakistan's ruling government and said that it causes waiting in queues for hours in Ramadan Iftar and real incomes having gone down, government spells disaster.

Former CM Punjab further said that government has completed almost three years of its term but still changes are being made in the cabinet as people are fed with hollow claims.

Earlier, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday said that increasing power tariff by 29 percent in just one year is height of animosity with public.

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Fix price of oxygen cylinders, SC tells government

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Home Minister Balochistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove chairing a meeting regarding Pak-Afghan Border fencing.

## PakAfghan Border: 4 FC Soldiers Martyred In A Terrorist Attack

### Web Desk

Four Frontier Corps (FC) personnel martyred and six injured in a terrorist attack near the Pak-Afghan border on Wednesday, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

Terrorists ambushed the soldiers during a fencing activity at the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, the military's media wing said.

The ISPR said that the troops were moving for fencing activity along the border in the Minakzai sector in Balochistan's Zohb when "terrorists from Afghanistan ambushed" them.

FC troops responded to the attack promptly, it said. The injured soldiers

were evacuated to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) Quetta, the ISPR added.

The martyred soldiers include Havaldar, Noor Zaman, Sepoy, Shabaz Abbas, Sepoy, Ihsan Ullah, and Naik Sultan. Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid condemned the attack, terming it "very sad."

"Terrorists cannot dampen the courage of Pakistan's forces. Fencing work at the Pakistan-Afghanistan border will be completed under any condition," he emphasized in a tweet. Home Minister Balochistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove earlier said 83 percent of fencing work at the Pak-Afghan border completed currently. Mr. Langove chaired a high-

level meeting with regard to the fencing of the Pak-Afghan border.

Legal movement increased after fencing of border. "Legal movement of people increased after fencing of the border", the minister said. He men-



Home Minister Balochistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove chairing a meeting regarding Pak-Afghan Border fencing.

## Shaukat Tareen: Pakistan Cannot Increase Tariffs, Taxes

"We have told the IMF that we cannot increase taxes", Tareen said.

### Monitoring Desk

Federal Finance Minister, Shaukat Tareen

inflation would increase once fuel charges were increased.

He added that this stance was conveyed and both the World Bank

and the IMF had been very sympathetic to it. "We have to tell them that we won't come out of the IMF program but give us some space and we will change the method. Tariff increase is not the only way to raise money."

He said they were concerned that Pakistan's circular debt was increasing and there "should be some brakes" and stability in it. Tareen added that the government would prove that through various measures, but it didn't mean that it would increase tariffs on the common person since Prime Minister Imran Khan was against it.

We will apologize to them on this and they are sympathetic to us."

Shaukat Tareen on Wednesday said Pakistan cannot increase tariff and taxes. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been informed about the decision of the federal government, he said.

Speaking at a news conference in Islamabad, Mr. Tareen said "Pakistan has not yet come out of the IMF program, we have discussed with them and told them that our revenues were increasing at 92 percent but the third wave of Covid came and they decreased after that." "At this time, we don't have the capacity to increase tariffs or [adopt] incremental taxes, our common man is completely fed up of this inflation," he said, adding that this had a cascading effect and

and the IMF had been very sympathetic to it. "We have to tell them that we won't come out of the IMF program but give us some space and we will change the method. Tariff increase is not the only way to raise money."

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## PM Imran Khan to depart for Saudi Arabia on Friday

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan will depart for Saudi Arabia on May 7 (Friday) on an official visit, his Special Assistant on Religious Harmony Maulana Tahir Ashrafi said on Wednesday.

Speaking to the media before his departure for Saudi Arabia, he said the prime minister will be visiting the Kingdom on the invitation of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. During his visit, PM Khan will meet the crown prince and other Saudi political as well as religious leaders.

The incumbent government's vision as to ties with the brotherly country is clear, Maulana Ashrafi said, adding the two sides will discuss deepening cooperation in various fields, including trade, tourism and culture.

"The relation between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan is like that between body and soul," he said. It is noteworthy that Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa arrived in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on an official visit yesterday, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations. He will meet the Kingdom's civil-military leadership during the visit.

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## Tortured Journey Of Izzat Kakar From A Village In Balochistan To America

Izzat knocks out an American opponent within 40 seconds

### Syed Ali Shah

Poverty, unemployment, and lack of official patronage forced Izzatullah Kakar to leave Pakistan and go abroad in search of job and sports activities. In a kickboxing fight in Birmingham, Alabama, Mr. Kakar knocked out his English rival Chris Saro in just 2 minutes the other day.

"I wept a lot after the victory as there was none from Pakistan to congratulate me," Mr. Kakar told Quetta Voice in an exclusive interview. Without any official patronage, Izzat prepared and ensured his victory against the world-fame English rival Chris Saro. "It was the only one carrying Pakistan's national flag during the victory," he mentioned.

Kakar belongs to Tehsil Gulistan's Killa Abdul Rehmanzai, one of the frontier villages near the Pak-Afghan border. Kakar's record includes the honor of winning three battles in three weeks after winning the recent fight. "Government will encourage and support Izzat Kakar," Imran Gichki, the Secretary of Sports Balochistan said.

"Despite difficulties, I kept continued my journey", Kakar



"Despite difficulties, I kept continued my journey towards success", Izzat Kakar had played in various boxing leagues in Quetta from 2004 to 2013. "In 2013, I used illegal ways to reach Australia as an illegal immigrant", he recalled. "I put my life at peril and succeeded in reaching Australia", Kakar recalled the troubled journey.

In Australia too, I kept continued my struggle for becoming a world-fame boxer.

However, Secretary Sports Balochistan, Mr. Gichki said that the government would provide a protocol and prize to Izzat Kakar after his arrival in Quetta.

BKFC is the most dangerous sports. Baluchistan Knockouts Fighting Championship (BKFC) is the most dangerous sport. "Despite being aware of the danger, I decided to fight", he informed. "I was feeling severe shoulder-ache on the occasion of the fight", he said.

Mr. Kakar urged the government to ensure patronage of the talented and committed youth so that they could play on national and international levels. Most of Pakistan's population comprises of youth, therefore, the government has to engage them positively, he concluded.



**Editor Asim Khan**

Out of way, he used to grant admissions to poor and deserving students at Degree College Quetta. Most of the students belonging to far-flung areas of Balochistan would come to Quetta to study in degree college. This province needs teachers like Professor Jamsheed who spread the cause of education despite all odds.

To understand this,

[illegible]

This trend continued for 45 years when no hydroelectric dams were built. The hydro-thermal ratio changed from 15:85 in 1950 to 10:90 in 1995. This policy was not in Pakistan's interest and made hydroelectric development my misadventure.

In 1975, we had arranged a high-level conference on the "Role of Hydroelectricity in Pakistan's Development". The development of "Pakistan" in my keynote paper I had suggested that since Tarbela was nearing completion, the government should embark upon two major dams on the River Indus, and get a ranking study of the project. This was approved by a respectable foreign organization. This was approved, but because of the 1977 coup, it was delayed to 1980. In 1980, the Indus Dam was ranked first and Duss second.

A disastrous step was the 1980 PPP policy. It was a step back because of its extremely unfavourable terms

started with the backing of PM Imran Khan, who also stopped building any more coal power stations. Several other hydroelectric projects have also started. Hopefully the decline of the power sector will end.

**Dr Wajecha Shahid**

dent Pervaiz Musharraf. His devolutionary exercise was also a legitimisation of the centralised rule since it did not devolve power from the centre to the provinces and instead focused on creating local governments at a number of levels.

As per research, the 18th Amendment has done little to strengthen Pakistan's multi-tiered governance at the federal, provincial and local levels. At the provincial levels by reviewing the Federal Legislative List, Part I and repealing the Concurrent Legislative List, the central and regional governments statutory and policy-making powers were demarcated by handing over exclusive control of 25 items to the provincial governments. As per the terms to the Council of Common Interests (CCI), the provincial governments the regional governments, further restructuring of the provinces into district, taluk, and union council levels has been undertaken. The provincial governments under the policy framework articulated in the 18th Amendment have to constitute the Provincial Councils.

Moreover, "through the 18th Amendment, Article 140(A), the 18th Amendment, clearly states that the provincial governments shall, by law, establish a local government system and devolve political, financial and administrative powers to the local government

local governments. This led to the provision of a wide range of planning, policy-making and service delivery spaces, institutions to make the system of government more effective and to provide better services at the grassroots level.

Critics of bureaucratic centralism point out, apart from the importance of local bodies cannot be discounted, especially in the delivery of services such as the Public Distribution System, health care schemes, mitigation of disease, outbreaks and disasters. While the ranks of the local government are the signifiers of the outcomes, primarily highlighting the efficacy of the local government in public utility, scholars argue that decentralisation and people's participation in the 1970s, thanks to the socio-political movements, was not enough. The presence of robust machinery at the local level is a measure of the people's participation in the government's policy. Its absence is bound to have an immense effect. In this regard, the government's laxity in holding the elections needs to be registered.

People's participation strengthen political parties' organisational structure and enable them to work closely.

**COVID-19 pandemic is** existing educational disparities in Pakistan. Limited access to education for many vulnerable and marginalised children, a calculable cost of 990,000 children as expected to drop out from secondary and primary education during the pandemic, with an already 22.8 million of the school-going population being out of school, and the country expected to have one of the highest drop-out rates due to the pandemic, have pushed our educators radically reshaped our educational scenario, but we must not interpret this as a crisis of education. Now is the time to undertake a cooperative action for our future generations who are being severely affected by COVID-19. We need to bring innovative and creative solutions to our educational environment on an urgent basis to revitalise and recover learning attainment of the post-COVID generation.

In the current scenario, it becomes imperative to ask ourselves the question: "What is learning for?" and this invites us to revisit our curriculum objectives, instructional strategies, teaching pedagogy and assessment mechanisms. This should be reflected not only reflect on all the elements involved in teaching,

focus on the four pillars of learning: to know, to do, to be and to live together. We need to accept that successful teachers are impulsive, and that the classroom will remain so in the coming future – but they need to be able to control their impulses, equipped to be effective in retaining and regaining students' presence in the learning process. Their effectiveness may be ensured by supporting their resilience. For this purpose, providing them with the most relevant trainings to enhance their digital literacy skills and competences, together with technology gadgets for effective remedial education will enhance their resilience towards the crisis. Teachers may not only be given ownership of technology gadgets, but also be trained in designing multiple types of assessments suitable for their students' needs. They may also be given creative assignments and open-book quizzes to enhance students' critical thinking skills. Furthermore, we need to train students to increase their computer self-efficacy, to use the Internet to access a million internet sites, making it the 10th largest popular search engine, to use the word "The" at the beginning of the picture shows electricity" to disrupts. Intriguingly, the word "The" is the most common word, especially in peripheries and rural areas. At

develop a wide range of strategies for using technology as radio programming, educational television to be used for live lessons, for distance learning, for distribution of print material via surface mail for further study, and for the use of no-tech approaches must not be forgotten so that children from marginalised communities are not left behind. Another point of consideration is to motivate educated people to guide and train parents for monitoring students' learning and to ensure that the support but classes are ongoing through online distance learning modes. This will ensure that education continues during the current recession as parents' involvement may help them to ensure that their children continue to receive education for their children.

Last but not the least, the government must ensure that, hand in hand with development partners and NGOs, it strengthens digital infrastructure and connectivity to provide greater opportunity of inclusion for all learners and to ensure that the demands that we must stay optimistic and keep education at the heart of the development vision for our children and youth region. Our promise for the future is to ensure that we achieve the goal of sustainable, inclusive and quality education for all.

**Muhammad Zaheer**

iterations of the social and political concerns in the nationalistic circles. Phrases like "peace in all directions" and "burning the past" metaphorically at least, suggest a new strategy for their future policy outlook. One hopes that the policy-makers will not miss the deep introspection and analysis, keeping our eyes on the ground and the upmost. Dr Yusuf may or may not be our Jared Kushner.

His over-enthusiasm on Kashmir, while bold and out of the box, has to be viewed in the context of the Kashmiri people, including the displaced, and the India-Pakistan-Kashmir relationship, given the border entanglement in the region. The statement by China's Foreign Ministry encouraging bilateralism between India and Pakistan, and the binary of Indo-Pakistan rapprochement, leaving China out has to be noted.

Likewise, the option of keeping Kashmir on the table, and pushing the agenda forward on other issues, also is a slippery slope. It may be a "vital-core interest" for Pakistan, given its emotional, religious, psychological and political significance. The religious right without due consideration, could make the PTI boot-

like to PDM can be resolved in a more predictable and complex issues are resolved by time itself. The PDM is not intended to not defer to the Kashmir issue, and find a solution acceptable to all. The PDM is for the general public to be supportive, both the government and the opposition, to have to prepare grounds through confidence building exercises (CBMs) in a sustained manner over time with all external agents working towards the resolution of the deep states and political intrigues (on the Indian side). The PDM should be started "from and within Kashmir" and the PDM is an immediate measure is the immediate Article 270.

Whether the PDM is India's initiative or not, India's establishment can spring such a concept. The PDM is not seems tough at present. So, raising expectations among the Indian public, mostly concrete CBMs, would be a better way.

If the western analysts are not so helpful, the PDM can be believed. The US is hell-bent against the PDM. The PDM is a new warfare against China.

The truth is far from this. The PDM is not notwithstanding, India has steadfastly refused to let the US butt down the PDM. The PDM is not a war against China, differed on military cooperation and the PDM is not an anti-Chinese (antagonising China), and

avoided military pacts with the United States, and to charter a course — as far as possible — between the two superpowers. Yes, India has tried to maximise its economic and diplomatic relations with both, but its close closeness to the US is undeniable.

There are indications that India might balance against China without an explicit pact with the United States. America. It has avoided the repeat of its redoubtable forward policy that led to the Indo-Pakistani war of 1962, over Aksai Chin/Arunachal Pradesh, and the Sino-Indian border dispute in the "South Tibet".

Overall, India underlines its non-alignment, the nature of the Indo-US relationship and the short-term US attention to the South Asian bureaucracy and Chavakya Kautava (375-376). India has been clever and illustrative for the mandarin of US State Department, who has been able to move the US towards the South Asian sands of miles away.

The related argument about the Indo-Pakistani concern about the US-Pakistan not having peace with India, China has been able to remain peacefully engaged with India, and the US has been able to understand the implications of a nuclear war in its backyard and the region, where it can sell its weapons, and the region, where it can sell its weapons, and the region, where it can sell its weapons.

India has been able to deny it.

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ities. In this section, we discuss what scholars, HEIs, and universities do to allocate their resources to support a national postdoctoral programme, offering a perspective from a university assistant professor. National research programmes that use human resources and currently no ongoing research grant supports are the least likely to be associated. A post-doctoral programme will enable the researcher to gain experience and a mentor who is crucial for the academic career. The faculty and researchers in academia PhD scholars can also pursue post-doctoral fellowships for the same purpose, and HEIs must release such scholars to pursue fellowships of staying in the assistant for a certain number of years.

The quality of graduate PhD programmes is another serious issue. The quality of research in allowing national universities to offer PhD programmes is not always already offered but must be strictly criticised and their admission and research training procedures awarding procedures. Without enough resources and infrastructure, the quality of trained PhDs will be out of step with even more employment.

Research advisers can focus on their PhD students' creative thinking, critical thinking, writing, and presentation skills to enable students to publish their work. Every PhD is trained to collect information or research data, and to establish credibility. These are the

PHD students, especially those in sciences and engineering, are often trained in narrow disciplinary courses to enhance their interpersonal and communication skills. The idea of expanding skills is always good even if it is not always practical. In several countries, including one in graphic arts, students are required to make illustrations and artworks for their research papers. This is a good idea.

Certain areas are greatly ignored. For instance, creative thinking and problem solving are not given that one gets during a rigorous PHD training course. In the sciences and research-based entrepreneurship education, one often create jobs for others.

Internationally, PHD students are often given paths that might be unusual and surprising in their own countries. For instance, a German colleague joined a school as a teacher. A PhD would be a waste of time in a public school's permanent position in Pakistan. The government can revise the pay scales and give allowances to attract PhDs to school and college-level jobs.

There is a talent waste of highly educated PhDs. A significant waste of human capital and resources and if not solved soon, will discourage students from pursuing



## Four terrorists behind attacks on Rangers arrested in Karachi

KARACHI: Four terrorists behind attacks on Rangers in Karachi were arrested in their joint operation. The arrested terrorists were identified as Sajjad Ali, Asif Chana, Mohsin Raza, and Noshad Ali and Aslam Baig. Arms and ammunition have also been recovered from their custody.

## Govt should talk to shipping companies to cut freight charges: PRGMEA

LAHORE: Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association (PRGMEA) has urged the government to talk to shipping companies to cut skyrocketed freight charges whopping up to 700 percent after the reopening of global trade amidst Covid-19 so that exports growth could be sustained.

In a letter addressed to Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Ali Zaidi, Central Chairman PRGMEA Sohail Sheikh appealed him to control the situation, asking the international shipping lines to rationalize cost of containerized cargo, as it has offset the positive impact of incentives provided by the government.

Sohail Sheikh pointed out that both regional as well as the international shipping lines seemed to have formed a cartel to impose exorbitantly high freight charges in a bid to cash in on the post-Covid situation. He said that Pakistan's importers and exporters pay to shipping companies at least \$5 billion annually in international freight charges. He said that the jump in international freight charges had

increased the cost of doing business in Pakistan and apparel exporters could not remain competitive in the international market if government did not interfere.

The Central Chairman PRGMEA said that freight charges for cargo in a 20-foot container arriving from China to Pakistan have presently increased to around \$3,000 from almost \$600 of pre-Covid time. He said that high growth despite the fact that lockdowns have been ended for a long time and now there is a routine traffic of goods, freight charges have surged abnormally and exports industry has never seen such a huge jump in rates over the past 50 years across the world.

He said, it seems that Covid-19 has provided an opportunity for the national shipping companies to increase freight charges. We know that government is not responsible for the situation in international freight charges. However, in the long run, it should enhance the number of shipping companies in Pakistan, so that it could intervene.

Unfortunately, the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) doesn't have sufficient capacity to fill the space, proposing to acquire containerized ships on lease to facilitate the exporters, as this strategy could help the government keep freight cost in control and making textile exports competitive in global market.

Sohail Sheikh said that Pakistan mostly imports cargo through the Far Eastern countries like Thailand, China, Hong Kong and Singapore, and send export to the EU, the USA and the Middle East.

The Central Chairman PRGMEA recalled that the business community, last year during the time of lockdowns, had written and appealed the government to approach international shipping lines and ask them to waive the demurrage and detention charges in Pakistan in line with the exemption of detention fee announced by the government during the lockdowns, but the authorities did nothing in this regard. INP



QUETTA: A view of rush bazaar due to Eid ul Fitr shopping.

## Coronavirus claims 131 lives, 5112 people tested positive in last 24 hours

LAHORE: 5112 people tested positive while 131 lost their lives due to coronavirus in the last 24 hours in the country on Friday.

The National Command and Operations Centre (NCCOC) latest statistics said the nationwide death toll has soared to 17,811 while overall positive cases have touched the mark of 820,825.

3,272 patients recovered from the disease virus, steering the total number of recovered patients to 711,465.

NCCOC asked the authorities concerned to issue comprehensive SOPs for achieving discipline for achieving macro-economic stability and enhancing revenue generation. The Minister also outlined that Pakistan's economy is showing signs of recovery amid Covid-19 pandemic, with construction and manufacturing sectors in lead. However, the third wave of Covid-19 is particularly challenging, he added.

The Minister also stressed the role of Chambers of Commerce and Industry as a bridge between the Government and the traders for active coordination and welcomed suggestions from

members of FPCCI on the occasion. The representatives of FPCCI felicitated the Finance Minister on assuming new responsibilities and discussed the matters related to sales tax harmonization and rationalization of taxes in his concluding remarks.

The Minister stated that the suggestions presented during the meeting would be accorded due consideration. He assured to have a regular interaction with members of FPCCI and affirmed that all key stakeholders would be taken on board before making important economic decisions.

## FPCCI delegation holds meeting with Finance minister

Islamabad: A delegation of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) held a meeting with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Shaukat Tarin at the Finance Division through a video link.

Adviser to the PM on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood, SAPM on Finance and Revenue Dr Waqar Masood, Chairman FBR and other senior officers participated in the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, the Finance Minister briefed the participants about the economic priorities of the government. He also outlined

that the Government is adhering to strict financial discipline for achieving macro-economic stability and enhancing revenue generation. The Minister also outlined that Pakistan's economy is showing signs of recovery amid Covid-19 pandemic, with construction and manufacturing sectors in lead. However, the third wave of Covid-19 is particularly challenging, he added.

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## Covid-19 vaccine needs to be speeded up: PIMA

The Pakistan Islamic Medical Association (PIMA) has appealed the government and private sector to speed up import of the Covid-19 vaccine.

While Covid-19 continues to affect a large segment of population in Pakistan, efforts to counter it with effective vaccination campaign are far from being satisfactory, the medical association stated in a statement issued on Friday.

The PIMA office-bearer expressed these reservations at a press conference in Islamabad on Friday.

Talking to media persons, PIMA Punjab President Dr Shabbir Ahmad Kalvi and others also urged the society to take the problem seriously. Online

## HEC, university heads agree on providing provisional admission to A2 students

Islamabad: The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan after consultations with the Covid-19 Oversight Committee representing Vice Chancellor from each province and region, and heads of a few private sector universities have agreed to provide provisional admission to A2 students, whose exams have been postponed to October 2021, in the Fall 2021 semester so that they would not waste a session.

On the direction of the Federal Minister for Education Shafiqat Mahmood to ensure that the students of A2, whose Cambridge exams were being postponed due to Covid-19 do not lose a session, a virtual consultative meeting was held on Friday to express the reservations expressed by students and parents. The decision to put off examinations till June 15 due to surge in third wave of Covid-19 in the country.

In this backdrop, HEC and universities have decided to provide provisional admissions to A2 students in the fall Semester 2021 as and when it begins in order to avoid wastage of time.

Addressing the meeting, Executive Director HEC Dr Shaukat Tarin said that HEC would assure the parents and students that HEC and the universities are committed to ensure student-centric approach without compromising the interest of universities and teaching and learning quality. INP

## Punjab police issue transfer orders of many officers

LAHORE: DIG Operations Lahore Sajid Kiani has issued transfer and posting orders of SHO's.

According to the notification issued on Friday, additional SHO Mangla Mandi Police Station Sub Inspector Yasir Abbas has been posted as Additional SHO Ichra Police station, Inspector Rana Mujahid as Sub-Manga Mandi, Inspector Arifque Dogar as SHO North Canal, Inspector Saif ullah Nizazi as SHO Lorry Adda, Inspector Javed Sipra as SHO QLE, Inspector Muhammad Ali as SHO Sarwar Road, Inspector Sohail Ikhtlaq as SHO Lower Mall, Inspector Nasrullah Chohan as SHO Hayer, Sub-Inspector Muhammad Raza as Additional SHO Jinnah Park, Sub-Inspector Asad Abbas as Additional SHO Sabzar, Sub-Inspector Sajid Mahmood as Additional SHO Muslim Town, Sub-Inspector Kashif Younas as Additional SHO Mustafa Town, Sub-Inspector Riaz Gondal as Additional SHO Mochi Gate, Sub-Inspector Rizwan Elahi as Additional SHO Millar Park, Sub-Inspector Ikram Khan as Additional SHO Dala Darbar, Sub-Inspector Sohail Shehzad as Additional SHO Shadman, Sub-Inspector Asghar Bhatti as Additional SHO Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Sub-Inspector INP



QUETTA: Secretary Saleh Nasir along with MS civil hospital visiting COVID-19 ward.

## Punjab IG to take comprehensive measures in the last decade of Ramadan

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police Punjab Inam Ghani has said that comprehensive measures should be taken in the last decade of Ramadan under comprehensive strategy to control crime across the province as well as implement effective SOPs including effective security plan so that protection of life and property, there should be no effort left to protect the citizens from the dangers of the Corona epidemic.

He further said that for the provision of security on Hazrat Ali as Day, Jumad-ul-Wada and Eid-ul-Fitr and for the implementation of Corona SOPs, close liaison should be maintained with all stakeholders and their recommendations regarding security arrangements should be taken into consideration.

He added that in the last decade of the holy month, the focus should be on increasing the number of patrolling personnel and deployment, including the deployment of additional police teams at sensitive locations to tighten the noose around lawbreakers. He said that officers themselves should review the security arrangements in the field.

He further said that search, sweep, combing and intelligence based operations in the vicinity of sensitive religious and public places should be continued on daily basis while security of all religious places including mosques and Imam Bargahs should be kept on high alert on the occasion of Laylat-ul-Qadr.

He further said that along with crime control efforts, no effort should be spared for the implementation of Corona SOPs and police teams should work with other government agencies including the district administration to implement government directives on anti-Corona.

He further said that the proclaimed offenders usually visit their homes on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. For their arrest, DPOs should formulate a special plan under personal supervision and further legal action should be taken against the culprits. He gave these instructions while presiding over a high level video link meeting held at the Central Police Office here today. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on crime control, security arrangements and implementation of Corona SOPs in the last decade of Ramadan. During the meeting, the RPOs and DPOs briefed the IG Punjab about the implementation of Corona SOPs and security arrangements. The IG Punjab instructed them to track down on liquor vendors, especially those selling raw and poisonous liquor and strict initiatives should be taken to prevent incidents of civilian casualties due to consumption of poisonous liquor while the action against those violating the Loudspeaker Act on daily basis should be delayed at all. He further said that all RPOs, CPOs and DPOs should go out in the field themselves and inspect the implementation. INP



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Finance Shaukat Tarin in a meeting with Chief Minister GB Muhammad Khalid Khursheed Khan, Minister Finance GB Javed Manwa and Chief Secretary GB Muhammad Asif Tasmann also present.

## International Labour Day: Services of people of Pakistan are indispensable for development

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjani, in his special message on the occasion of International Labour Day, has said that the economic development and prosperity of the country is not possible without the tireless efforts of our labourers.

"I believe that with the cooperation and support of all stakeholders we can achieve a better quality of life for our workers and labour class", the workers of Chicago sacrificed their lives in the struggle against oppression, exploitation, and more social justice," he underlined.

On this day we also pay tribute to Pakistan workers and labourers who have made their valuable contribution to the nation's strength and the nation. "Every effort will be made to preserve the rights of our labourers and workers", he stressed. The Chairman indicated that the government is keen to improve the living standards of the labour class and is taking further steps through legislation and better policy-making to improve the plight of the labourers.

He also stressed the tireless work of our labour class. This day allows us to acknowledge the efforts of our labourers, made for our country. "Mirza Muhammad Afridi underlined this year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, international labour day is of more significance.

Around the world, millions have lost their jobs and have been affected due to the calamity, greater attention needs to be paid to the welfare of these labourers than ever before," he emphasized. Online

the government is committed towards the well-being of the labour class and their families. A plethora of steps are being taken, encompassing better legislation, related to labourers.

"International Labour Day is celebrated every year in the increasing tireless work of our labour class. This day allows us to acknowledge the efforts of our labourers, made for our country. "Mirza Muhammad Afridi underlined this year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, international labour day is of more significance.

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## KP offers ample investment opportunities for foreign investors: CM

Peshawar: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan has said that KP offers ample opportunities of investment to foreign investors.

He said that there exists conducive environment for foreign investment in the province, adding that the incumbent provincial government is taking concrete steps to facilitate the foreign investors to the maximum.

He has further said that the KP government is offering lucrative incentives to foreign investors to attract them investment in various sectors.

He expressed these views while talking to South Korean Ambassador to Pakistan Sir Sanggyo who called on him here on Friday and discussed with him various matters of mutual interest. Matters related to South Korean investment in different sectors particularly Energy & Power and Local Government sectors also came under discussion.

Various matters regarding the promotion of religious tourism were also discussed. Provincial Minister for Law and Local Government Akbar Ayub were also present on the occasion. Online

## Study links exercise to the prevention of liver cancer

ISLAMABAD: Liver cancer is on the rise, having more than tripled since 1980, according to the American Cancer Society (ACS).

This increase corresponds to the time frame of the "diabetes" pandemic, which refers to the close association between obesity and type 2 diabetes.

As well as being increasingly common, liver cancer is often deadly, with the number of fatalities closely mirroring the number of diagnoses. Each year, the ACS notes, 800,000 people around the world

receive a liver cancer diagnosis, and the disease is responsible for about 700,000 deaths.

A new study in mice has shown that exercise may prevent the development of liver cancer. The researchers have also identified two chemical pathways behind the onset of the disease.

Cellular carcinoma statistics for the United States are alarming — with experts predicting 42,810 diagnoses and 30,160 deaths in 2020 — the U.S. is not even close to the top 25 countries for liver cancer. In

2018, the country with the most cases was Mongolia, with Egypt coming in a close second, followed by China and Cambodia.

Males are more likely than females to develop liver cancer, and the condition is the fastest growing cause of cancer deaths in men in the U.S. The most common form of the disease is hepatocellular carcinoma, and this is the type of liver cancer that the new study investigates.

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QUETTA: A view of rush on shoe shop ahead of start Eid ul Fitr.



# Feroz Shah Wins Japan's Highest Civil Award

The Japanese government awarded the award to Syed Feroz Alam Shah

## Staff Reporter

The government of Japan has awarded "The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette" to Pakistan's honorary technical adviser at the Federal Board of Investment (BoI) and the Director National Engineering Cooperation (NEC), Syed Feroz Alam Shah.

The Japanese government announced the foreign recipients of the 2021 Spring Conferment of Decorations in which Feroz Shah was recognized for his contributions to the promotion of economic relations between Pakistan and Japan.

Feroz Shah is one of the 21 foreign nationals getting Japanese award



So far the government of Japan has awarded 21 foreign nationals with this highest civil award. Syed Feroz Alam Shah is one of them. Mr. Shah would receive the award in July this year.

Shah facilitated new entrants to the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Pakistan and helped them enter the Pakistani market. He also cooperated with the govern-

ment of Pakistan and dealt with the complex application processes. He has worked hard for changes in the SEZ Act, especially regarding the lack of incentives for the industry.

Mr. Shah has also helped the building of the 'Pak-Japan Culture Center in Quetta'.

Additionally, Shah had helped in the building of the 'Pak-Japan

Culture Centre in Quetta' that is run by the Pak-Japan Friendship Society (PJFS).

Mr. Shah is the elder brother of Syed Nadeem Shah, Japan's honorary consul general in Quetta. Syed Nadeem Shah has played an important role in strengthening bilateral ties between Pakistan and Japan.



ISLAMABAD: Secretary General Markazi Ulema Council (MUC), Punjab Chapter, Hafiz Maqbool Ahmad called on Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi at Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Prof Khurshid grieved over demise of Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Ashraf Sehrai

ISLAMABAD: Former Senator and veteran Pakistan politician Prof Khurshid Ahmad has expressed deep grief over the demise of Kashmiri separatist leader and chairman of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat Mohammad Ashraf Khan Sehrai, terming it a great loss for the freedom struggle of Jammu and Kashmir.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Hurriyat leader, who was popularly known as Ashraf Sehrai, was detained under the Public Safety Act in July last year.

In his condolence message on Wednesday, Prof Khurshid Ahmad said Sehrai was a front-line soldier of the Kashmir's freedom struggle since last 60 years. He was also a brave journalist and an inspirational poet and writer. He was a close confidant of Hurriyat Conference leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani and worked day and night for the freedom of the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir.

He prayed that may Allah Almighty bless the deceased soul for his services for Islam and freedom struggle of the Muslims of occupied Kashmir, and empower his family with patience and strength to bear the loss. INP

## Revised schedule for PU MA/MSc online admission issued

LAHORE: Punjab University Department of Examinations on Wednesday issued revised schedule for online submission of admission forms & fee for the MA/MSc Part-I & Part-II Annual Examination 2021.

The candidates having last chance of supplementary examination 2020 are eligible to appear in annual examination 2021, in lieu of supplementary examination 2020 (not conducted due to Covid-19).

The last date for receipt of Online Admission Forms and Fee for MA/MSc Part-I & Part-II Annual Examination 2021 for regular/late college-private and improve division candidates is May 31, 2021 with single fee while the forms can be submitted with double fee from 1-6-2021 to 7-6-2021.

Details are available at PU website www.pu.edu.pk. INP

## Body found, six injured in Sujawal road accident

SUJAWAL: Body of a labourer was recovered while six people were injured in collision between car and rickshaw here on Wednesday.

According to details, body of labourer identified as Ali Mahal stranded in electric wire was recovered from Chor Wah area near Mirpur Balthora.

Six people were injured after an over speeding car hit a rickshaw at Daro Road in Sujawal. Car driver fled the scene.

The body and injured were shifted to hospital and police after registering separate cases in both incidents have started investigations. INP

## Dr Zahir Munir's book to bring Greece, Pakistan together: Ambassador

LAHORE: Greek Ambassador in Pakistan Mr. Andreas Papastavros has said that book of Prof Dr Zahir Munir Amir on Greece will play an important role in strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

While praising Dr Zahir Munir Amir's travelogue, the Greek Ambassador said that one of the blessings a person has in one's lifetime, in meeting people and getting to know their history, their culture and their life and finally being able to understand them. This knowledge is an invaluable source of intellectual richness and happiness.

The Greek Ambassador said that he was happy that the people of Pakistan will have such a precious companion in their voyage to Greece, intellectual or real, or both. He said that through the pages of the book, they will get closer to the country and its people and they will find out how many things we really share. He congratulated Professor Zahir Munir Amir for having achieved a scholarly, but at the same time human approach to something we all hold dear. INP

## MoU signed to create Academia-Industry Linkages, promote Knowledge Economy

KARACHI: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) and Iqra University (IU) on Wednesday will work together to create Academia-Industry Linkages and promote Knowledge Economy.

The agreement was signed by President FPCCI Mian Nasser Hyatt Maggo and Vice-Chancellor of Iqra University, Prof. Dr. Wasim Qazi during a ceremony held at IU.

The objectives of FPCCI-IU MoU include: to create an effective academia-industry linkage to establish long-term and sustainable partnership for the joint policy-oriented research activities to foster the culture of entrepreneurship; and, play a supporting role in Pakistan's business and economic growth. Research & Analysis, Policy Development, and System Digitalization will be the cornerstones of their cooperation. INP

## Exhibition of ancient Quranic manuscripts, calligraphy work concludes at PUCAR

RAWALPINDI: An exhibition of ancient Quranic manuscripts and works of renowned calligrapher Muhammad Azeem Iqbal based on Prophet Era organized by Punjab Arts Council and Khaneh Farhang Iran Rawalpindi, has come to an end in connection with the holy month of Ramadan.

Senior Vice President Pakistan Muslim League-Q, Zehra Naz, visited the exhibition along with Nadeem Manzoor and Director Waqar Ahmad. The exhibition contained 700-year-old Quranic manuscripts.

Addressing the closing ceremony, the PML-Q leader said that the exhibition of manuscripts of Holy Quran is a source of spiritual joy and a manifestation of the common property of Muslims. She said that promotion of mutual harmony and tolerance among Muslims was essential in the current situation and Punjab Arts Council Rawalpindi had played an important role in this regard.

Forty-one manuscripts were displayed in this exhibition and these manuscripts were presented to the public for the first time. Most of the Quranic manuscripts were mostly four hundred years old and were handwritten. The calligraphy of the copies of the Holy Quran was very beautiful and some of them were decorated with gold water and other colors and some of them were also decorated with flowers. The exhibition which lasted for a week ended on Wednesday. INP

## Surge in COVID-19 in South Asia termed threat to global gains against pandemic

KATHMANDU: UNICEF, the UN Agency has termed that surge in deadly coronavirus cases in South Asia Region as a threat to reverse global gains against the pandemic and disproportionate impact on children.

In a statement, the UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei said, "The scenes we are witnessing in South Asia are unlike anything our region has seen before. Family members of patients are pleading for help as the region reels under an acute shortage of medical-grade oxygen. Exhausted health workers are being pushed to the brink of collapse. We are faced with a real possibility that our health systems will be strained to a breaking point - leading to even more loss of life."

He said, "Urgent action and steadfast leadership are indispensable to stopping the catastrophe. Governments must do everything within their power to stop the devastation, and partners that are able to send assistance must do so immediately. The international community must step up without delay. This is not just a moral imperative. The deadly new surge in South Asia threatens us all. It has the potential to reverse hard-earned global gains against the pandemic if not halted as soon as possible." INP

## Enhanced China-Pak B2B irrigation cooperation is needed: Chinese experts

BEIJING: Enhanced China-Pak B2B irrigation cooperation is needed, this was emphasized by the Chinese experts, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

The experts noted that the International Monetary Fund, Pakistan has been ranked third among countries facing acute water shortage. The availability of water is only compounded by the conventional and highly wasteful way of irrigation.

To resolve this issue, Pakistan has tried to export advanced irrigation products and technologies from overseas to empower the agriculture sector, the ministry of the Pakistani economy.

After two failed attempts to introduce efficient irrigation solutions from European countries and Israel, Pakistan turned to China for help in terms of efficient irrigation products and technologies.

In 2004, Xinjiang Tianyu Group, a leading Chinese enterprise specializing in efficient irrigation and water saving drip irrigation technologies, initiated the first-of-its-kind irrigation cooperation between China and Pakistan by setting up drip irrigation demonstration zones in Pakistan and holding training sessions in drip irrigation for the Pakistani people at the invitation of the Pakistani government.

Due to successful pilots of the project, bilateral cooperation was expanded to research institutes. The China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHIR), for example, was responsible for the design for efficient irrigation for cottons in 2011 in Punjab and held training sessions on the theoretical and operational knowledge of efficient and water-saving irrigation for the Pakistani Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) in 2012.

The 12 years of cooperation has corroborated the efficiency and efficacy of Chinese high efficient irrigation technologies in Pakistan. However, high irrigation solutions have merely been used in parts of Pakistan on an

experimental basis, which takes a heavy toll on Pakistan's embattled "more crop per drop" efficient irrigation campaign.

What are the hurdles between China-Pak cooperation in efficient irrigation? What can be done to expedite the popularization of efficient irrigation in Pakistan? To debunk these myths, China Economic Net (CEN) interviewed two experts to shed a few insights.

"Chinese irrigation solutions promoted by Tianyu have proved a success in demonstration zones in Pakistan. But a lack of investments has made it hard to popularize the efficient irrigation solutions," commented Li Huijuan, senior engineer at National Water-saving Irrigation Engineering and Technology Research Center (NWIIRC).

This view is echoed by Dr Gong Shihong, Deputy Director of Department of Irrigation and Drainage, China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHIR).

A single company is too fragile to transform the entire sector. The Pakistani government should incentivize more companies to invest in the popularization of efficient irrigation solutions, said Dr Gong, who led a delegation to hold training sessions on high efficient irrigation in Pakistan in 2012.

A second factor lies in the limited range of efficient irrigation solutions available in Pakistan. Ms Li told CEN, Although the government of Punjab has worked with World Bank to subsidize small-scale farmers to install sprinklers and drip irrigation systems, enormous farmers still refrain from adopting such efficient irrigation systems because of the high maintenance costs ensued.

Ms Li explained, Pakistani farmers tend to use irrigation accessories such as drip tapes and drippers from Israeli and European countries, which is six times the cost of Chinese solutions and is beyond the price range of the farmers. INP

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Senator Shibli Faraz called on President Dr Arif Alvi, at Ahsan-e-Sadr.

## FY 2021-22 to be year of rehabilitation: Hashim Javan Bakht

LAHORE: Punjab Finance Minister Makhdoom Hashim Javan Bakht has said that the fiscal year 2021-22 will be the year of rehabilitation as the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Program will ensure the health and the special development package for the industrial sector which will ensure economic recovery. He said that the solution to the problems faced in order to increase agricultural production and the provision of services in the relevant sectors will be improved. The development of agro-related industries will also be an important part of the future development agenda. Providing social security will also be the top priority of the Punjab government in the next budget, he added. Punjab Finance Minister Makhdoom Hashim Javan Bakht expressed these views while presiding over a pre-budget consultative meeting with leading economists under the Sub-National Governance Program INP.

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