Chief Editor Shah Muhammad Awan

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Jamaat-e-Islami rejects Punjab defamation law as 'black law'

Former Sindh

governor Muhammad

Zubair resigns from

PML-N



-Islami chief Hafiz

Nacemur Rehman rejected the Punjab defamation law as black law" on Sunday.

"black law" on Sunday.

In a statement, the JI chief said that this law was enacted in the dead of the night and Jamaat-elsalami was the first party to oppose and reject it.

He said that the departure of the Punjab governor from the country allowing the acting

Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad
Former Sindh governor and
senior leader of the Pakistan
Muslim League-Nawaz
(PML-N), Muhammad Zubair,
has announced his resignation

has announced his resignation from the party, According to the report, Zubair said he currently has no intention of joining another political party. However, he indicated that he will soon reveal his future political parts. "Politicians cannot remain silent for long," he added.

Zubair previously served as the spokesperson for both PML-N President Nawaz Sharif

President Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. The politician has been critical of the incumbent government,

governor to sign the Punjab Defamation Act 2024 raised many

2024 raised many questions. The JI chief emphasised that the acting governor's signature on the defamation bill was synonymous with restrictions on freedom

restrictions on freedom of expression. Haliz Naeem held the PML-N and PPP equally responsible for the preparation, approval and enforcement of the Punjab defamation law. He condemoned the defamation law as an attack on the constitutional right to freedom of expression. Haliz Naeem also realfirmed that the Jamaate-Islami stood by the Joint Action Committee of the journalist fratemity.

formed after the February 8 general elections Recently, he e N p r e s s e d dissatisfaction with the party leadership, e o m p a ring his solid or the party leadership, e o m p a ring his solid or the party leadership. Sha hi d Kha q an Abbasi approached the Election results were manipulated, Zubair urged the PML-N to "publicly accept defeat" and allow the country to move forward. However, Chatha later retracted his claims. In April, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi approached the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) for the registration of a new political party.

Karachi: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah meeting at CM House.

Captain among seven soldiers martyred in IED blast in Lakki Marwat

Islamabad
Seven Pakistan Army soldiers,
including a captain, were
martyred after their vehicle hit an
improvised explosive device
(EED) planted by terrorists in
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's (KP)
Lakki Marwat, the military's
media affairs wing said on
Sunday.

According to Inter-Services
Public Relations (ISPR), the
security forces vehicle was hit by
a roadside bomb during patrolling
in Lakki Maryat
The martyred personnel were
identified as Pakistan Army
Captain Muhammad Parzu, Ilyas,
subedar Major Muhammad
Nazir, Lance Naik Hussain Ali
Sepoy Asad Ullah, Sepoy
Rashid Mehmood.
Sanitisation of the area is being
carried out to eliminate any
terrorists present in the area and
perpetrators of this heinous act
sill be brought to justice, the
ISPR said.

"Security forces of Pakistan are Seven Pakistan Army soldiers.

and multiple hideouts were busted. Captain Hussain Jehangir and Havildar Shafiq Ullah also embraced Shahadat on 26 May, while faking sallasti."

embraced Shahadat on 26 May, while fighting gallantly". "On 27 May, in another operation conducted in Tank district, own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location, as a result of which ten terrorists were killed." terrorists' location, as a result of which ten terrorists were killed."
"The third engagement occurred in general area Bagh, Klyber district, wherein, the security forces killed seven terrorists, while two terrorists were injured. However, during the intense exchange of fire, five brave soldiers. Nails Muhammad Ashfaq Butt (age 32 years; resident of district Kahuta; (age 30 years; resident of district Agonethy of the promethy. Seyed Danish Alfa; (age 30 years; resident of district (ayyah), Sepoy Yalimoro Malik (age 32 years; resident of district (ayyah), Sepoy Madir Sageer (age 22 years; resident of district (ayyah), Sepoy Madir Sageer (age 22 years; resident of district district Khushab), having footoff distri Governor Kundi issues debate challenge, as tugof-war with CM Gandapur continues



Soon Times Correspondent PESHAWAR Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi ehallenged Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur to a debate on Sunday, as the tug of war between the two

continues. Interacting with media, Kundi said that Gandapur could debate with him on any channel of his choice. Kundi said that Gandapur was talking like this to secure a job, adding that the chief minister must engage in reasoned discourse.

PTV, Radio Pakistan newscaster Taskeen Zafar passes away



Soon Times Correspondent AWALPINDI

Legendary voice of Radio Pakistan and PTV newscaster Taskeen Zafar passed away here on Sunday after brief illness. She was 67.

Her Namaz-e-Janaza will be offered at 4:30 pm at Lalkurti

offered at 4:30 pm at Lalkuti Eridgah. Taskeen Zafar's broadcasting career spanned over four decades. Born in Rawalpindi in 1957, she joined Radio Pakistan as an announcer in 1980. She also hosted programmes at Radio Pakistan's News and Current Affairs Channel.

registration of a new political party. Abbasi arrived at the ECP office in Islamabad today where he submitted an application for the registration of the new political party. Along with the application, he also submitted the required documents. Parliament, not streets, real guardian of constitution, says Nawaz Sharif



Soon Times Correspondent MURREE

MURREE
Former prime minister and
PML-N President Nawaz
Sharif has stated that the real
guardian of the constitution of
Pakistan was not the streets, but

Khanhere on Sunday.
Nawaz observed that aimless protests and disturbances on streets and intersections had always harmed the constitution and

eonstitution and democracy. PML-N's Parliamentary Leader in the Senate, Irfan Siddiqui, was also present during the meeting. Earlier, Pakistan People's Party (PPP) senior leader Manzoor Wassan said that Prime Minister Shehbaz. Sharif may dissolve the National Assembly during next three months.



Soon Times

Soon Times
Correspondent
ISLAMABAD:
The International
Monetary Fund (IMF)
has asked Pakistan to
raise provincial taxes,
e s p e c ia 11 y on
agriculture, sales tax
on services and
property tax.
The international lender also asked for
establishing a National Tax Council
(NTC) to harmonise the taxes among the
Centre and the provinces.
To generate revenue surplus from the
provinces, the provincial taxes get
immense importance because the
collective contribution of all the four
provinces stood at just a meager amount
of less than 19% of gross domestic
product (GDP).
The IMF has estimated that the revenue
potential of the provincial taxes is
considerable. However, a lack of
uniformity in the policy and
administration of the provincial taxes
prevent this revenue potential from
being fully realised, besides creating all



tax issues.

The IMF has recommended to expand the remit or terms of reference of the NTC to include the harmonisation of tax rates and bases for agricultural income tax and property tax.

bases for agricultural income tax and property tax.

The IMF asked to encourage provincial governments to step up the collection of provincial taxes and enforcement of provincial taxes and enforcement of provincial taxes. The IMF says that the Agriculture Income Tax (ATT) is taxed by the provincial governments, often preferentially as compared to other types of income.

PPP raises concerns over not being consulted on budget

Soon Times
Correspondent
Islamabad
P a k i s t a n
Peoples Party
(PPP) central
party leader
Syed Khurshid
Ahmed Shah

upcoming federal budget 2024-25.
"The government neither told us anything related to the budget nor took us into confidence. We don't know what the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) is doing about privatisation policy, taxes, developmental program," said the PPPleader.
Shah further said that the PPP does not know anything in terms of relief. He said he's unaware whether the government is making the budget or the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) budget is being imposed.



what have we done. Will we tell them that we don't even know about it?" he questioned. Shah further said that the Blaivad Bhutto-led party will have to see politically what decision to take regarding the budget—which will be announced on June 12. On the other hand, Minister of State for Finance All Pervez Malik rebuffed the reports about the further increase in tax on the salarned class, saving that they are baseless and false. Nava Pakistan programme, Malik said that the government is focusing on fair tax system. Gandapur refuses to withdraw tobacco tax

Manzoor Wassan sees National Assembly dissolving in next three months

PPP leader dismisses possibility of Nawaz Sharif returning as prime minister in current political scenario



Soon Times Correspondent Soon Times Correspondent
Senior Vice President of the Pakistan
Peoples Party (PPP) Sindh, Manzoor
Wassan, has predicted that Prime Minister
Shehbaz Sharif might dissolve the
National Assembly within the next three

While forecasting the political future of the country, Wassan remarked that the next three months are crucial for national politics. He expressed doubt over

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif becoming the

prime minister in the current setup.

"After the dissolution of the National Assembly, we will see what kind of setup emerges," Wassan stated. "However, the remaining provincial assemblies will stay

an further commented on the political climate for the founder of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan and other politicians. 'I do not foresee favourable conditions for the PTI founder and other politicians. Even if they receive relief, it is often short-lived. The PTI founder should not remain in a state of delusion," he warned. In a similar prediction by incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan, he claimed on March 20 that the current government March 20 that the current government would last only five or six months and until then, he would stay in jail and

awaited the departure of PML-N supremo to London.

Imran Khan reiterated his scepticism regarding the longevity of the current government, predicting its demise within five or six months.

Imran underscored the importance of political stability in the country, otherwise, he warned that the money borrowed from the IMF would go to



Editorial & Opinion

Pak-China Relations

Pakistan expect better opportunities for the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) following Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif recent visit to China. World leading Chinese engineering and powe companies such as CMEC and companies such as CMEC and POWERCHINA Pakistan aimed to enhance investment and undertake new projects across various sectors. Talking to the Chinese media, Dai Bao, Vice General Manager of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) Pakistan has expressed strong interest in

expressed strong interest in collaborating with the Pakistani government during the second phase of the CPEC. He acknowledged the recent high-

Xi and Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif. The initial phase of the CPEC laid a robust foundation for Pakistan national destiny and established a pivotal framework for further bilateral cooperation. This progress paves the way for the next steps, and both sides eagerly anticipate the new phase of CPEC. The Prime Minister visit to China signaled the beginning of this transformative stage. The company senior representative highlighted that both nations aspire to witness fresh aspire to witness achievements and embrace a renewed outlook of the joint renewed outlook of the joint corridor. China, drawing from its experience with reform and openness, extends a friendly hand of support to Pakistan. Notably,

state-owned company to operate in Pakistan since 1981. "Having closely observed Pakistan progress, we are confident that both countries will reap benefits from this new chapter," Dai Bao said."Our company has diligently prepared for this moment over the past five years, formulating comprehensive plans encompassing industrialization, agricultural modernization, trade, healthcare, education, poverty alleviation, and more." "With unwavering support from both governments, we are committed to contributing significantly to this milestone project," he added. During his recent meeting with PM Shahbaz Sharif, Ding Yanzhang, Chairman POWERCHINA

assured that his company was ready to actively participate in hydro-power, new energy, and other fields in Pakistan, promoting the optimization of local energy The Power Construction
Corporation of China would seek further investment, engineering and construction opportunities in collaboration with relevant international partners, taking full advantage of the rich water, wind, solar, and mine resources in Pakistan. Previously, it has implemented several major projects, such as Port Qasim 2—660 MW Coal-fired Power Plant, Dawood Wind Power Project, Haveli Bahadur Shah 1,230 MW Combined Cycle Coalfired Power Project.

Conflict Resolution in the 21st Century: Strategies, and Challenges.

By Zainab Mustafa

In an era marked by unprecedented interconnectedness and In an era marked by unprecedented interconnectedness and rapid change, conflict resolution in the 21st century has become more essential and challenging than ever before. Today's world grapples with a variety of conflicts, from territorial skirmishes to deeply rooted ideological divisions, necessitating innovative and dynamic approaches to foster lasting peace. As traditional methods evolve, new strategies are emerging to tackle the intricate and multifaceted nature of modern disputes. One of the most promising approaches in contemporary conflict resolution is the promotion of open dialogue. Encouraging continuous communication is crucial for understanding the diverse perspectives and interests of all parties involved. By building trust through dialogue, the building trust through dialogue, the groundwork is laid for sustainable solutions. Modern conflict resolution also emphasizes problem-solving strategies that seek win-win outcomes, focusing on creative solutions that meet the underlying needs of everyone involved. Involving multiple stakeholders is another key strategy. Multitrack diplomacy engages not just government officials but also civil Multitrack diplomacy engages not just government officials but also civil society, businesses, and international organizations. This inclusive approach leverages the expertise and influence of various sectors to forge comprehensive and enduring peace agreements. The digital age offers powerful new tools for conflict resolution as well. Digital platforms facilitate communication and negotiation, while advanced data analysis provides valuable insights into conflict dynamics. Technology also enhances transparency and accountability, erucial elements in effective peace processes. However, these advancements come with significant challenges. Modern conflicts often involve a complex web of actors, interests, and issues, making resolution efforts more difficult. These complexities demand holistic connected that address resulting complexities demand holistic approaches that address multiple dimensions simultaneously. Power

obstruct fair and effective resolution, with stronger parties potentially dominating negotiations while weaker ones struggle to advocate for their interests. Conflicts driven by deep-rooted identities and ideologies are particularly resistant to resolution, are particularly resistant to resolution, as such disputes often involve existential stakes for the parties involved, making compromise seem unattainable. Moreover, globalization, while facilitating cooperation, also adds layers of complexity to conflict resolution. The interconnected nature of global issues means local conflicts can have far-reaching implications, necessitating coordinated international responses. To overcome these challenges, conflict resolution in the 21st century must be adaptive and innovative. Combining various resolution methods to address different aspects of conflicts is essential. aspects of conflicts is essential. Empowering local actors and institutions to take active roles in peacebuilding is also vital. Ensuring that all relevant stakeholders, including marginalized groups, are represented in peace processes helps ereate inclusive solutions. Additionally, utilizing technological tools not only for communication but Additionally, utilizing technological tools not only for communication but also for monitoring and verifying the implementation of agreements is vistal. The Good Friday Agreement of 1998 is an example of successful modern conflict in Sorthern Ireland known as "The Troubles," the agreement included open dialogue, problem-solving, and involvement of multiple stakeholders, including the UK and Irish governments and various political groups in Northern Ireland. The agreement successfully reduced violence and established a power-sharing government, although ongoing political disagreements and sporadic violence remain challenges. Another example is the Dayton Accords of 1995, which sought to end the Bosnian War. This agreement involved international mediation, particularly by the United States, and included multiple stakeholders from the warring factions and the international andomunity. The accords end the warring factions and the international factions and the international community. The accords ended the war and established a complex political

framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina, but continued ethnic divisions and political dysfunction persist. The Oslo Accords of 1993-1995 attempted to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through direct negotiations facilitated by Norway. These negotiations facilitated by Norway. These negotiations facilitated by Norway. These negotiations and some interim governance arrangements, they ultimately failed to resolve core issues, leading to resumed violence in subsequent years. A SWOT analysis of conflict resolution in the 21st century highlights both the strengths and weaknesses of current strategies, as well as the opportunities and threats they face. Strengths include adaptability, inclusivity through multitrack diplomacy, and technological advancements that enhance communication, data analysis, and transparency. Weaknesses encompass the complexity of modern conflicts, power imbalances, and the difficulty of resolving deep-rooted identity and ideological disputes. Opportunities arise from innovative solutions, global cooperation, and capacity building for local actors. However, political ecoperation, and capacity building for local actors. However, political instability, cybersecurity risks, and global disruptions pose significant threats.Ultimately, the evolving nature of conflicts today demands a threats Ultimately, the evolving nature of conflicts today demands a rethinking of traditional approaches to conflict resolution. By embracing new strategies and addressing inherent challenges, the international community can work towards a more peaceful and stable world. Adaptability, inclusivity, and the effective use of technology are key to fostering dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders involved. As evidenced by case studies like the Good Friday Agreement, Dayton Accords, and Oslo Accords, successful conflict resolution hinges on a multifaceted approach that incorporates dialogue, problemsolving, and the engagement of diverse actors. Through continued innovation and collaboration, it is possible to address the complexities of modern conflicts and build lasting peace.

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on modern warfare; how AI Drones are Shaping the Dynamics of international conflicts



Saglain Abbas

Artificial Intelligence (AI) use in modern warfare has become a topic of modern warfare has become a topic of immense interest among scholars and policymakers. Al-enabled drones have significantly impacted the dynamics of international conflicts. This literature review explores how Al drones have shaped modern warfare and the various implications associated with their use.

associated with their use.

In "Artificial Intelligence: A Threat to Strategic Stability." James Johnson argues that the proliferation of Al technology in modern warfare may threaten global strategic stability. He notes that the rapid development of Al technology and its potential use in autonomous weapons systems could lead to unintended consequences, such as miscalculations and misinterpretations by military forces. However, the article needs more empirical evidence to support its claims, and further research is needed to explore the actual impact of Al on strategic stability. Additionally, the article needs to consider the potential benefits that Al could bring to chance strategic stability. Additionally, the Unjust Tangeted Killing & Drone Warfare. "Michael Walzer comprehensively analyzes the ethical and moral invinications of traceted. comprehensively analyzes the ethical and moral implications of targeted killing and drone warfare in modern warfare. He argues that such actions must be justified according to certain criteria, such as the imminence of the threat and the proportionality of the response.

In "The Ethics & Morality of Robotic Warfare: Assessing the Debate over Autonomous Weapons," Michael Horowitz examines the ethical and moral implications of using autonomous weapons in modern

warfare. He argues that while such weapons offer potential benefits in reducing the risk to human soldiers and increasing military effectiveness, there are significant concerns about their potential impact on civilian populations and the difficulty of ensuring accountability for their actions. In the article "Killer Flying Robots Are Here. What Do We Do Now?" Vivek Wadhwa discusses the ethical and leacl challences posed by Now? "Vice Wadhwa discusses the ethical and legal challenges posed by the increasing use of autonomous drones in modern warfare. He argues that while such technology offers potential benefits in reducing risk to human soldiers and increasing military effectiveness, there are significant concerns about the potential for unintended harm to civilians and the need for accountability and transparency in their use. Wadhwa also discusses the need for international cooperation in developing ethical and legal frameworks to regulate the use of autonomous drones. However, the article needs to provide a detailed autonomous drones. However, the article needs to provide a detailed analysis of the technical and operational challenges of developing and deploying autonomous weapons. Tom Donilon's article "The Drone Threat Comes Home" discusses the increasing use of drones in international conflicts and domestic security operations. Donilon argues that as drones become more ubiquitous, there is a growing need for governments to establish clear legal and ethical frameworks for their use to protect the privacy and civil liberties of their citizens. He highlights the importance of highlights the importance of balancing the benefits of drones, such balancing the benefits of drones, such as increased situational awareness and reduced risk to human life, with the potential risks of abuse and misuse. However, the article does not comprehensively analyze the strategic implications of drone technology for US foreign policy. Further research is needed to explore the impact of drone technology on US military operations, alliances, and diplomatic relations.

Nicholas Wright's article "How Artificial Intelligence Will Reshape the Global Order" examines the potential impact of AI on international relations and the balance

of power between states. Wright argues that the growing use of AI in various fields, including military technology, will significantly shift global power distribution. He suggests that AI could enable small states to challenge the dominance of larger powers and potentially lead to new power centers. However, the article does not adequately address the ethical implications of AI development and deployment, such as bias, privacy, and depolyment, such as bias, privacy, and political dimensions in international relations and develop appropriate policy responses.

The orticle *Artificial Intelligence and

policy responses.

The article "Artificial Intelligence and Unmanned Warfare" by Shan Li, Yuning Wang, Zhaoyu Chen, and Chao Wu explores the impact of AI on modern warfare and how AI drones shape the dynamics of international conflicts. The authors discuss the advantages of AI in military operations, including increased efficiency, reduced costs, and improved decision-making. They also examine the risks and ethical considerations associated with AI in warfare, such as the potential for autonomous weapons to make decisions without human oversight. However, the article does not adequately address the challenges of integrating AI with existing military systems, including interoperability, data sharing, and communication issues.

The article "Drones in Military Warfare: The Moral and emotional implications of an emerging technology" by Madeleine Rauch technology" by Madeleine Rauch explores the moral and emotional implications of using drones in modern warfare. The author discusses the advantages of drones in military operations, such as their ability to carry out precise strikes and their earry out precise strikes and their potential to reduce the risk of harm to military personnel. However, the article does not thoroughly consider the strategic and operational implications of drone use, including the potential impact on military effectiveness and civilian casualties.

American involvement in the China-Taiwan conflict and its future implications

imbalances between conflicting parties

Introduction

The China-Taiwan conflict has been a longstanding issue with far-reaching implications for regional stability and global geopolities. Conflict stemming from the aftermath of the Chinese civil war (1945-1949), has persisted as a complex and multifaceted issue in international relations. This enduring tension involves the people's republic of China (PRC) in Taiwan, with the profound mplications for regional stability and global geopolities. The involvement of the United States of America in this complex dispute in crucial time, shaped by historical events and evolving circumstances.

eircumstances.

Background and significance
Historical records indicate that in
the 17th Century, a Chinese
empire established complete
authority over it. In 1895,
following the Qing empire's

defeat in the initial Sino-Japanese conflict, it fell under Japanese colonial rule. Subsequently, in 1945, post the Second World War. China regained control of the island. However, this occurred during a period when a nationalist regime, under the leadership of General Chiang Kari-shek, held sway. The leaders of China, the United States, and Great Britian came together on December 1, 1943, to Occupant of the China, the United States, and state that Japan must return all territories it had taken from China, including Manchuria, Taiwan, and the Penghu Islands, back to China. This period coincided with a prolonged struggle between Chinan's forces and the Communist Party led by Mao Zedong. The US halted its military support to the KMT while maintaining its economic and initiatives. The victory of the communists in 1949 prompted Chiang and the remaining and the remaining members of the nationalist party, commonly known as the

Kuomintang or KMT, to seck refuge in Taiwan. In the early 1950s., as the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) secured control over maintand China, the People's Republic of China (PRC) began building up its military forces opposite Taiwan, while the Kuomintang (KMT) in Taiwan planned its own potential attack across the Taiwan Strait. However, when the Korean Warerupted in June of that year, the United States deployed its Seventh Fleet to patrol the Taiwan Strait, aiming to prevent any escalation of conflict. This led to a renewed collaboration ary escalation of conflict. This led to a renewed collaboration between the United States and the KMT. Subsequently, on December 2, 1954, the United States and the Republic of China (ROC) signed the Mutual Defense Treaty, in which the United States committed to supporting Taiwan in the event of an attack by the PRC. These measures by the United States solidified the statemate in the Tai wan Strait region. Understanding the historical

context of America's involvement in the China-Taiwan conflict is essential for comprehending the complexities of contemporary geopolities.

conflict is essential for comprehending the complexities of contemporary geopolities. China Standing on Taiwan
The One China principle, advocated by the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), asserts that there is a single sovereign entity known as china, with the PRC recognized as its sole legitimate governing authority. According to this principle, Taiwan is an integral part of China. It rejects the notion of two separate entities using the name "China" - the PRC and the Republic of China (RCC), as well as the idea that China and Taiwan are distinct antions. There are Three crucial elements have propelled and are expected to persist in propelling Beijing towards intensifying its greyzone actions against Taiwan. Can China Compromise on Taiwan?
China cmp hasized its

emphasized its ring stance on its

sovereignty over Taiwan following the conclusion of two days of military discussions with the U.S. in Washington. These talks aimed to recetablish communication channels between the two nations' ammed forces. Occurring just before Taiwan's presidential election, which holds significance for its relationship with China and the U.S., the discussion sunderscored the sensitivity surrounding China's ambition to "reunify" with Taiwan, even though force if necessary. China reafirmed its position, refusing to compromise on the Taiwan issue and urging the U.S. to adhere to the one-China principle while ceasing arms support for Taiwan and refraining from Lawing arms independence. The U.S., on its part, reiterated its commitment to the One China policy, maintaining unofficial relations with Taipe; Both Sides expressed willingness to cultivate a respectful military relationship.

Taiwan?
Beijing's continuous and assertive pressure on neighboring countries has effectively altered the political landscape in favor of China. The CCP actively manipulates information to isolate Taiwan and cast doubts on US security assurances. Our research delves into China's tactics of coercion to pinpoint when force might be employed. Through studying CCP's coercive strategies, we aim to uncover efforts to fracture a regional alliamce led by the US.
Will China invade Taiwan in this decade?
Xi Jinping, the leader of the Chinesee Communist Party (CCP), is unsettling the established situation across the Taiwan Strait. The modernization endeavors and heightened military activities of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) seem aimed at incorporating Taiwan into China through force and asserting dominance in the region. American policymakers and military figures are warning of a potential Chinese invasion in

the near future. However, the focus within the policy community tends to be primarily on Chinese military capabilities, such as the prospect of an imminent amphibious invasion and occupation of Taiwan, while neglecting other strategies of persuasion and occretion of Taiwan, while neglecting other strategies of persuasion and occretion of Taiwan, while neglecting other strategies of Persuasion and occretion of Taiwan, while neglecting other CPP.

"One China" Policy

"One China" Policy

"One China" Policy

"One China principle is a diplomatic stan ne acknowledging the People's Republic of China for I arwan. It asserts the idea of a unified China and considers Taiwan as an integral part of it. This principle has served as a fundamental aspect of China's foreign relations, especially concerning relations, especially concerning raiwan-related matters. Adhering to the One China principle typically involves countries recognizing the PRC as the legitimate authority over



City News

Provide security to doctors & staff in emergency ward: UAC & Businessmen



ncern over the incident place in the emergency ward of Old Civil Hospital Mirpurkhas last night. They said in their statement that the district administration of Mirpurkhas and District Health Officer Mirpurkhas should immediately provide security to doctors and paramedical staff. Doctors doctors and paramedical staff. Doctors and staff of the Old Civil Hospital are and staff of the Old Civil Hospital are afraid of beating and do not give duty in the emergency ward. If people come and disrespect them or beat them, who will take over the emergency ward of the doctor or staff. The Ulema Action Committee and businessmen are standing with the doctors and staff of Mirpurkhas. Justice should be given to them. No one has any right to disrespect them, kill them and beat disrespect them, kill them and beat them. The district administration Mirpurkhas and SSP Mirpurkhas are requested to deploy the police on a permanent basis to ensure the provision of security to the doctors and staff in the Old Civil Hospital

PTI to challenge Punjab defamation law in court



LAHORE The Pakistan Tehro The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has decided to challenge the Punjab defamation law in court.

defamation law in court. This announcement was made by Malik Ahmed Khan Bhachar, the opposition leader in the Punjab Assembly, in a statement on Sunday. Commenting on the Punjab government's performance, Bhachar said that turning the Punjab

Defamation Act 2024 into law and compounding problems for farmers by not purchasing wheat from them were the Punjab government's achievements in its

Punjab government's achievements in its first 100 days of governance. The PTI leader also slammed the PPP, saying that it claimed to be a democratic party, but allegaedly facilitated the signing of the defamation act into law. According to Bhachar, both the PML-N and PPP were two sides of the same coin. The PTI leader said that his party stood

with the journalist fraternity and would challenge the defamation law in court. Bhachar said that the Punjab government announced R\$30 billion for the establishment of a cancer hospital, but allocated funds of just R\$30 million which, according to him, were insufficient

even for a stretch of five-kilometre road.

He further said that health cards and farmer cards were projects of the PTI, but the PML-N was presenting them as their

own.

Bhachar questioned whether the PML-N Bractar questioned whether the PML-N had actually initiated any projects, adding that the Punjab government was merely placing their plaques on projects in hospitals that had originally been launched by the PTI. He stated that the Punjab government also renamed the farmer card as the Nawaz Sharif card

Sharif card.

The opposition leader asserted that taking action against the PTI was the PML-N's overall consideration

overall consideration.

Bhachar said that his party has demanded a 10 percent increase in the wages of government employees, noting a 25 percent increase in inflation in the past three months.

SSUET takes part in The News Education Expo 2024; Tessori & Shah visit SSUET Stall



Soon Times Correspondent

Karach:
Sir Syed University of Engineering &
Technology (SSUET) took part in the News
Education Expo 2024 held at the Karachi
Expo Centre and the stall of the university
was centre of attraction. Governor Sindh
Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori and
Provincial Minister Sindh for Education.
Swed Sardra Ali Shah visitor the SSIUET. Sved Sardar Ali Shah visited the SSUET Syed Sardar Ali Shah visited the SSUET stall and appreciated the knowledge-based skills of SSUET students reflected on their projects. Governor Sindhwas impressed by the demonstration of the project Reverse Vending Machine, designed and prepared by SSUET students and hinted for the inclusion of this project into his technological initiatives. He took Hashir's number to invite him to the Governor number to invite him to the Governor

House, while Education Minister Syed Sardar Ali Shah enjoyed the ride of a simulator bike. Speaking to the media. Provincial Minister Sindh for Education. Syed Sardar Ali Shah said, "This event is an example of the media's social responsibility and commitment to future generations to providing access to quality education. Sindh is the only province that offers 7,000 scholarships under the government's Peoples Scholarship Programme. We are planning to celebrate "Science in Sindh" year at the schools and college levels. "Managing Director of Jang Media Group, Sarmad Ali said that there are about 65 stalls of various universities. This expo has been taking place since 2008. This expo has been taking place since 2008, marking the 16th year of the event this

Death toll reaches four in Sahiwal hospital fire incident

Soon Times Correspondent SAHIWAL With the demise of two more children, the death toll reaches four in District Headquarters and Teaching Hospital fire incident.

Two more under treatment Two more under treatment children died due to a fire in the District Headquarters and Teaching Hospital of Sahiwal. There was a fire incident in the Children's Ward on Friday in

Clinicals wait on Findsy in
Teaching Hospital of Sahiwal which
claimed the lives of two children.
During the fire, 69 children out of 75 were
shifted to another ward, but after several
hours, two more affected children died, after
which the total number of dead children
resched 1.

reacned 4. Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz said

ook notice of the fire in the hospital took notice of the fire in the hospital.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz
Sharif called for a report from Sahiwal
Commissioner and expressed her hearfelt
sympathy and condolence to the bereawed
family and said that a full investigation
should be conducted and strict action should
be taken to identify those responsible.

Gas theft crackdown: SNGPL

disconnected 71 connections & imposed fine of Rs. 0.91 million

Soon Times Correspondent

Lahore:
During the ongoing crackdown against gas
pilferers, SNGPL continued raids in Punjab,
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad. It
disconnected 71 connections and imposed fine of Rs 0.91 million. In Lahore, the team fine of Rs 0.91 million. In Lahore, the team disconnected 8 connections on illegal use of gas, imposed fine of Rs 0.51 million and lodged 1 FIR against gas pilferer. In Multan the team disconnected 09 connections on illegal use of gas and 03 on use of Compressor. In Peshawar the company disconnected 39 connections on direct use and illegal use of gas and booked Rs 0.07 million against gas theft cases. The regional team of Shiekhupura disconnected 04 connections on illegal use of gas and booked Rs 0.19 million against gas theft cases. In Faisalabad the team disconnected 02 connections on illegal use of gas and imposed fine of Rs 0.07 million against gas theft cases. In Karak the team disconnected theft cases. In Karak the team disconnected OI connection on illegal use of gas and booked Rs 0.07 million against gas theft cases. In Bahawalpur the team disconnected OI connection on illegal use of gas and 01 on use of the compressor. The regional team of Sahiwal disconnected O2 connections on illegal use of gas. In Gujrat the team disconnected 01 connection on illegal use of gas.

IESCO Power suspension schedules for Today & Tomorrow

oon Times Correspondent

Islamabad: According to Islamabad Electric Supply According to Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO)'s spokesman, System Maintenance/Development Work is in process: Therefore power supply of below mentioned feeders/areas will be temporary suspended as per given schedule: On 10th June 2024, From 07:00 AM, Rawalpindi City Circle, Katarian feeder, Rawalpindi Cantt Circle. Media Town-II feeder. On 11th June. From 07:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Rawalpindi City Circle, F-Block Feeder, Rawalpindi Cantt Circle, CBR-I Feeder and surrounding areas will remain closed. IESCO management applosizes to its esteemed customers for the power outage. If the work is completed ahead of time, the power supply can be restored even before the scheduled time.

Three of a family killed, two injured in Bahawalnagar accident Reckless driving is stated to be the reason for the accident

Soon Times Correspondent
BAHAWALNAGAR
Three members of a family were killed
and two injured when a speeding car
rammed into a tractor-trolley on
Haroonabad Road, Dunya News reported
here on Saturday.
The accident took place due to reckless

driving. The dead included a child. Those injured in the crash were women. The ill-



fated family was riding a car when it collided with a tractor-trolley.

As the result of the accident, two men and a minor were dead on the spot. On information, Rescue 1122 reached the spot and started rescue operation by shifting the injured and the dead to

Two of the dead are stated to be brothers and lived in Sahiwal. Police reached the spot and started investigation.

Punjab governor opposes passage of controversial defamation law

"I tried to stop the Ipassagel of the defamation bill as governor," says Sardar Saleem Haider Khan



Soon Times Correspondent Lahore

Lanore
Punjab Governor Saleem Haider has said
that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) is
against the controversial defamation law
passed by the provincial legislature earlier this month

earlier this month.

"I tried to stop the [passage] of the defamation bill as governor," he said while speaking to the media in Dubai on Sunday.

His statement comes a day after interim Punjab Governor Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan signed the bill into law in the absence of Haider.

The Punjab Assembly, on May 20, passed

the Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024 amid a strong and noisy protest by the opposition as well as immense backlash from journalists and rights bodies including those based internationally

those based internationally.

"I did not sign the bill. However, it will become law automatically after the passing of 15 days," the incumbent governor added.

However, according to him, legislation is required to stop the defamation of the search on point media.

required to stop the defamation of the people on social media.

Governor Haider also said that he would meet the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of the media bodies to address their concerns after returning to the country.

A day earlier, the central Joint Action Committee (JAC) of the media bodies announced boycotting the coverage of government affairs including official events, such as National Assembly and provincial assembly sessions and upcoming federal and provincial budgets to protest the approval of the defamation law

The Council of Pakistan New The Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFU), and Association of Electronic Media Editors and News Directors (AEMEND), held an emergency meeting to discuss the development and decided to record their protest against the law.

Terming the Punjab Defamation Bill, w" and to take effective legal action

w" and to take effective legal action against it.
2024, against human values, the meeting announced to lead a joint struggle against the "black law" and to take effective legal action against it. The media bodies decided to hold consultations with political parties and bar councils, and approach the United Nations and other national and international human rights organisations against the controversial law.



nternational News

Malaysia defends eviction of sea nomads, citing security concerns



KUALALUMPUR
Malaysian authorities defended their decision to evict hundreds of sea nomads from their homes off the coast of Sabah state this week, saying it was aimed at boosting security and combating cross-border crime. More than 500 people from the Bajau Laut, a mostly stateless sea-faring community who live on rickety houseboats or coastal huts built on stilts, saw their homes demolished or burned by enforcement officials this week, local activities have said. The operation in Sabah's Semporna district was criticised by rights groups, which called on the government to half the evictions and ensure the safety and protection of the Bajau Laut.

Heavy rains in Australia's east spark flash flooding, rescues



SYDNEY
Heavy rain brought flash flooding to
Australia's largest city, Sydney, on
Saturday, prompting rescues and
evacuation orders for several low-lying

suburbs.
Emergency authorities said they carried out 13 rescues and received 297 calls for assistance from residents in Sydney, the capital of New South Wales state, in the 24 hours to 5 am local time, because of floods sparked by the heavy rain.
Ten emergency evacuation orders were in place for suburbs in the city's northwest, the New South Wales State Emergency Service.



Hamas reports over 200 people killed, while Israel rescues four hostages from Gaza.

Hamas media reports that number of victims from Israeli massacre in Nuseirat camp has risen to 210 martyrs

Hallies Heldle (FelDles Hieldfullmile) of Vietnis Iron Is

GAZA/JERUSALEM:

Sareal announced its forces had rescued four hostnges from a Gaza
refugee camp. The operation, according to the Hamas-run
government media office, resulted in the deabts of 210 Palestinians
and hundreds of injuries.

Meanwhile, add began to trickle back into the devastated Gaza Strip
through a rebuilt temporary pier, as reported by the US Central
Command (CENTCOM). This pier, constructed by the US military to
facilitate the derivery of much-needed rehef supplies, had been
briefly operational before suffering storm damage at the end of May
and was re-established on Friday. CENTCOM reported that
approximately 492 tonnes (1.1 million pounds) of humanitarian
assistance were delivered via the pier on Saturday morning,
emphasizing that the facility was not connected to Israel's hostage
rescue operation.

The Israel multiary identified the rescued hostages as Nova Argamani.

assistance were delivered via the pier on Saturday moming, emphasizing that the facility was not connected to Israel's hostage rescue operation.

The Israeli military identified the rescued hostages as Noa Argamani, 26, Almog Meir Jan, 22, Andrey Kozlov, 27, and Shlomi Ziv, 41, noting that the mission was "complex."

Israel released footage and images showing the hostages being extracted by helicopter and reuniting with their loved ones at a Tel Aviv hospital.

In Nuscirat, where the hostages were held, Palestinians reported intense bombardment and heavy gunfire.

The hostages are among seven that Israeli forces have rescued alive. There are still 116 hostages in Gaza, including 41 who the army says are dead. The news of the freed captives was met with eelbertaions and cheers in Israel, while concerns about the remaining hostages prompted thousands to gather in Tel Aviv, demanding an end to the eight-mouth-old war. "They won't be able to release all of them in a military operation," said Michael Levy, whose brother Oris still being held.

Near Nuseirat, The Hamas media office reported that "the number of victims from the Israeli occupation's massacre in the Nuseirat camp has risen to 210 martyrs and more than 400 wounded."

Polish man held after Danish PM Frederiksen was assaulted

COPENHAGEN

A 39-year-old Polish
man was remanded in
custody for 12 days on
Saturday over an assault
the previous day on
Method to the previous day
more than the previous day
more tha

which authorities said caused her to suffer a minor neck injury. Frederiksen sustained a minor whiplash injury from the alleged assault, which occurred in a square in Copenhagen centre when a man walked up and hit the politician. "Thank you for the many, many, many greetings with support and backing. It's incredibly touching," the prime minister told the Ritzun news agency in a written statement on Saturday. "I am saddened and shaken by the episode yesterday but am otherwise safe. For once, I need peace. Both for body and soul. I need to be with my family and need to be my self for a bit, "Frederiksen added. Several EU leaders condemned Friday's incident, which happened just three weeks after Slowakia's Frime Minister Robert Fice was seriously injured in an assassination attempt. "This is completely unacceptable and is an attack on our open, democratic societies," Norway's Prime Minister Jonas Galr Stoere told news agency NTB of the assault on Frederiks under the influence alcohol and drings at the time and said he was unaware that the victim was Denmark's prime minister.

Two vessels catch fire after missile strikes off Yemen's Aden



CAIRO

Two ships caught on fire after being hit b

Two sinps caught on the after being int by projectiles off Yemer's Aden, two UK maritime agencies reported on Sunday.

The British security firm Ambrey said on Sunday an Antigua- and Barbuda-flagged general cargo ship was struck by a missale 83 nautical miles southeast of Aden and caught fire. The fire was later contained

Earlier, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) said it had received a report from a captain of a vesse of an incident 80 nautical miles southeas

The ship was heading southwest along the Gulf of Aden at a speed of 8.2 knots when the forward station was struck by a missile. A fire started but was neutralised,

when the forward station was struck by a missile. Aftire started but was neutralised, "Ambrey said in an advisory note." A second missile was sighted but did not hit the ship. Persons on board small boats in the vicinity opened fire on the ship during the miestlent."

Ambrey said the ship changed course to port and increased speed, adding that "no injuries were reported."

Separately, Ambrey and UKMTO said they had received a report about another incident 70 nautited miles southwest of Aden. "The master reports that the vessel was hit by an unknown projectile on the aft section, which resulted in a fire Damage control is underway." UKMTO said in advisory note.

They added that no casualties were reported and the vessel was proceeding to its next port of call.

The Houthi militia, which controls the most populous parts of Yemen and is aligned with Iran, has attacked ships off its account for months, saying it is acting in Solidarity with Palestriainas fighting Israel in Gaza.

Houthi fighters have launched drone and missile attacks in the Bab al-Mandab Strait and Gulf of Aden, forcing shippers since November to take longer and more costly journeys around southern Africa.



Sports & Showbiz

Uganda bundle out for 39 as West Indies win by 134 runs



Sports Desk
West Indies won by a whopping 134
runs against Uganda, their largest
magin of victory in terms of runs in a
T20 match, on Sunday at the Grand
Prairie Stadium in Dallas.
Chasing a target of 174 runs, Uganda
were bundled out for only 39 runs, the
joint-lowest team total in the men's
T20 World Cup, in 12 overs. The
Netherlands were also dismissed for
the same score against Sri Lanka in
Chattogram in 2014.
Left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein
bowled a sensational spell as he

claimed five wickets for just 11 runs in four overs. He also bagged the award for Player of the Match.

"I think I needed this. In the nets and the previous series, I felt the ball was coming out good but I was just not getting the rewards," Hosein said after the match.

thematch.

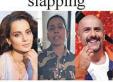
"I think it is a lot of hard work. When you get success, guys are going to study you and have a plan. You always have to stay a step ahead. For me, it is just about trying to react to what the surface is doing and planning it out. Even if the ball is going both ways, you cannot do much if you don't plan.

Charles Spencer, wife Karen divorcing after 13 years of marriage

(Web Desk)
Charles Spencer and
Karen Spencer are
divorcing after nearly
13 years of marriage.
The 9th Earl Spencer
and younger brother
of the late Princess Diama announced
his split from his wife to The Mail on
Sunday.

told the outlet. "I just want to devote myself to all my children, and on y grandchildren, and I wish Karen every happiness in the future." The Mail on Sunday reported that Charles' relationship with the Countess of Spencer, 52, came to an end amid the writing of his memoir, A Very Private School.

CISF woman gets job offer in Bollywood after slapping



(Web Desk)
Actor-turned-politician Kangana Ranaut was reportedly slapped by CISF personnel Kulwinder Kaur at Chandigarh airport. According to the Hindustan Times, after Kangana filed a complaint upon her arrival at Indira Gandhi airport. Kulwinder Kaur was detained and suspended. Accordine to reports. The incident hannened

detained and suspended.
According to reports, the incident happened as Kangana was preparing to board a flight to New Delhi.
Following the incident, Kangana released a statement assuring her safety.
And now, music composer and singer Vishal Dadlani expressed his support for the CISF personnel involved through his Instagram Stories.

Cristiano Ronaldo hugs Luka Modric after Croatia beat Portugal

Sports Desk
Former Real Madrid teammates
Cristiano Ronaldo and Luka
Modrie shared a memorable
moment after Croatia defeated
Portugal in a friendly
Modrie, 38, expertly beat
goalkeeper Diogo Costa from
the spot, according to Reuters.
After Diogo Jota and Nelson
Semedo were introduced as
half-time substitutes, both
players crossed the ball for an
equaliser for Portugal in the
48th minute.
The visitors secured the victory

48th minute. The visitors secured the victory in the 56th minute when Ante Budimir headed in a rebound after Mario Panalic's attempt had been deflected onto the crossbar by Costa. Ronaldo, 39, who had been benched in the game, reunited with his former Real Madrid teammate Modic after the match. Real Madrid fans were left swooning as the two exchanged a heartwarming hug and some words. The moment was captured in a video shared on social



media. The both also interacted before the match. Ronaldo and Modrie became teammates when the Croatia legend joined Real Madrid from Tottenham Hotspur in 2012 and they played 222 matches, combining for 16 goads, according to Sportskeed. Modrie assisted Ronaldo's second goal in the 2016-17 UEFA Champions League final against Juventus, a match they won-4 in Cardiff. Their partnership was instrumental in Real Madrid securing four Champions League tinds.







المحمد مشتاق علوى4424274-0333 ر نمنت میکنندری سکول آف سیش ایج کیشن برائے متاثر وساعت (پوائز)سلم کالونی میانوانی فون نبر 0459-92010