

# plause

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is chairing a high level meeting here on Wednesday to oversee arrangements of waste management and law and order in Lahore during the Eid holidays.



# **Kashmiris' flame of freedom** alive against Indian tyranny: PM

Lauds Lahore team on proper waste management during Eid holidays

ISLAMABAD/LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said despite the \_ on Wednesday expressed satis Indian tyranny, the Kashmiris faction over the arrangements from generations were making the struggle to achieve freedom. and order in Lahore during the the Indian yoke has been kept alive by the generations of Kashmiris in the face of Indian tyranny and oppression," he said in a tweet on the Kashmir Martyrs' Day. The prime minister said the Hassan, Chief Secretary Punjab Kashmir Martyrs' Day was a reminder of the sacrifices Kashmiris had rendered for their inalienable and the United Nations' sanctioned right to self-determi- LWMC Rafia Haider, Managing





ing the relevant departments to ble international organization, ensure the immediate restora- besides ensuring revival of the

tion of power supply. The prime power plant. He said all resources should be utilized to provide relief to the people without any delay.

# Sor sustainable growth Govt to facilitate businesses: Miftah

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minis- tion of business communiter for Finance and Revenue, Miftah Ismail here on Wednesday expressed his government's resolve to promote business activities and facilitate business community to attain sustainable economic growth. The minister was talking to a delegation of businessmen, led by President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI), Muhammad Shakeel Munir and President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI), Ch. Naeem A Rauf.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), senior officers from finance division and FBR and representatives of various business sectors, according to press statement issued by the finance ministry. Miftah acknowledged the contribu-

ty in the growth of economic activity in the country. He stressed that macroeconomic stability was the top priority of the present government and it was focusing to ensure financial discipline through effective and business friendly policies to achieve the economic growth level.

The Finance Minister further assured the delegation to address their issues on priority with regular communication and consultation with business community. Earlier, the members of the business community apprised the minister about multiple issues related to taxation in the Federal Budget 2022-23 on various sectors. They requested for resolving their issues and sought support of the government for bringing in efficiency in various sectors

# PML-N to defeat inflation, corruption: Maryam

Says Bani Gala became 'Money Gala' during PTI's rule



of waste management and law "The flame of freedom from Eid holidays and lauded the team of officials and workers for their services.

nation.

He lauded the professionalism of Chairman Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) Khwaja Ahmed Kamran Ali Afzal, Commissioner

Lahore Captain Usman, Deputy Commissioner Lahore Umer Sher Chatta, Managing Director

PM orders immediate restoration of Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Project

Director Water and Sanitation Authority Ghufran Ahmed.

The prime minister also draped the officials with garlands as a gesture of appreciation. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took notice of a technical fault in the 969MW Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Project, directminister, who chaired a high level meeting on the matter, expressed his annovance over the technical failure of the project which suspended the supply of environment friendly electricity to the national grid during the peak summer season.

It was told that the power production from the powerhouse was affected owing to the closure of three-kilometer Tailrace Water Tunnel. The prime minister directed the authorities concerned to hold an inquiry into the incident through a reputa-

The prime minister told the meeting that the government was about to introduce an effective mechanism for pre-qualification, third party monitoring and evaluation of companies to ensure transparency and quality of the development projects. Minister for Energy Khurram Dastgir, Advisor to PM Ahad Cheema, Member of National Assembly Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and relevant senior officers attended the meeting

> US dollar strikes back as rupee tumbles

> KARACHI: The Pakistani Rupee (PKR) has depreciated by Rs2.19 against the US dollar on Wednesday in interbank. The dollar closed at Rs210.1 against the local currency compared to Rs207.91 in the previous session close in the interbank. Meanwhile, in the open market the greenback gained Rs2.5 and was traded at around Rs211. Amidst the delay in the IMF program, the local unit is still under pressure. Meanwhile, the dollar in the international market also remained firm ahead of U.S. inflation data.

According to the forex dealers, the Pakistani rupee lost Rs0.54 in the early hours as the greenback traded at Rs208.45. In the open market, the US dollar is sold between Rs208 and Rs210. The Pakistani rupee on last working day reversed losses ahead of an announcement of the monetary policy by the State Bank of Pakistan.

Earlier, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail on Monday refuted reports claiming that the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) loan programme for Pakistan had been postponed, saying there was "no truth" to it.

LAYYAH: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) vice president Maryam Nawaz has said that Bani Gala had become "Money Gala" during the rule of former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan. Addressing a rally in Layyah on Wednesday ahead of July 17 by-elections in Punjab, she said that her party will defeat incompetence, inflation and corruption and the PML-N has already won. On July 17, there will be a competition with Punjab s enemy Imran Khan and "Fitna Khan" is another name of anarchy.

She also claimed that the petrol and diesel prices will come down in the next 24 to 48 hours

The PML-N vice president further said that her pary will be contesting on July 17 against inflation, corruption, incompetence and unemployment brought by the previous rulers. "Imran Khan is the biggest plan of destruction of Punjab, while Nawaz Sharif started projects for the prosperity of the country. "The lion's fight is with corruption, incompetence and unemployment," she said. "July 17 is the main battle with Punjab's enemy Imran Khan."

## B Punjab by-polls **PTI moves ECP alleging** pre-poll rigging

Fawad alleges PML-N violated ECP polling codes

Pakistan (ECP) on Wednesday, alleging that the Hamza Shahbaz-led Punjab government was violating several polling codes ahead of the July 17 by-polls in the province. In PTI's petition filed by MNA Omar Ayub, the party claims that the voter lists of the 20 constituencies that are up for grabs have been allegedly altered and that government officials are being used to ensure that PML-N candidates win the

by-polls. "Section 39(2) of the election act 2017 clearly states that revisions, transfers, addition, or deletion of voter lists are not permitted in an electoral area that has been called for an election," the petition read. "...it is the election commission's fore-

#### ISLAMABAD: PTI moved most duty to conduct free, fair, the Election Commission of and impartial elections, yet the voter list has been altered and the voters have been reshuffled. which is in complete violation of the election Commission Act 2017," it said.

One of the most "egregious" examples, according to the PTI petition, was the issuance of voter lists of PP-140 Sheikhupura, which were issued after the announcement of the election schedule - in "violation of the law". The PTI further said that the way things are, "no free, fair, transparent, or impartial elections can be held" in Punjab. The petition added that even after the election date was issued, developmental work was announced in various constituencies, which is a "clear violation of Section 181 of the Election Act of 2017".

# Pakistan thwarts India's bid for permanent UNSC seat

ISLAMABAD: In yet another success on the diplomatic front, Pakistan on Wednesday once again thwarted India's bid for permanent seat in United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Pakistan's position on permanent membership in the United Nations was recognized, while, the Arab League and the African Union also supported Pakistan's position. Two-thirds majority is required for permanent membership in the Security Council.

India does not have the support of half the members to become a permanent member of the UNSC. New Delhi has always violated UN resolutions and is also involved in serious human rights

😂 Deal soon

violations in occupied Kashmir. Moreover, India has also failed to meet the criteria for becoming a UNSC permanent member admittedly slow pace of progress despite claiming to be a secu- in Security Council reform is lar and strong economy. India not due to any deficiency in the needs the support of 129 member process or procedures," Ambassastates for becoming a permanent dor Munir Akram said Wednesmember. Diplomatic sources said that New Delhi has even failed to get the support of even half of the required number of states. 15-member Council more effec-Sources added that Pakistan's stance was supported by the Arab League and the African Union.

underscored the need for flexibilimember states to overcome fulfilling their national ambitions

the stalemate in the long-run- to secure an elevated and privining negotiations to restructure the UN Security Council. "The day in a resumed session of the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) aimed at making the tive, representative and account-

able. The reason, he added, was "the Earlier in April, Pakistan had inflexibility in the positions of a few individual states which have ty to achieve the required consen- come into these negotiations with methods of the council and its sus among all United Nations a pre-determined end goal of

leged position within the Security Council, regardless of the principle of sovereign equality of states" obviously referring to the relentless campaign by India, Brazil, Germany and Japan, known as G-4, for permanent seats in an expanded Council.

Full-scale negotiations to reform the Security Council began in the General Assembly in February 2009 on five key areas, the categories of membership, the question of veto, regional representation, size of an enlarged Security Council, and working relationship with the General Assembly.

# Pakistan, IMF reach staff-level agreement

ISLAMABAD: In a breakthrough, Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reached a staff-level agreement over the revival of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) programme. A well-placed source within the Ministry of Finance says that an agreement has finally been reached with IMF and the lender will release an official statement regarding the deal this evening.

"The first tranche is expected to be SDR894 million, equal to \$1.2 billion. The program has cial Twitter handle. The MEFP is been extended till July 2023, and total program size increased by regarding striking a staff-lev-\$1bn to \$7bn," they said. Last el agreement. Pakistan unveiled month, Pakistan received the Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies (MEFP) from aimed at tight fiscal consolidathe International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the seventh and eighth reviews.

This was confirmed by Finance Minister Miftah Ismail on his offia document that contains details a 9.5 trillion rupee (\$47 billion) budget for 2022-23 last month tion in a bid to convince the IMF to restart much-needed bailout payments.

However, the lender later said additional measures were needed to bring Pakistan's budget in line with the key objectives of the IMF programme. The two sides held several meetings and agreed on the budget and fiscal measures. Pakistan had sought an increase in the size and duration of the programme when Ismail met with IMF officials in Washington in April.



## Economic concern

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail held a meeting with delegation of businessmen led by Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and Ch. Naeem A Rauf, President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) at Finance Division on Wednesday.



# By-elections PTI's rigging allegations 'confession of defeat': Marriyum

Says PML-N always obeyed election rules

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Wednesday that PTI leadership's allegations of rigging were in fact a confession of Imran Khan's defeat in upcoming bye elections. In a statement, she said as prime minister, Imran Khan continued to flout the laws, orders and rules of the Election Commission of Pakistan. Imran Khan and his ministers not only openly violated ECP rules while in power, but also threatened it, she said.

The minister said that when PTI was in power, it threatened the ECP and even today those who stole the himself as law, he did not consider 2018 elections were threatening the ECP. She said on the one hand the PML-N, which bowed to the law, election rules and orders of the ECP and PML-N ministers resigned from their posts to abide by the ECP rules. She said on the other side was Imran Khan and his party which was that bye-elections were yet to be held today. The minister said that Imran begun. "The ECP is actually the were caught red-handed distribut-was not ready to bow before the law target of Imran Khan because of the ing money in election campaigns and nimity. She said the services of Rubiand rules in an attempt to become foreign funding case", she said adding announcing development schemes na Qureshi in music industry would "blue eyed boy" as he considered Imran and his ministers continued to and rigging the elections.



himself subject to the law.

Imran was also abusing and threatening the Election Commission on a Minister Shehbaz Sharif was given daily basis and filing petitions. She directives by the ECP, he canceled his said Imran Khan had stolen the elecvisit. Imran Khan had campaigned tions and he could not act to protect in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhthe sanctity of vote. The minister said tunkhwa and Azad Kashmir elections in violation of clear orders of threatening and abusing the ECP even but Imran's mourning had already the ECP. She said Imran's ministers and grant courage to the bereaved

Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Wednesday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the death of senior television artist Tanveer Jamal. In a tweet, she said that Tanveer Jamal had been a leading PTV personality for the last 35 years. Paying tributes to the deceased, she said he proved his mettle in various PTV dramas and services to the drama industry will always be remembered. She prayed to Allah Almighty to rest the departed soul in eternal peace and grant courage to the bereaved family to bear this loss with fortitude. Minister for Information and

Minister of Information and

Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Wednesday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise of renowned actor Mustafa Qureshi's wife Rubina Qureshi. In her condolence message, the minister prayed to the Almighty to rest the departed soul in the highest ranks of Jannah never be forgotten.

# 😂 Rs 8 to 12 per litre Govt likely to cut **POL prices**

ISLAMABAD: The government has went down. decided to slash prices of petroleum products, first time in its three minister said that he had ordered months' tenure. Petroleum levy, imposed by the government, will likely to remain in place. The levy on petroleum has been Rs. 10 per litre, while high speed diesel, kerosene oil and light diesel carrying five rupees per litre levy. According to sources, the price of petroleum will likely to be slashed by eight rupees and diesel price by 20 rupees per litre. Moreover, kerosene oil and prices likely to be slashed by Rs 21 and 11 per litre respectively.

The coalition government led by the PML-N has enhanced the price its brief tenure. The government has made per litre hike of 99 rupees in been enhanced by 132 rupees per litre, kerosene oil Rs. 111 per litre and light diesel by 100 rupees per products after global crude oil rates national market.

Taking to Twitter, the prime the ministries of petroleum and finance to pass on the reduction in the prices of petroleum products in the international market to people. "I have ordered Ministries of Petroleum & Finance to pass on the reduction in the prices of POL products in the international market to people. They have faced economic difficulties and relief is their right. With Allah's grace, we will continue to bring ease in their lives," the premier tweeted.

According to Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, the deciof petroleum by 66 to 95 percent in sion to reduce fuel prices, was made in a meeting on Tuesday with PM Shehbaz Sharif in the chair. Chairpetrol price, while diesel price has ing a meeting, the premier said the government would pass on the full benefit to the consumers who had been sacrificing owing to the rise litre. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in petroleum prices. He told the yesterday sought a summary from meeting that the government would finance and petroleum ministries for reduce the oil prices transparently at reduction in the price of petroleum par with the reduction in the inter-

# S Punjab by elections ECP sending election material to **ROs**

LAHORE: The preparations for tions in 20 constituencies. All ballot by elections in 20 constituencies of papers will be delivered in concerned Punjab Assembly have entered in constituencies under stringent secufinal stage with provision of electoral material to returning officers. The election commission has started sending ballot papers and forms to returning officers, sources at the electoral body said. "The election commission has printed 4.7306 million ballot papers for election in 20 constituencies," according to sources. The commission has print- PTI, who had voted for PML-N's ed 1,53,657 surplus ballot papers, sources said.

summoned authorized representatives of returning officers to receive members including five members ballot papers. "Ballot papers have on reserved seats, to the election been printed in Islamabad for elec- commission.

# 😂 Embezzlement

rity measures," sources added. It is to be mentioned here that polling for by elections has been scheduled on Sunday, July 17.

The ECP had announced by election on 20 provincial seats vacated after defecting MPAs of the PTI were de-seated. The ECP de-seated 25 dissident members of the Hamza Shehbaz Sharif in Punjab chief minister's election. Speaker The election commission has Punjab Assembly Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi had sent reference against 25

their tenure in power.

On the contrary, when Prime

# Sorruption NAB summons Farah Khan

LAHORE: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has directed Farah Khan to personally appear before the investigators on July 20 besides serving her a notice. The anti-corruption watchdog served a notice to Farhat Shehzadi alias Farah Khan, a close friend of former first lady Bushra Bibi, and directed her to personally appear before NAB investigators.

The accused was ordered to appear along with the relevant documents. According to the anti-graft watchdog's spokesperson, an inquiry was underway against Khan and other



tions of assets beyond income Lahore had summoned four and money laundering. accused in the assets beyond Earlier in May, the National means case of Farhat Shehza- and transactions from the accounts in the name of differaccused who are facing allega- Accountability Bureau (NAB) di alias Farah Khan. The various concerned depart- ent businesses.

bureau had sent notices to her ments. manager, cashier and bankers. All four people were directed to appear before the NAB on May 30 along with the relevant records.

The notices had been served to four accused including Mazahir Baig, Waqar, Asif and Munir. Sources claimed that Director-General (DG) NAB Lahore had approved the notices to summon the people in Farah Khan's case. On May 10, it was learnt that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) sought details of her assets, bank accounts

NAB Lahore had issued letters to various departments to provide records of Ms Khan, who is a close friend of former first lady Bushra Bibi. In April, the anti-graft watchdog had stated in a press statement that the DG NAB Lahore was directed to conduct an inquiry against Farhat Shahzadi alias Farah Khan, a close friend of former prime minister's wife Bushra Bibi, over allegations of illegal assets beyond known sources of income, money laundering and maintaining various

ment was overthrown because

the US needed the rulers who

"According to the Econom-

ic Survey, the highest growth

has been witnessed in the last

two years," he said and added

during the PTI government's

tenure exports increased

and country received record

remittances, whereas, the

textile industry witnessed

record production. We made

obeys their orders.

# July 17 polls to decide Pakistan's future: Imran Khan

Says Nawaz came to power through corruption, made wealth through corruption

ter and Pakistan Tehreek-ewill decide the future of Pakistan. Addressing a rally in Jhang ahead of July 17 Punjab by-elections campaign, Imran Khan said our country could become a great country if we stand with truth and justice, adding that turncoats are the people who sell people's votes for money and they go against the constitution of Pakistan and betray the country. "The July due to fear of transparent elec-17 by-elections will decide the future of the country and we have to save the country from but on Sunday we will defeat American slavery by winning

the election," Imran said.

JHANG: Former prime minis- supremo, Imran Khan said that Nawaz Sharif did noth-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran ing honestly in his life because Khan said on Wednesday he came to the power through that the July 17 by-elections corruption and made wealth through corruption.

"Our competition is with Sharif family, turncoats and Election commission," PTI chairman said.

Criticizing the Chief Election Commissioner, the former PM said the PTI government tried to end the rigging by introducing EVM but bigwigs and CEC opposed the EVM tions, adding that two families are ruling Pakistan for 35 years them and end their rule.

On Tuesday, while address-



stan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) at to Pakistan. The US Embas-PP-282 in Layyah, the former PM had challanaged the rulers many of the turncoats of our to reduce the prices of petroleum products to Rs150 per liter. He said that the Americans did not like his visit to was toppled. Imran Khan said Russia and a conspiracy was that the country was making Taking a swipe at PML-N ing an election rally of Paki- hatched when he returned progress when our govern- ican slaves.

laws and the farmers received money from the sugar mafia. sy started calling our people, Earlier addressing a rally in Darya Khan area of Bhakkar, the former prime minister said party visited the US embassy and a conspiracy was hatched on Tuesday while launching a first and then our government tirade against political opponents said that no one will ever accept these thieves and Amer-

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Punjab ACE summons Sheikh Rashid on July 15

LAHORE: The Punjab Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) on Wednesday summoned former interior minister Sheikh Rashid on July 15. According to the sources, the ACE has summoned Sheikh Rashid over alleged embezzlement worth millions of rupees in fee payment in the sale of state-owned land to a private housing society in Islamabad.

In this regard, the sources further said that the former federal home minister has been directed to appear will appear in anti-corruption. Cases at the anti-corruption head office in are being made to exert political pres-Lahore with a complete record of sure. If you want to make an arrest, land sales. The anti-corruption also do it and I have had land for 50, 60 summoned the management of the years."



housing society to investigate the matter.

While responding to the aforementioned matter Sheikh Rashid said, "I

# **Imran Khan wants chaos** in the country: Hamza



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shahbaz has said that former PM and Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan wants chaos in the country but the PML-N government will not make false promises.

Addressing a press conference in Lahore on Wednesday, he said that his party has put its political interests at stake for national interests.

The chief minister said, "We will not go for political persecualliance to form a government but we are united for the country and this province.

the nation."

Hamza went on to say that he spent two months without a cabinet but gave a subsidy of Rs 200 billion to the province, adding that the province was toyed with in the name of Wasim Akram Plus. "We will not indulge in politics of revenge," he added.

He further said that if the party had given him permission, he would have resigned and run the campaign, adding that Imran Khan tion. Our alliance is not a union asked for the first 6 months but did nothing and we have to improve

# National

Thursday, July 14, 2022

# **Promotion of higher education top** priority of govt: Governor Punjab

Says Inter-University Consortium of IUB is a very welcome initiative for research activities

### 😂 Staff Reporter

BAHAWALPUR: Governor Punjab and Chancellor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman has said that promotion of higher education is the top priority of the government and all resources are being utilized to provide facilities for higher education.

He expressed these views in a meeting with Vice Chancellor the Islamia University of Bahawalpur Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob at Camp Office Bahawalpur.

The Governor Punjab said that the Inter-University Consortium of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur is a very welcome initiative for research activities on climate change and this



under the auspices and support of the Governor's Secretariat. He directed the Vice Chancellor

consortium will be taken forward of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur to convene a Vice Chancellor's Conference and complete the working paper by including the three

topics of Climate Change and Environment, Ultimate of Education and Financial Management in the agenda.

The Governor Punjab emphasized that full attention should be paid to the education as well as character building of the students so that they could use their leadership abilities for the betterment and development of the society in practical life.

Vice Chancellor the Islamia University of Bahawalpur Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob while giving a briefing said that the Islamia University of Bahawalpur's cotton seed research, soybean and maize intercropping techniques are being successfully implemented.

# Heavy rains hit Karachi

KARACHI: Vehicles wade through a flooded tower road after a heavy rainfall in Provincial Capital.



IRC launches relief activities for Balochistan flood-hit people

Staff of WSSP worked well in Peshawar on



SIALKOT: A delegation of American Civil Society headed by Dr Joe Knight Paul and Mr. Michael visited historic Gurdwara Babe Di Ber here on Wednesday. Sardar Jaskaran Singh, Muhammad Ijaz Noori, Muhammad Farooq Baloch advocate, Bilal Khan and others were also present on the occasion.

### Security forces kill 6 terrorists in Datta Khel

腾 🛛 Raja Furqan Ahmed

RAWALPINDI: Security forces killed six terrorists in an Intelligence Based Operation in Datta Khel area of North Waziristan district on Wednesday. Weapons and ammunition was also recovered from the killed terrorists. The terrorists remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces.

However, during intense ex-change of fire, Lance Naik Islam ud Din, having fought gallantly, embraced shahadat. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area.

### Liaquat Jatoi briefs media on LG polls situation in Dadu

### 😂 Azad Baloch

DADU: Former Chief Minister Sindh and PTI leader Liaquat Ali Jatoi with Karim Ali Jatoi vice president PTI Sindh and Sayed Zafar Ali Shah held a press conference in Betto Jatoi house Mehar on Wednesday.

Liaqat Ali Jatoi said that in a press conference, during the last 15 years, Rs. 150 billion has been released to Dadu district and the monthly community fund of Rs. 100 million for the oil and gas field is different. Explain where billions of rupees have been spent in Dadu.

He said I request the Army Chief that if the people of Pakistan are to be protected, so please get rid of them persons and hold free and fair elections.

Jatoi said that, at present, DAP agricultural fertilizer has become 12,000, urea 4,000 per sack and diesel expensive in the country. The agriculture sector has been devastated by Imported Government, agriculture sector is the backbone of Pakistan. What have you done with it?

Ex CM Sindh, Liaquat Jatoi also slammed PPP MNA Dadu Rafiq Jamali during a press conference and said these people have made Dadu Jamalistan. They will not tolerate this oppression of the people. If you want to contest elections, fight free and fair elections with us you are contesting elections at the mercy of one party. Rafiq Jamali, if you leave the party and win your home UC, I will retire from politics.

### Rescue 1122 Attock responded efficiently in rain hit areas

### 腾 🛛 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Rescue 1122 Attock responded to different emergency calls received from the areas inundated by heavy rain on Monday specially Jatial village in tehsil Hazro and Mirza village in Attock were the most affected areas.

DC Attock Muhammad Zulqarnain and District Emergency Officer Ali Hussain along with 50 rescuers rushed to the rain hit areas. Two ambulances and one fire vehicle were sent to Jatial and one rescue vehicle and one fire vehicle were sent to village Mirza.

As per the Rescue 1122 sources, 18 individuals were rescued stranded in different areas and a bike and a car were recovered from a nullah which were swept away in hours long rain .DC Attock also visited different rain hit areas and given directions to the concerned to ensure safety

#### 😂 Spokesman Report

QUETTA/ISLAMABAD: As the torrential rains and flash floods in Balochistan areas have played wreak killing dozens of people, including women and children, and over 150,000 population in need of humanitarian assistance, 30,000 badly affected, an emergency has been declared in the provincial metropolitan city followed by relief operations at all levels.

According to the assistant commissioner, the wards and emergency room of Muslim Bagh Civil Hospital were flooded, while rain in the hilly areas of Muslim Bagh damaged more than 100 houses. Most of the access roads to remote areas of Qila Saifullah, Zhob, and Harnai have been affected, hampering rescue operations in several areas. A Pishin administration official said hundreds of mud-houses were washed away or badly damaged in Malikyar, Don Khanozai and Sheikhmalzai areas of Pishin as floodwater coming from hilly areas of Burshor lashed the area.

Given the rapidly deteriorating situation, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has initiated response activities in Pishin and Quetta districts. With the financial aid of German Federal Foreign Office, the IRC's internal funds and support of its on-ground partner, the People's Primary Healthcare Initiative (PPHI), the IRC has launched a



rapid emergency response within 24 hours of the declaration of emergency, which is being implemented in close coordination with the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Balochsi-

"We have so far set up three free medical camps in the flood-affected areas. More than 500 Afghan refugees and host communities have so far availed the services," shared Esfandyar Baloch, CEO PPHI, while giving details of the relief operations.

He said that under this rapid response, more than 350 food packages and over 250 dignity kits are being distributed among the affected population.

While speaking about the response,

Muhammad Shareef, IRCs Head of Office, Balochistan, said, "The needs of the target beneficiaries will inevitably be affected by inflation and poverty. The opportunity cost of food items will, in all likability be the healthcare. We understand this dilemma and our efforts are geared towards providing maximum possible relief to those most in need."

"To minimize the adversity caused by natural disasters, the relevant actors need to plan beyond the immediate response and work closely with geologists, environmentalists, and researchers to examine, assess, and review potential future climate risks to timely alert the decision-makers," said Shabnam Baloch, IRCs Country Director.

in the vibrant city of Dubai. This strate-

gic agreement will create network syner-

gies, and Air Canada customers will have

additional, convenient options when

travelling between Canada and the Unit-

ed Arab Emirates as well as destinations

beyond Dubai" said Michael Rousseau,

President and Chief Executive Officer at

Air Canada. "We look forward to intro-

ducing Air Canada codeshare service on

kev Emirates flights, as well as adding

the EK code on select Air Canada flights,

and welcoming Emirates customers on

To further enhance the customer

experience, the carriers will also estab-

lish reciprocal frequent flyer benefits and

reciprocal lounge access for qualifying

customers. Further details of the part-

nership and specific codeshare routes

will be announced when finalized and

our services later this year."

# Eid-ul-Adha

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

PESHAWAR: All Municipal Workers Union WSSP Registered CBA Peshawar Chairman Riaz Khan and General Secretary Abid Sohail, Press Secretary Shehzad Gul jointly called on all Chief Municipal Inspectors of Zone, A, B, C, D, E, Malaria Chief Inspectors, Municipal Inspectors, Sanitary Supervisors Water Supply Supervisors, Workshop Incharge, Dumping Incharge, DPRs, Control Room Wireless Operators, Drivers, Katha Qalyan, Khakroban, Hilpran, Gang Qalyan, Fulran and Tubewell Operators.

They said we pay tribute to all the staff of WSSP who cleaned the city of Peshawar on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha in the best possible way and once again made it clear that the staff of WSSP spares no effort in keeping Peshawar clean. Due to the tireless work of and by the grace of Allah, this time too Peshawar has spread all over Pakistan from other cities in terms of cleanliness and once again Peshawar has come number one in all the cities of Pakistan and we are the management of WSSP and Peshawar.

They further added that we also thank the people who have joined us in this operation.

# Emirates, Air Canada form strategic partnership

#### 腾 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Emirates and Air Canada, Wednesday, announced the signing Airline said: "This is a significant partof a strategic partnership agreement that will create more options for customers when travelling on the carriers' networks while also enhancing the customer experience throughout the journey.

Emirates and Air Canada intend to establish a codeshare relationship later in 2022 that will offer enhanced consumer travel choices for Air Canada customers to travel to the United Arab Emirates and to destinations beyond Dubai. Emirates customers will also enjoy an enhanced travel experience when travelling to Toronto or to key destinations across the Air Canada network. Customers will have the ability to book connecting travel between both airlines' networks with the ease of a single ticket, seamless connectivity at the carriers' respective global hubs and

baggage transfers to their final destinations.

Sir Tim Clark, President Emirates nership that will enable our customers access to even more destinations in Canada and the Americas, via our Toronto and US gateways. It also opens up many new route combinations for travelers across Emirates' and Air Canada's extensive networks in the Americas, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. We are pleased to partner with Air Canada, one of North America's most established airlines and Canada's flag carrier and we look forward to jointly progressing on various areas to provide even better customer flight choices and experiences."

"As we continue pursuing our strategy of expanding our global reach in response to growing opportunities in VFR markets (Visit Friends and Relatives) that serve Canada's large multicultural communities, we are very pleased

to form a strategic partnership with will be subject to regulatory approvals Emirates, a highly respected flag carrier and final documentation. Air Canada's public communicaof the United Arab Emirates with a hub

tions may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. These statements may involve, but are not limited to, comments relating to guidance, strategies, expectations, planned operations or future actions. Forward-looking statements, by their nature, are based on assumptions, are subject to important risks and uncertainties and cannot be relied upon due to, amongst other things, changing external events and general uncertainties of the business.

Actual results may differ materially from results indicated in forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including the factors identified in this news release and in Air Canada's public disclosure file available at www. sedar.com.

of the people and their belongings.

Meanwhile, the district and tehsil administration disposed of sacrificial animals' waste of 4523.26 tons for which 970 sanitary workers were deputed and 236 vehicles were used.

A press release issued by District Govt stated that Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Zulqarnain supervised whole the process during the Eid days. To ensure timely disposal of the animals waste, 311 points were set up. The waste was shifted to dumping points in 7488 bio degradable plastic bags.

# Sarsabz Fertilizer marks significance of cotton through 'Khaki Desan'

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The nostalgic memories of our mothers opening rustic family trunks and taking out hand-knitted khaees and dariyan made from indigenous cotton and proudly setting them for the frequent guests have faded away. However, to try and revive this lost cultural heritage and tradition, Sarsabz Fertilizer released the second episode of its Sarsabz Kahani web series titled "Khaki Desan" which focused on the true story of Jugnu Mohsin, a well-recognized entrepreneur and public figure, who quickly realized the dearth of good quality local cotton and its dying breed called Khaki Desan which nobody was striving to preserve. This latest film is part of a strategic initiative called 'Sarsabz Kahani', which highlights true inspirational stories of farmers passionately fond of their motherland and its cultural heritage and was released on the momentous occasion of Eid ul-Azha as a short film on July 10, 2022, across its social media platforms

Seeking technical assistance from Sarsabz Fertilizer, which is a brand of Fatima Fertilizer, the protagonist went on to successfully harvest the finest crop of Khaki Desan cotton to create an exceptional quality of khaddar, which is a hand-spun and hand-woven cotton cloth being used in the sub-continent since many centuries. Sarsabz Fertilizer extended their unravelling contribution and support to Jugnu Mohsin to implement this community support program as a sustainable initiative which can re-engage and empower market inflation.

a community of thousands of rural women in the centuries-old craft of cotton spinning and weaving and earn a decent livelihood for their families. Sarsabz also supported Jugnu Mohsin in setting up a workshop under the name "Haveli Crafts" to market the final products.

The story of this unique collaboration is multifaceted in many ways. Most importantly, it refers to the recent decline of cotton production in Pakistan which is detrimental to our economic stability. As per the Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, the cotton crop holds a 0.8 percent share in GDP and contributes 5.2% to the agriculture value addition. Cotton also holds a 51 percent share in the country's total foreign exchange earnings. Despite this economic significance, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics has reported that in the past 10 years cotton production has almost halved from 13.6 million bales in 2011/12 to about 7 million in 2020/21. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has also reported that the crop area of cotton has significantly reduced to 2.2 million hectares, the lowest since FY82. Although in the current context, the economic survey of Pakistan for FY 2021-22 reported that the cotton crop increased from 7.1 million bales reported last year to 8.3 million bales during 2021-22. However, this gradual recovery in crop yield is faced with many challenges including a significantly reduced crop area, inconsistent gas supply to fertilizer plants resulting in limited availability of locally produced urea, and increasing cost of farm inputs for an already burdened farmer due to high



### SERVICES

Islamabad 23º – 38º Clear

Namaz T	imings
Fajr	3:26 am
Zohr	12:13 pm
Asr	5:12 pm
Maghrib	7:20 pm
Isha	9:01 pm

### EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) 15 Bomb Disposal 15 Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad ......1122 & 16 Emergency Ambulance...... 1122 & & Rescue Services ... . 4451122 ...9266044 Motorway Police .. Motorway Police ....... 9270601-20

### **Women Police** Stations

Islamabad . 9222596 ...... 9222330 . 9270601-20 Rawalpindi

### **ENQUIRY**

Edhi Ambulance	
PIA Flight Info	
PIA Cargo	
Railway Inquiry	
Railway Exchange .	
WASA Rawalpindi .	
CAA	

### HOSPITALS

CMH	
MH	
MH	
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	

### DEPARTMENTS

### COMPLAINTS

5773343

Rawal Town ...

Water Tanker Service E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654 G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, 9203883 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316 Wapda Islamabad.......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint ..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank ...0331-5022125 Rawalpindi.

**CPO** visits District Enforcement Wing in police lines 😂 Staff Reporter

**RAWALPINDI: City Police** Officer (CPO) Sved Shahzad Nadeem Bukhari on Wednesday visited District Enforcement Wing (DEW), set up to curb crime and enhance the efficiency of Rawalpindi district police. According to details, the CPO during his visit, reviewed performance of the operation enforcement and investigation enforcement wings and directed the officers concerned to bring further improvements. He informed that the Wing was set up to control crime and increase the efficiency of the police force. Separate enforcement wings of investigation and operation had been set up, in the DEW to monitor the performance of 15-calls responses and the beat system besides checking biometric attendance of police personnel, police patrolling, community policing and performance of the teams assigned to net the proclaimed offenders and court absconders, he added. He informed that the investigation enforcement wing was monitoring the matters of the court cases, performance of the enforcement staff, the cases of women and children, the progress being made to bust criminal gangs and development in the kidnapping cases. The Wing was also monitoring the operations being conducted to net most wanted criminals besides checking registration of new cases, inquiry and pending cases and challan reports of different cases. Bukhari said that the feedback and monitoring the performance of police officers on daily basis would help improve the efficiency of the force. He said Rawalpindi police were utilizing all available resources to provide best facilities to the citizens and enhance the efficiency of the police force to control crime in Rawalpindi district.



### 😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani has said lasting peace in South Asia is impossible without resolving the Kashmir issue.

In his message on Kashmir Martyrs' Day, he said the day is not far away when Kashmiris' dream of independence will be materialized through their struggle for their right to self-determination.

The Chairman said the international community should take notice of the atrocities being committed by the Indian occupation forces in IIOJK and play its role in ending the ongoing human rights violations in occupied valley.

On the occasion, Deputy Chairman Senate Mirza Muhammad Afridi, in his message, said atrocities and barbarism of the Indian occupying forces deserve

severe condemnation. Leader of the House Azam Nazeer Tarar and the Leader of the Opposi-

have also expressed solidarity with the

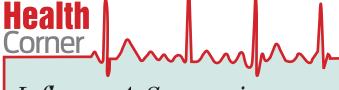
# Pakistan 'stands with Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD: A view of portraits of martyrs of Kashmiri leaders on the eve of Kashmir Martyrs Day at Constitution Avenue to show solidarity with the people of Kashmir, in Federal Capital.



# RWMC in 2nd position over Eid cleanliness operation in Punjab

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Waste



# Influenza A: Suppressing SARS-CoV-2 Replication

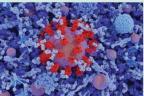
ISLAMABAD: Coinfection of SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A virus changes neither the trajectory, nor the severity of influenza A virus, regardless of timing. But should the host contract influenza A virus first, the response to that infection can significantly suppress SARS-CoV-2, according to research published this week in the Journal of Virology, a publication of the American Society for Microbiology.

The research is important, because the human population now has 2 circulating respiratory RNA viruses with high pandemic potential: SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A," the investigators wrote. "As both viruses infect the airways, and can result in significant morbidity and mortality, it is imperative that we also understand the consequences of coinfection.'

Several clinical studies had previously reported on co-infection of SARS-CoV-2 with other viruses. "In particular, coinfection with SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A virus was common early in the COVID-19 pandemic, prior to the enforcement of masks and social distancing," said corresponding author Benjamin R. tenOever, Ph.D., professor of microbiology, New York University, Langone Health, New York, N.Y..

within the airway. Notably, the investigators found

These viruses infect the same cells



3

that influenza A virus interferes with SARS-CoV-2 replication in the lung and can continue to do so even more

than 1 week after clearance of influenza A according to the research. These data suggest the presence of factors intrinsic to or induced by [influenza A virus] that may restrict the growth of SARS-CoV-2, but it remains unclear whether this effect plays a role on disease severity," the researchers wrote.

The investigators performed the experiments in cultured cells, as well as in a golden hamster animal model. "... animals were administered the 2 viruses simultaneously, and examined at days 1,3, 5, 7 and 14 post infection," said tenOever. The researchers also conducted experiments in which they first challenged the animals with either virus, followed three days later by the other virus, monitoring [them] at days 1, 3, and 5 post-second challenge.

'This study could be used as an example of how an immune response to something unrelated can provide protection against SARS-CoV-2," said tenOever.

The team demonstrated that coinfection does not result in a worse outcome of disease in an animal model. "These results suggest that coinfection with SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A virus does not represent a looming threat for humanity," said tenOever. (Courtesy: Science Daily)

Tanveer Jamal's services in acting field to be remembered for long: President





people of Occupied Kashmir and said that atrocities against Kashmiris would tion in the Senate Dr. Shehzad Waseem not stifle their voice for independence.

Management Company(RWMC) has attained the second position over the best cleanliness arrangements on Eid -Ul-Azha in Punjab.

According to RWMC spokesman, the Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz, while presiding over a meeting to review the performance of the Eid-Ul-Azha cleanliness drive of all Punjab Waste Companies, appreciated the RWMC arrangements and acknowledged the efforts of dedicated RWMC workers to keep the district clean.

He said that Managing Director RWMC Owais Manzoor Tarrar cherished the entire staff of RWMC for their exceptional performance during the Eid holidays.

The spokesman said that RWMC had removed over 9,000 tons of animal waste from the district during the three days of Eid ul Azha despite heavy rainfalls and added that 3,663 sanitary workers and 435 vehicles worked day and night to keep the district neat and clean.

He informed that 3,228 workers had been deployed in Rawalpindi, 112 Murree, and 323 in Taxila, Kahuta, Kalar Syedan

and Gujjar Khan, while 357 vehicles were utilized in Rawalpindi, 14 Murree and 64 in other tehsils to complete the task of cleanliness

Furthermore, he said that 4,066 tons of waste had been lifted on the first day of Eid, while RWMC had disposed of around 3.657 tons of animal entrails on the second day of Eid.

He said the waste was shifted to 17 permanent transfer stations and 43

mobile transfer stations from where it was moved to the landfill site at Losar through dumpers. RWMC had distributed around 200,000 biodegradable waste bags and 50,000 awareness pamphlets to the citizens, he said and added that a mobile app had also been launched to guide the citizens. All the staff had worked under a control room while 650 complaints received on social media apps were also addressed. Agencies

# Mushaal criticizes Indian fascist regime

For not providing basic detainee rights to Yasin Malik

ISLAMABAD: The Chairperson Peace and Culture Organization Mushaal Hussein Malik has criticized the Indian fascist regime for not providing basic detainee rights to jailed Jammu and Kashmir Libration Front leader Yasin Malik.

Mushaal Malik, who is also the wife of Yasin Malik, on Wednesday in her message asked the Indian government to provide basic rights to Jailed JKLF Leader Yasin Malik. She also asked the Modi regime to produce Yasin Malik physically in court as he wants to cross examine the witnesses in Air Force officers case.

JKLF Muhammad Yasin Malik on Wednesday demanded the court for fair trial of the cases by allowing him physically witness the court hearings, and by letting him to examine the witnesses by himself.

Mushaal said that Yasin Malik has been kept in solitary confinement and there are serious threats to his life.

If Modi regime did not meet the demands of her husband then he will start an indefinite hunger strike in the jail from 22nd July and God forbid it can risk his life as well as



organs as he is already in fragile health, she case related to the kidnapping of former warned. She further said that facial modi regime has made all the fabricated cases against her husband to punish just he is the ceful voice of Kashmir freedom struggle.

She also requested special court to allow physical appearance of her husband in a ing in jails in different fabricated cases. APP

chief minister Mufti Mohammed Hayseed's daughter Rubaiyat. Mushaal also requested the human Rights organisations to press India for providing basic rights to Yasin Malik and other Kashmiri leaders who are languish-

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi on Wednesday expressed grief over the death of renowned actor, director and producer Tanveer Jamal.

The president paid tribute to late Tanveer Jamal and said the actor rendered invaluable services in the field of acting.

He said the services of Tanveer Jamal would be remembered for long. Dr Alvi prayed for the departed soul of Tanveer Jamal and for grant of patience to his bereaved family.

Late Tanveer Jamal passed away in Japan after protacted illness of cancer. Agencies

## Pakistan registers minor decline in COVID-19 positivity rate

Pakistan reports zero deaths from COVID-19

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's COVID-19 positivity ratio dropped down to 1.55% in a single day as the country's fresh case count diminished slightly overnight, according to latest stats issued by the National Institute of Health in Islamabad Wednesday.

Overall, coronavirus cases are continuing to rise in Pakistan, however no deaths from the infection were reported in the last 24 hours.

Pakistan reported 236 new COVID-19 cases overnight, official data issued by NIH showed. With the fresh cases, the coronavirus positivity ratio stood at 1.55%. Meanwhile, 226 people recovered in the last 24 hours.

Across Pakistan, 30,424 coronavirus patients have died so far, bringing the total number of cases to 1,543,741.

Out of the 10,294 patients undergoing treatment for coronavirus in hospitals, quarantine centres, on ventilators and at homes across the country, 152 are in critical condition, while 1.53 million patients have recovered so far.

In the last 24 hours, 452,990 people across Pakistan have been vaccinated against corona virus.

Experts blame two sub-variants of the Omicron variant, namely BA.4 and BA.5, for the rise in COVID-19 cases in Pakistan, saying that they have escape mutations that are giving them an edge.

They say the sub-variants have also been infecting people who are already vaccinated or have already been infected with COVD-19, but no evidence is available to show if they are causing any severe disease among the vaccinated people. Agencies

### 😂 Flood Damage Areas

CM Punjab directs to expedite *relief activities* 

RAWALPINDI: Chief Minister Punjab, Hamza Shahbaz Sharif on Wednesday expressed grief and sorrow over the damage caused in Rawalpindi during heavy rains.

He directed the administration to take immediate action to provide relief to the residents of the rain-affected areas.

Station Commander, Cantonment board Rawalpindi, Brig Salman, Cantonment Executive Officer, Chaklala Cantonment Board and Member Provincial Assembly, PP-13, Haji Amjad visited the affected areas including Dhoke Juma, Lalazar, Valley Housing Scheme Chaklala and inspected the relief and rescue operation.

The residents registered their complaints against the owners of the housing society and the local administration.

According to the residents, the owners of the housing society encroached the land along the nullah and narrowed the drain which caused a lot of damage in the locality.

Editorial/Opinion
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Thursday, July 14, 2022

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# **China-Pakistan naval** drills

he ongoing China-Pakistan joint naval drill off Shanghai entered a live-fire phase after wrapping up the exchange phase on shore, with analysts saying that the Pakistan Navy's China-built Type 054A/P frigate is expected to gain valuable experience from the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy's vessel of the same type.

Warships participating in the Sea Guardians-2 joint maritime drill, including the Type 054Aguided missile frigate Xiangtan and Type 056Aguided missile corvette Shuozhou from the PLA Navy and the Type 054A/P guided missile frigate Taimur from the Pakistan Navy, left port on Tuesday for the live-fire phase of the exercise, according to the PLA Navy.

During the two-day live-fire phase, the vessels will conduct training courses including communications, joint missile and main gun attacks against maritime targets, anti-aircraft shooting with close-in weapons system, joint replenishment, joint tactical maneuvering, joint anti-submarine warfare, air defense and anti-missile, as well as joint support on damaged vessels, the PLA Navy said.

The Type 903 comprehensive supply ship Qiandaohu, an early warning aircraft, two fighter jets and a helicopter from the PLA Navy will also join the drills in the process. The live-fire phase came after the two navies wrapped up the two-day exchange phase on shore, which featured simulations of tactics and command as well as professional exchanges between sailors from the Xiangtan and the Taimur over techniques in the use of the main gun and the close-in weapon system, the support of vessel-based helicopters, anti-submarine warfare, damage control and maritime replenishment, the PLA Navy said.

Both the Xiangtan and the Taimur are of the Type 054A-classs frigate, observers said. Pakistan is the first user of the China-built Type 054Aoutside of China, with the Taimur, the second of four Type 054A/P frigates, being delivered to the Pakistan Navy in Shanghai on June 23, and the first ship of its class, the Tughril, having joined the Pakistan Navy Fleet in January.

Exchanges between Chinese and Pakistani sailors will enable the latter, who just received delivery of the Taimur, to quickly accumulate knowledge in making the best out of the vessel, and putting them into practice in the live-fire exercises.

By teaming up with Chinese vessels and aircraft, the Pakistani warship will get the chance to integrate into the PLA's combat system and receive real-time battlefield information. This experience will help Pakistan build its own comprehensive combat system, the expert said, citing a report by the PLA Daily, which said the PLA Navy's early warning aircraft is scheduled to provide situational intelligence and targeting data to the Pakistani vessel in the missile attack drill.

While sharing the same general design, the Pakistan Navy's Type 054A/P is better equipped than its counterpart in the PLA Navy in some aspects, Shanghai-based news website eastday.com reported. The Type 054A/P's radar system reportedly has longer detection range with additional anti-stealth canability while its an

# **Cyberwarfare & Israel-Iran confrontation**

### Yossi Mekelberg

n one of his last public appearances as prime minister, outgoing Israeli Premier Naftali Bennett was unequivocal in his warning to Tehran immediately after Iran's stateowned Khuzestan Steel Co. found itself the victim of a major cyberattack — that "if you mess with Israel, you will pay a price."

Messing with Israel was a reference to Iranian hackers last month conducting a spear phishing operation aimed at taking over the email accounts of former politicians and diplomats. On another occasion, a suspected Iranian cyberattack triggered public sirens in various Israeli cities. Such digital hostilities between these two nemeses have been accelerating in recent years and, according to cyber is going to become one, if not the most, prominent dimension of future warfare."

Nevertheless, in recent years both Israel and to some extent Iran have been discarding the shroud of secrecy over their attacks on the high-level strategic assets of their opponent

aim is to establish military superiority and with it deterrence, its actions could easily prompt the regime in Tehran to step up a gear by retaliating in different areas of confrontation, with Israel being forced to retaliate in turn.

Iran and Israel are squaring up to each other in different parts of the Middle East while diversifying their methods of damaging each other's interests. Cyberwarfare is a more recent tier of this multidimensional confrontation and one that might prove to escalate quickly, with devastating consequences. The more that cyberspace becomes a domain where many of our activities take place, the more it makes vulnerable those who operate in it, which is basically everyone and everything, as it is filled with data that is essential to our very function-Bennett, "It is inevitable that ing and existence as nations and societies

A great deal of essential infrastructure, such as defense systems, transport, healthcare, businesses, financial services, education and power plants, uses cyberspace for data storage and communication. Hence, because of the crucial part cyber-- and not only in the cyber space plays in our daily lives –

of confrontation. While Israel's its vulnerability to attacks it makes it indispensable to invest in data protection from attacks by hackers, especially if orchestrated by states. Otherwise, there is the danger of havoc being wreaked on public, civilian and private infrastructures that might end in severe disruption of essential services and even loss of life.

> In the 21st century, such a scenario is no longer the stuff of science fiction, but a daily occurrence worldwide. For two countries with a long history of deep animosity such as Israel and Iran, especially as they possess considerable technological capabilities, shifting their conflict to cyberspace is tempting, not least because it is perceived as being low cost and with low risk of loss of life for the attacker.

Late last month, Israel's cybersecurity chief Gaby Portnov admitted that Iran - along with its Lebanese proxy Hezbollah and Palestinian militant organization Hamas - is Israel's principal rival in the sphere of cyberwarfare, in terms of the number of attacks, the quality of the targets and the attempts at publicizing these actions, which make their escalation dangerously inevitable.

Portnoy added that Israsphere, but also in other areas and at the same time due to el needs an Iron Dome-like devastating consequences for

ing a parallel with the threat of incoming missiles. Few countries are as technologically savvy as Israel and, when it comes to cyberwarfare, it is at the forefront of every aspect. Israel is a cybersecurity powerhouse, not only by regional standards but globally too, accounting for a third of worldwide cybersecuritv "unicorns" and 41 percent of

investment in the sector. This gives Israel an advantage both in offensive and defensive terms, but Tehran is also improving its cyber capabilities and, in the last two years, has exposed Israeli private sector, which have enabled it to interrupt, even if for only a short time, economic activities and some public utilities, as well as to collect the private information of Israeli

citizens upper hand and is using cyberspace to harm Iran's military capabilities, slow down its nuclear program, make it feel insecure and also win the cognitive battle. The more both countries come to rely on advanced technology, the more they become exposed to mutual attacks and are likely to engage in an escalating cyberwar that could have

system of cyber defense, draw- their infrastructure and cause fatalities. It would also enhance the perception, especially among Israelis, that their opponent is an existential threat.

Consequently, we can expect a type of hybrid warfare between Israel and Iran, in which cyberspace plays an increasingly important role without replacing more conventional methods. Much more attention and resources will be devoted to cyberattacks and building resilience against them. In this relatively new form of warfare, although it might appear less gruesome than traditionvulnerabilities, especially in the al versions, the consequences could be just as horrific and, depending on what systems are attacked, more destructive.

Cyberwarfare will not alter the underlying causes of the enmity between Israel and Iran, but it hands them another tool to Israel has thus far had the compete with one another. The trajectory as it emerges is of an intensification of resorting to its use and, with political systems that are inherently unstable, it adds another layer of threat not only to Iran and Israel, but also to the region.

> The writer is professor of international relations and an associate fellow of the MENA Program at Chatham House. Courtesy Arab News



ti-ship missiles have faster speed and longer range.

This is because the Pakistan Navy uses the Type 054A/P as its main surface combatant that must be responsible for all anti-air, anti-ship and anti-submarine missions, while the PLA Navy uses the Type 054A as a support ship for only anti-submarine and additional anti-air missions, eastday.com said, as the PLA Navy has larger vessels like the Type 055 and Type 052D destroyers as main surface combatants. It reflects that China's arms industry can customize its weapons and equipment for foreign customers to suit their demands, analysts said.

# Eurozone divergences are back in play

### Lucrezia Reichlin

onetary-policy tightening is coming to Europe. Following in the footsteps of the US Federal Reserve and others, the European Central Bank (ECB) has announced that it will discontinue its asset-purchase programme and raise interest rates this month, in a bid to rein in inflation. But, unless the authorities address the differential effect this has on member states' financial conditions, the eurozone will experience both a recession and a financial crisis.

Anticipating this monetary-policy shift, the eurozone safe vield curve, as measured by overnight index swaps, has been moving up since December, suggesting that financial conditions are becoming significantly tighter. Meanwhile, sovereign spreads have widened, with the risk premium on Italian ten-year bonds more than 250 basis points higher than for German bunds in early June, though the spread has since narrowed somewhat in response to ECB signals that it will take action.

The eurozone has been here before. During both the debt crisis that began in 2009 and the Covid-19 pandemic, economic stress triggered a flight to safety (that is, to the German bund) by investors - especially foreign investors - and a resurgence of home bias in sovereign-bond purchases. The result was financial-market fragmentation along geographical lines. Although the origin of the stress was different, the consequences for the sovereign market were similar.

The implication is clear: the effects of the ECB's monetary tightening will not be evenly distributed - and could jeopardise financial stability in some countries. To mitigate this

economies, targeted asset purchases - amid overall tightening - are vital. Fortunately, the eurozone has already laid the operational, legal, and political groundwork for the kind of flexible asset-purchase programme that is needed.

It has been a long journey. In 2012, the ECB announced the "outright monetary transactions" programme, under which it could purchase weaker eurozone countries' government bonds, in exchange for compliance with the rules of the European Stabilitv Mechanism.

OMT was never activated, but its mere announcement calmed markets, because the programme avoided the fatal flaws of its predecessor, the Securities Markets Programme, which was quantitatively capped, gave the ECB preferred creditor status, and lacked strong political support. Moreover, by including conditionality, OMT addressed northern European countries' concern that attempting to squeeze the spreads of fiscally fragile countries would constitute a form of monetary financing and thus encourage moral hazard.

But while the announcement of OMT brought a normalisation in sovereign-bond markets, the ECB's late response to the debt crisis came at a cost: a long period of below-target inflation (that is, below 2%). So, in 2015, the ECB joined other central banks in introducing quantitative easing, with the distribution of its sovereign-asset purchases determined according to countries' GDP. Together with other tools, QE enabled the ECB to control the level and slope of the safe yield curve.

The next step in the evolution of eurozone asset-purchase programmes came in 2020, when the Covid-19 crisis spurred the implementation of the Pandemic Emerand ensure that the ECB's actions align with gency Purchase Programme (PEPP), which

economies under the most pressure, thereby containing sovereign and corporate spreads. But the programme - always meant to be a temporary response to exceptional circumstances - was discontinued in March.

Today, the eurozone is facing exceptional circumstances yet again – this time, in the form of supply-chain disruptions and energy-price spikes. This merits the implementation of a new asset-purchase programme aimed at limiting sovereign spreads as the ECB pursues monetary tightening.

The revival of the OMT programme is not the answer. For one thing, the eurozone is facing Europe-wide inflation driven by supply-side factors, not by idiosyncratic fiscal conditions. Nor can current circumstances be characterised as a classic case of a self-fulfilling liquidity crisis. Rather, financial markets' functioning is being distorted in a federation with common money and national debts. In this context, a conditional programme would be a hard sell, to say the least. In fact, it would probably spur a new wave of anti-euro sentiment and a political crisis.

In any case, conditional asset purchases under the OMT programme come with a stigma and involve difficult negotiations with multiple institutions. What the ECB needs today is an agile monetary-policy instrument that can be implemented quickly - an instrument much like the PEPP.

This new instrument should be flexible and open-ended. Using its knowledge of monetary-policy transmission channels and responding to new information as it arises, the ECB should adjust its purchases in line with the price-stability objective. Crucially, purchases should be based on an evaluation of risk premia (although avoiding quantitative targeting), rather than on GDP. Sterili-

its price-stability mandate in all eurozone enabled the ECB to target purchases at the change in the monetary base is consistent with price stabilisation.

To be sure, such a programme would be controversial, as it would amount to engineering risk-sharing through the monetary union's balance sheet, effectively creating a eurozone safe asset. But that is exactly what is needed to address the eurozone's fragmentation problem. If the series of crises the eurozone has faced has taught us anything, it is that some degree of risk-pooling is a prerequisite for stability.

Of course, monetary policy alone cannot address countries' persistent underperformance, let alone poor fiscal management. On this front, the surveillance tools that the European Commission is developing in the context of the Next Generation EU pandemic recovery fund can help, by enabling better monitoring of reform implementation. Such safeguards will ensure that countries benefiting from the purchases comply with the EU's fiscal framework. If necessary, eurozone balance-sheet risks can be managed through the recapitalisation of national central banks and clear dividend distribution rules.

Nonetheless, the ECB has a critical role to play in mitigating the pressures eurozone economies face today. Fortunately, unlike in 2012, the ECB can deploy a variety of instruments to shift the risk-free curve up and increase its slope, while ensuring effective monetary-policy transmission by avoiding excessive divergences in eurozone economies' performance. One of those instruments must be a new, highly flexible asset-purchase programme to be implemented following the EU treaties' principles of proportionality, not monetary financing.

The writer is Professor of Economics at the London Business School and a trustee of the International Financial Reporting sation mechanisms should ensure that the Standards Foundation. Courtesy Gulf Times

### Letter to the Editor Characterless society

et's come to remember Sophocles for exact reflection of life's ongoing circumstances. Sophocles was a profound dramatist of 496 B.C. He is considered the greatest dramatist in the field of literature. His famous work (Oedipus the king) reflects the situation of our current society in a way that in Act-1, a group of people, led by Priest, goes at the palace of king of Thebes named as Oedipus. The people and the priest tells Oedipus that whole city is in big trouble, death is touching them and the king should be a helping hand for them. Their cattle farms, fields, and plantation are entirely expiring. Those children, yet not born, are also under death control. The plague and winged monster named sphinx has spread all over the city.

Even, they are dying of star-

vation. Nothing is there to

Coming to the point that

every character of our socie-

ty has been dead. In current

time, every story is terrible

and frightening. Such as, a

poor man, shouting loud-

lv for selling something in

the streets but no one is

listening him. A father, sell-

ing toys outside the hospi-

tal and requesting every

eat, even pieces of body.

crosser for buying toys in order to buy medicine of his daughter who is admitted in the hospital. Somebody is requesting for loan to buy shroud. Someone is upset for his house rent. Some children are looking helplessly to chocolates for eating outside shop. Shopkeepes are in wait for customers. Peasant are praying for water.

Labours go back home without earning. Mothers can't see their children dying of starvation so she is selling them. Characters of our society have become character less, but no one is raising voices for their pain. They are dead but death will come to dead.

If we turn the pages of history, we examine that Europe was also in sufferings. But, they raise questions for their betterment. In result, now, they are dominant all over the world. We are all our own victims. Indeed, question has much importance than answer. But we always hesitate to question for basic rights. Let's come to question ourselves that we are the responsible of this condition or others. At a glance we know the riposte.

Tajdar Munir, student of Sindh University. Taulka Shahdadkot.

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International

# President flees Sri Lanka amid crisis as ire turns toward PM

Acting president asks parliamentary speaker to nominate new prime minister

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's president fled the country without stepping down Wednesday, plunging a country already reeling from economic chaos into more political turmoil. Protesters demanding a change in leadership then trained their ire on the prime minister and stormed his office.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his wife left aboard an air force plane bound for the Maldives – and he made his prime minister the acting president in his absence. That appeared to only further roil passions in the island nation, which has been gripped for months by an economic meltdown that has triggered severe shortages of food and fuel.

Thousands of protesters - who had anticipated that Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe would be appointed acting president and wanted him gone- rallied outside his office compound and some scaled the walls. The crowd roared its support for and tossed water bottles to those charging in.

Dozens could later be seen inside the



waving Sri Lanka's flag - the latest in a series of takeovers of government buildings by demonstrators seeking a new overnment

"We need both ... to go home," said Supun Eranga, a 28-year-old civil servant in the crowd. "Ranil couldn't deliver what he promised during his two months, so he should quit. All Ranil did was try to protect the Rajapaksas."

But Wickremesinghe, who declared a state of emergency, appeared on televi-

until a new government was in place and it was not clear when that would happen, with the opposition deeply fractured.

Although he fled, Rajapaksa has yet to resign, but the speaker of the parliament said the president assured him he would later in the day.

The political impasse has only threatened to worsen the bankrupt nation's economic collapse since the absence of an alternative government could delay a hoped-for bailout from the International Monetary Fund. In the meantime, the country is relying on aid from neighboring India and from China.

Police initially used tear gas to try to disperse the protesters outside the prime minister's office but failed, and more and more marched down the lane toward the compound. As helicopters flew overhead, some demonstrators held up their middle fingers.

Eventually security forces appeared to give up, with some retreating from the area and others simply standing around the overrun compound. Inside office or standing on a rooftop terrace sion to reiterate that he would not leave the building, the mood was celebrato-

ry, as people sprawled on elegant sofas, watched TV, and held mock meetings in wood-paneled conference rooms. Some wandered around as if touring a museum.

"We will cook here, eat here and live here. We will stay until (Wickremesinghe) hands over his resignation," said Lahiru Ishara, 32, a supervisor at a supermarket in Colombo who has been a part of the protests since they kicked off in April. "There's no other alternative."

Over the weekend, protesters seized the president's home and office and the official residence of the prime minister following months of demonstrations that have all but dismantled the Rajapaksa family's political dynasty, which ruled Sri Lanka for most of the past two decades.

On Wednesday morning, Sri Lankans continued to stream into the presidential palace, where people have flocked for days — swimming in the pool, marveling at the paintings and lounging on the beds piled high with pillows.

### Yasin Malik seeks physical appearance in court

The Spokesman 5



JAMMU: The illegally detained Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, Muhammad Yasin Malik, on Wednesday requested a special court in Jammu for physical appearance in a case related to the kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed, failing which he would sit on an indefinite hunger strike.

The case pertains to the kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed, the sister of Peoples Democratic Party Present Mehbooba Mufti, on December 8, 1989. She was freed five days later on December 13.

Officials said that Yasin Malik, who was recently sentenced to life imprisonment by an Indian court in a false case registered against him, appeared before the court, today, through video conference.

The JKLF chief said he has written to the Indian government for a physical appearance before the court. He also informed the court that he has requested for cross examination of witnesses himself and said that he would sit on hunger strike if his request was not accepted by the Indian government.

The case was revived after Yasin Malik was arrested by India's notorious National Investigation Agency (NIA) in 2019 in false cases.

In January last year, the Indian Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) framed charges against 10 people, including Yasin Malik, in the Rubaiya kidnapping case.

### Solomon Islands PM meets Australian, NZ leaders

SUVA: The Solomon Islands prime minister met counterparts from Australia and New Zealand for the first time since striking a security pact with China.

Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare met Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and New Zealand premier Jacinda Ardern in separate bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the Pacific Islands Forum in Fiji.

During the four-day meeting, Pacific island leaders will discuss how to gather more international support and funding to fight the impact of rising sea levels and climate change.

Albanese said it was a failing of diplomacy by his predecessor Scott Morrison.

"We are family and there are many issues, and that makes family stronger," Sogavare said, after hugging Albanese.

Albanese said Australia and the Solomon Islands could to more to build trust and "for joint benefit." "As members of the region we want to advance the interests of the Pacific," he said.

### Russian, Ukrainian militaries discuss freeing grain exports

ISTANBUL: Military delegations from Russia and Ukraine held their governments' first face-to-face talks in months Wednesday as they tried to reach an agreement on a United Nations plan to export blocked Ukrainian grain to world markets through the Black Sea.

Turkish military officials and U.N. envoys were also taking part in the meeting in Istanbul focused on finding a way to get millions of tons of grain sitting in silos amid the war in Ukraine shipped out of the country's ports toward the Mediterranean.

The Russian and Ukrainian officials, dressed in civilian clothes, faced each other as the delegations were seated around a large square table. Ukraine is one of the world's largest exporters of wheat, corn and

inflower oil. but Russia's invasion and war has disrupted production

# **UNGA** supports President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's initiative

### 腾 Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: UN General Assembly has approved a special resolution on strengthening the connectivity between Central and South Asia

The document was presented by Abdulaziz Kamilov, the special repre-Uzbekistan on foreign policy matters, who is visiting New York.

The initiative to develop this resolution and strength- tives from 50 countries of en the common approaches, main principles and directions of the dialogue between the two regions was international and regional put forward during the Tashkent conference on the topic "Central and South Asia: in July 2021.



sentative of the President of on the historical closeness of stability and prosperity in the Central and South Asian Central and South Asia". Co-authors of the docu-

regions, mutual trust and consideration of interests. ment include Azerbaijan, About 600 representa-Armenia, Angola, Vietnam, Vanuatu, Ghana, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the world, including heads China, Ivory Coast, Qatar, of state and government, Egypt, Iran, Nepal, Malaysia, foreign ministers, heads of Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Russia, Senegal, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Sri Lanka, Philippines and others. In the resolution, strength-

organizations took part in the Tashkent conference. In his video address to the particregional interdependence. ipants, UN Secretary Gener-Threats and opportunities" al António Guterres empha- ening cooperation on the held by the head of our state sized that "interconnection implementation of the Vienplays an important role in na Declaration and its action In his speech at the confer- trade, economic growth and program for landlocked devel- ture and create new interna- was "yet another blackmail by ence, the head of state empha-sustainable development" and oping countries for 2014-tional transport corridors that the EU." He insisted that Poland's sized the importance of "can contribute to the estab- 2024, as well as the impor- open convenient, stable and government shouldn't be ceding to strengthening dialogue based lishment of long-term peace, tance of transport and transafe routes to seaports.

sit corridors for accelerating economic growth and increasing the efficiency of economic relations between Central and South Asian countries and their unique the importance of realization of transport, transit and investment

potential has been noted. The document recognized the important role of regional organizations in strengthening regional relations, the role of Afghanistan in establishing relations between Central and South Asia, as well as the importance of its integration into interregional economic processes for its economic development and ensuring lasting peace and stability.

The document reflects the rules for establishing close cooperation between the Central and South Asian regions in order to reduce poverty, improve food security, expand transport infrastru

### EUreport decries situation in Poland, Hungary

BRUSSELS: The European Union's executive on Wednesday decried the rule of law situation in Poland and Hungary, centering on perceived breaches in their judiciary and media in its annual report.

As it comes against the background of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the European Commission said that it was all the more important for the 27 nations to be a beacon of democracy on an unstable continent.

"The EU will only remain credible if we uphold the rule of law at home and if we continue to reinforce the rule of law culture," EU Justice Commissioner Didier Reynders said.

Even though Poland is at the forefront of EU's effort to welcome war refugees from Ukraine, it did come in for a lot of criticism regarding its judiciary independence and the media.

Polish Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro, who also holds the job of osecutor-general, said the report

EU demands.

# Doing business is very easy in China: Pakistani exhibitor

LANZHOU: The 28th China Lanzhou Investment and Trade Fair recently closed in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China's Gansu Province. The five-day event attracted numerous foreign enterprises from Spain, Pakistan, Malaysia and other countries.

Sameer Ahmad, an entrepreneur from Pakistan, presented with his business partners various kinds of exquisite handmade products in the fair, including silk carpets, cashmere scarves and jackets.

Sameer Ahmad has lived in China for five years. Most of the time, he does business in Beijing. He also needs to his special products from Pakistan. participate in different exhibitions and present his products in vari- exhibitions, recently Sameer Ahmad ous important cities all over China. also thinks of selling special Pakistani Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Kunming, Lanzhou... All these cities ness is very easy in China, there's nothhave seen his great efforts to promote ing complicated. About business, I



Besides promoting his products in items through internet. "Doing busi-

don't think there is any better place right now in the world than China," said Sameer Ahmad unhesitatingly. From the perspective of Sameer

Ahmad, the Chinese people treat foreigners sincerely and friendly, which has brought him great conveni-

ence in doing business as well as in his life. In addition, China's stable public security environment makes him feel comfortable.

"I think wherever you go, the people are the most important. People make you feel safe, or people make you feel like you are one of their own. When people are friendly to you, any place becomes beautiful. When people are not right with you, then doesn't matter where you go, you will always be depressed," said Sameer Ahmad.

The China Lanzhou Investment and Trade Fair, first held in 1993, has attracted a great number of "Sameer Ahmad" during the previous decades. Now the fair has become an important window for the opening up of northwest China and a significant event to boost economic and trade cooperation among countries along the Belt and Road.

# Kashmiris observe Martyrs' Day

their struggle till they achieve their inalienable right to self-determination.

The day is observed every ry of the 22 Kashmiri martyrs who were shot dead by the troops of Dogra Maharaja on this day in 1931. They were part of thousands of people who had assembled outside Central Jail, Srinagar, during the court proceedings against one Abdul Qadeer who had asked the Kashmiris to defy the Dogra rule. At the time of Namaz-e-Zuhr, a young man

SRINAGAR: Kashmiris on started Azaan and was killed all the nefarious designs and both sides of the Line of Control by the Dogra soldiers. Another oppressive tactics of India. and the world over observed took his place and he was also the Kashmir Martyrs' Day, on martyred by the troops. Thus, Wednesday, to reaffirm the 22 youth sacrificed their lives to settle the Kashmir dispute pledge that they will continue till the completion of Azaan. In Indian illegally occupied

Jammu and Kashmir, the shops remained closed in Nowhatta, Rajouri Kadal and several parts year on 13th of July in memo- of the Srinagar city, today. The recalled the sacrifices of the occupation authorities did not allow people to visit Martyrs' Graveyard at Naqshband Sahib in Srinagar to pay homage to the martyrs of 13 July 1931 who are buried there.

> All Parties Hurriyat Confer-July 13 said that the freedom

The APHC leadership urged the United Nations to take steps by implementing its relevant resolutions.

The Jammu and Kashmir Awami Action Committee in a statement issued in Srinagar martyrs of 13 July 1931 and all the martyrs who have sacrificed their lives for the realisation of the aspirations and rights of the struggling people of IIOJK since then. The High Court Bar

Association of IIOJK in a stateence leadership while paying ment in Srinagar said the Kashrich tributes to the martyrs of miri people will never forget the sacrifices of July 13 martyrs and movement has now entered the all those who laid down their decisive phase after defeating lives for the cause of freedom.



Speakers at a seminar organized by the APHC-AJK chapter at its office in Islamabad in connection with the Kashmir Martyrs' Day, today, reiterat- mir, Pakistan and all major ed the Kashmiris' resolve to capitals and cities of the world accomplish the mission of their martyrs at all costs. The seminar was chaired by APHC-AJK of the Kashmiri martyrs.

Convener Mehmood Ahmed Saghar.

Rallies and seminars were held in Azad Jammu and Kashincluding London and New York to eulogize the sacrifices and halted shipments, endangering food supplies in many developing countries, especially in Africa, and contributing to higher global food prices.

Turkey has offered to provide safe Black Sea corridors and worked with the U.N., Russia and Ukraine to reach an agreement. The U.N. would establish a center in Istanbul to control the shipments, Turkish officials have said.

Speaking before the talks, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba told The Associated Press that grain exports from his country's ports won't resume without security guarantees to ship owners, cargo owners and Ukraine as an independent nation.

Any agreement needs to ensure that Russia "will respect these corridors, they will not sneak into the harbor and attack ports or that they will not attack ports from the air with their missiles," he said.

Russian and Ukrainian officials have traded accusations over the stuck grain shipments. Moscow claims Ukraine's heavily mined ports are causing the delay. Russian President Vladimir Putin has pledged that Moscow wouldn't use the corridors to launch an attack, if the sea mines were removed. Ukrainian officials have blamed a Russian naval blockade for holding up exports and causing the global food crisis. They remained skeptical of Putin's pledge not to take advantage of cleared Black Sea corridors to mount an attack, noting that he insisted earlier this year he had no plans to invade Ukraine.

### Russian attacks kill 10 in Ukraine

KYIV: Russian missile strikes in Ukraine's southern city of Mykolaiv killed at least five people, Ukrainian authorities said Wednesday, the latest in a series of artillery barrages across the country in the past day that left at least 10 dead and nearly 20 wounded in eastern and southern regions.

While Mykolaiv has repeatedly been the target of Russian fire in recent days, Russian missiles also struck the town of Zaporizhzhia on Wednesday, an attack that could signal Moscow's determination to hold onto territory in Ukraine's south as it aims to fully conquer the east. Ukrainian forces have stepped up actions in a bid to reclaim more territory in the south.

Amid the artillery and missile strikes, the U.S. top diplomat accused Russia of committing a "war crime" by forcibly deporting hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian men, women and children to Russia in a bid to change Ukraine's demographic makeup.

Some of the civilian deaths occurred in Donetsk province, which is part of a region where pro-Russia separatists have fought the government for eight years and which the Kremlin is intent on capturing. The city of Bakhmut faced particularly heavy shelling as the current focus of Russia's offensive, Donetsk administrative chief Pavlo Kyrylenko said.

In adjacent Luhansk province, which Russian and separatist forces have all but conquered, Ukrainian soldiers battled to retain control of two outlying villages amid Russian shelling, Gov. Serhiy Haidai said.

Luhansk and Donetsk together make up Ukraine's Donbas region, a mostly Russian-speaking region of steel factories, mines and other industries vital to Ukraine's economy.

The Russians are "deliberately turning Donbas into ashes, and there will be just no people left on the territories captured," Haidai said. Russian artillery also rained down in northeast Ukraine, where a regional governor, Oleg Syniehubov, accused Russian forces of trying to "terrorize civilians" in Kharkiv, the country's second-largest city.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, meanwhile, strongly condemned the "unlawful transfer and deportation of protected persons" from areas in Ukraine that Russia now controls.

"Russian authorities must release those detained and allow Ukrainian citizens forcibly removed or coerced into leaving their country the ability to promptly and safely return home," Blinken said in a statement.

# **Economy/Commerce**

Thursday, July 14, 2022

### **Bull & Bears** PSX 100-Share **Index Fluctuation**

	00-Share Index
Current	Prev. Close
41,862.77	41,344.01
Day's High	Day's Low:
41,971.83	41,223.97
Index Value	Change
4,919,487,428	+518.76
Percentage	Time
+1.25%	13 Jul, 2022 5:00 pm
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index
Index Value	Change
7,156.37	-53.49
Percentage	Time
-0.74%	13 Jul, 4:35 pm GMT+1
USA: Dow Jo <u>nes I</u>	ndustrial Average
Index Value	Change
	<b>Change</b> -243.35
Index Value	
<b>Index Value</b> 30,737.98	-243.35
Index Value   30,737.98   Percentage   - 0.79%	-243.35 <b>Time</b> 13 Jul, 11:47 am
Index Value   30,737.98   Percentage   - 0.79%	-243.35 <b>Time</b> 13 Jul, 11:47 am GMT-4
Index Value 30,737.98 Percentage – 0.79% Asia Pacific: Nikk	–243.35 Time 13 Jul, 11:47 am GMT-4 ei Stocks Average
Index Value 30,737.98 Percentage – 0.79% Asia Pacific: Nikk Index Value	-243.35 Time 13 Jul, 11:47 am GMT-4 ei Stocks Average Change
Index Value 30,737.98 Percentage – 0.79% Asia Pacific: Nikk Index Value 26,478.77	-243.35 <b>Time</b> 13 Jul, 11:47 am GMT-4 <b>ei Stocks Average</b> <b>Change</b> +142.11

Currency

Australian Dollar

Canadian Dollar

Bahrain Dinar

China Yuan

Euro

Danish Krone

Indian Rupee

Japanese Yen

Kuwaiti Dinar

NewZealand \$

Omani Riyal

Qatari Riyal

Saudi Riyal

Singapore Dollar

Swedish Korona

Swiss Franc

U.A.E Dirham

UK Pound Sterling

Thai Bhat

Hong Kong Dollar

Malaysian Ringgit

Norwegians Krone

Buying

140.49

551.87

159.55

30.86

28.07

206

26.43

2.61

1.43

673.77

46.77

20.32

539.67

57.01

54.7

147.57

19.67

211.45

5.94

56

245

127.39

Selling

141.74

556.37

160.9

31.11

28.42

26.78

2.69

1.48

678.77

47.22

128.59

20.62

544.17

57.51

55.5

148.87

19.97

213.2

6.04

57

248

209

# Ignoring Karachi same as playing with country's economy

No one knows about Rs1100 billion Karachi package announced in Sept 2020, says Mian Zahid Hussain

### 腾 Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Wednesday said ignoring Karachi is tantamount to playing with the national economy.

Karachi's share in the country's exports is 54%, it is the largest employment provider in the country and it contributes over Rs4200 billion in taxes to the national exchequer. Mian Zahid Hussain said that keeping in view the importance of Karachi, the provision of electricity, gas, water, sewerage and infrastructure should be better.

veteran business leader said that Karachi is the economic hub of Pakistan but all the from it in Islamabad.



Talking to the business community, the important departments related to economic affairs are located 1400 kilometres away

Zahid Hussain said following the torrential rains in Karachi in August 2020 resulting in heavy loss of life and property, an infrastructure package worth Rs1100 billion rupees was announced which was never implementa city where rain can disrupt life, results in deaths and half of the city is inundated.

The business leader said that government should reconsider the controversial priority list for the provision of natural gas to different sectors and give preference to the industrial sector to boost production, revenue, employment and exports. He noted that gas has become a very scarce resource but domestic gas connections are being provided due to political considerations which are adding to the circular debt in this sector.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that countries masses, he said.

Talking to the business community, Mian rich in energy resources and those exporting gas would not waste this resource as we do. The majority of such countries would provide LPG or other fuels to the masses and prefer industry for the provision of natural gas.

He informed that gas theft and leakage in ed. He said that no one will like to invest in the commercial and domestic sector is almost 10 percent while such loss in the industrial sector is one percent but politics always get preference over the economy which is against the national interests, therefore, residences should be shifted on solar energy.

He said that the masses are braving long hours of loadshedding but no country or company is willing to sell LNG to Pakistan due to the international economic crisis. LNG tenders have been floated repeatedly with no response which will intensify the energy crisis and add to the miseries of the

# **Commercial Counsellor Pakistan** designate to China visited PCJCCI

### Ghulam Qadir says we need to diversify the main origins of FDI inflows with better economic diplomacy

#### 😂 Our Correspondent

LAHORE: Ghulam Qadir Commercial Counsellor of Pakistan designate to Beijing, China visited Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI).

The meeting was attended by Wang Zihai, President PCJCCI, Ehsan Choudhry, Senior Vice President PCJCCI, Sarfaraz Butt, Vice President PCJCCI, Salahuddin Hanif, Secretary General PCJCCI attended the meeting along with executive committee members which includes; S.M. Naveed, Daud Ahmed, Khalid Raffique Choudhry, Colonel Ashraf Rana, Zaki Aijaz, Muhammad Idrees and Jahangir Ahmed. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss that how can we deal with the trade deficit and what measures should be taken to enhance import/export.

Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor designate to Beijing, China exchanged his views by saying that, importers and export-

ers both are important when it comes to trade. We should come forward to implement a mechanism to enhance Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) because the GDP of Pakistan is low, the inflation rate is increasing day by day, and the exports have been decreased. He added that we need to diversify the main origins of FDI inflows with better economic diplomacy. He said that I am extremely grateful to PCJCCI for conducting such fruitful meeting before my visit to China, I will definitely address the queries of our business community and will try to resolve them.

Ehsan Choudhry, Senior Vice President PCJCCI suggested establishing "Buying House" in Pakistan to increase import/ export and provide maximum facilities to the business community. Pakistan government should establish sourcing parks or buying houses and ensure all amenities through a single-window facility, to make the country an attractive destination for

sourcing by the international buyers. He added that in this way we can develop a long term quality oriented trade relations with China, Middle East and other countries.

Wang Zihai, President PCJCCI also joined the meeting through zoom and he said that we should take steps for attracting Chinese investment in various potential industrial sectors including furniture, handicrafts, textile, fertilizers, cement, glasswork energy and pharmaceuticals. He added that Chinese government has also allocated buying houses for Pakistan in China where they can present their products.

Sarfaraz Butt, Vice President PCJCCI and Salahuddin Hanif. Secretary General thanked the Commercial Counselor for his precious time and said that we are endeavoring to build a better and prosperous future of Pakistan with the cooperation of China

# **KATI felicitate Sindh Govt for clearing** Korangi Causeway

#### 😂 Our Correspondent

KARACHI: Korangi Association of Trade and Industry(KATI)President Salman Aslam and CEO KITE Limited Zubair Chhaya felicitated Sindh Government to clear Korangi Causeway and industrial areas after torrential rains and flooding in Karachi, they appreciated the Sindh government, especially the time steps and efforts of Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Secretary Dr. Sohail Rajput, Commissioner Karachi Muhammad Iqbal Memon, Deputy Commissioner Korangi Muhammad Ali Zaidi, and Sindh Local Government Secretary Najam Ahmad Shah.

They said that immediate steps taken by the Sindh government on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha were welcome which restored the flow of traffic in the affected area as the roads of Korangi Industrial Area were completely closed. They officials are always keen on further said that the Chief Minister Sindh Chief Secre-

congratulations after being aware of all the problems of the KATI industrialists, the Chief Minister of Sindh reached the spot and issued timely orders for rehabilitation works. They said that the Sindh government took timely steps considering the gravity of the issue.

The President KATI said that millions of people commute to Korangi industrial area for employment and they were facing many difficulties due to rainwater which was removed by the Sindh government. He hoped that the Sindh government would continue to take all possible steps to alleviate the problems faced by the industrialists and industrial workers. Salman Aslman also said that the Sindh government officials gave up their Eid-ul-Azha engagements and worked tirelessly to solve the problems of the industrial area which is commendable.

The CM, Chief Secretary of Sindh with other higher resolving the problems of the business community, espe

# MMBL signs agreement with IBP to upskill its employees

#### US Dollar 209.75 207.5

### KMBL provides House-Loans of Rs10.9b to 17,800 customers

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Khushhali Microfinance Bank Limited (KMBL) is a winner of Pakistan's 'Best Microfinance Bank Award', with a vision for sustainable development, through professional excellence. In 2018. it pioneered the 'Khushhali Home Plus loans facility, offering up to 01 Million Rupees for the low-income individuals, who need affordable housing finance for the renovation and improvement of existing houses. This facility has already provided loans worth 08 billion Rupees, to more than 15,900 low-income individuals, to date, to accelerate socio-economic growth all over Pakistan.

The Government's Markup-Subsidy Scheme introduced in July 2021, has further enriched KMBL's high-ticket house-loan scheme to expand and enrich the bank's portfolio. The Khushhali Apna Makaan (KAM) under the Government's Subsidized Scheme has approved a total amount of over 3 Billion Rupees. It has serviced 1,400 rural-area individuals, by disbursing a cumulative amount of over 01.8 billion Rupees, while the total approved amount for this segment is 2.2 billion Rupees. Among these, more than 294 were female clients, who have been granted cumulative loans of 409 million Rupees, while the total amount approved for the female segment to date is 510 million Rupees.

The overall Housing Portfolio of KMBL comprises 17,800 Low-Income individuals, who have been serviced by disbursing a cumulative amount of 10.9 Billion Rupees, while the total amount approved for this portfolio is over 11 Billion Rupees. More than 13,000 Rural area customers have been serviced so far, by disbursing 08 Billion Rupees. A total of 2.515 Female clients have been serviced in this portfolio by providing loans worth 1.6 Billion Rupees.

The President and CEO of KMBL Ghalib Nishtar stated that: "The overwhelming success of the 'Apna Makaan' House-Loan facility reflects the customer-centric approach and the resourceful performance of Khushhali Microfinance Bank. Improving the quality of accommodation to elevate the standard of living for the deprived masses is one of our key strategic objectives.

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's largest digital bank-Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited (MMBL), has joined hands with the Institute of Bankers Pakistan (IBP), the country's leading premier banking training institute, to upskill and develop the capacities of its valued workforce and help strengthen banking experience of its customers and delivery standards. Through this collaboration, more than 1500 frontline MMBL employees will be enrolled at IBP in its specialized banking education and training programs, IBP Superior Qualification, and IBP Microfinance Diploma.

President and CEO, MMBL, Ghazanfar Azzam, and Khawlah Usman, Director of Marketing and Sales, IBP, signed the agreement earlier this week in the presence of senior officials from both organizations, expressing their commitment to ensure quality banking services to the customers through meaningful collaborations. the quality of services in the banking industry through meaningful collab-



orations

President and CEO, MMBL, Ghazanfar Azzam said, "We are excited to join hands with Pakistan's most prestigious banking education institute, IBP. The Institute's long-term commitment to developing technically qualified banking service professionals gels well with our focus to provide the highest standards in banking service delivery and customer handling. I am positive that the knowledge gained by our employees' banking education at IBP will enhance efficiency and custom-

Sharing her thoughts, Khaw-Speaking at the occasion, lah Usman, Director of Marketing and Sales, IBP, said, "We are glad to welcome MMBL's young and dynamic employees. The Bank has already made its mark by achieving various laurels in the industry, and I am glad to witness its pursuit of further excellence through regular capacity enhancement of its employees. IBP has been operating for nearly seven decades to diversify and enrich Pakistan's banking industry with a pool of learned and experienced professionals. We are committed to provide quality banking er satisfaction across the board". education and up-skilling of banking professionals vis-à-vis the ever-evolving needs, opportunities, and challenges of the industry.

As Pakistan's largest digital financial bank, MMBL currently serves over 40 million regis-tered users, including over 15 million monthly active mobile wallets, and has over 100 branches across Pakistan. The Bank constantly strives to facilitate customers by streamlining nationwide access to simplified and convenient financial solutions. The partnership with IBP endorses MMBL's vision to maintain its position as the 'Employer of Choice' in the industry by enabling its employees to attain the highest degree of professional excellence and career growth.

Customer-centricity is one of the core values of MMBL with a focus on providing the best possible services to existing and potential new customers. MMBL is keen to expand its organizational development portfolio in collaboration with the Institute of Bankers Pakistan for additional learning programs in the coming months.

tary Sindh, Commissioner cially in the Korangi indus-Karachi, and others deserved trial area.

# **Petroleum prices need** to be slashed by 10% immediately: FPCCI

#### 😂 Our Correspondent

KARACHI: Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI. has demanded that the government should slash the prices of the petroleum products by 10 percent immediately as the international oil prices have substantively come down; and, the benefit needs to be shifted to the masses. He noted with a sigh of relief that oil prices are now under \$100 per barrel. The move will bring down the inflation in a much more effective and tangible manner than

raising the interest rate to a

Iqbal Sheikh

force of the multiplier effect of the raise of the petroleum products has not yet materialized in Pakistan and inflation will keep rising in coming 2 - 4 weeks if the relief from international market is not shifted to the end consumer.

FPCCI Chief explained that global macroeconomic sentiments are not optimistic and growth forecasts have been significantly lowered to the tune of being recessionary; and, the phenomenon may drive the international oil prices even lower than \$90 per barrel in coming weeks. However, he main-14-year high of 15 percent, tained, we have to tread a cautious path and gradually but progressively lower the emphasized that the full domestic petroleum prices.

PepsiCo shares progress on PepsiCo Positive goals on ESG "PepsiCo helped to spread the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices across more than 345,000 acres"

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

LAHORE: PepsiCo, published its first Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Summary since the launch of PepsiCo Positive (pep+), a strategic end-to-end business transformation with sustainability and human capital at the center of how the company will create growth and value.

The 2021 ESG Summary – an evolution from PepsiCo's prior Sustainability Reports - highlights new course to drive positive action for the planet and people. It also highlights progress made on industry-leading commitments. Pep+ is

world examples across three pillars Positive Agriculture, Positive Value Chain and Positive Choices.

While focusing positive Agriculture, PepsiCo helped to spread the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices across more than 345,000 acres which is a progress toward its goal of seven million acres, the approximate equivalent of Pepsi-Co's agricultural footprint, by 2030.

PepsiCo supported the livelihoods of female farmers and rural commuhow the company is leveraging its nities via initiatives such as the \$20 brands, people and scale to chart a million USAID partnership to develop women-led enterprises and the \$2 million Next Generation Agriculture Fund with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), to embedded in every part of PepsiCo's demonstrate the impact of genderbusiness and the 2021 ESG Summa- smart solutions along our agricul-

ry details initial progress and real- tural supply chains in Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Guatemala. These programs mark initial action towards a new pep+ goal to improve the livelihoods of more than 250,000 people in PepsiCo's agricultural supply chain and communities, including by economically empowering women.

Company has reduced Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 25 percent from a 2015 baseline, with more than 70 percent of global electricity needs in direct operations now met by renewable sources. In 2021, Scope 3 emissions - which account for 93 percent of the company's emissions - increased by 5 percent from a 2015 baseline, due largely to unprecedented business growth.

Company has also Improved operational water-use efficiency by 18

percent in high water-risk areas from ed fat reduction goal of 75%2 of a 2015 baseline, against a target of 25 percent by 2025 and replenished 34 percent of water used in operations to local watersheds in 2021more than 6.1 billion liters of water. In addition, PepsiCo continued to advance safe water access globally to more than 68 million people since 2006, putting the company more than halfway to its 2030 goal of 100 million people.

In the U.S., increased Black managerial representation to 8.3 percent and Hispanic managerial representation to 9.5 percent of our 10 percent by 2025 goals for each and achieved 43 percent of women in managerial roles against our goal of 50 percent by 2025 globally.

Four years ahead of schedule in 2021, PepsiCo attained its saturatits convenient foods portfolio not exceeding 1.1 grams of saturated fat per 100 Calories. In addition, 53% of PepsiCo's beverage portfolio volume now has less than 100 Calories from added sugars per 12oz. serving and 66% of its convenient foods portfolio volume does not exceed 1.3 milligrams of sodium per Calorie.

While commenting on the progress, Chief Sustainability Officer. PepsiCo Jim Andrew said that Pepsi-Co's commitment and action to create a more sustainable and resilient food system is unwavering and we are proud of the progress that we have made in 2021 toward our new and updated pep+ goals,".

Our aim is to decouple so our business can grow sustainably, while decreasing environmental impacts.

he added.

Irfan

# **Sports** Thursday, July 14, 2022

# Abdullah smashes 63 on last day of warm-up match

Faheem Ashraf, Hasan Ali and Shaheen Afridi take one wicket each

#### 😂 Spokesman Report

COLOMBO: Opener Abdullah Shafique scored 63 off 111 balls on the last day of the three-day warm-up match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka Cricket XI at the Colts Cricket Club Ground here in Colombo.

Pakistan, in their second innings, were 178 for two on stumps as the match ended in a draw.

Abdullah, who has a century and four half-centuries to his name in Test cricket, and Imam added 61 runs for the first wicket before the latter was dismissed for 30. Abdullah was retired out after smashing five fours and two sixes.

Azhar Ali was also retired out after scoring 40 off 75 (three fours). Earlier Sri Lanka XI declared on 375 for eight at Lunch. Minod Bhanuka scored 32, Sahan Arachchige made 28 and Chamika Karunaratne scored 27.

Faheem Ashraf, Hasan Ali and Shaheen Afridi took a wicket each.

wickets in hand and trailed Pakistan by 45



runs when stumps were called on day two Lahiru Udana, while Yasir Shah, Naseem of the three-day warm-up being played at Shah and Salman Ali Agha snared a wick-Colts Cricket Club Ground.

Pakistan's Mohammad Nawaz Earlier, Sri Lanka Cricket XI had five accounted for the opposition captain with Sadeera Samarawickrama and idu Fernando 78, Nishan Madushka 57; Nipun Dananjaya (c) and wicketkeeper Nuwanidu Fernando scoring 91 and 78. Mohammad Nawaz 2-24)

et each. The hosts were provided a solid start

Pakistan, in the first session, were all out for 323. Salman, resuming his innings on 43, struck second half-century of the innings with a 79-ball 55. His partner Saud Shakeel retired out on 30.

The Spokesman

Pakistan will depart for Galle today for the first of the two Test matches against Sri Lanka. The first match will be played from 16-20 July. The tourists will then return to Colombo to play hosts at R. Premadasa International Stadium in the second Test, which begins on 24 July. The series is part of ICC World Test

Championship cycle.

Scores: Pakistan 323 all out, 100 overs (Babar Azam 88, Salman Ali Agha 55, Azhar Ali 43, Mohammad Rizwan 31, Saud Shakeel 30; Lakshitha Manasinghe 4-85, Dilshan Madushanka 2-59, Lasith Embuldeniya 2-83) and 178-2, 50 overs (Abdullah Shafique 63 retired, Azhar Ali 40 retired, Imam-ul-Haq 30)

Sri Lanka Cricket XI 375-8d, 99 overs (Sadeera Samarawickrama 91, Nuwan-

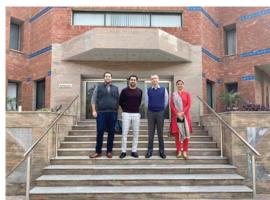
# BARD Foundation sponsors Aisam Ul Haq's Ace Âcademy

#### 😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Bilquis & Abdul Razak Dawood (BARD) Foundation has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with Pakistan's former Tennis Star - Aisam ul Haq Qureshi to sponsor his initiative - Ace Academy, with the aim to enrich the future of Tennis in Pakistan.

The academy will be scouting young, talented sports people who can be groomed into outstanding their commitment to help mance-measures and goals athletes, while imparting best-in-class sports knowledge and training.

The MoU signing ceremony was graced by the Foundation – Ms. Mehreen



the young tennis players elevate their quality of life, trainee's progress is moniwith more opportunities to earn fame and fortune.

The Ace Academy will Managing Trustee of BARD offer a 12-months training program for tennis enthusi-Dawood as the signatory of asts aged 18 years or youngthe agreement, along with er selected from Lahore, Zain ul Haq Other guests Islamabad, Karachi and this program will comprise of included the Member Peshawar. The program trials in Lahore, Islamabad, Board of Governors-Taimur will be conducted by top Peshawar and Karachi that Dawood along with a few coaches of national-re- will continue for the initial members of Dawood fami- pute, to provide customized 40 days, while athletes will change the lives of impovly and some BARD team training, fitness and nutri- be selected in two age-groups erished families. Thus, the members, who appreciat- tion plans, to nurture local Under-14 & Under-18 (2 Dawood family is creating a ed this social-enrichment talents. This whole regime is boys and 2 girls from each conducive environment for



human-development initiative, founded by the renowned industrialist & technocrat-Abdul Razak Dawood and his philanthropist wife-Ms. Bilquis Dawood. This resourceful foundation has the vision to support less-fortunate individuals for achieving their true potential, as champions in their professional or technical field, while also helping talented sportsmen in learning more skills to compete internationally.

The selection-process for Another initiative of BARD Foundation, Descon Technical Institute (DTI) imparts vocational skills to

### Second B-5 training, coaching course on July 21

KARACHI: The second B-5 train-

ing and coaching course jointly organized by the Softball Federation of Pakistan

and the National Softball academy would be held in Karachi on July 21st in which training would be provided players, coaches and sports teachers of schools, colleges and universities.

There would be also a special session for awareness of sports injuries in the course, said a news release on Wednesday.

It should be noted that the first B-5 Asia Cup is being held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia next month in which the Pakistani team will also participate.

The course aims at to promote the game at school, college, university and grassroots level by strengthening the infrastructure of the game of baseball 5 in the country.

Baseball-5 is a new combination of softball and baseball game for youth that doesn't require a large ground to play and doesn't have all the equipment used in softball and baseball. This game could be played in an area of 21 meters. Baseball-5 is rapidly gaining popularity among the youth in the countr Murad Hussain, who will represent Pakistan in the WBSC Baseball-5 coaching seminar organized by Softball Asia, will be the event director while Shiraz Asif will be the course coordinator. APP

# Reception held in honor of Shehroze Kashif



#### 腾 🛛 Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The renowned writer Mustansar Hussain Tarar and CEO Explorers Den Tourism Services Jamil Raza gave the reception in the honour of Shehroze Kashif who got the great achievements as a mountaineer who became the youngest climber in the world to summit K2 on 27th July,2021.

He became the youngest Pakistani to summit Mount Everest on 11th July,2021. After the successful Summit of Mount Everest, Sports Board Punjab made him the youth ambassador of Punjab. Shehroze Kashif is now youngest climber in the world to summit Nanga Parbat. Mustansar Hussain Tarar and Jamil Raza presented the bouquet to Shehroze Kashif on this occa-sion. The function was organized in Model Town Park Lahore.

### Shozib Raza visits Karate Academy



😂 Our Correspondent

effort, while expressing formulated with clear perfor- age group will form a group professional development.

# Ten Hag 'satisfied' with Man United start

for the participants. Each

tored and evaluated regular-

ly, to adjust the methodolo-

gy, till the 2 best athletes are

selected, for their capability

to compete well in interna-

tional tournaments.

BANGKOK: Erik Ten Hag said he was "satisfied" Tuesday after getting off to a perfect start as Manchester United manager, but insisted he would not be getting carried away after a 4-0 thumping of arch-rivals Liverpool in a preseason friendly in Thailand.

United started strongly against an unfamiliar Liverpool line-up, cruising to a 3-0 half-time lead through goals from Jadon Sancho, Fred and Anthony Martial at Bangkok's Rajamangala Stadium, despite being without the unsettled Cristiano Ronaldo who missed the trip for family reasons.

Both managers made wholesale substitutions throughout the 90 minutes and Jurgen Klopp's stronger second-half Liverpool line-up dominated possession before Facundo Pellistri grabbed United's fourth on the break, 14 minutes from time.

It gave Ten Hag and his new side a morale-boosting win in their first warm-up outing ahead of the new Premier League campaign beginning next month.



Ten Hag, who took the reins at Old Traf- three times after Sancho opened the ford less than two months ago. "It was a team with a great spirit and we know we are just getting started."We made some a sloppy clearance from Isaac Mabaya. post with Nunez blazing the rebound mistakes in the press, we conceded some chances, but we created a lot."

"I am satisfied today," said Dutchman the scoresheet, hitting the woodwork scoring in the 12th minute, the England winger slotting home to capitalise on

Fred's instinctive, measured chip over

extended the lead in the 30th minute. And it took just another three minutes for man-of-the-match Martial to make it 3-0 with a fine finish over Allison, after another Liverpool defensive mistake had allowed the striker a clear run at goal.

'The game came up a bit early for us. But I saw some good things," said Klopp. That is just the start of the pre-season. "It is all a learning process and we are at the start of it."

More substitutions after half-time saw Liverpool bring on experience and flair in the shape of Virgil van Dijk at the back and Mohamed Salah up front. Big-money signing Darwin Nunez, bought for nearly 100 million euros from Benfica, played the last half an hour, the Uruguayan coming close to opening his account for Liverpool in the 70th minute.

Four minutes from time the lively Salah curled a trademark left-footed shot goalbound, only to see it cannon off the over the bar when it seemed easier to the unsighted Liverpool goalkeeper Alli-score. By then Pellistri had slotted home Liverpool were unlucky not to get on son Becker and a crowd of defenders the fourth after a flowing counter-attack.

LAHORE: Shozib Raza FA &CAO/Revenue Pakistan Railway visited Karate Academy Railway Sports Complex, Railway Stadium Lahore.

Appreciating the training and skills of junior athletes, he also admired the services of Shihan Atta Hussain Butt, international karate master instructor IKO-MATSUSHIMA Japan and his team instructor.

M Amjad Prince (instructor), M Amjad Railway Academy coach, female instructors, international players Saima Batool, Alizay, Dojo instructors M Umer, and Ali Sabir Hussain Butt were present. At the occasion Sports Officer Railway Tariq Mahmood was also present. Atta Butt brief Shozib Raza about the Sports Academy. "Credit for the initiatives goes to Shoaib Adil GM/ Wl&SI President Railway Sports Board."

Chief guest was awarded with the karate souvenir. Other members who attended the event were Gulzar Ahmed former Black Belt, Tahir Qureshi Rtd AAO, Ghulam Abbas Railway boxing coach, M Nadeem Hockey coach and others.

### Maguire, Reid seek LPGA crown

WASHINGTON: Ireland's Leona Maguire, aided by some tips from Tiger Woods, will pair with England's Mel Reid in this week's Great Lakes Bay Invitational, reuniting their unbeaten 2021 Solheim Cup partnership.

Maguire won twice in foursomes and halved once with Reid in four-balls in Europe's 15-13 victory over the host United States last September at Inverness Club in Ohio. They decided to partner again this week at Midland (Michigan) Country Club in the LPGA's 72-hole pairs event. "We had a great week at Solheim last year, so make it an annual affair I suppose," Maguire said.

We'll both have some fun, hit some good shots hopefully, and lots of laughs out there." Reid, who partnered with Spain's Carlote Ciganda last year, found Maguire a natural choice. "We did so well at Solheim and she's a great player," Reid said.

# Omanyala is on a sprint mission for Kenya

can shine in sprints. The 26-yearold heads to the World Athletics sprinting on the map in a country where the long-distance runner is king. Omanyala wears two wristbands on his right arm: one, made of black and green beads, bears the numbers 9:85, his season-best 100m time set in May. The other, a bracelet crafted from leather and metal, is inscribed with 9:77, the the final on July 16. African record he set last September.

It made him the ninth fastest man ever, behind four Ameri-

NAIROBI: Africa's fastest man where the 100m heats start on As well as Kerley and Bromell, Ferdinand Omanyala is on a the opening morning on July mission to show Kenvan runners 15, as the third quickest man in the world this season behind the Americans Fred Kerley and Trayv-Championships aiming to put on Bromell. Making the podium would be an historic first for an African. Namibia's Frankie Fredericks twice won Olympic silver in the 100m in the 1990s, but his one gold and three silvers in the World Championships were all over 200m. Omanyala said he has set his sights on at least reaching

"I'm targeting 9.6," he told AFP in an interview during a training session at the main stadium in the Kenyan capital Nairobi. "That will cans and three Jamaicans. He be my biggest achievement. And will arrive in Eugene, Oregon, of course, I am going for the win."

his opposition in Oregon should

include Olympic gold medallist Marcell Jacobs of Italy and the 2019 world champion Christian Coleman.

"I am an athlete who runs well under pressure. So I am looking forward to getting better in Oregon, because now everybody who is an athlete will be there," said Omanyala, who beat Kerley in May. The young athlete and his coach Duncan Aviemba have been mapping out ways to make sprinting more popular in Kenya, renowned its strength in middle and long-distance runners. "Normally it's long distance in Kenya, so I want the 100 metres to be something big in Kenva this

### year," said Ayiemba.

Omanyala became the first Kenyan sprinter to reach an Olympic semi-final at the Tokyo Games last year. The chemistry student took up athletics six years ago after playing rugby sevens. "When I started athletics, my aim was to make people know that Kenyans can sprint, that is something that has changed," he said. Omanyala, who hails from western Kenya and is the third of five brothers, said he has had to overcome obstacles, not least the distance. "In a mediumand long-distance country, it's a challenge coming up as a sprinter," he said. "Even the national federation at some point did not believe there could be a sprinter in Kenya. You have to beat all these odds."



One hurdle he overcame national competitions. He had was being allowed to represent been suspended for 14 months in not only in Kenya but in Africa. I Kenva at the Tokyo Olympics 2017 by the Anti-Doping Agenafter Athletics Kenya relaxed a cy of Kenya after testing positive decision to prohibit any banned for a banned substance. "It was athletes from taking part in inter- a hard 14 months but life has to yala has been."

move on," Omanyala said. "I was just a year old in the sport. But I was still training during these 14 months, I don't remember a day that I did not train. I still wanted to do this more and more.

That made me stronger." Omanyala said he hopes he will be a role model for other Kenyan youngsters. "I believe I opened the way for so many people coming behind me," he said. "One of the things that I wanted to do is to leave a legacy. I want to leave an industry of sprint in Kenya. "I believe I will inspire so many kids, believe there is some kid, somewhere, who is looking up and saying 'I want to be where Oman-