

Hard work, integrity, sacrifices shape nations: **PM**

Says we need grand dialogue to resolve country's issues

LAHORE/ISLAMABAD: Prime of governments. He opined that not extended any kind of relief mainly used for producing power Pakistan to host the World Minister Muhammad Shehbaz there were certain sectors of the to the masses during their rule. and now these had been priced Environment Day saying that Sharif Sunday said that nations economy like IT and industrial- The prime minister further very high in the global market. it was during their KP governwere not formed on the basis ization through which the country could move ahead. The prime buildings, but hard work, integri- minister underlined that they should think above themselves and their personal likes and of price hike by extending finandislikes and accord top priority to the progress and prosperity of the nation. Environment Day: PM The prime minister maintained that a country could not calls on global powers survive on debts. He regretted for united action that Pakistan should have been in the forefront of the Islamic world in terms of progress and development. Comparing Pakicial relief to over 7 crore populastan's export volume with neighbouring Bangladesh, he said its tion. He stressed that they had to stand on their feet with sheer annual exports now touched \$40 billion mark while Pakistan had qualities of hard work, sacrian export value of \$27-28 billion fices, unity and proper planannually. The prime minister ning. About load-shedding, the referring to the global economprime minister said that he had ic meltdown said that they had chaired an emergency meeting and directed for a mechanism increased the petroleum prices with a heavy heart. He also to decrease its duration. He said the previous government of PTI termed the previous governover the national economy in ment's decision of decreasing could not make arrangements petroleum prices in the month for the purchase of oil and gas not be disturbed with change of March as a ploy as they had

assured that they would try their best to provide relief to the poor and said that the government was looking to ease out impacts

the incumbent government to hide its failures as well as the inflation that has hit the country in the first 50 days of it coming into power.

"The main beneficiary of their grand dialogue will not be health, economy and education but Maqsood chaprasi," alleged the PTI leader.

S Action plan Pakistan meets all terms of FATF

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has meeting, set to take place in Force (FATF) and would likely get some good news in the next plenary session. According to Foreign Office (FO) sources, the Ministry of oversee the matters related to and anti-money laundering

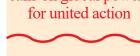
finally addressed all targets Berlin. Sources further said set by Financial Action Task that Pakistan is likely to get some good news as the country has met all the targets to get out of the task force's grey list.

Pakistan has been on the grey list for deficiencies in Foreign Affairs (MoFA) will its counter-terror financing the next meeting of the Finan- regimes since June 2018. It

of construction of magnificent ty and sacrifices coupled with use of latest knowledge and technology always evolved them. He said that we will have to think beyond personal interest for the country's progress and development. He hailed the philanthropists who set up and run trust hospitals for the needy and ailing humanity. He said that sincere sentiments of good natured people who work for any government should not be given political color.

Addressing an inauguration ceremony of Indus hospital, the prime minister also stressed upon the need for initiation of a grand dialogue by all the stakeholders over vital sectors of the economy if they wanted to move ahead on the path of progress and prosperity. He said that a consensus should be developed such a manner that it should

Indian



Sharif on Sunday called on global powers for a united action to address multifaceted challenge of climate change on World Environment Day, ARY NEWS reported. In his message on World Envi-

ronment Day from his Twitter handle, the prime minister said that the theme of this year's day is 'Only One Earth' and is a clarion call for a united global action to address multifaceted challenge of climate change. "It is critical that developing countries are provided with climate financing to fight environmental hazards," Shehbaz

Sharif said. Last year, Pakistan hosted World Environment Day in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) on the theme of 'ecosystem restoration' and focus on resetting our relationship with nature. Speaking during the ceremony last year, Prime Minister Imran as these two components were Khan termed it an honour for

Prime Minister Shehbaz ment tenure when they decided to plant one billion saplings. The program was also addressed by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson. He said that previously only 640 million trees were planted in the country while the PTI-led KP government alone during its five-year tenure planted one billion saplings.

"Unfortunately, forest land in Pakistan has been ruined and occupied," he said and blamed the timber mafia for ruining the jungle area in the country. Imran Khan shared that trees along 50 kilometers of Shahra-e-Karokaram were cut and praised the efforts of the forest guards who intervened and stopped the activity which also saw the death of their 10 fellow members. The prime minister said that nature has once again given them the opportunity to utilize these 10 vears to improve their ecosystem as any threat to it will have an irreversible negative impact on the country.

cial Action Task Force. The is pertinent to mention here Foreign Ministry has decided to adopt a cautious strategy in this regard.

Informed sources have claimed that the four-day meeting of the financial watchdog will be held in Berlin from June 13 to 17. The plenary session will consider Pakistan's review on June 15 and 16.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar will represent Pakistan in the June 2018.

that the financial watchdog, a Paris-based global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog, had retained Pakistan on its grev list till June 2022. mIn the last plenary session, the FATF announced that Pakistan made significant progress and it has largely addressed 26 out of 27 items on the action plan it first committed to in

Power crisis worsens as shortfall reaches 7,300mw

LAHORE: The energy crisis in 1,060 megawatts from ther-Pakistan continues to deepen despite Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's strong directions to end load shedding. According to power division sources, the electricity shortfall has widened to 7.300 megawatts on Sunday. The demand in the country for electricity has surged to 27,300 megawatts amid the sweltering weather conditions. The duration of unannounced loadshedding nationwide also remained increased to 14 hours. They added that hardly nationwide power production of 20,000MW, resulting in a shortfall of 7200 MW.

obtaining 4,635 megawatts of

mal power plants and 9,677 from the IPPs, the well-placed sources said. It is learnt that three major power companies have shut down 16 power plants in Pakistan due to a non-supply offuel. The Hub Power Company (HUBCO), Lalpir Power Limited and PakGen Power have shut down 16 power plants - including Tarbela and Jamshoro - due to mismanagement in the supply of furnace

South Asia has been in the grip of an extreme heat wave since last month, with parts of Pakistan reaching a tempera-Currently, the country is ture of 50 degrees Celsius as officials warned of acute water

7 terrorists killed in Bannu, North Waziristan districts

😂 🛛 Raja Furqan Ahmed

RAWALPINDI: Security forces have killed seven terrorists in two separate Intelligence Based Operations (IBOs) in Bannu and North Waziristan districts. According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Intelligence Based Operations were conducted in Jani Khel area of Bannu district and Hassan Khel area of North Waziristan district on the reported presence of terrorists. During an intense exchange of fire, seven terror-

electricity from hydropower, shortages and a health threat. ists got killed; five terrorists in

Jani Khel and two terrorists got killed in North Waziristan District. Weapons and ammunition was also recovered from the killed terrorists. The killed terrorists remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces. Locals of the area appreciated the operations and expressed their full support to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the area. Meanwhile, according to the sources, the terrorists belonged to the TTP Hafiz Gul Bahadur faction.

Anti-Kashmir JI announces 'Awami March' Posters expose against inflation, corruption designs in IIOJK

Jamaat-e-Islami stages protests across Karachi

ISLAMABAD: In Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, posters have appeared in Srinagar and other areas to record the protest against the divisive policies being pursued by the Hindutya BJP and RSS, fearing possible genocide of Kashmiri Muslims. The Jammu and Kashmir Political Resistance Movement (JKPRM) and various other pro-freedom organisations have displayed the posters. The posters read, "Indian Hindutva rulers targeting Kashmiri youths, violating international laws by denying handover of martyrs' bodies to their families, as the current Indian anti-Kashmir policy is a big challenge and threat to peace in the region."

LAHORE/KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Is- there is a dummy opposition in the ment has lost the case of Kashmiris," lami Ameer Sirajul Haq has country," he added. announced to stage a massive 'Awami march' against rising infla- that instead of selling clothes, end Jamaat-e-Islami's (JI) leadership, tion, corruption of politicians and corruption and reject programme the interest rate system in the coun- of International Monetary Fund massive hike in petroleum prodtry. Addressing a press conference here, Sirajul Haq said that the Awami ments should be presented before March will start from Lahore on June the National Assembly (NA). The 11 major points across Karachi. The 11 against the rising inflation, corruption and interest rate system. The JI Ameer, while addressing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, said that instead of selling clothes, he should

end inflation and corruption. Referring to PM Shehbaz's offer of holding a "grand dialogue" between all stakeholders of the country, Sirajul Haq said that he was urging the same since last month. "If politicians will not sit together for the sake of democracy, then the country cannot progress," he added. Sirajul Haq said that if the incumbent government has a solution to the problems, then solve

He further told PM Shehbaz (IMF), adding that all secret agree-JI Ameer also rejected the current system, saying that Panama and Pandora Papers include names of several political leaders. "Change of individual is not the solution to the problems," he pointed out.

Sirajul Haq also demanded for election reforms and said that elections are being rigged with the help of capital. "We have selected candidates in 45% of the constituencies. Our preparations are complete," he added. Speaking of Indian Occupied Kashmir, he said that more than 4.5 million Indian citizens were transferred to the occupied valley and them as soon as possible. "At present, given identity cards. "Our govern-

he regretted.

In response to the call of protest demonstrations against a ucts were staged across Karachi. The demonstrations were staged at protesters, carrying placards and banners, chanted slogans against the government for following the footprints of the previous government. People from all walks of life participated in the demonstrations to record their protest against the recent hike of Rs60 per litre in just one week, propelling the petrol prices to an all-time high. The massive hike has directly affected common men in the country, the press statement read.

Addressing the protest demonstrations, JI district chiefs and other leaders demanded of the government to withdraw the hike immediately.

After 22-hours Pak-Iran railway service restored

CHAGAI: Pakistan Iran railway service restored after 22 hours. Five bogies of a freight train from Iran's Zahedan were derailed while on its way to Quetta a dav earlier. The railway officials have said that the goods train was sent to Quetta after railway track damaged in the mishap was repaired and restored. The railway service between Pakistan and Iran owing to dilapidated tracks and lack of maintenance results in railway accidents and mishaps.

Last month the freight train service between Pakistan and Iran also remained suspended for 72 hours after a goods train coming from Zahedan was derailed in the Dalbandin area of Chagai district.



The Spokesman

Monday, June 6, 2022

Politics

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Baligh Ur Rehman is in a meeting with Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz here on Sunday.



B Political tussle Imran to be arrested once bail expires: Rana Sanaullah

Rules out possibility of talks with PTI Chairman

ISLAMABAD: or Minister Rana Sanaullah on Sunday said that he welcomes Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran tal. Interior Minister said that government has provided security to Imran Khan as per law. Imran Khan is nominatto arson and vandalism, he said and added that he was against the federation. Rana Sanaullah said that as soon as pre-arrest bail obtained by "In view of the expected arrival ed security in Bani Gala, while Imran Khan would expire, of PTI Chairman Imran Khan Section 144 has been imposed Abbasi about 'political earliest.

provided to him as security will arrest him.

He continued: "How can a person having mischievous Khan's return to federal capi- agendas and complete disregard for moral and democratic values head a political party in a democratic system? He even stamps his opponents as traied as a suspect in more than tors and Yazeed. It's a moment two dozen cases pertaining of reflection for the whole nation." Late Saturday night, the Islamabad police said that also booked in cases related in view of Imran Khan's possito carrying out armed attacks ble return to Islamabad from Peshawar, security around Bani Gala has been beefed up.

Interi- the same officials who were in Bani Gala, security around in Islamabad and any congre-Bani Gala has been strengthened and placed on high alert,"

Government has provided security to Imran Khan as per law: Interior Minister

said the police. The Islamabad police

further said that the security division has deployed dedicat-

gation is not allowed as per orders of the district magistrate. Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) empowers district administration to issue orders in the public interest that may place a ban on an activity for a specific period of time. A police spokesperson said that Imran Khan will be provided complete security as per the law, adding that reciprocal cooperation is expected from Khan's security teams as well. Earlier in the day, contrary to the opinion of PML-N senior leader Shahid Khaqan

dialogues' aimed at steering the country out of the ongoing economic crisis, Sanaullah ruled out the possibility of talks with PTI Chairman Imran Khan. A day earlier, Abbasi, in view of the economic turmoil and tense political environment in the country, advised Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to start a political dialogue with the Opposition to put the country's economy on the right track. In an interview with a private TV channel, Abbasi said that PM Shehbaz should invite all political parties to build a political consensus at the

Baligh discuss political situation with Maryam

Governor Punjab says Govt committed to serve the nation

LAHORE: Newly appointed Punjab nor House here on Sunday. During League - Nawaz (PML-N) vice Governor Punjab. president Maryam Nawaz and discussed the current political situation. During the meeting held in Jati Umra, Maryam congratulated Baligh on assuming the office. On the occasion, Maryam while lashing out at former government said the PTI government remained failed to deliver but the coalition government will take the country out of all crises and move on the path of development.

Punjab Governor Muhammad Engineer Baligh-ur-Rehman says been taken in this regard. He was belong to various cities at Gover- and prosperity of the country.

governor Baligh Ur Rehman on meeting, the delegations congratu-Sunday called on Pakistan Muslim lated him for assuming the charge of

He said present government is facing many challenges and due to current situation of the country government has taken difficult decisions. He expressed hope that national economy will stabilize soon. The Governor said that business community plays important role for economic development. He said that present government is taking all out measures for provision of relief to masses. The Governer said that national economy was stable the government is committed to and inflation rate is low in previserve the nation and measure has ous tenure of PML-N government. Baligh-ur-Rehman urged the people talking to different delegations to play their due role for the progress

😂 Rising Islamophobia President condemns hurtful remarks of Indian leaders

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan has condemned in strongest possible words the hurtful comments of India's BJP leaders about the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and said that these derogatory and controversial remarks have hurt the feelings of all Muslims around the world. This, he said, is the reflection of growing trend of Islamophobia in India where Muslims lives in millions.

The President said that merely suspending and expelling party officials isn't enough but BJP must shun and denounce its extremist and fascist Hindutva ideology. He said that India under Modi's hateful Hindutva philosophy is trampling religious freedoms of all its minorities and persecuting them without any impunity.



remarks to continue without punishment constitutes grave danger to the protection of human rights and may lead to further prejudice and marginalization which will create a cycle of violence and hate", he added.

He called upon the World community, United Nations and international human rights organizations to take a serious notice of rising Islamophobia and systematic religious persecution in India without impunity and take all steps necessary to put

"Allowing such Islamophobic an end to it.

Source World Environment Day Pak committed to address climate change issue

person on Sunday said that Pakistan — as envisioned in its recently submitted was fully committed to take ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions actions to address climate change and environmental hazards. "Going forward, we reaffirm our resolve in taking action on combating climate change, protecting biological diversity, and reversing ecosystem degradation," the spokesperson said in a press release in connection with the observance of World Environment Day. Pakistan was already in the midst of one of the world's most ambitious efforts to expand and restore its forests. "In its quest for a Green Future, Pakistan is working towards setting national policies in motion to achieve by 2030, 60% of our energy mix, clean and green, and shift 30%

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokes- of road transport to electric vehicles,

😂 LGs **MQM-P** tables new demands for administrative posts

KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) has put forth its new demands for administrative posts in local bodies. According to details, Foreign Minister and Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto met Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah and other ministers in Karachi today. During the meeting, the issue of Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan's (MQM-P) participation in local bodies came under discussion. Bilawal Bhutto was apprised of the new demands put forward by MQM-P.

Sources told ARY News that MQM-P has sought administrator posts in three districts including Karachi and Hyder-



West and East, sources added, Meanwhile, the PPP Chairman directed Murad Ali Shah to meet the top leadabad. MQM-P has demanded adminis- ership of MQM-P and resolve issues. trator posts in three districts - Central, The talks between MQM-P and PPP

will be held on Monday at 11 a.m. in the Chief Minister's House.

The meeting also discussed the new local government system and the holding of local body elections in the prov-

ince. The foreign minister was also apprised of the water shortage and load shedding in Sindh. Bilawal Bhutto has also directed to bring a balanced and good local government system in the province immediately.

Earlier, it was reported that differences emerged between MQM-P, a key member of the ruling alliance, and PPP over the powers of Mayor Karachi. According to details, MQM-P has expressed its disappointment over the Mayor's power to ruling party of Sindh, the Pakistan People's Party. MQM-P convener Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui asserted that PPP co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari wants to give them a powerless Mayor. "Such mayor does not even have

the power to pick garbage," he added.

give any message to see a polit-

Shah Mahmood Qureshi

elaborated on the decisions

taken by the PTI core commit-

tee during today's session

chaired by the chairman Imran

Khan at Bani Gala. "The PTI

core committee reviewed the

economic and political situa-

tion of the country. The core

ical reaction."

Govt's relief package a political ploy: Elahi

LAHORE: Punjab Assembly Speaker and Pakistan Muslim League - Quaid (PML-Q) leader Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi on Sunday said that incumbent government's relief package announcement was not more than a political ploy because a common man will not get any relief. In his statement, Pervaiz Elahi said that instead of making such dramas for the sake of political fame, corrupt rulers should make life easier for the people by making effective policies. "Never witnessed such inflation and political turmoil in my life, imported government has made people life too hard," Elahi added.

PTI to react strongly if Imran Khan arrested: Qureshi

PTI core committee reviews long march strategy

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chief and former PM Imran Khan on Sunday chaired a meeting of PTI core committee at Bani Gala in which current political situation and long march strategy were reviewed. Sources privy to the development said, the core committee meeting was also briefed on the progress of the petitions filed against the PTI members in the courts and legal proposals for dealing with the political situation in Punjab were also discussed.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Vice Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi has warned the federal government of strong political reaction if it arrests Imran Khan. While addressing a press He asked PTI workers to final-reaction and we don't need to in Punjab.



conference after the PTI core ise planning for giving a peacecommittee meeting, Shah ful reaction if the government Mahmood Qureshi said that chooses to arrest Imran Khan. Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah is willing to arrest Imran threatening and non-political Khan. "Strong reaction will statements of Rana Sanaullah. be witnessed if Imran Khan is The interior minister is willing arrested. It will be his misun- to arrest the most popular leadderstanding that we will stay ~~ er of the country. Imran Khan's silent on Imran Khan's arrest." arrest will draw a strong public

committee expressed serious concerns over the deteriorated situation of the national economy." Qureshi said that "The nation has listened to the PTI lawmakers had submitted their resignations and they will not appear before the National Assembly (NA) speaker. He announced that the political party will actively participate in by-polls on 20 vacant seats

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(NDCs) under the Paris Agreement," it was added. The spokesperson further said

that Pakistan joined the international community in celebrating the World Environment Day 2022" on the theme "Only One Earth". "As one of top ten most climate-vulnerable countries, Pakistan highly values the global efforts to combat climate change, halt and reverse biodiversity loss, reduce pollution, and restore ecosystems," the spokesperson said. It is imperative for the international community to take ambitious actions and translate political commitments on combating climate change.

S Weekly Roundup **Rupee to hold ground** this week

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee is up public finances will be a key. Some liquidity from exporters, say traders. Investors, however, are likely to remain somewhat cautious, seeking more clarity on the political front and ahead of the next fiscal year budget, traders said. The local unit consolidated its gains and rose to 197.59 against the dollar on Thursday. However, it bounced back the next day after the government hiked fuel prices to meet the International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan conditions. Pakistan is seeking to secure a staff-level agreement with the IMF in June. The dollar selling by exporters also supported the local unit in the outgoing week. However, the rupee gave up gains and ended weaker at 197.92 per dollar on Friday weighed by a sharp decline in the foreign currency reserves.

The rupee seems to trade on a stable note in the coming week. Markets will be closely watching the ongoing political turmoil in the country as when the ousted Prime Minister Imran Khan will announce the date for his next march. Caution is also likely to prevail ahead of the 2022/23 budget to be presented on June 10 (Friday) with investors expecting IMF conditions (fiscal consolidation) to dominate. Although, credibility on how to contain the budget deficit and shore to \$4.04 billion.

expected to remain stable during traders see a renewed pressure on the the next week amid improved dollar rupee on an increase in fiscal-year-end dollar demand from importers and the corporate sector. The payments related to imports and profit repatriation in the pipeline.

The report about China's \$2.7 billion deposit placement has not calmed traders' nerves, as they are seeing the deposit not useful for either fiscal or external support. The country's foreign exchange reserves decreased by \$378 million to \$15.771 billion in the week ended May 27. The State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) reserves dropped to \$9.723 billion from \$10.088 billion, providing six weeks' import cover.

Moody's Investors Service downgraded its outlook on Pakistan to negative from stable on concerns, including a delay in the revival of the IMF loan programme. The government raised fuel prices by 17%, the consumer price index inflation reached around multi-year highs in May, and importing banks were facing difficulties in opening fresh letters of credit as the international rating agency downgraded Pakistan's ratings. Pakistan's trade deficit increased by 58% to \$43.33 billion in July-May FY2022. The deficit remained 12% year-onyear and 7% month-on-month in May

The Spokesman

Monday, June 6, 2022

Azad Kashmir has vast potential for tourism, says Sardar Tanveer Ilyas

PM AJK inaugurates Jhelum Valley Tourism Festival announces Rs10m funds

腾 Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilvas along with Education Minister Diwan Ali Khan Chughtai and former Assembly candidate Zeeshan Haider formally inaugurated the Jhelum Valley Tourism Festival here at Jhelum valley.

Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan said that Azad Kashmir has vast announced to provide funds of Rs1 potential for tourism. Reiterating his crore for the festival. government's commitment to capitalize the state's untapped potential, he said that promotion of the tourism sector was one of the top priorities of

the PTI government.

Referring to the Jhelum valley's scenic beauty, the PM said promotion of tourism in the valley would provide ample business and employment opportunities.

Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan congratulated Zeeshan Haider for organizing the grand Festival. 'Zeeshan Haider is a capable and Addressing the inaugural function, talented young man", the PM hailed. The Prime Minister on the occasion

The Government, he said, would take advantage of the area's huge tourism potential, and utilize all its resources to turn Jhelum Valley into a tour-

ist hub. "The PTI government's sole agenda is to raise the living standards of the people of Azad Kashmir", the PM maintained.

Pertinently, the 15-day festival is scheduled to begin in mid July on the sidelines of Eid al-Adha festival. Dozens of adventure sports, including water rafting and mountaineering, will be part of over 50,000 tourists, will provide employment opportunities to thousands of people in the area, where more than 100 tourist destinations have been delineated.

Addressing the function, Education Minister Diwan Ali Khan Chughtai said that there are immense opportunities for promotion of tourism in Jhelum

Valley. "Tourism and health resorts will be set up in Chakar, Lepa, Khalana, Chakoti, Chak Hama", he said.

Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, he said, has embarked on a journey of development and prosperity of the liberated territory in line with Imran Khan's vision. In her address Parliamentary Secretary Prof. Taqdees Gilani said that the government was taking steps on priority basis to capitalize the potential of tourism in Azad Kashmir.

Commissioner Muzaffarabad Division Masood-ur-Rehman, DG Tourism Rashid Hanif, Zain Gilani Advocate and others also addressed the inaugural function.

Business community wants policies, says

PIA, NFEH team up to celebrate World Environment Day

Rapid transformation of farmlands nearby cities into housing schemes poses serious environmental challenge'

🐞 Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The rapid transformation of the farmland nearby cities particularly that in the vicinity of Karachi into urban housing schemes has emerged as one of the biggest environmental challenges in Pakistan.

The issue of fast shrinking farmlands nearby urban centres of the country was raised by the concerned speakers who spoke at a programme held at the PIA Model School on Sunday to mark the World Environment Day being observed every year on June 5. The programme was jointly organised by the PIA and the National Forum for Environment and Health (NFEH).

The speakers lamented that there had been no check on the fast-shrinking green cover nearby the cities due to widespread tree cutting to building concrete structures build new housing schemes at the cost of the environand modern civic infrastruc- ment. ture



guest at the event, said the phenomenon of environmenrapid use of farmlands for tal degradation. Baig said the building housing facilities children after getting such useful information could play had not just created an environmental challenge but also an important role in saving the environment by planting threatened the food security of the country. Baig, who and protecting the trees. is also the Honorary Consul PIA General Manager, General of Morocco in Kara-Welfare and CSR, Shoaib Dahiri, said the national flag chi, said that Pakistan earlier had sufficient indigenous carrier was fully committed

production of vital crops but to the cause of environmenlately due to a decline in farmtal protection and had joined ing the country had to import hands with leading non-govwheat, cotton, and sugar. ernmental organisations to He said that no action had plant trees at its offices and been taken against those who establishments across the were involved in tree cutting country. He said the Sindh governand using the forestland for

against people cutting trees to threaten the existence of He praised that the NFEH riverine and mangrove forests Mirza Ishtiaq Baig, the and PIA had teamed up to in the province. Founding President of the make aware school students Muhammad Shoaib, Make-a-Wish Foundation of the importance of tree former Company Secretary Pakistan, who was the chief plantation for reversing the of PIA, said that different BRTS service in Karachi.

ment should take action

stakeholders belonging to the government and non-governmental sector should join hands to take emergency measures to save the environment in Pakistan from an utter crash.

Musaddiq Aziz, Resource Mobilization Head of the non-profit Green Crescent Trust, praised the PIA for its consistent efforts to save the environment despite the pressing financial problems of the national flag carriers.

NFEH Vice-President, Nadeem Ashraf, said that unchecked extraction of subsoil water for human consumption in urban areas had caused a serious environmental imbalance.

Ruqiya Naeem, NFEH Secretary-General, said that Pakistan should carry out developmental activities without causing harm to the environment. NFEH President, Naeem Qureshi, lamented that hundreds of fully grown trees had been recently cut down to make the way for building the corridor of the Red Line section of the



RAWALPINDI: The business community of Pakistan wants continuity of policies. Whenever a new government comes to power, ongoing projects are either closed or postponed. "For the continuation of economic policies, it is important that all political parties agree on the Charter of Economy and make it part of their political manifesto". These views were expressed by the group leader and former president, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) in a local TV program.

Sohail Altaf said that no doubt all political parties are concerned about the economic situation of the country and have strong desire to bring

Medical research backbone of health sector: Principal SIMS



😂 Staff Reporter

LAHORE: British Medical General, Pakistan Medical Library Association and the Department of Medical Education Services Institute of Medical Sciences jointly organized a workshop on modern research and publication of the Department of Health at Sims Auditorium, chaired by Principal SIMS Professor Dr. Farooq Afzal. While the host was Prof. Waris Farooqa, Khalid Qureshi on behalf of British Medical General, Ghulam Farid, President Pakistan Medical Library Association, Dr. Bilal Chishti on behalf of SIMS, Dr. Noman Noman Rafique and Dr. Hina from Faculty of Information Management.

On the occasion, Principal SIMS Professor Dr. Farooq Afzal said that medical research is the backbone of the health sector while research on various generals, books and websites is a must. When it is published in the form of a subject, its scope is widened and from this, all the people who are involved in the field of medical education, including me, get guidance and share these experiences with the students so that their study becomes wider. On the occasion, the principal Distribute certificates in speakers.

Renowned beautician Jane Askar visits Explore Den Travel Tourism



😂 Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The renowned beautician Jane Askar visited in Explore Den Travel Tourism office and had a meeting with the CEO of Explorer Den Jamil Raza.

In meeting this is decided that both will do the work for the promotion of travel and tourism nationally and internationally in Pakistan jointly. Jane Askar who born in England and have a British nationality holder, she has vast experience in the field of Beauty, and skin, and she has been giving the tips in FM 101 (Radio Pakistan) for many year.

On this occasion, she said that Explorer Den Tavel and Tourism has been playing very vital role for the promotion of Travel Tourism. She said that Explorer Den and Jane Askar Beauty Parlor will jointly work together for the promotion of travel and tourism. The Explorer Den CEO Jamil Raza also appreciated the role of Jane Askar as a beautician and said we will also work with Janel Askar beauty parlor and will give the special discount honeymoon package for the client, brides who will prepare by Jane Askar beauty parlor. At the end Jamil Raza presented the Explorer Den brochure to Jane Askar.

Role of parliament on climate action sought

continuity of SohailAltaf



Pak-Canada bilateral trade will be promoted: Zaheer Aslam Janjua

Private sector to be encouraged in a push to boost trade ties

腾 Tarig Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The High Commissioner of Pakistan to Canada Zaheer Aslam Janjua has said that bilateral trade between Pakistan and Canada will be increased and private sector would be encouraged in a push to boost trade ties. Pakistani business community should focus on Canada for exports which offer excellent business opportunities, he said.

High Commissioner Zaheer Aslam Janjua said this while speaking at a ceremony held in connection with the inauguration of the new premises of the Consulate General of Pakistan in Vancouver.

Consul General Janbaz Khan, President of the Pakistan-Western Canada Trade Association (PWCTA) Bushra Rehman, former Chairman of POF Wah Lt. Gen (Retd) Farooq Durrani, leading businessmen and Secretary-General of the US-Pakistan International Chamber of Commerce (USPICC) Malik Sohail Hussain were also present

at the occasion.

He said that the political leadership of Pakistan want to capitalize on the trade potential between Pakistan and Canada and we will extend cooperation to the private sector of both the countries in this regard.

Zaheer Aslam Janjua said that both countries enjoy exemplary ties but the bilateral trade needs to be increased for

which linkages, information, exchange of trade delegations and holding exhibitions are of vital importance.

Pakistan-Canada relationship is robust and underpinned by strong people-to-people ties, he said, adding that Pakistan was the fifth-largest source of immigration to Canada, with more than 250,000 Pakistanis living in this country, he added.

the economy back on track.

He said that the Rawalpindi Chamber is going to hold a conference in mid-June comprising representatives of all political parties, aiming to bring all the parties to a point for continuity of economic policies.

He expressed hope that all the political parties will sign a consensus document, a memorandum of understanding and follow a single economic manifesto that should be evolved in consultation with the stakeholders. It is in the national interest that if any of these parties comes to power in future, they will be committed to the continuity of policies, he added.

The Rawalpindi Chamber believes that the solution to the current economic crisis is for all political parties to unite on the recovery of the economy and sign a memorandum of understanding, he further added.

Giving protection and confidence to the investors is the responsibility of both the government and the opposition. In order to improve the image of the country, we have to put the national interest first in all circumstances, he said.

Sohail Altaf said that there are only three million filers in a population of 220 million. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) will have to find new taxpayers to increase tax collection rather than imposing extra burden on the existing taxpayers, he suggested.



😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Senator Mushahid Hussain Saved seeks the role of parliament as a key stakeholder along with local communities as well as development sector on climate action.

He was speaking at a seminar on the occasion of World Environment Day organized by Sustainable policy Institute (SDPI) here.

Fee for booking plots at Super Highway cattle market reduced to Rs100

😂 Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The fee for cattle sellers for booking place at the biggest cattle market of Asia, located at Super Highway, has been reduced to Rs. 100, while allocation of the place in the market will go through automation this time, and the receipts for cows and goats will also be issued from the same counter at cattle market. Coming of animals to the cattle market from different regions of the country to be sacrificed on the day of Eid-ul-Adha has begun.

season

cold drinking water in the

hot weather of the summer

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, Mst Shamshad Begum (widow) (2) Mst Humaira Gul (wife of Aamir Afzal) (3) Zobia Gull (wife of Wasif Shan) (4) Sumaira Ishtiaq (wife of Abdul Bari Ishtiaq) (5) Saima Gul daughters of Abdul Qayyum transferee of plot No.260-C Sector 4/A Khayaban-e-Sir Syed Rawalpindi has appointed General Power Attorney to Mr. Zubair Gul son of Abdul Qayyum vide registered deed No.105/4 dated 27/01/2014 from Sub

Registrar Rawalpindi. NOW, Mr. Zubair Gul son of Abdul Qayyum General Power of Attorney alongwith own share wish to transfer the plot to 3rd party.

If anyone have objection of The management says that above advertisement submit this year for the convenience of their objection within fifteen sellers and buyers, cold drinkdays of this advertisement ing water drums will be placed otherwise objection will not be at every short distance at the entertained. Deputy Director market so that the people, sellers and buyers will have free Punjab Housing & Town

Planning Agency (Gulzar-e-Quaid) Sub **Region Rawalpindi**

Shares Classified

01 shares of M/s. Sui Southern Gas Company Limited having following details in the name of Bisma Aizaz d/o Aizaz ul waheed Folio # 6042, Certificate No. 3000791, No. of certificate 1, Distinctive # From 671371832 To 671372081 Total No. of shares 250 have been lost. If no claim / objection is logged within 7 days with Share Registrar, CDC Share Registrar Services Limited CDC House 99-B Block-B, S.M.C.H.S, Shahra-e-Faisal, Karachi duplicate share certificates will be issued by company to the shareholder concerned.

Traders demand urgent withdrawal of hike in POL prices

😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Jamshaid Akhtar Sheikh, Acting President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) called upon the government to introduce fixed tax regime for small traders in the forthcoming budget that would help in broadening the tax base and improving tax revenue of the country. He said this while addressing a meeting of ICCI Traders Committee. He further said that if it was not possible to introduce fixed tax due to IMF, then the government should immediately revive the self-assessment tax system as it had earlier boosted tax revenue while the business community was also satisfied with

it. He said that though the government has to increase prices to meet IMF conditions, however, it should take all possible measures to save people from inflation and business activities from further trouble.

Khalid Chaudhry, Convener Traders Committee, Khalid Iqbal Malik Chairman Founder Group, Muhammad Iiaz Abbasi Former President ICCI, Aimal Baloch President All Pakistan Anjuman-e-Tirajan, Azhar Amin Secretary General G-10 Markaz, Aftab Gujjar President and Syed Qaiser Abbas Secretary General G-11 Markaz, Irfan Chaudhry President Steel Market, Tahir Abbasi President and Malik Nadeem Iqbal Secretary General F-10 Markaz, Abdul Rehman Siddiqui

Secretary General Jinnah Super Market, Raja Hassan Akhtar President Blue Area and Group Leader Furqan Chaudhry, Rana Ikram Secretary General Sitara Market, Shahid Abbasi Vice President and Naeem Abbasi Secretary General Karachi Company, Shafiq Abbasi Senior Vice President and Akhtar Abbasi Secretary General Aabpara Market, Mahmood Ahmed Khan

President G-12 Markaz, Zahid Hameed President and Shamim Ahmed Khan Secretary General Jewelers Association, Malik Shabbir President and Chaudhry Babar Secretary General Transporters Association, Mian Razzaq President G-13, Chaudhry Waheed Cheema from I-8 and representatives of other markets were present

at the occasion.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution calling on the government to immediately withdraw the unwarranted hike in the prices of POL products and electricity & gas tariffs. The meeting was of the view that these hikes in prices and tariffs would lead to massive inflation, significant cut in the purchasing power of the people and sharp downturn in the business activities causing more poverty and unemployment in the country.

Founder Group Chairman Khalid Iqbal Malik and former President ICCI Muhammad Ijaz Abbasi said that the business community is playing a key role in the development of the economy so

CDA and MCI should try to solve their problems on priority basis. They said that the development work should be started immediately in the markets of Islamabad which are still neglected by the CDA so that business activities could be better promoted. They said that due to non-availability of parking in the markets, traders are facing a lot of difficulties so CDA should provide parking facility in all the markets. They said that CDA in collaboration with the market associations should remove encroachments from the markets and move the wheelbarrows out of I-10, I-11 and other markets to a separate place as the market business is affected due to wheelbarrows.

Special Edition

Monday, June 6, 2022

The Spokesman 3

ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY HELD Pakistan regards Italy as good friend, reliable partner: PM's Advisor

Italy among top 10 exporting countries for Pakistan globally, 3rd largest trade partner in EU, says Italian Ambassador



彩 **Naveed Ahmad Khan**

ISLAMABAD: Qamar Zaman Karia, Advisor to Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan said Italy is one of the largest trading partners of Pakistan in the EU and among the top ten globally.

The Advisor expressed these views while addressing the gathering on the occasion of the Italian National Day ceremony as a guest of honor.

The event was attended by Ambassadors, Head of Missions Defense Attaches and large numbers of Pakistanis from different walks of life. Dean of Diplomatic corps & Ambassador of Turkmenistan Atadjan Movlamov, Murtaza Javed Abbasi, Federal Minister For Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Shahzad Waseem, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Pakistan, Khalid Khurshid, Chief Minister Gilgit Baltistan, Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, Dr. Tariq Fazal Chudhary, Member National Assembly and renowned businessman Moeen Ud din, Director at Shahzad International Group of Companies were also present on the occasion.

Kaira said our bilateral trade during the fiscal year 2021 increased rapidly. There is still great potential to expand bilateral trade and investment. Pakistan is firmly committed to further developing and deepening our mutually beneficial relationship in the economic and commercial spheres. There are many Pakistanis living in Italy; they see it as a bridge between two friendly nations and positively contribute to the economic development of Italy, he added.









Qamar Zaman Kaira said that Pakistan United Nations. profoundly values its relations with Italy bilaterally in the European Union (EU) and multilaterally in the international forum such as the able partner. He said Pakistan and Italy have

The advisor to the prime minister said that Pakistan regards Italy as a good friend and reli-

commonalities of views and the broad range of regional and international issues since both countries are keen to promote global peace and development. He further stated that the trajectory of Pakistan and Italy ties is positive, and "we are deter-

mined to strengthen it further. Our mutually beneficial cooperation is strengthened by a shared of diplomatic values, democratic values, commitments, continued engagement, and willingness to help each other". Pakistan looks forward to deepening its partnership with Italy to achieve its objective of peace, prosperity,

Ambassador of Italy to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese, addressing the audience, said that Italy and Pakistan have a long history of cordial relations and cooperation in political, econom-

ic, cultural, and social spheres. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the two nations have unanimity of views on several issues of global importance, and mutual cooperation in all the fields has been on the rise.

He said that the foreign ministers of both countries recently met in New York, where they renewed the determination to strengthen the bilateral partnership.

With its unique geo-strategic location and improved security conditions, the Ambassador further said that Pakistan offers excellent investment opportunities for Italian companies. With a population of around 220 million and a constantly growing demand for high-end products, Pakistan remains an attractive market for Italian manufacturers and businesspeople.

He said that Italy is among the top ten exporting countries for Pakistan globally and

the third largest trade partner in the European Union. Although global trade shrank during the Covid-19 pandemic, Pakistan's exports to



Italy in 2021 grew by 22.1%, with a total value of €763.51 million. In the same period, Italian exports to Pakistan saw an increase of 48.6%, with a total value of €754.06 million. Bilateral trade has grown from € 1.42 billion in 2019 to €1.52 billion in 2021. Trade volume in Jan-Feb 2022 stood at €289.37 million compared to €203.41 million during the same year 2021. It is worth mentioning that remittances from Pakistani workers in Italy hit an all-time high.

With the figures of \$711.7 million in FY22, Italy has become the seventh-largest center of worker remittances to Pakistan globally and the top one in the EU countries.

The ultimate Italy-Pakistan Mixed Economic Commission took place in Islamabad, where the two sides discussed trade opportunities between the two countries, focusing on developing foreign investments through SEZ (Special Economic Zones) in key sectors such as agro-industry, the Ambassador added.

The Ambassador further stated that Italy is home to more than 150.000 Pakistanis, the largest Pakistani diaspora in Europe (after Brexit). Engaged in various production sectors in Italy, they continue to make a great contribu-

tion to both countries' economies. The Italian government and people appreciated Pakistan's solidarity with Italy when Italy was severely affected during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He said the Italians' love for Pakistani mountains is no secret, which reflects through their conservation and uplift activities of Pakistan's mountainous areas.

The Embassy of Italy in Islamabad is committed to boosting commercial ties between the two countries. The Ambassador informed that both countries should explore all the possible avenues focusing on agriculture, machinery, textiles, and tourism. He said that our collaboration in textiles, agriculture, livestock, construction, marble, pharmaceuticals and tourism would help enhance Pakistan's industrial scope and increase exports of value-added goods. "We are excited about the launch of "Olive Culture Project" in Pakistan that would bear tangible fruits for the country in the future".

Visitors enjoyed Italian cuisines and arrangements of the hosts made on the occasion.

The Spokesman

Editorial/Opinion

Monday, June 6, 2022

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Only One Earth

his year's World Environment Day is significant because it marks fifty years since the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, that was the first international meeting on the environment and led to the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This planet is our only home. It is vital we safeguard the health of its atmosphere, the richness and diversity of life on Earth, its ecosystems and its finite resources. But we are failing to do so. The theme of this year's World Environment Day, "Only One Earth", is a simple statement of fact. We are asking too much of our planet to maintain ways life that are unsustainable. Earth's natural systems cannot keep up with our demands.

Over three billion people are affected by degraded ecosystems. Pollution is responsible for some 9 million premature deaths each year. More than 1 million plant and animal species risk extinction, many within decades. Close to half of humanity is already in the climate danger zone -15 times more likely to die from climate impacts such as extreme heat, floods and drought. There is a 50:50 chance that annual average global temperatures will breach the Paris Agreement limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius in the next five years. More than 200 million people each year could be displaced by climate disruption by 2050.

Fifty years ago, the world's leaders came together at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and committed to protecting the planet. But we are far from succeeding. We can no longer ignore the alarm bells that ring louder every day. The recent Stockholm+50 environment meeting reiterated that all 17 Sustainable Development Goals rely on a healthy planet. We must all take responsibility to avert the catastrophe being wrought by the triple crises of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss.

On this issue Pakistan is fully committed to take ambitious actions to address climate change and environmental hazards. Going forward, we reaffirm our resolve in taking action on combating climate change, protecting biological diversity, and reversing ecosystem degradation. Pakistan is already in the midst of one of the world's most ambitious efforts to expand and restore its forests. In its quest for a Green Future, Pakistan is working towards setting national policies in motion to achieve by 2030, 60% of our energy mix, clean and green, and shift 30% of road transport to electric vehicles, as envisioned in its recently submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

Pakistan joined the international community in celebrating the "World Environment Day 2022" on the theme "Only One Earth". As one of top ten most climate-vulnerable countries, Pakistan highly values the global efforts to combat climate change, halt and reverse biodiversity loss, reduce pollution, and restore ecosystems. It is imperative for the international community to take ambitious actions and translate political commitments on combating climate change and environmental

The political gimmick and future of Pakistan

Minus the nation, 'power' is the ultimate goal of all stakeholders



akistani politics is steadily transmitting into a chaotic state. The language and

conduct of political leadership are so bizarre that leave an impression of their immaturity and carelessness towards the country and nation. At a very crucial stage, when the worst economic crises have gripped the country's growth, Pakistani political leadership is screeching over their sole right of ruling the nation. Former Prime Minister Imran Khan, the chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was removed from his office at midnight 9th April 2022 as a result of a vote

Imran Khan to oust him from the country's top slot. Earlier on 27th March 2022, Mr. Khan in a public address in Islamabad waved a letter naming it a diplomatic wire as proof of an international conspiracy against his government. He said the international agenda was triggered with the help of Pakistani opposition leadership and it was direct interference in the country's affairs for which he named a US diplomat later on in his speeches. He demanded the formation of a Judicial Commission to probe into the matter and unveil the conspiracy against his government.

National Security Committee (NSC) on two different occasions declared that there was no evidence of direct involvement of international conspiracy against Mr. Khan's government rather it was a use of undiplomatic language from a US official with the Pakistani ambassador which was transmitted through a 'Cipher' to Pakistan as per standard of no confidence against him norms. The newly emerged by the united opposition. As united opposition's government many as 174 members out of under the prime ministership

a total 342 have voted against of Mian Muhammad Shah- secondly, whether the forma- sions and statements. Also, he baz Sharif offered an inquiry into the matter but PTI leadership remained adamant about the formation of a Judi-

> The party leadership appreciates all such efforts be it below the bar of decency and morality. Mr. Khan has introduced a new style of politics in Pakistan where values and morality have no place and consideration.

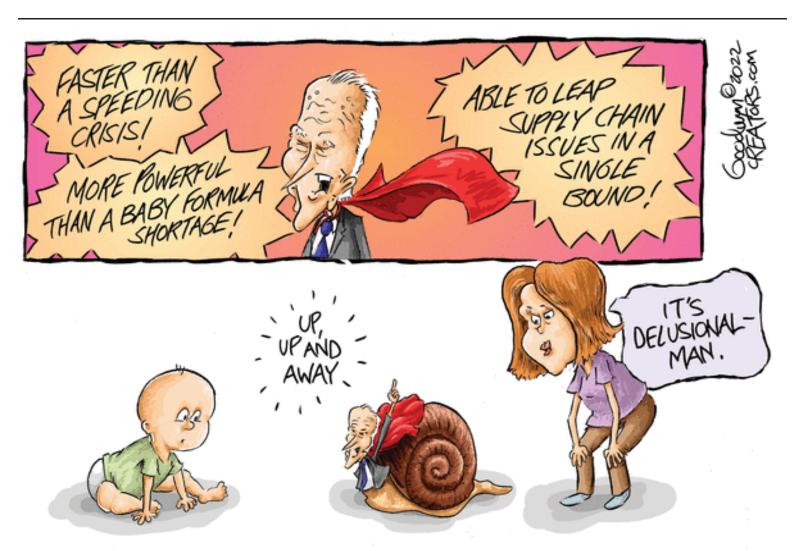
cial Commission. Apparently, PTI demand is a simple matter and it should be fulfilled without hesitation from the government however, two aspects are vital to consider before taking any initiative. First, the history of Judicial inquiries in Pakistan is neither clean nor fruitful, and the 'U-Turn' policy on his deci-

tion of the Judicial Commisearned fame for giving unique sion and the outcome would be acceptable to all stakeholders or not. The potential answer is 'big no' considering the attitude of political parties in Pakistan.

Imran Khan has addressed the public in several cities since he has been ousted from the Prime Minister's office and organized a long march to Islamabad on 25th May 2022 against the incumbent government by demanding the announcement of general elections. He has criticized the American influence in Pakistan, the role of the military establishment for their pick and choose policy and for becoming 'neutral' all of sudden in the political sphere. He also blamed all political parties who are part of the current government for playing a puppet role to topple his government and becoming a source of destabilization to a prospering country under his leadership. In his most recent speech, he added the role of India and Israel as well in the conspiracy against his government.

'descriptions' to various political terminologies as he told the nation that 'neutral' is synonymous of 'animal'. He is continuously giving shocking statements in his speeches including the most controversial about existence of Pakistan as one unit. Imran Khan is blessed with blind followers who believe in his words without many noetic efforts. He has social media brigade to curse the opponents and anti-viewpoints. The PTI fear-less social media warriors have no mercy for the social, political, religious, and constitutional norms as they troll every single voice against them considering it a sole right. The party leadership appreciates all such efforts be it below the bar of decency and morality. Mr. Khan has introduced a new style of politics in Pakistan where values and morality have no place and consideration.

To be Concluded The writer is the Head of Mr. Khan is quite famous for Editorial Advisory Board of the Daily The Spokesman.



degradation into tangible steps on ground.

For developing countries like Pakistan, raising ambition would not be possible without provision of sufficient means of implementation including climate finance, technology and capacity-building support by developed countries. Only One Earth was the slogan for the 1972 UN Conference. Fifty years on, this truth still holds – planet Earth is our only home. For the last five decades, the world had been observing this Day as the largest global platform for raising public awareness about the pressing environmental challenges.

Indus Water Treaty

stan and India which was held on 19th September 1960. This treaty considers being one of the most successful water-sharing attempts in the world. After the independence, the Indus along with the other rivers which include Chenab and Jhelum flows from Jammu and Kashmir comes into Pakistan. On the other side Beas, Sutlej and Ravi have their veins from India. As Pakistan is the Agricultural state. This sector plays a central role in the economy. According to the reports, the Agriculture sector provides around 21 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). So the agriculture sector in Pakistan depends on the flow of that river water. As compared to Pakistan, India has several rivers and water sources to support its agriculture. The water of the Indus River mainly started from the Tibet region of China and flows through the Jammu and Kashmir region and comes into Pakistan before empty in the Arabian Sea. It is joined by the numerous tributaries. The Indus river system has been used for irrigation since the past. During the period of British rule in India, new reforms were farmer, navigation) and the US atomic enerdone. The large canal system was constructed, whereas old canals were revived.

In 1947 British India was partitioned, resulting in the creation of an independent India and Pakistan. The water system was thus divided between them, the headworks in India and the canals running through Pakistan. Later on, there was a short-term Standstill Agreement of 1947, but in 1948 India began withholding water from canals that flowed into Pakistan. The Inter-Dominion Accord of May 4, 1948, required India to provide water to the Pakistani parts of the basin in return for annual payments from the government of Pakistan. In 1948 India cut off the supply in most canals that went to Pakistan but restore it later. The accord was meant to meet immediate requirements and

tribution treaty between Paki- nent solution. However, neither side was willing to compromise their respective positions. Pakistan wanted to take that matter in International Court of Justice (ICJ) but India refused this and arguing that the conflict should solve through bilateralism. The Indian government several times made promises not to intervene and would not go against the due right of Pakistan but in reality, they always moved against promises and many times threatened to cut the flow of the rivers.

In September 1950, the Indian govern-

ment agreed to solve this issue through Arbitration. India also demands that there should be a court in which both members should be from each side and one neutral chairman. The proposal was accepted by Pakistan too. Later on, in 1951, David Lilienthal the former head of Tennessee valley authority (US agency to control floods, improve living standards of a

gy commission visited the region to write a research article for Collier's magazine. He has a keen interest in subcontinents region. He wrote that: "No armies with bombs and shellfire could divest a land so thoroughly as Pakistan could be devastated by the simple expedient of India's permanently shutting up the source of water that keeps the field and the people of Pakistan green"

After both states agreed, the chairman of World Bank Eugene Black took this responsibility. He made a committee of both sides to overcome this problem. In his suggestion, engineers from both countries formed a working group with the World Bank offering advice. In 1954 World Bank proposes the solution.

he Indus water is a water-dis- was followed by negotiations for a more perma- arch-rivals on September 19th, 1960 an agreement was signed between Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Pakistani president Ayub Khan in Karachi that is commonly known as Indus Water Treaty. In the agreement, the World Bank divided the whole reservoirs into two parts. Beas, Ravi and Sutlej (Eastern River) rivers were assigned to India while the rivers Chenab, Jhelum and Indus (western Rivers) were granted to Pakistan. The treaty also helps in financial assistance of building new dams, link canals, and barrages. Some notable work is Tarbela Dam in Indus River and Mangla

> dam in Jhelum River. Furthermore in the Agreement, it was also decided for the storage of water Pakistan would be helped to build dams, barrages and around seven link canals in which Indian would financially help in the scheme. while the remaining amount would be given by the World Bank, US, New Zealand, Canada, Australia, and other friendly states of Pakistan.

Moreover under the treaty, all the waters of the three eastern rivers, averaging around 33 million acre-feet (MAF), were allocated to India. The waters of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) averaging to around 135 MAF, were allocated to Pakistan except for 'specified domestic, non-consumptive and agricultural use permitted to India. India has also been given the right to generate hydroelectricity through the run of the river projects on the western rivers which is subject to specific criteria for design and operation is unrestricted. Mostly from Indian sides threats coming due to their positive position. As the water flows from India toward Pakistan. In the 1970's India starts building hydropower projects in the Kashmir. On the other hand, Pakistan raises concern Within six years of talks between the two on this project. Later on, in 1984 Pakistan

objects over India building Tulbul barrage on the Jhelum and India stops it.

In 2007 Pakistan raises concern over Kishan Ganga hydroelectric plant. Now it is completed. After the attack in Uri the town near in Jammu and Kashmir in 2016, India threatened to revoke the treaty. As Uri attack was one of the deadliest attacks on security forces in the Kashmir. According to the details, 19 India soldiers were killed. This issue increases the tension between both states. The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi gives the statement that "blood and water cannot flow together." As this sort of statement comes from India but didn't materialize. Later on, India decided to restart the Tulbul Project on the Jhelum River in the Kashmir Valley, which was previously suspended in response to Pakistan's objections. After Pulwama attack 2019, the Minister of Road and Water Resources Nitin Gadkari stated that "all water presently flowing into Pakistan in the three eastern rivers will be diverted to Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan for various uses".

India can reduce the flow of water but cannot stop. Pakistan disagrees on Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants being built by India. Pakistan has a lot of concerns and still, now Pakistan officials meet with World Bank in the US regarding the concern. The two countries disagree over the technical design features of the two hydroelectric plants breaks the Treaty. The plants are on respectively a tributary of the Jhelum and the Chenab Rivers. The Treaty designates these two rivers as well as the Indus as the "Western Rivers" to which Pakistan has unrestricted use. Under the Treaty. India is permitted to construct hydroelectric power facilities on these rivers subject to the terms.

To be Concluded The writer is a freelance journalist based in Islamabad, Pakistan. He tweets @furganraja1122.

Depression & Suicide

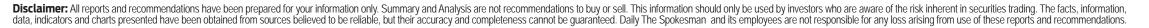
Bushra Awan

mong various contributing factors. most notably mental disorders which tend to be closely related to suicide, depression is seen as a major risk factor. A great number of patients suffering from depression commit suicide never having had access to psychiatric care or proper treatment. Although depressed mood, psychomotor retardation, anxiety, panic attacks and autonomic symptoms may occur in depression, patients suffering from depression often visit a primary care physician rather than a clinical psychologist, complaining of various somatic symptoms.

Therefore, the role of primary care physicians not only that of clinical psychologists, is critical in preventing such patients from committing suicide. Since early diagnosis and implementation of intensive treatment for depression provide a good chance of preventing suicide, access to trained and well-informed mental health professionals remain at the heart of efforts aimed at preventing suicides among individuals. Statistics based on psychological autopsy method unveil the fact that 70-90 percent of those who committed suicide had credible evidence of some mental disorder when alive, and 60-70 percent was depressed.

It is much more likely for suicide to be undertaken by an individual with a mental disorder than for someone mentally competent to commit suicide. Among mental disorders, depression is particularly important in terms of its association with suicide. It should be noted that not all patients suffering from depression exhibit a typical clinical picture, and it merits emphasis that early diagnosis of depression and implementation of proper treatment provide a good chance of suicide prevention.

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Monday, June 6, 2022

The Spokesman 5

Russia hits Kyiv with missiles; Putin warns West on arms

Battle for Sievierodonetsk rages

International

tary supplies for Ukraine's government with early Sunday airstrikes in Kyiv that it said destroyed tanks donated from abroad, a claim denied by a Ukrainian official. Russian President Vladimir from the Caspian Sea toward Kyiy, Putin warned that any Western deliveries of long-range rocket systems to Ukraine would prompt Moscow to hit facilities," but Ukraine said there were "objects that we haven't yet struck."

The cryptic threat of a military escalation from the Russian leader didn't specify what the new targets might be, but it comes days after the United States announced plans to deliver \$700 million of security assistance for Ukraine. Those weapons include four precision-guided, medium-range rocket systems, helicopters, Javelin antitank weapon systems, radars, tactical vehicles and more.

Military analysts say Russia is hoping to overrun Ukraine's embattled eastern industrial Donbas region, where Russia-backed separatists have fought the Ukrainian government since 2014, before any U.S. weapons that might turn the tide arrive. The Penta-

KYIV: Russia took aim at Western mili- gon said last week it will take at least said four missiles hit the Darnytsia car in order to strike at those objects that three weeks to get the precision U.S. weapons onto the battlefield.

> Ukraine's General Staff said Russian forces fired five X-22 cruise missiles and one was destroyed by air defenses. Four others missiles hit "infrastructure no casualties. Nuclear plant operator Energoatom said one cruise missile buzzed close to the Pivdennoukrainsk nuclear plant, 350 kilometers (220 miles) to the south, and warned of the catastrophic dangers if such a near miss turned into a direct hit.

> In a posting on the Telegram app, the Russian Defense Ministry said high-precision, long-range air-launched missiles were used. It said the strikes on the outskirts of Kviv destroyed T-72 tanks supplied by Eastern European countries and other armored vehicles located in buildings of a train car repair business.

But the head of Ukraine's railway system rejected the claim that tanks were inside. Oleksandr Kamyshin

repair plant, but no military equipment has been stored there. He said the site was used to repair gondolas and grain carriers for exporting products.

"Russia has once again lied," he wrote on Telegram. "Their (Russia's) real goal is the economy and the civilian population. They want to block our ability to export Ukrainian products."

In a television interview that aired Sunday, Putin lashed out at Western deliveries of weapons to Ukraine, saying they aim to prolong the conflict.

"All this fuss around additional deliveries of weapons, in my opinion, has only one goal: To drag out the armed conflict as much as possible," Putin said. He insisted such supplies were unlikely to change the military situation much for Ukraine's government, which he said was merely making up for losses of similar rockets that they already had

If Kyiv gets longer-range rockets, he added, Moscow will "draw appropriate conclusions and use our means of destruction, which we have plenty of,

we haven't vet struck.'

The U.S. has stopped short of offering Ukraine longer-range weapons that could fire deep into Russia. The four medium-range High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems included in the security package include launchers on wheels that allow troops to strike a target and then quickly move away — which could be useful against Russian artillery on the battlefield.

The Spanish daily El Pais reported Sunday that Spain was planning to supply anti-aircraft missiles and up to 40 Leopard 2 A4 battle tanks to Úkraine. Spain's Ministry of Defense did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A billowing pillar of smoke filled the air with an acrid odor in Kviv's eastern Darnystki district over the charred, blackened wreckage of a warehouse-type structure. Soldiers blocked off a nearby road leading toward a large railway yard.

Before Sunday's early-morning attack, Kviv hadn't faced any such

Russian Embassy in Libya to function soon

ANKARA: The Russian Embassy in Libya will resume work soon, according to the Russian presidential envoy for the Middle East and Africa

Mikhail Bogdanov told reporters on Saturday that the opening of the Russian Embassy in Libya will be "very soon."

Russia relocated its embassy in Libya to neighboring Tunisia in 2014 for security reasons. The move was taken after the embassy came under attack in October 2013, forcing Moscow to withdraw its diplomatic staff from Libva.

Oil-rich Libya has been mired by conflict and violence since the overthrow of strongman Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

Jordan signs agreements

AMMAN: Jordan's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources signed on Sunday agreements with a Jordanian and a Turkish company to explore copper and gold respectively in the kingdom, the ministry said in a statement.

Under the deals, the Jordanian company would conduct explorations for copper in a 78 sq-km area in the Dana area, while the Turkish company's exploration of gold would last for 14 months covering 155 square kilometers in the Abu Khashiba area in southern Jordan, it added.

Jordan's Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Saleh Kharabsheh stressed the importance of the agreements, which will support the national economy and create more job opportunities for local communities.

Posters expose India's anti-Kashmir designs in IIO7K

SRINAGAR: In Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, posters have appeared in Srinagar and other areas to record the Kashmiris' protest against the divisive policies being pursued by the Hindutva BJP and RSS like the new genocide policies of the Kashmiris in the territory.

The Jammu and Kashmir Political Resistance Movement (JKPRM) and various other pro-freedom organisations have displayed the posters.

The posters read, "Indian Hindutva rulers targeting Kashmir youth violating international laws by denying bodies of martyred youth to their families" and "The current Indian anti-Kashmir policy is a big challenge and threat to peace in the region."

The posters expressed serious concern over the silence of the United Nations and world community on continued Indian aggression and atrocities on people of Kashmir.

The posters said the Modi-led fascist Indian regime is changing the demography of the Muslim majority in IIOJK by different tactics and is misleading the international community about the actual ground situation of the territory.

"Kashmiris are united to raise demand for the right to self-determination, mandated under the UN resolutions. Indian state has caged us and is terrorizing, targeting, killing, harassing and arresting the people of Jammu and Kashmir," said a Hurriyet leader to media in Srinagar, the posters added

Kazakhstan holds referendum on constitutional reforms

ALMATY: Kazakh voters began cast their ballots on Sunday in a referendum on constitutional reform promoted by President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to introduce a new governance model to the country

Around 11.7 million registered voters headed to the polls to decide whether or not to approve the amendments and additions to the Central Asian nation's Constitution.

This is the second constitutional reform being voted on in the country's 27-year history.

A third of the current Constitution, which was accepted by popular vote on Aug. 30, 1995, will be changed if a "yes" vote wins.

The reform, promoted by Tokayev on March 16, intends t

North Korea test-fires salvo of short-range missiles

SEOUL: North Korea testfired a barrage of short-range ballistic missiles from multiple locations toward the sea on Sunday, South Korea's military said, extending a provocative streak in weapons demonstrations this year that U.S. and South Korean officials say may culminate with a nuclear test explosion.

Possibly setting a singleday record for North Korean ballistic launches, eight missiles were fired in succession over 35 minutes from at and "strong determination" least four different locations. including from western and eastern coastal areas and two inland areas north of and near the capital, Pyongyang, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

eters (15 to 56 miles) United States conducted a to the military in Seoul. joint ballistic missile exercise aimed at showing their Joe Biden's special envoy for Ronald Reagan concluded office.



"rapid response capability" North Korea, also discussed the launches with South to counter threats, Japan's Korean officials while on a Defense Ministry said in a visit to Seoul. They expressed 'deep regret" that North statement. Korea was continuing weap-

South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. ons development despite Won In-Choul held a video conference with Gen. Paul It said the missiles flew LaCamera, an American

110 to 670 kilometers (68 general who heads the South Japanese Defense Ministo 416 miles) at maximum Korea-U.S. combined forces ter Nobuo Kishi said none was firing missiles at a pace altitudes of 25 to 80 kilom- command in Seoul, and they of the missiles fell inside reaffirmed the allies' joint Japan's exclusive econom-Hours later, Japan and the defense posture, according ic zone. The launches came a day Sung Kim, U.S. President after the U.S. aircraft carrier ed States, according to his

Foreign Ministry said.

Several governors quoted

Election Committee

a three-day naval drill with South Korea in the Philippine Sea, apparently their first joint drill involving a carrier since November 2017, as the countries move to upgrade their defense exercises in the face of North Korean threats.

North Korea has long condemned the allies combined military exercises as invasion rehearsals and often countered with its own missile drills, including short-range launches in 2016 and 2017 that simulated nuclear attacks on South Korean ports and U.S. military facilities in Japan.

Discussing the launchgrappling with a COVIDes with his national secu-19 outbreak at home, Seoul's rity officials, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol lamented that North Korea of once every nine days this vear. He vowed to strength-

Lebanon warns against any Israeli aggression

BEIRUT: Lebanon warned Israel on Sunday against any "aggressive action" in disputed waters where both states hope to develop offshore energy, after a ship arrived off the coast to produce gas for Israel. President Michel Aoun said any activity in the disputed area would amount to an act of aggression and a provocation, after the arrival of the natural gas storage and production ship operated by London-based Energean. Israel says the field in question is within its exclusive economic zone, not in disputed waters.

But in a statement, the Lebanese presidency said Aoun discussed with caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati the vessel's entry "into the disputed maritime area with Israel, and asked the Army Command to provide him with accurate and official data to build upon the matter".

Aoun said negotiations to delineate the southern maritime border continued and "any action or activity in the disputed area represents a provocation and an aggressive action".

There was no immediate response rom the Israeli government to Aoun's statement. Israeli Energy Minister Karine Elaharrar welcomed the vessel's arrival and said she hoped it would be brought online quickly.

en the country's defense in cooperation with the Unit-

> "We will continue to work to diversify the energy market and maintain stability and reliability," she said.

Energean said its floating production storage and offloading vessel arrived on Sunday at the Karish field, about 80 km (50 miles) west of the city of Haifa, in Israel's exclusive economic zone. The company said it planned to bring it online in the third quarter.

Mikati said Israel was "encroaching on Lebanon's maritime wealth, and imposing a fait accompli in a disputed area", calling this "extremely dangerous". Hezbollah has previously warned Israel against drilling for oil and gas in the disputed area until the issue is

made claims at the United Nations regarding about their maritime border. Lebanon says its border cuts into the sea at an angle farther south and Israel's claim runs farther north, creating a triangle of disputed waters. duce a new governance model to the country and initiate a new era also known as "New Kazakhstan" or the second republic.

60 Rohingya found abandoned on Thai island

BANGKOK: Fifty-nine Rohingya people have been discovered on a Thai island, saying they were abandoned by traffickers en route to Malavsia, a senior police officer said Sunday.

The group - among them five children - were found on Koh Dong island in the southern Satun province on Saturday, said lieutenant general Surachet Hakpan.

Each year, thousands of the mostly Muslim minority Rohingya people, heavily persecuted in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, risk their lives in months-long expensive journeys to reach Malaysia over Thailand's seas. Police said they had been charged with illegal entry and could face deportation to Myanmar following a court case.

"We are providing humanitarian assistance and will investigate whether they are victims of human trafficking or if they entered illegally," Surachet said. The group appeared "starving and was likely to have had no food for three to five days", a police statement said.

The boat's crew then decided to abandon those onboard on Koh Dong island - telling them that they had reached Malaysia, the group told officers.

The incident comes after the bodies of 14 Rohingya people, including children, were discovered washed up on a beach last month after they attempted to flee Myanmar.

Ruling party seems set to win Cambodian local elections

PHNOM PENH: Early indi- country. The party has held numbers for the first time unfair.

Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party was virtually were set to be announced certain to capture the lion's commune by commune by share of 11,622 council seats state media on Sunday night, being contested in 1,652 but an aggregated official tally communes throughout the won't be given until June 26.

cations showed Cambodian an iron grip on power for by the Fresh News website, Prime Minister Hun Sen's decades, and has the huge ruling party headed for victo- advantage of controlling ry in local elections Sunday almost every local governas people voted in large ment. Its opponents are less organized, with much since a 2018 general election fewer resources and have that was widely criticized as complained of intimidation and threats The preliminary results

party in the lead. 77% out of 9.2 million registered voters, said Prach Chan,

which is close to the governidation or threats, contrary ment, said unofficial results to the U.N. Human Rights showed Hun Sen's party Office in Geneva that last winning most council races week said there has been a in their provinces. Earlier, "pattern of threats, intimidanews websites that broadcast tion and obstruction targeting opposition candidates." counts from polling stations had generally put the ruling Hun Sen's party was the only one to field candidates Turnout was more than

in all the communes. Its most serious challenger was the Candlelight Party, which was chairman of the National rallying opposition supporters.

He said the election was

free and fair, without intim-

resolved, and said the group would take action if it did so. Both Israel and Lebanon have

Digitized financial inclusion may change fate of underprivileged: Experts

😂 Spokesman Report

DAVOS: Banking the unbanked population through digitized financial inclusion may bring positive change in the lives of the underprivileged populations and the national economy.

This was stated by banking leaders and financial experts while sharing their views during a panel discussion "Digital Affairs: Financial Inclusion in Pakistan" hosted by Karachi Council on Foreign Relations (KCFR) in association with Swiss Asian Chamber of Commerce at Pakistan's Pavilion on the sidelines of World Economic Forum Davos last week.

The panel comprised of lead bankers including the keynote speaker Zafar Masood, President Bank of Punjab (BoP), Shazad Dada, President United Bank Ltd (UBL), Kabir Naqvi, President U Microfinance Bank (UBank), Salman Ali, CEO VRG, Aftab Rizvi, Risk Associates, and Imad Chishti, CEO Futafut. The

discussion was moderated by Ali Shah, CEO iPath while a large number of potential investors and economic experts were present in the audience.

Ikram Sehgal, Chairman Karachi Council on Foreign Relations (KCFR) & Pathfinder Group of Companies welcomed the guests and briefed the audience regarding the efforts being made by his team to build a positive image of Pakistan globally. Sehgal extended his gratitude to the people who stood beside his team in making such patriotic efforts.

While sharing his viewpoint on the panel discussion topic. KCFR Chairman said "banking the unbanked is a huge challenge but it may lead us to the glory of economic stability and national growth". Bringing the poorest members of the society into the mainstream of banking is the most important achievement and it seems to be possible through financial inclusion equipped with digital facilities, he added.

Delivering his keynote address, BOP President Zafar Masood shared an overview of the banking sector in Pakistan and mentioned that despite massive challenges, Pakistan went way ahead of many other countries in terms of economic success. BOP President said that Pakistan has been committed to development goals and huge strides were being taken by the country in terms of national and international development goals including UN's sustainable development goals. Masood also pointed out major hurdles which were being faced

by Pakistan's financial sector in banking the unbanked. While mentioning different proportions of Pakistan's population, he said that Pakistan's 61 percent population is between the 15-54 age group which would be most suitable for using the banking services while 35 percent of the Pakistani population is below 15 years of age and they would be ready

for tomorrow's banking. Terming financial inclusion

as a heart-touching subject, BOP President said "true financial inclusion without functional deployment of a digital solution is almost impossible". Zafar Masood stated that Punjab Bank is taking various revolutionary measures to bring non-banking customers into the national mainstream banking. Expressing his concerns BOP President said that despite being 51 percent of the total population, only 17 percent of women are using banking services.

significant section of the population could be included in the banking circle only through digitized financial inclusion and several steps were being taken in this regard. Masood also acknowledged KCFR Chairman Ikram Sehgal and his team for their patriotic efforts in making such events a massive success around the globe.

UBL President Shazad Dada, while sharing his views said that Pakistan is one of the fast-



est-growing countries and the conditions are very conducive to investment. Discussing the importance of financial inclusion in Pakistan, he said that there are many reasons for the decline in the use of traditional banking services, the most important of which is accessibility as most of only 10 branches for 100,000 people in Pakistan whereas in Asia this rate is close to 16. In such a situation, financial inclusion can be very useful, especially when the proper use of digital

resources is ensured

While responding to a question on the importance of digital services in financial inclusion, Kabir Naqvi, President UBank shared some valid facts and ground realities with the audience. According to him, understanding the customer and their the country's population lives in requirements would be the most rural areas. He said that there are important factor in terms of an effective financial inclusion setup. He elaborated the efforts being made by UBank to reach the unbanked rural population through establishing far-flung of Punjab also expressed their branches where UBank officials

provide direct trainings and awareness to the customers on financial inclusion and usage of digital resources.

Salman Ali, CEO VRG offered a very different perspective on financial inclusion. He told the audience that 192 million people in Pakistan use mobile phones and 41 percent of them have smartphones while the rest use simple feature phones. Salman said that the majority of people using feature phones is actually unbanked due to certain reasons while the financial inclusion can prove to be of utmost importance for them.

VRG is working in this regard providing the customers a manyto-many business solution which enables them to open an account in any major bank by using a USSD code on their feature phone without internet.

Aftab Rizvi of Risk Associates, CEO FutaFut Imad Chishti, and Asif Riaz, Member Bank views on the occasion.

He said that such a large and



Monday, June 6, 2022

Iranian Islamic revolution continues in full power, says Acting Iranian Ambassador

Seminar on the anniversary of Imam Khomeini (RA) held



腾 Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The Acting Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Surkhabi said that the Iranian Islamic revolution continues in full power despite the evils of the United States and the Zionist regime, and this revolution has always been the voice of the oppressed people of the world.

He addressed a seminar on the anniversary of Imam Khomeini (RA), the founder of the Iranian Revolution, held at Khanah Farhang, Islamic Republic of Iran, Rawalpindi as a guest of honour. Surkhabi said that Imam Khomeini

was brave and fearless and tried with skill and experience to thwart American conspiracies.

Addressing the seminar, Iranian Cultural Consulate, Ehsan Khazaei said, before the Islamic revolution, when Imam Khomeini was asked, how he wanted to overthrow the monarchy and fight the United States, Imam said, by the children of today those will be the youth of tomorrow.

Director General Khana Farhang, Khomeini (RA) did not raise Rawalpindi Faramarz Rehmanzad the slogan of neither Eastern while delivering the welcome address said that Imam Khomeini (RA) was a stir in the world powers a great Arif(Sufi) who was able to live and attempts were made to with a unique and simple lifestyle as a remove them from the path. great leader. Ahl al-Bayt(AS) Allama Imam Khomeini defeated Arif Wahidi, Secretary General of the world powers with his tire-Shia Ulema Council of Pakistan, while addressing the seminar, said that Imam imposed war by the regime Khomeini during his simple life only defended Islam and it did not matter (RA) fought the world powers to him that his opponent was the United States. Imam Khomeini also called for unity and emphasized Islamic unity Imam Khomeini (RA) made it between Shiites and Sunnis.

Addressing the seminar, Maulana and politics are intertwined. Haider Alvi, a religious scholar, said that Imam Khomeini (RA) had convinced heard in Pakistan. the world through the Islamic Revolution that this revolution did not said that the West, which claims to be belong to the East or the West but was a democracy, is against the implemenan Islamic revolution. He said Iran is tation of democracy in Islamic coun-



where Islamic law is in force. Razia Naveed, Head of the Women's Department of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, said that Imam nor Western, which caused less efforts. In the eight-year of Saddam, Imam Khomeini with the help of the people of Iran. Razia Naveed said that clear to the world that religion

The whisper of revolution is also being ic democratic system in Iran. Despite

Law expert Abdul Qavvum Raja the only Islamic country in the world tries. The West opposes the Islam- their hearts.

forty years of tough economic sanctions against Iran, the people there have been still resisting with a revolutionary spirit because the revolution of Imam Khomeini (RA) has touched

Dr. Aftab Naqvi, Dr. Muzaffar Ali Kashmiri, Elder Shah Al-Azhari, Anjum Khaliq, Tatheer Alam Rizvi and other speakers also addressed the function.

Spokesman Photos by Ghulam Farid







Serena Hotel Islamabad gets a new General Manager

Otto Kurzendorfer brings along 3 decades international experience of hotel industry



🐞 Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: A colourby Serena Hotel Islamabad in the honour of the newly appointed General Manager Otto Kurzendorfer. Aziz Boolani, CEO of Serena Hotels, ani welcomed warmly to the guests.

The event was attended by Ambassadors, Head of its services but we are practiand eminent Pakistanis from the corporate social responsidifferent walks of life. Dean bilities (CSR) initiative. of Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Turkmeni- the very popular for his hospital-

ity and treating his guests by giving them a special feel.

On this occasion, Mr. Boolful evening was organized ani announced the appointment of Mr. Otto Kurzendorfer as the General Manager of the Islamabad Serena Hotel. of Islamabad Serena Hotel, Mr. Kurzendorfer, a German national brings over 30 years of international hotel expeand his wife Ms. Wigar Bool- rience to Serena Islamabad. Speaking on the occasion Mr. Boolani said Serena

Hotel is not only famous for Missions Defense Attaches, cally doing a lot of work under Gilgit Baltistan, directly to initiative. He vowed to contin-

He specifically mentioned "Karighar Honey" stan Atadjan Movlamov was as saying that under this also present on the occasion. program, people in the North-Mr. Boolani, Chief Executive ern areas have been provid-Officer of Serena Hotels South ed training in beekeeping -& Central Asia, is generally a journey from the magnificent mountain ranges of



you. Fresh, organic and locally sourced and 80% of the honey is procured by Serena Hotel itself. He said 'Karighar' supporting countless homes in the North of Pakistan. He added that we had organized Nowruz Festival, Woman Day , Qawali night and many more under the Cultural Diplomacy

ue more initiatives under their CSR drive to serve the society. The newly appointed General Manager, Mr. Otto Kurzendorfer thanked Mr. Boolani for showing his trust in him and for selection as GM in the Pakistan best Hostel. He said that Mr. Boolani is a prominent personality in the

him. Mr. Otto Kurzendorfer prior to joining the Islamabad Serena Hotel, already worked for luxury hotel brands including Regency, Kempinski, Inter-Continental, Le Meridien, Sheraton and several LHW affiliate hotels in Kuwait, UAE, Saudi

be a pleasure to work with ny, and Taiwan. He earned great respect and a name in the international hotel brands and served up to his professional esteem. He expressed his thoughts to escalate the quality and standard of services at Serena Hotel Islamabad. He said my emphasis would

hotel industry and it would Arabia, Qatar, UK, Germa- motivation, and engagement ment while immersing in a to ensure the hotel guests and visitors are always looked after in a friendly, professional, and personalized manner. He added that he and his

family are delighted to move to Pakistan, with this exciting opportunity to contribute positively to the hotel be on team development, and community develop-

new culture and country and he would be looking forward to contributing to the continuous growth of Serena Hotels.

The guests appreciated Mr. Boolani and his team for the arrangement of a delightful ceremony

Spokesman Photos by Ghulam Farid









B Pak vs SL Athapaththu's century earns Sri Lanka consolation win

Pakistan win series 2-1; Sidra Amin declared Player of the series

😂 Our Correspondent

KARACHI: Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu led from the front as Sri Lanka recorded a commanding 93-run win in the third and final ICC Women's Championship match at the Southend Club, Karachi on Sunday. Pakistan won the series 2-1 courtesy of their eight-wicket and 73-run win in the first two match-

At the end of the series Pakistan occupy the top-spot in the ICC Women's Championship 2022-25 cycle with four points from three games, Sri Lanka collected two points from their win today - this series was the first in the new championship cycle which will determine the six qualifying spots (top five plus the host) for the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025.

Today's win was Sri Lanka's lone victory in their first tour of Pakistan in 17 years, before the ODIs, the visitors had lost the T20I series by a 0-3 margin.

Set a 261-run target, Pakistan were pegged back after a decent start. The hosts slumped from 41 for no loss to 48 for four in nine overs and never recovered from



the mini collapse. Second ODI centurion Sidra Amin (19) was the first to go. Her opening partner Muneeba Ali (16) was run out while captain Bismah Maroof (0) and Nida Dar (5) were dismissed in quick succession as Sri Lankan bowlers tightened the screws.

Omaima Sohail fought hard for her 40 off 61 balls (four fours) but her dismissal in the 28th over further increase Pakistan woes. Sidra Nawaz (7) and Fatima of quick runs as the required run-rate mounted. Diana Baig (0) was run out without facing a ball. Aliva Riaz stood firm at one end with a fighting half-centu- maker for Sri Lanka in the ODI format ry (sixth of her career), she was the ninth batter dismissed in an attempt of clearing her immense value to country's women the boundary. The right-hander hit four fours in her 56 off 82 balls.

 $A thap ath thu \, capped \, off \, a \, brilliant \, day$ in the field with a two-wicket contribution with the ball in her six overs. Oshadi Ranasinghe took two wickets while three batters were run out.

Sri Lanka sealed their win with Anam Amin's wicket in the 42nd over.

Earlier, Athapaththu who had struggled to get going on the tour finally displayed her immense batting prowess with a scintillating century to set a solid platform for her side's imposing total after she won the toss and opted to bat first for the fifth time on the tour (three T2oIs, first and third ODI).

The left-hander posted the sixth century of her career off the 82nd ball of her innings, her blazing innings was punctuated with 13 fours and a six and she

Sana (12) were dismissed in the search fell shortly after for 101 with Nida Dar dismissing her in the 31st over of the innings, Sri Lanka were 156 at that stage.

Athapaththu is the only century and her innings today once again proved cricket.

Athapaththu took the attack to the Pakistan bowlers after the early loss of her opening partner Hasini Perera (3) and Hansima Karunaratne (0). The two were back in the dressing room with a mere four runs on the board in two overs.

Athapaththu found an able partner in Harshitha Madavi, the duo added 152 for the third-wicket. After Athapaththu's departure, Madavi kept the scoreboard moving for Sri Lanka. She was eventually dismissed in the 44th over for 75 off 128 balls (three fours). Madavi added 60 for the fourth-wicket with Kavisha Dilhari (28).

Sri Lanka finished their 50 overs at 260 for seven which is their highest total against Pakistan, Anam Amin and Fatima Sana took two wickets apiece for the hosts

Lasbela, Vehari win CCA U19 tournaments

腾 🛛 Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Vehari won the Southern Punjab-leg of the City Cricket Association U19 Tournament 2022-23 by beating Rahim Yar Khan and Sahiwal in the triangular stage of the 50-over competition. Sahiwal ended up taking the second spot in the triangular round beating Rahim Yar Khan by 49 runs in the last match of the leg on Saturday.

It was Vehari's captain Mohammad Aqib Asghar's three wickets which helped his side win their second match of the triangular stage against Rahim Yar Khan in Northern, Khyber Pakha low scoring contest at the tunkhwa, Central Punjab in Sahiwal on Thursday.

In Balochistan's jurisdic- tournament. ion. Lasbela U19 won the the winning team, the star before qualifying for the performers were captain triangular stage.

series

LOS ANGELES: Veteran US golfer

Kevin Na said Saturday he has resigned

from the PGA Tour in order to avoid

facing sanctions for playing in the Saudibacked LIV Golf Invitational Series.

The 38-year-old world number 33,

who has five victories on the PGA Tour,

was this week named in the field for

the lucrative new series' opening event

Several other golfers including former

world number one Dustin Johnson and

European Ryder Cup stars such as Ian

Poulter and Lee Westwood have also

The PGA Tour has warned that

members playing in the opening LIV

tournament - which clashes with the

tour's RBC Canadian Open - will face

unspecified disciplinary action.

teeing off in Britain next week.

signed up to the event.



Arbaz Khan who bagged Killa Abdullah Chaman's four wickets against Killa Muhammad Siddique accu-Abdullah Chaman and mulated 401 runs from six Bakhtiyar Khan, who picked matches at 100.25 with unbeaten 123 his best in the five wickets against Loralai. Earlier, this week, Rawaltournament. Basit Ali reprepindi, Khyber, Faisalabad senting Naseerabad scored 246 runs from three outings, and Karachi Zone II were crowned champions of which included 151 as his best. Muhammad Aqdas Khan representing Quetta Gymkhana Cricket Ground and Sindh jurisdictions, finished with a tally of 227 respectively in the CCA U19 runs from four matches at 113.50.

Among bowlers, Lasbela's

wickets from six matches. Gwadar's Allah Rakha and Loralai's Zohaib Khan were next in line picking 12 wickets apiece.

In the three-group 14-team Southern Punjableg, Vehari and Sahiwal topped Pool A and Pool B with four wins from four matches respectively, while Rahim Yar Khan topped Pool C with three wins from three outings.

Sahiwal's Hamza Nadir finished as the leading run-getter with 243 runs from six matches at 40.50. Talha Mushtaq and Mohammad Ammar representing Rahim Yar Khan shared the batting honours scoring 190 and 188 runs, respectively.

Vehari's Moheer Saeed topped the bowling charts, taking 19 wickets from six

Senegal begin title defence with victory

JOHANNESBURG: Sadio Mane scored a hat-trick as Senegal overcame Benin 3-1 on Saturday in the first match of their Africa Cup of Nations title defence, and hinted that he will not be at Liverpool next season.

Speaking to the media before the Group L clash, Mane said: "I will do what they (the Senegalese people) want.

"Like everyone else, I am on social media and see the comments. Is it not between 60 and 70 percent of Senegalese want me to leave Liverpool?"

Mane, who forms a deadly strike partnership with two-time African Footballer of the Year Mohamed Salah from Egypt, has been linked to German giants Bayern Munich.

He had said he would reveal his future plans after Liverpool lost to Real Madrid in the Champions League final last weekend, but did not do so.

"We will see soon," he told the media conference in Senegal. "Do not be in hurry because we will see this together."

The 30-year-old reigning African Footballer of the Year converted a 12th-minute penalty at the national stadium in Diamniadio near Dakar

ACP athletes learn from French climbers at NUST



Staff Reporter

The Spokesman

ISLAMABAD: Athletes from Alpine Club of Pakistan along with students from NUST join a 2-day Workshop on sport climbing held at NUST Sports Complex.

Introductory lectures were delivered and safe use of climbing gear was taught through demonstration. The videos and documentaries were also screened.

The practical sessions were held at NUST climbing arena. The purpose was to attract youth towards this challenging sport and equip them with basic sport climbing skills and knowledge. The participants took great interest in the learning.

At the end of the workshop the participants were awarded certificated. Air Vice Marshal (R) Dr. Rizwan Riaz, Pro Rector RIC, Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Baig, Director Field Administration Air Commodore (R) Shahid Nadeem, Ali Hasnain Syed, Director Student Affairs, Col (R) Qaiser Mustafa, Brig R Ikram, Aftabur Rehman Rana, MD, PTDC, Abu Zafr Sadiq, President Alpine Club of Pakistan and Saad Tariq Siddique VP, Adventure Foundation Pakistan were also present at this occasion.

Haney produces masterclass to beat Kambosos

MELBOURNE: Unbeaten American Devin Haney fought a "smart fight" to comfortably beat Australia's George Kambosos on points Sunday and become the first undisputed lightweight world champion in modern boxing history.

Highly-rated WBC title holder Haney, a clear favourite, successfully defended his belt for a fifth time and in the process took the WBA, IBF and WBO straps off Kambosos with a unanimous verdict in Melbourne.

Victory made him the first undisputed lightweight champion since Pernell Whitaker in 1992 and the first in the four-belt era, which began in 2004.

Kambosos was undone by Haney's sensational speed, instinct and relentless left jab that frustrated the Australian who struggled to land enough big blows.

It was a defensive masterclass by the American, whose slick skills and tactical nous won the day in front of a 41,000-strong pro-Kambosos crowd at an electric Marvel Stadium.

All three judges scored in Haney's favour, 116-112, 116-112 and 118-110.

Swiatek has 'no expectations' for Wimbledon

PARIS: Iga Swiatek says that she has "no expectations" for Wimbledon despite taking her winning streak to 35 matches by securing a second French Open title.

The world number one cruised past teenager Coco Gauff 6-1, 6-3 in Saturday's final at Roland Garros to win her sixth successive tournament this year, including four WTA 1,000 titles and one major.

The Pole won the Indian Wells-Miami double to show her hard-court prowess, having also lifted the title in Doha, and has now dominated on clay by emerging victorious in Stuttgart, Rome and Paris. But to extend her unbeaten run, she may have to improve her career grass-court record of four wins and four losses in main-draw matches.

Mane stars as

In the

representing Killa Abdullah Chaman grabbed 13

leg by beating Loralai by two 13-team Balochistan-leg, Mohsin Ali bagged 18 wick- matches at an economy rate wickets and Killa Abdul- Killa Abdullah Chaman, ets from five matches with of 2.23. Sahiwal's Muhamlah Chaman by 96 runs in Loralai and Lasbela topped six for 33 his best figures mad Ismail and Mohammad the triangular stage. For their respective groups in a match. Himayatullah Jan Sher shared the bowling honours with 17 wickets apiece from six matches.

Mane struck again on 23 minutes, bursting into the box and scoring at the second attempt after goalkeeper Saturnin Allagbe

blocked his initial shot. Benin had Sessi D'Almeida sent off early in the second half of the 2023 qualifier and Mane completed his hat-trick on the hour from another penalty before Junior Olaitan reduced arrears.

Next up for Senegal is a trip to Rwanda on Tuesday, and it is hard to imagine any result other than another victory for the Teranga Lions

Rwanda drew 1-1 away to Mozambique and they share second place behind Senegal and ahead of Benin, who were guided by caretaker Moussa Latoundji after the departure of French coach Michel Dussuyer.

Eric Chelle, whose coaching experience has been limited to French lower-league clubs, made a dream debut as boss of Mali, who hammered Congo Brazzaville 4-0 in Bamako. Mohamed Camara put the Malians ahead with just one minute on the clock and they were four goals ahead by half-time as El Bilal Toure netted twice and Kalifa Coulibaly once.

Mali top Group G on goal difference from the Gambia, who edged South Sudan 1-0 through a goal from Ablie Jallow at the end of the opening half.

Gambia debuted in the Cup of Nations this year and beat higher ranked sides Tunisia and Guinea and held Mali before bowing to hosts Cameroon in the quarter-finals.

"My coach (Tomasz Wiktorowski) believes I can win more matches on grass," said Swiatek, who has reached the second week at seven consecutive Grand Slam tournaments.

"I don't know about that yet. But I would like to add like one or two. "But honestly, grass is always tricky. I actually like the part that I have no expectations there. It's something kind of refreshing."

Burundi holds Namibia 1-1

WINDHOEK: Burundi fought back following a lacklustre first-half performance and managed to score a late goal to hold Namibia 1-1 in an Africa Cup of Nations Group C qualifier on Saturday.

Namibia's Brave Warriors put in a dominant first-half display with striker Peter Shalulile spearheading its attack at the Orlando Stadium in Johannesburg. Shalulile is coming off a fairytale season where he collected the Players' Player of the Season award, and the Golden Boot in the South African Premier League.

Shalulile collected a long ball at the edge of the box to fire the ball into the top left corner with ease in the 10th minute to put Namibia ahead 1-0. Burundi came back with a different side in the second half before Kazakhstan-based striker Bonfils Caleb Bimenyimana struck from close range on a cross of center back Frederic Nsabiyumva, who headed a free-kick into Bimenyimana's path in the 88th minute.

The celebrations were short-lived as the elated Bimenyimana was booked for a second yellow card for removing his shirt while celebrating, setting up a nervous finale.

After 90 minutes, the teams ended up sharing the points and are joint top of Group C with Kenya and Cameroon out of action. Cameroon is scheduled to take on Burundi on June 8 in the next round of fixtures, before facing Namibia on September 21.



Na quits PGA Tour for LIV Golf

Na said Saturday he was seeking the "freedom to play wherever I want and exercising my right as a free agent gives me that opportunity".

player, I must give up my right to make these choices about my career," Na wrote on Twitter.

and when I play golf, then I cannot remain a PGA Tour player without

cies change and I'll be able to play on the PGA Tour again." Na, who has earned just under \$38 million, won the last of his five PGA Tour titles at last year's Sony Open in Hawaii. His best finish in a major came

at the 2016 US Open, where he placed "However, to remain a PGA Tour seventh.

"If I exercise my right to choose where the series is an example of Saudi Arabia

The money-spinning LIV series is bankrolled by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund. Amnesty International say attempting to "sportswash" its human rights record.

facing disciplinary proceedings and

to resign from the PGA Tour. This has

not been an easy decision and not one

taken lightly. I hope the current poli-

"I am sad to share that I have chosen

legal action from the PGA Tour.

England beaten in Hungary, Italy hold Germany

Hungary in the UEFA Nations League on Saturday, while Germadraw 1-1 with an inexperienced Italy team.

RB Leipzig star Dominik Szoboszlai scored the only goal of the game from the penalty spot in the second half in Budapest as Hungary beat England for the first time since 1962.

Defeat on penalties to Italy in the European Championship final last year was the only time Gareth Southgate's side had been beaten in their previous 22 games.

"We proved at Euro 2020 what we're capable of doing against the best, and we've shown this again. The tough thing will be to repeat this," Hungary captain Adam Szalai told broadcaster M4 Sport.

England's line-up featured

PARIS: A tired England side went debuts for Leicester City full-back ian Football Federation took full down to a surprise 1-0 defeat in James Justin and West Ham United forward Jarrod Bowen, but the visitors failed to trouble the hosts. ny had to come from behind to who were roared on by a 30,000 crowd largely consisting of school children.

> "They are bitterly disappointed because we want to keep winning matches. If we want to be a team right at the top tier of football, we need to come here and win," said

England manager Gareth Southgate, before conceding that fatigue played a role. "It has been a long season. The heat was a factor and took a lot out of the players."

Hungary were forced to play the game behind closed doors due to the behaviour of fans during their home matches at Euro 2020.

However, UEFA guidelines allow children under the age of 14 to be given free tickets under such circumstances and the Hungar-

advantage. The goal came in the 66th minute, with Szoboszlai beating Jordan Pickford from the spot after England substitute Reece James was adjudged to have fouled

Zsolt Nagy. Southgate's men will next face Germany and Italy, who played out an entertaining stalemate in Bologna in Saturday's other League A, Group 3 game.

Roma captain Lorenzo Pellegrini gave a much-changed Italy team the lead 20 minutes from time when he turned in a superb cross from teenage debutant Wilfried Gnonto. Gnonto, 18, had just been sent

on after impressing in FC Zurich's run to this season's Swiss Super League title.

However, Germany needed just three minutes to draw level as the home defence failed to clear Jonas

Joshua Kimmich fired in.

Munich on Tuesday while European champions Italy - looking to move on following their failure to qualify for the World Cup - host Hungary before travelling to face Southgate's side in Wolverhampton next weekend.

Elsewhere the Republic of in nine games as they suffered a

surprise 1-0 loss away in Armenia. Eduard Spertsyan scored the only goal in the second half in Yerevan in the League B, Group 1 opener. Armenia now travel to play Scotland on Wednesday while Ireland host Ukraine the same night before facing Scotland in Dublin next

There were also Nations League wins on Saturday for Montenegro, Luxembourg and Turkey while



Finland were held 1-1 at home by Bosnia and Herzegovina after taking the lead through a Teemu Pukki penalty.

groups in League A will go through to the final stages in June next year with promotion and relegation fail to qualify via the usual route.

The winners of each of the four between the other leagues and the chance to earn places in Euro 2024 qualifying play-offs for teams who

Hofmann's ball into the middle and Germany play England in

Ireland slumped to a first defeat

weekend.