



# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
ہم سے قیدی بن سید نے بیان کیا، کہا ہم سے ابو عوانہ نے بیان کیا، ان سے منصور نے، ان سے ابو اہل سے اور ان سے ابو موسیٰ اشعری رضی اللہ عنہ نے بیان کیا کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ جو کے کو کھانا کھاؤ اور مریش کی عیادت یعنی مزاج پر سی کرو اور قیدی کو چھڑاؤ۔ (بخاری: حدیث نمبر 5649)

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## Nation working in unison for flood victims: Governor

Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman has said that the Federal and provincial governments are working together to provide relief to the flood victims. He said "it is a duty of all of us to help the flood victims in this difficult time", adding that rehabilitation of the flood victims and provision of relief goods is top priority at the moment.



## Govt committed to flood-hit people's rehabilitation: Punjab CM

Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi has said that the provincial government is determined for rehabilitation of the flood affectees and all-out efforts are being made in this regard. In a message issued here, he said the floods had affected many areas of the south Punjab including Rajanpur, Taunsa and Dera Ghazi Khan. The entire provincial machinery, led by the chief secretary, was actively engaged in relief work. News on Page 2

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My audio conversation was tampered: Tarin

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former Federal Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin on Saturday said his audio was tampered, and don't waste time on giving certificates of traitors.

Addressing a press conference in Karachi, Tarin said, "it is a legal crime to tap someone's conversation that was leaked by tampering with our audio. We did not leak any audio. There was a fear that the IMF deal would be affected due to the audio leak, so why did they leak it, why was it leaked on the same day?"

Tarin claimed that the real problem would have arrived if the IMF had heard the tapes. "Although it wouldn't have affected the programme because the surpluses from provinces are in the form of an MoU (memorandum of understanding)."

Elaborating on the matter, he said that the PTIs aim behind writing the letter was to spend money on the provinces in the light of the floods. "So that we could go and tell them to give us relief the way they did during Covid."

"We believe in the well-being of the country," the PTI leader said. He recalled that in January, when the previous government was going to the global lender for the sixth review, it had faced massive criticism from the opposition. "Their top leadership had said that the IMF agreement should be torn and called it an attack on our sovereignty. But we never called them traitors. Instead, we took it as political discourse."

Expressing disappointment at the accusations of being a traitor, Tarin said that it was high time all the political parties, including the PTI, moved past it. In a democracy, you have the freedom to voice both agreement and dissent. Agencies

## Reviewing flood response

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal addresses a press conference alongside military officials following the first meeting of the newly formed National Flood Response and Coordination Centre here on Saturday.



## Devastating Floods

# Government to bring back normalcy after floods

Floods destroy millions of homes, leave thousands displaced

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development has assured that the government will leave no stone unturned to bring normalcy back in the lives of flood affected people of the country.

Briefing the media persons at National Flood Response and Coordination Center in Islamabad on Saturday, he also made a fervent appeal to the international community, countrymen and expatriate Pakistanis to help Pakistan in this hour of need.

Ahsan Iqbal said Pakistan is facing a massive climatic disaster and human tragedy, which is an outcome of environmental degradation. He pointed out that Pakistan's carbon emissions are

less than one percent but it is the seventh most vulnerable country for climatic disaster.

He said the scale of devastation warrants a major humanitarian response for thirty-three million people affected by the floods. He said the government or any institution cannot single handedly overcome this tragedy. He said the entire nation will have to get united to steer the country out of this challenge.

Ahsan Iqbal also briefed the media about the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure of roads, power and telecommunication. Giving the latest updates, Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Akhtar Nawaz said the calamity has so far killed 1265 people and injured more than 1200.

He said rescue and relief operation is continuing in flood affected areas. He said we have provided four hundred and twenty thousand tents and keeping in view the heavy demand of tents, an effort has been made to build the capacity of tent manufacturing. He said fifty-seven thousand and four hundred food packages have been distributed amongst the flood victims.

The Chairman NDMA said there has been a good international response to the UN flash appeal

for the assistance of flood affected people. He said twenty-nine relief goods flights have been received over the last four days.

These included ten from Turkey, eleven from the UAE, four from China, two from Qatar and one each from Uzbekistan and France. He said these flights carried goods such as 2728 tents, ninety-eight tons food packages, fifty boats and fifty-six tons medicines.

Briefing the media about the rescue and relief activities being carried by the armed forces, Director General ISPR Major General Babar Iftikhar said they are engaged in the rescue and relief efforts over the last two months. He said, during this period, we have rescued the people and also provided them with relief items.

The Fund has asked the government to end subsidies granted during the Imran Khan-led government. The IMF has asked the country to increase the levy on petroleum products to be increased from Rs30 to Rs50.

The report further stated that Rs855 billion should be collected from the people by increasing the petroleum levy. The government has also committed to ensure revival of general sales tax (GST) on petroleum products. "A 10.5 percent sales tax will be levied on petroleum products", the report stated.

Meanwhile, the electricity tariff would reach upto Rs26 per unit as IMF has directed to slash subsidised rates for electricity. Agencies

## PM lauds relief efforts in flood-hit areas

PM thanks Chinese President for assistance of RMB 400m for flood victims

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday appreciated all the relevant authorities for making efforts to restore the essential services in the flood-affected areas across the country.

On his Twitter handle, the prime minister said that despite the heaviest odds, all the concerned departments including National Highway Authority (NHA), power distribution and supply companies, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) and other federal departments had done 'amazing work' by largely rehabilitated the damaged infrastructure.

"A massive national effort is underway to restore essential services in the flood-hit areas. NHA, DISCOs, PTA & other federal departments have

done amazing work against the heaviest of odds & largely rehabilitated the damaged infrastructure. My appreciation for all public servants," he posted a tweet.

The prime minister in a related tweet also lauded the efforts of Chairman NHA Khuram Agha and DG Frontier Works Organization (FWO) Major General Kamal Azfar and his teams for reopening of the all the major highways including Karakorum Highway in the shortest period of time.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed gratitude to President Xi Jinping for Chinese assistance package of 400 million RMB. In a tweet on Saturday, he said this is a reflection of our unique bond of friendship. He said this support will help provide much needed relief to the people.

## IMF sets tougher targets for Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has placed tougher structural benchmarks for Pakistan under the implementation plan for qualifying the next loan tranches, amounting to \$3 billion, a private tv channel reported on Saturday.

According to a report on the completion of the seventh and eighth reviews of the extended fund facility (EFF), the global lender has slapped eight more tougher targets on Pakistan in addition to giving fresh deadlines to meet the actions.

For the revival of the IMF programme, the IMF has asked Pakistan to ensure electronically filed tax and asset details of bureaucrats, cabinet members and the parliamentarians and make them available to public.

## Imran hints at another long march towards Islamabad

BAHAWALPUR: Former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan hinted on Saturday at another long march to Islamabad if the coalition government continues to use negative tactics against his political party.

Addressing a public rally in Bahawalpur, the former PM said the country is destroyed when the president, prime minister, and ministers commit corruption, Zardari and Sharif stole the country's money and took it out. "I am preparing you for real freedom. We all have to free the country from these thieves. A revolution like Imam Khomeini's or a revolution brought through elections is two ways of change in the country. The most terrible disease in the country is Zardari," Imran said.

The PTI chairman added that debts are increasing and they are leading the country to darkness, adding that general elections are the only way to tackle economic, political instability. This group of thieves is taking the country into the swamp. "We collected 5.5 billion in



three and a half hours of the telethon. If overseas Pakistanis invest in the country, then there will be no need to extend our hands to the IMF. We have to fix the justice system in the country," Imran said. "Pakistani nation is stand-

ing with me from Karachi to Gilgit-Baltistan. I am going to Sindh. The people there are also with me to defeat the Zardari mafia. I am not doing any act which will cause any harm to the country," the former PM added. Agencies

## CRRC rolls out high-speed passenger coaches for PR

### Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Chinese rail manufacturer, China Railway Rolling Stock (CRRC) located in Tangshan, Hebei province rolled 230 high-speed new passenger coaches off the production line for Pakistan railway.

The first batch of the passenger coaches with a designed speed of 160 KM per hour will be handed over to Pakistan Railways by end of this year.

The Chinese company has signed a contract to supply state of the art, luxurious, comfortable and fit to run at 160 KM per hour coaches to Pakistan railways, under plans to revitalize the country's long-distance passenger services. According to reports, officials from the department concerned of Pakistan railway have already visited China to inspect bogies worth US\$149 million.

The officers visited China would provide consultancy in the design of the passenger bogies. The Chinese company would also transfer to Pakistan.

## China makes every effort to provide ironclad brother relief assistance

BEIJING: Since the floods hit Pakistan, China has been closely following the situation. We responded immediately and made every effort to provide relief assistance, said a Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson.

China will send several batches of urgently-needed supplies to Pakistan successively. Early this week, the latest batch of China's aid for Pakistani flood victims consisting of 3,000 tents reached Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi.

According to Wang, following the latest batch of tents, the remaining supplies will be transported to the disaster-stricken areas as soon as possible. Those tents were collected from China's Sichuan province, which suffered devastating earthquake in 2008. At the time, Pakistan rushed to China's assistance and provided unreserved help by sending all its tents in stock to the stricken area, which deeply touched the Chinese people, CEN reported.

The Red Cross Society of China provided USD 300,000 in emergency cash assistance to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, and launched a handover ceremony in Islamabad this week. The Chinese enterprises in Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province donated USD 250,000 on September to the flood victims of the province.

In China, provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government



are acting in various ways to express sympathy or support to Pakistan. The China International Development Cooperation Agency has set up a joint working group with Pakistan on the implementation of follow-up cooperation in emergency relief, said Wang. Meanwhile, Pakistani Embassy in China is appealing to relevant organizations, enterprises and caring people to raise funds, tents and other necessary relief materials, according to reports. Going forward, China will continue to provide Pakistan with urgently-needed help and support its disaster relief work, Wang said. A friend in need is a friend indeed; true gold can stand the test of fire. I am confident that the Paki-

stani people will prevail over the floods at an early date and the brotherly bond between China and Pakistan will be further elevated.

Over 1,100 people lost their lives and more than 33.04 million people were affected by the floods, according to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority.

Notably, the scale of needs in Pakistan is rising like the flood waters. It requires the world's collective and prioritized attention, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday, calling on the international community to take urgent, collective action to help the government and people of Pakistan in their hour of need. APP

## Miseries of flood victims

HYDERABAD: Displaced people sit with their belonging in the open sky in outskirts near the embankment of River Indus, where cross high flood approx 25 million and 50 thousand cusec water.



Photo: Online

### Mobilizing people

President urges politicians to prioritize flood relief activities

### Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Saturday said that politics and floods were not a zero-sum situation and urged the politicians to mobilize people, prioritize relief activities and continue with their constitutional efforts to strengthen democracy through national discourse.

On his Twitter handle, the president, in an apparent reference to the recent situation of the country in the aftermath of the floods, further stressed upon the politicians to encourage philanthropic response and repair the economy. "Politics and floods are not a zero sum situation. The best service politicians can do is to mobilize people, prioritise relief activities, encourage philanthropic response, repair economy & continue with constitutional efforts to strengthen democracy through national discourse," the president posted a tweet.

Pakistan receives 12th relief flight from UAE

### Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: In continuation of humanitarian air bridge established between Pakistan and United Arab Emirates (UAE), Nur Khan Air Base received the 12th relief flight scheduled for arrival on Saturday.

It carried food, medical supplies and tents etc for the relief assistance. The second humanitarian relief flight from UAE is expected at the Nur Khan Air base around 1930 hours tonight, said a statement.

# Real freedom is economic self-reliance: Miftah

Finance Minister says former PTI government was leading the country towards default

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Miftah Ismail on Saturday said real freedom means economic self-reliance, without which the concept of freedom and self-reliance is not achieved.

The PTI government took 79% external debt out of the total debt taken in the country's history, he said. The federal minister said this in a live press conference at Pakistan Television.

The finance minister said, during the PTI tenure Pakistan's imports jumped up to US\$80 billion while the trade deficit reached at \$48 billion, which is a record in the country's history.

Miftah wondered how PTI could talk about real freedom without achieving economic self-sufficiency.

He said that former finance minister Shaukat Tarin's Saturday's press conference differs from the facts.

Miftah said that the former PTI government was leading the country towards

default and the Muslim League govern-

ment under the leadership of Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif saved it country from bankruptcy.

The minister said "we have saved the country from a situation like Sri Lanka, where petrol and gas are blacking out".

He said that PTI made agreements with the IMF to make electricity and oil more expensive, the effect of which continued even during our government's tenure. PTI government raised Rs 19,000 billion rupees in loans during their tenure, he added.

The minister criticized the role of PTI

and said that the country was passing through a critical juncture after floods while the PTI were busy in their politics altering national interest.

Miftah said that former Prime Minister Imran Khan did not fulfill any of his promise including construction of 5 million houses.

The finance minister maintained that the government was distributing Rs 25,000 to 4 million families each in the flood hit areas which will cost Rs. 70 billion overall.

He said that cotton, sugarcane and date crops had been destroyed in Sindh province.

He said that the government will import tomatoes and onions from Turkiye and Afghanistan adding that the inflation will be controlled in the next couple of months.

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## Efforts on to increase water storage capacity: Khurshid

### Bureau Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Water Resources Syed Khurshid Ahmad Shah said on Saturday that all possible efforts were being made to increase water storage capacity in the country.

Talking to the business community here at Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI), he said, "We were planning to increase agricultural production to enhance our export, but the floods dealt a serious blow to the national economy." He said that water capacity of Pakistan was 140 million acre feet, but the storage capacity was only 13 million acre feet.

The federal minister said that infrastructure was being built, which

would increase the storage capacity by 14 to 15 million acre feet. He said that 80 per cent of Pakistan's economy was related to agriculture, but the vital sector had been ignored for long. He said that unfortunately, the country's rainwater worth US\$10-15 billion was wasted every year and "we look to the world for US\$2 billion aid".

Khurshid Shah said, "We had realised today's situation four or five years ago, and the opposition had proposed a charter of economy to the then government, though it should have been asked to the opposition by the government."

He said that Pakistan was a rich and resourceful country. "If it is moved in the right direction, it could become self-reliant," he added.

## Power supply from 46 power grid stations restored

ISLAMABAD: Upon the directives of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, power supply from 46 flood-affected grid stations out of a total of 81 power grid stations of different power distribution companies had been restored.

Under the prime minister's directives, all the relevant officials of the Power Division had been tasked with the restoration of power supply in the affected areas.

The power supply restoration work had been expedited on an emergency basis in the flood-hit areas. The prime minister is personally monitoring the restoration work and daily reports are being submitted in this regard.

According to details, initially, a total of 881 feeders of 11 KV power had been affected during the monsoon rains and floods affecting supply to about 975,000 consumers, however, 475 feeders had been restored, with power being supplied to 70600 consumers. To avoid power electrocution incidents, work on 35 grid stations in the flood-affected areas had not commenced yet. These included; 25 grid stations in Balochistan, 5 each in Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Two transmission line of 220 KV of National Transmission and Dispatch

Company had been affected from Sibi to Quetta and from Dadu to Khuzdar. The work on Dadu to Khuzdar transmission lines would be completed by tomorrow which would restore 300 MW power supply in the affected areas whereas the work on Sibi to Quetta is expected to be completed by September 10. Flood water had damaged 10 towers in these areas.

The restoration work was also in progress from Sibi to Mach transmission line. Two supply lines of Peshawar Electric Supply Company from Chakdarra to Barikot and from Swat to Matta would be restored till September 10 whereas Madyan power grid station would be restored with power supply from Daral Khwar power generation plant.

In Sindh province, 5 grid stations and 2 grid stations in Balochistan had been still inundated under 3-4 feet of flood water and the power in these stations would be restored with the recession of flood water.

Moreover, under the PM's directive, contact numbers of all the chief executives and the relevant authorities of the power distribution companies had been placed on the websites and published in newspapers for the general information. APP

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# NFRCC to coordinate, articulate and synergize flood relief efforts

ISLAMABAD: The establishment of National Flood Response Coordination Centre (NFRCC) with representatives from the federal, provincial governments and armed forces is aimed to better articulate and synergize flood relief efforts during the rescue, relief and rehabilitation/reconstruction activities.

According to an official notification regarding the establishment of NFRCC, the centre would assess, plan, execute and coordinate various facets of the response to the current flood situation while synchronizing internal and international elements of relief efforts.

Besides, NFRCC would ensure the provision of requisite preparatory foresight in the long run for introducing required resilience in the national system/ infrastructure against such future disasters.

The Coordination Centre would be headed by the Prime Minister as chairman with Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives as its deputy chairman while

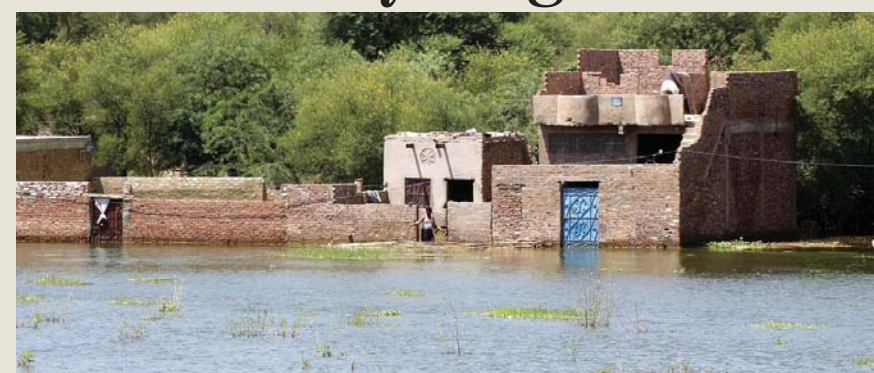
Commander Army Air Defence Command will act as National Coordinator.

Ministers of Economic Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Interior, Finance, Climate Change, Communications, Minister of State for Finance, Advisor to the PM on Establishment, Coordinator to the PM on Economy & Energy and Chairman NDMA would be its members.

Given the unprecedented nature of flood situation in Pakistan during the current Monsoon season, the prime minister had directed for the establishment of a national-level response coordination centre to better synergize national response to the disaster caused by recent floods.

NFRCC will act as a bridge between government Institutions, disaster management authorities and donors to ensure a seamless rehabilitation process of flood affectees all across Pakistan. The Secretariat of NFRCC will be housed at the NEOC, ERRA Headquarters and function under the National Coordinator.

The TORS of the NFRCC are: Interface with



international and bilateral donors to ensure availability of required relief and rehabilitation resources to enable national relief and rehabilitation effort; interface with INGOs to help integrate their efforts with overall national response; undertake required international/local procurements of relief items, as required, coordinate with PDMA for smooth conduct

of relief operations by NFRCC, arrange and coordinate visits of diplomatic community and foreign journalists etc. in coordination with concerned ministries; collect and analyze latest information and share with relevant stakeholders for an apt response, achieve optimum synergy between Federal/ Provincial Departments, Disaster Management Authorities, donors and

Armed Forces by acting as a bridge; oversee and ensure availability of required resources to facilitate provincial efforts with respect to ongoing rescue operations, synchronize and synergize collection efforts of relief items from government departments, relief items collection points and other local donors, liaise and coordinate reception, packaging and transportation of relief goods obtained from international donors with NDMA, identify immediate relief needs of affected areas in coordination with various stakeholders, organize a comprehensive joint survey of affected areas by multi-agency stakeholders to enable a merit-based provision of relief assistance, oversee execution of finalized National Rehabilitation/ Reconstruction, plan in synchronization with Federal/ Provincial stakeholders with judicious allocation of resources to enable execution of various projects and establish priority for revival/ reconstruction of damage and destroyed national infrastructure. APP

# Govt committed to flood-hit people's rehabilitation: Punjab CM

*Appeals to affluent and philanthropists to generously contribute to CM Flood Relief Fund*

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi has said that the provincial government is determined for rehabilitation of the flood affectees and all-out efforts are being made in this regard.

In a message issued here, he said the floods had affected many areas of the south Punjab including Rajanpur, Taunsa and Dera Ghazi Khan. The entire provincial machinery, led by the chief secretary, was actively engaged in relief work.



Rescue 1122 and other agencies were doing a great job in the affect-

ed areas, he added. Provincial ministers as well as members of the National and provincial assemblies were also taking part in the rehabilitation work, the CM added.

He appealed to the affluent and philanthropists to generously contribute to the CM Flood Relief Fund account in the Bank of Punjab.

He said an effective system had been formulated to ensure transparency in the amount being deposited in the bank and promised that the funds would be spent on the deserv-

ing persons in a transparent manner.

On the other hand, Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi on Saturday took notice of the murder incident of Surgeon Dr Haq Nawaz in Faisalabad and sought a report from the Inspector General of Police (IGP).

The CM directed to arrest the accused forthwith and bring them in the stern grip of law. He directed to ensure provision of justice to the heirs. Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi expressed his heartfelt sympathy and sorrow with the heirs.

## PMAfK stresses on adopting environment-friendly lifestyle

Abdul Majeed Tahir



MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Kashmir and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan has said that adopting an environment-friendly lifestyle was the most effective way to tackle critical challenges of our times including climate change, flooding and earthquake.

In a statement issued here on Saturday, Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan said that in order to reduce climatic consequences there was a dire need to adopt a sustainable environment-friendly lifestyle besides protecting water resources, soil fertility.

In Azad Kashmir, he said that constructions in violation of building codes will not be allowed under any circumstances. He said that the government was examining the factors affecting the natural environment and a comprehensive policy would be made in this regard.

He said that it was imperative to eliminate environmental pollution and create awareness to protect the natural environment. Terming global warming as a biggest threat to humanity, he said that ruthless deforestation, depleting water resources, indiscriminate dumping of garbage in springs and lakes, and deliberate attempts to destroy rivers and canals and erecting illegal constructions pose a serious threat to the environment.

Referring to former Prime Minister Imran Khan's Billion Tree Project, he said it was a revolutionary project, which was hailed worldwide.

He said that under the given circumstances there was an immediate need to focus on planting more trees, preventing illegal constructions and paying urgent attention to recycling to protect our environment.

## Gorgora land dispute nears resolution



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: The Gorgora land dispute between the two tribes Zali Khel and Khojal Khel in Wana, South Waziristan, is moving towards resolution after continuous jirgas and negotiations, the district administration of South Waziristan.

After successful negotiations/Jirgas with Additional Assistant Commissioner Wana Dr. Sadiq Ali and DSP Wana Iqbal Baloch, the two tribes vacated the tents and fronts and saved the two tribes from bloodshed and clashes to restore peace.

According to Additional Assistant Commissioner Wana Sadiq Ali, the decision on the Gorgora land dispute is as per Atmanzai Jirga tradition, will do, for which the district administration of South Waziristan has called Atmanzai tribal leaders from North Waziristan.

On the other hand, the tribal elders of Wana, political alliance, scholars and people appreciated the continuous effort and courage of the district administration and especially the Additional Assistant Commissioner Wana Dr. Sadiq Ali.

However, in this regard, Additional Assistant Commissioner Wana thanked all political alliances, neutral Jirgas, and tribal elders and appreciated their continuous hard work and cooperation with the administration.

It should be remembered that there was a long-standing land dispute between these two tribes, Zali Khel and Khojal Khel, over the Gorgora area of Wana.

## Flood affectees returning homes

MUZAFFARABAD: Flood affectees began to return their homes as water level started receding in river Indus.

In Indus river at Taunsa Barrage, the water level receded by 185,000 cusecs. Now, 416,000 cusecs water is flowing which is termed as medium level flood. This brought a sigh of relief and satisfaction for the people residing along the Indus river, said Irrigation Department sources.

The water level will recede further within the next two to three days. Now, there is no flood threat to Taunsa and Kot Addu.

Citizens namely Malik Rahim Bukhash, Allah Dad, Waryam Khan, Muhammad Sharif and some others told APP on Saturday that there was immense panic in their areas. The rumor of arrival of over seven lakh cusec water caused tension for the local people. Water flow is becoming normal in the river. They stated that people were returning to their homes.

## PTA restores 80 more sites affected due to floods

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has restored 80 more sites during the last 24 hours whereas work was in progress for complete restoration of telecom services in other areas.

The Authority and telecom operators continued efforts to restore connectivity in flood affected areas has resulted in further reduction of affected mobile sites count across the country to 568 (less than 1.1 percent of the total sites), said a news release issued on Saturday.

The sites currently non-functional, are mostly inaccessible and under water due to floods. Combined efforts were being made with respective civil and military authorities for access to under water sites and dewatering.

Floods and torrential rains had extensively damaged telecom infrastructure. The affected sites count was 3386 i.e. 6.55 percent of the total sites across Pakistan on the 28th of August 2022, which have been restored through tireless efforts by maintenance teams of all telecom operators.

## Religion always teaches importance of humanity: Barrister Saif

NATHIAGALI: Special Assistant to the Chief Minister of KPK for Information and Public Relations, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif Saturday said that if any religion or faith does not teach the importance of humanity and love, it is not a religion.

He expressed these views while addressing the three-day Christian Youth Conference at Donga Gali as the chief guest.

Barrister Saif further said that when the rulers become captives of power as is happening in our own country, then the society gets degraded. If the character is not good then a person cannot become a good Muslim, a good Christian, a Hindu, or a follower of any other faith.

He said that now people have started moving from materialism to spirituality because materialism has robbed the sense of happiness of humanity, peace and tranquility. In spirituality we all will be able to move forward easily towards progress and prosperity, adding the special assistant to CM said.

The Special Assistant said that soul is the name of feeling and the best person is the one who not only feels the pain and suffering of other human beings but also feels the pain and well-being of all creatures, hearts filled with selfish desires become dead and no feelings of benevolence for others remain in them.

Barrister Saif paid tribute to the organizers of the spiritual conference

## Getting relief

MUZAFFARABAD: Needy people carrying free food package donated by an NGO Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (UAE Aid) among the poor people, in the city.



Photo: Online

# CM Sindh takes aerial view of protective bunds

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday took an aerial view of different protective bunds, including the Larkana-Sehwan (LS) embankment and said that these were not weak but vulnerable and hopefully would survive with constant efforts of the Irrigation experts and the district administration.

The Chief Minister along with his Minister Taimur Talpur flew to Sehwan where he took an aerial view of different embankments, including Manchhar Containing (MC) Bund, MNV Bund, Johi Branch, and LS Bund of River Indus.

Shah said that these embankments were vulnerable, but the Irrigation engineers were monitoring and working on their strengthening day and night. He hoped that their efforts would protect Shewan, Mehar, Johi, Dadu, and even Larkana.

Murad Ali Shah said that the level of Manchhar Lake had been recorded at 122.75 RL on Saturday while the level of its embankment known as MC

Bund is 128 RL.

He added that the winds of the South were causing wave washing. "There is stone pitching but the winds are so violent that causing wave washing, therefore more stones are required for pitching," he said, and added stones were being arranged for the purpose.

The chief minister said that the continuous flow of water into Manchhar has increased its spread up to 130 square kilometers. "In 2010 Manchhar had broken when its level had reached 121.65 RL but then repair and strengthen works were carried out, therefore it has sustained at 122.75 which is higher by 1.1 ft," he said.

Murad Ali Shah said that currently, 16,000 cusecs of Manchhar were flowing into River Indus but the situation would turn better when the River would start accepting 30,000 to 40,000 cusecs of Manchhar.

He added that when the water level at Guddu and Sukkur would come down to 300,000 cusecs, the gates of

the Sukkur barrage would be closed to discharge Manchhar water into the River. "Right now, the Sukkur Barrage was flowing at 559,998 cusecs, therefore the River Indus is not accepting Manchhar's water in much quantity," he said.

Murad Ali Shah said that there was no benefit of giving a relief cut to Manchhar because its water instead of flowing into River Indus would form another lake in the area, therefore it was advisable to wait for decreasing the level of the River and by the time we have to strengthen the MC bund.

Shah, while taking an aerial view of the Johi branch and LS Bund, said that KN Shah has been inundated but proper vigilance and monitoring were being done to avoid any breach in Johi branch to save Dadu. He added that the Ring bund of Mehar was vulnerable but not so weak to develop a breach. "The irrigation experts are working on further strengthening Ring Bund to protect Mehar and Johi," he said. APP

## Karakoram Highway restored for traffic

BATTAGRAM: The National Highway Authority (NHA) on Saturday said that the Karakoram Highway was restored for all types of traffic.

According to NHA Spokesperson, the Thakot to Kayal bridge was constructed with two lanes for all types of traffic and two lanes were open for all types of traffic on Achar Nala.

He said two lanes were also open for light traffic on Somer Nalla bridge. Meanwhile two lanes were open for all types of traffic from Sarasin to Khunjerab.

The passengers and drivers of big vehicles have been advised to exercise extreme caution while crossing the Uchar Nallah, Kayal bridge and Zaid Khwar area. NHA and Frontier Works Organization (FWO) teams were active in restoring the Karakoram highway.

## All cabinet members help flood victims: Sharjeel Memon



SUKKUR: Sindh Minister for Information and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon has said the Sindh chief minister, ministers, advisers, special assistants, and MPs, as well as MNAs were in the field to support district administrations to provide help to the flood victims.

According to statement issued here on Saturday, Memon informed that the victims were being shifted to the makeshift relief camps in schools and in the tent cities, where they were being provided two meals per day, while medical facilities were also given.

He said under the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Rs 25,000 financial assistance was being given to each affected family, besides distributing 91,630 ration bags to the victims throughout the province. He further claimed that 119,972 tents, 503,345 mosquito nets and 76,810 plastic tarpaulins had also been provided to the affected people.

# UNHCR hands over relief items to K-P govt

Spokesman Report

PESHAWAR: UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency has handed over 7,000 tents, and thousands of other emergency relief items to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa after flooding devastated homes in a number of the Province's districts.

The assistance will benefit tens of thousands of flood affected people in coming days. Among the items provided, 133,244 blankets, 80,000 mosquito nets, 35,347 jerrycans, 23,898 kitchen sets, plastic tarpaulins, buckets, and solar lamps, and other support.

UNHCR's Head of Sub-Office in Peshawar and the Director General of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa signed a memorandum to handover the items for immediate distribution to people affect-



ed by the floods.

Welcoming the UNHCR contribution, the Director General of PDMA, Sharif Hussain, said UNHCR's support was timely and important and greatly help the efforts of the authorities to assist the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at this critical time.

Gayrat Ahmadshoev, UNHCR's Head of Sub-Office in Peshawar expressed his commitment to support Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's efforts and its people.

"Our teams have been out to visit flood affected commu-

nities and provide our emergency support, adding to the ongoing effort of Pakistan's authorities. We are working closely with the Provincial Disaster Management Authority and we will do everything we can at this time to help and stand by the people of the province."

UNHCR is leading protection efforts as part of the UN's support to the monsoon response. Relief items provided in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa includes sanitary kits for women and girls, and emergency reproductive and clinical delivery health kits. This will help provide important support for 420,000 women's protection, health and dignity over three months.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa support over 670,000 Afghan refugees, who along with Pakistani communities have also been affected by the monsoon and floods.

communities through its partners. "Shelter is very important in responding to the needs of people whose houses have been destroyed and washed away. More needs to be done and UNHCR is committed as much as we can to continue to support. International solidarity is vital right now," Ahmadshoev added.

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Islamabad  
23° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr ..... 4:17 am  
Zohr ..... 12:07 pm  
Asr ..... 4:42 pm  
Maghrib ..... 6:31 pm  
Isha ..... 7:57 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) ..... 15  
Bomb Disposal ..... 15  
Fire Services Rawalpindi/  
Islamabad ..... 1122 & 16  
Emergency Ambulance ..... 1122 &  
& Rescue Services ..... 4451122  
Motorway Police ..... 9286044  
Motorway Police ..... 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

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

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance ..... 115  
PIA Flight Info ..... 114  
PIA Cargo ..... 9280979  
Railway Inquiry ..... 117  
Railway Exchange ..... 9270831-5  
WASA Rawalpindi ..... 5555489  
CAA ..... 9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH ..... 561111  
MH ..... 561116  
MH ..... 561116  
Cantt Hospital ..... 9270907-11

# NUML 19th Convocation held in Islamabad

Mirza Afridi congratulates students on successful completion of degrees

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The 19th Convocation of the National University of Modern Languages (NUML) was held at the University on Saturday.

Deputy Chairman Senate, Mirza Muhammad Afridi was the Chief Guest. 286 students were awarded degrees along with 23 gold medals. Rector NUML, Major General Muhammad Jaffar HI (M) (Retd), Pro Rectors, Deans, Registrar, Directors, Heads of Departments, and a large number of students along with their parents attended the Convocation.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest Mirza Muhammad Afridi congratulated the students, parents, and teachers on the successful completion of degrees in various disciplines. He stressed upon the importance of time and knowledge and said that students are the real future asset of Pakistan, and they should play their due role for the progress and prosperity of the motherland.

Chief guest stressed that all graduates must realize how lucky they were to be educated in an institution like NUML and



appreciated their parents for choosing the best possible institution for them.

Earlier, Rector NUML Major General Muhammad Jaffar (Retd) welcomed the honourable chief guest and highlighted the achievements and contributions made by NUML in various fields of education. He informed that NUML had over 300 PhD faculty members and the number is consistently growing.

He informed about the various milestones achieved by NUML in curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular, research

articles and project, sports, infrastructure improvement along with procurement of IT equipment to meet the growing challenges of the current age.

Rector also highlighted the social outreach programs and a comprehensive "Students Support Program" where over 1900 students were awarded various scholarships worth Rs. 112Million in the last one year alone. He hoped that NUML's graduates will serve the nation to their full capacity and change the country and society for the better.

Health Corner

## Nordic diet lowers cholesterol

ISLAMABAD: Berries, veggies, fish, whole grains and rapeseed oil. These are the main ingredients of the Nordic diet concept that, for the past decade, have been recognized as extremely healthy, tasty and sustainable.

The diet can prevent obesity and reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Until now, Nordic diet research has primarily been linked to the diet's positive health effect following weight loss.

But a new analysis conducted by University of Copenhagen researchers, among others, makes it clear that a Nordic diet has positive health benefits — regardless of whether one loses weight or not. "It's surprising because most people believe that positive effects on blood sugar and cholesterol are solely due to weight loss.

Here, we have found this not to be the case. Other mechanisms are also at play," explains Lars Ove Dragsted, a researcher and head of section at the University of Copenhagen's Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports. Together with researchers from Finland, Norway,



Sweden and Iceland, Dragsted examined blood and urine samples from 200 people over the age of 50, all with elevated BMI and increased risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

The participants were divided into two groups — one provided foods according to Nordic dietary recommendations and a control group on their habitual diet. After six months of monitoring, the result was clear. "The group that had been on the Nordic diet for six months became significantly healthier, with lower cholesterol levels, lower overall levels of both saturated and unsaturated fat in the blood, and better regulation of glucose, compared to the control group.

We kept the group on the Nordic diet weight stable, meaning that we asked them to eat more if they lost weight. Even without weight loss, we could see an improvement in their health," explains Lars Ove Dragsted.

Instead of weight loss alone, the researchers point to the unique composition of fats in a Nordic diet as a possible explanation for the significant health benefits. "By analyzing the blood of participants, we could see that those who benefited most from the dietary change had different fat-soluble substances than the control group.

These are substances that appear to be linked to unsaturated fatty acids from oils in the Nordic diet. This is a sign that Nordic dietary fats probably play the most significant role for the health effects seen here, which I hadn't expected," says Lars Ove Dragsted.

Fats in the Nordic diet come from fish, flaxseeds, sunflower and rapeseed (Canola), among other things. As a whole, they constitute a very beneficial mix for the body, although the researchers have yet to accurately explain why these fats seem to lower both blood sugar and cholesterol levels. Courtesy Science Daily

## British High Commissioner visits flood relief camp

ISLAMABAD: British High Commissioner Christian Turner Saturday visited flood-hit villages in Nowshera, where a UK Charity Islamic Relief is providing lifesaving aid to flood affected people.

The High Commissioner also visited the village Kakol Abad and met with affected communities. He expressed his sorrow at the losses incurred during the flooding and assured them of UK's continued support, said the spokesperson of the British High Commission in Islamabad.

Talking to the media, British High Commissioner Christian Turner said: "The people I have met today are strong and will rebuild. But they need urgent support with water, sanitation, and shelter. The UK is helping provide that. The standard you walk past is the standard you accept."

## Relief efforts

ISLAMABAD: Women taking keen interest in hand made model during exhibition "Flood Disaster Relief Art Fund Raiser" organized by Nomad Gallery at Pakistan National Council of the Art, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

# 2022 China Tourism and Culture Week to kick off in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: China Cultural Center in Pakistan has launched a series of online activities to celebrate the global "2022 China Tourism and Culture Week" in September.

The official launch ceremony of "2022 Chinese Tourism Culture Week" is scheduled to be held in Beijing on 6th September. Minister of Culture and Tourism Hu Heping will attend and address the event. In conjunction with the launch ceremony, the 2022 China Tourism and Culture Week will start from September and end on September 15.

2022 China Tourism and Culture Week is jointly hosted by Bureau of International Exchange and Cooperation, Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Tourism and People's Daily Online, and organized by Overseas China Cultural



Center and Overseas China National Tourism Office.

The event intends to promote Tourism and Culture on six themed topics including "City Constructions", "Intangible Cultural Heritage for Poverty Reduction", "Yellow River Culture", "The Silk Road", "Rural Revitalization" and "China Travel Course".

The Silk Road series of document-

aries aim to promote tourism and culture aspects of cities along the Silk Road. The playlist includes documentaries on "Cultural Heritage of Xinjiang", "Xinjiang is a Wonderful Place", "Dunhuang, a Cultural Sanctuary of Mankind", "All's well in Gansu", "Root & Soul", "A Glimpse of Ningxia", "Qinghai, the Province of Grand Beauty", "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Qinghai", "Shaanxi Culture", "The Tibetan New Year" and "New Tourism in Xizang".

City Construction aims to promote tourism resources in different cities across China such as Enshui, Hebei, Xijiang Qianhu Miao Village, Guizhou, Xi'an Shaanxi, Luoyang Henan, Dunhuang Gansu.

Documentaries focusing Intangible Cultural Heritage on Xizang, Jiangxi, Guangdong and Beijing aims to portray the role intangible cultural heritage is playing in poverty reduction across China.

Yellow River series of documentaries highlight the beautiful cultural and tourism resources of cities along the Yellow river, and "Rural Revitalization" series documentaries fully demonstrate the tourism and cultural aspects of villages across China.

A week full of Cultural and Tourism enrich activities will provide a cultural and tourism feast for the viewers across Pakistan. So join us online to appreciate and experience China's magnificent natural scenery, colorful cultural deposits, rapid urban and rural development, and the beautiful visualization of people living and working in peace and contentment.

In the following weeks, China Cultural Center in Pakistan will be sharing a variety of interesting virtual and online activities through short videos, trailers and posters covering performance, culture, cultural heritage, cuisine, beautiful landscapes and more.

## Mushaal appeals Kashmiris to help flood stricken Pakistanis



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mallick Chairperson Pakistan Peace and Culture Organization has appealed to Kashmiris in Pakistan and elsewhere in the World to come forward and help their Pakistani brothers and sisters in this testing time.

Talking to media outside the flood relief camp established in collaboration of Pakistan Sweet Homes, National Press Club and Pakistan Federal Union of Journalist here on Saturday, she reminded the Kashmiri people that when there was an earthquake in Kashmir, the people of Pakistan generously helped them.

Therefore, she stated that today the flood victims were in distress, as the flood wrought havoc across the country and they should play their role in this trying time.

Mushaal said that millions of people have been displaced by the floods and washed away most of their belongings.

She said that crops standing on more than 20 lakh acres have been flooded besides washing away over five million cattle.

The Chairperson said that there may be food crisis in the coming days due to destruction caused by the torrential rains and the subsequent devastating floods therefore, Kashmiri living in or outside Pakistan should help the flood-stricken people.

Mushaal vowed that Kashmiri people would not leave their Pakistani brothers and sisters alone in this challenging time and would make all-out possible support to get them out of the troubled water.

# MIPD organizes Teaching, Learning Excellence Awards ceremony

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Millennium Institute of Professional Development MIPD and Department of International Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessments DIQCA at The Millennium Education Group organized Teaching and Learning Excellence Awards Ceremony 2022 to honour, award, and appreciate teachers for their excellent teaching performance and significant contribution towards enhancing the quality of teaching and learning nationwide.

The Millennium Education Group places great emphasis on reflective teaching, improving learning experiences, and cultivating effective practices. It is all about providing world class learning opportunities to the teachers. It aims to provide the teachers with a platform to express themselves not only as educators, but also to discover the



hidden potential in each one of them that leads to the discovery of their ultimate identity.

Teaching and Learning Excellence Awards 2022 were presented for securing distinctions in Founda-

tion courses, MIP, and for being star teachers in Pearson Edexcel iPrimary and Cambridge Check Point Examinations. Awards were also distributed among Programme leaders for Cambridge International Certificate

in Teaching and Learning CICTL, and Cambridge International Certificate for teaching with Digital Technology CICTDT. The ceremony was concluded with the distribution of TMUC Service Excellence Awards.

The ceremony was graced by Prof. Quintin McKellar CBE, Vice Chancellor & Chief Executive University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom. Honourable Chief Guest, Prof. Quintin McKellar CBE, heightened the multifarious responsibility of teachers in an era of interconnected dimensions and emphasized that flexibility, opportunity, and community are the basic components for excellence in education. He appreciated the dedication and commitment of The Millennium Education Group, their leadership, management, as well as the professionalism of teachers who are nurturing the future of Pakistan.

## Women Wing formed at TDC

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A ceremony was held at The Diabetes Centre Islam-



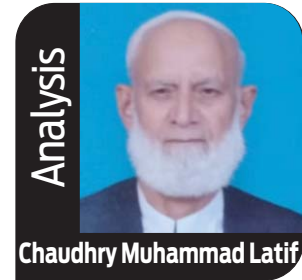
abad where in Women Wing led by Dr Nuzhat Hameed, one of the Board of Directors of Hospital was formed.

A high-level delegation of women from various spheres of life including renowned affluent women of the Capital, Iram Shahzad and Shazia Pasha among others visited the main hospital on special event.

They were apprised about efforts being made by Hospital against diabetes in the country.

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# The Concept of Protocol in Pakistan – Negative consequences



Analysis  
Chaudhry Muhammad Latif

The concept of protocol in Pakistan is a legacy of colonial British rule, who had devised a system of divide and rule for their colonies. They created tiers of jagirdar, zaildar, numberdar and chauthidar. In states there were Mahrajas, Ameers, Nawabs, Sardars, and Chiefs of tribes. Theoretically there were two systems of governance in the world, in addition to a separate colonial rule. One system is followed by the British and their previous colonies. The other system is practiced by the United States, China, Russia, South Korea etc. The British system cherished status-minded system with special prestigious epithets and designations like Prime Minister, Ministers, Chiefs, Generals, Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Ambassadors etc.

The second system is business-oriented with designations as secretary of the state, Managers, Executives, with least protocol except security objectives. The British rulers had conspicuously different designations for their colonies, emphasizing status-mindedness. It is surprising that they had even a list of "Kursi Nasheen" in their entire Indian Sub-continent enrolled as such by respective Deputy Commissioners. A kursi could only be offered in Government offices or in meeting with gentlemen, to persons registered as "Kursi Nasheen" by the relevant Deputy commissioner. The situation of the civil administration in the USA stands explained by one Mr. Ahmed Raza Qureshi from Texas, USA, living there since 2001 as under- "They do not follow much formed protocol. Very casual I have never seen any flag car, never seen any traffic stop due to any VIP. Never seen any number plate which says it is an official. Government servants in Pakistan enjoy more perks than US officials". So far as the administration in United Kingdom is concerned one Mr. Abdul Hafeez Suharwardy from Birmingham, living there since 1980, younger brother of the first and last local Chief Secretary of AJK Abdul Haq Suharwardy, has described as follows:- "Here no DC/AC/Mall officer, Tehsildar, Patwari etc. City is run by Council. Council members are elected every five years. Council is headed by Mayor who is also elected. Only Mayor's car has flag and can have use of it in official duty". Unfortunately, Pakistan being a part of British colony inherited the ruling system devised for a colony and not for an independent and democratic country. But as the dominant part of our elite was the creation of colonial rule, they had the psyche of liking for the colonial rule showing status-mindedness. As in recent past when in Murree, there was a catastrophic mishap. The then Chief Minister Punjab announced that there should be a Deputy Commissioner for Murree whereas it was the hopeless failure of Deputy Commissioner of Rawalpindi who could have reached the scene within an hour and with ample resources but it was the duty of PWD. In Pakistan in the first phase the institution of Deputy Commissioner was occupied by the officers of CSP class, vested with special status and too much influence in government admin-

istration. So one Prime Minister abolished the CSP class and rendered it as a District Management Group. We can compare the merit, status and perks of Assistant Commissioner B-17 and a Civil Medical Officer B-17. In fact, respect and honor does not depend upon protocol. It needs other merits of high caliber and qualities of character. How personalities become popular, there are few examples. In 1965 war, the Pakistanis were so emotionally united that they would shower crates of fruits to passing by Army vehicles. As Hfikhar Abad war front was very vital so there were "langars" in Gujrat arranged by Chaudhry Zahoore Ellahi, Nawabzada family of Gujrat and Khan Mulk of village Ajnala. Raja Muhammad Afzal of Jhelum donated everything to war fund. Once I had the opportunity to accompany Ch. Zahoore Ellahi from 41-C Gulberg Lahore to district courts. The then government had registered fake and frivolous cases against Ch. Zahoore Ellahi and one similar case was fixed in the court of Ch. Muhammad Zar, a Magistrate. Ch Zahoore Ellahi stayed in district court and sent me to the said Magistrate to tell him he should not extend any courtesy or protocol to him as he would face difficulties. The then Governor Ameer Muhammad Khan was famous for his charity and generosity. In his area all disabled and insane persons were served free meals in all hotels in his area and their bills were paid by the Nawab House. After his release from Kohlow jail, Balochistan, Ch. Zahoore Ellahi became Federal Minister. I went to congratulate him at his residence at Peshawar road Rawalpindi. It was breakfast time and I was invited to up stairs to join breakfast where two delegations of overseas Sikh leaders and Chiefs from Balochistan, who were there to congratulate Minister on his release and elevation as Federal Minister. He donated his house in Rawalpindi to homeless VIP and shifted himself to Islamabad. In this background, on the occasion of death of Ch. Zahoore Ellahi, the BBC, in their Urdu service broadcast his biography and declared that the most generous and champion of charity in Pakistan has died. So the political and non-political personalities should realize that greatness does not lie in protocol which cast heavily to the nation, rather it is achieved by qualities of character. *The author is former Additional Chief Secretary of AJK.*

## India exposed

The world is getting scarier of Indian covert designs of its diplomatic moves. India falsely tries to depict before the world that there is no freedom fight continuing in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Whereas the on the ground realities are quite different because Kashmiris are showing their full resentment towards Indian government's anti human being policies in IIOJK. India has converted IIOJK into world most densely militarized occupied zone and it is not acceptable to any of Indian neighbor. By keeping over a million troops stationed in IIOJK, India on one side continuously pose security threats to Pakistan as well as wants to keep China also under pressure.

On one hand Pakistan has often raised this issue on international forums and demand just right to self determination for Kashmiris and on the other hand China has also serious reservations about Indian activities along LAC as well as inside the occupied territory. A few days back India raised another issue on diplomatic fronts by announcing to hold G-20 meeting in IIOJK just to show the world that there is quite normalcy in IIOJK.

Now China has strongly opposed the Indian plan of holding the G-20 meeting in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and called on the member of the grouping to focus on economic recovery and avoid politicizing the relevant issue. China's position on Kashmir is consistent and clear cut. It is a legacy issue between India and Pakistan. It should be properly resolved in accordance with the relevant United Nations (UN) resolutions and bilateral agreement. Relevant parties should avoid complicating the situation with the unilateral move.

Pakistan has already completely rejected India's attempt to hold the G-20 meeting in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, reiterating that the region is under New Delhi's forcible and illegal occupation. As per media reports, India is planning to host the 2023 meetings of the G-20 and its Ministry of External Affairs has issued directives to the authorities in the occupied territory to ensure necessary arrangements. Noting the relevant information, the Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson stressed to address the disputes through dialogue and consultations and jointly uphold peace and stability.

We need to address the disputes through dialogue and consultation and jointly uphold peace and stability, says Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian. G-20 is a premier forum for international economic cooperation and called on relevant sides to focus on economic recovery and avoid politicizing the relevant issue so as to make positive contribution to improving the global economic governance. China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which is constructed in the region is completely different in nature than holding of G20 meetings in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

China has undertaken projects to help Pakistan to grow its economy and improve livelihood.

The relevant Chinese companies who run the projects do so with the aim of helping the local people to develop the economy and improve their livelihood and that doesn't mean our position on Kashmir is changed. I have already elaborated on our stern position on Kashmir. With regard to whether China will attend the meeting, the Chinese side will look into that.



## Why Biden's mid-term 'comeback' is just wishful thinking

Dr. John C. Hulsman

Climate analyst Bjorn Lomborg put it perfectly when he said: "Wishful thinking is not sound public policy." The vast majority of political risk mistakes are made for this one simple reason; most analysts confuse what they would like to happen with what is likely to happen. This is a primary analytical lesson the in-the-tank leftist mainstream American media have yet to learn. Functioning as little more than the propaganda arm of the Democratic Party — while arrogantly professing to represent some sort of objective truth (i.e. all sane people agree with them) — the popularly derided press continually confuse what they would like to happen with the facts dancing in front of their eyes. This explains their excitement at Joe Biden's political "comeback," and what it means for the revival of Democratic hopes in the November mid-term election.

Let us pick this pathetic excuse for political risk analysis apart, line by line. First, it is true that protecting abortion rights of some kind (though not as expansively as Democrats advocate) is popular in the US. However, few people vote as a result of this issue. Abortion rights is about the fifth most important motivational issue for voters, nowhere near in the league of the dominant cost-of-living crisis as a concern. So, at best, this favors the White House only at the margins.

Second, in this time of rampant 8.5 percent inflation in July, hovering near

a multidecade high, Biden's stubborn insistence on ruinously spending money doesn't just seem partisan, it seems dangerous. By a long way, voters are most concerned about inflation and the economy, and how the Federal Reserve and the Biden White House incompetently let the inflation genie out of the bottle, two generations after Fed chair Paul Volcker and Ronald Reagan tamed the savage beast. Instead, Biden first belittled the problem, then said inflation would be transitory, then said why don't we focus on job creation numbers instead? Wrong, wrong, and wrong. The country blames the White House for the scourge of inflation simply because the economic illiterates in the administration have continued to spend money like drunken sailors, all ready to the contrary.

Third, the utterly unfair (I personally paid back a treasure trove of loans by working hard and am utterly mortified at being made of fool of by a White House shamefully looking to buy votes) student loan "forgiveness" policy is obviously mis-named. The loans don't simply disappear like a magic trick, leftist fantasies to the contrary. No, they form part of the general government debt, to be paid down in taxes by non-college graduates and those of us who already paid their loans — while the millennials, whose work ethic collectively is appalling, take another "experiential holiday." This desperate effort to buy the young's electoral loyalty is unlikely to work, because statistically they tend to be too lazy to vote in decisive numbers, and the rest of us are furious at the unfairness of this latest

progressive ploy. Fourth, while it appears Trump has (yet again) behaved badly over keeping classified government documents, he is hardly alone. Former presidents are often at war with the government over which documents are theirs and which belong to the country. Former Clinton national security adviser Sandy Berger went so far as to stuff some unflattering documents in his pants and socks (you simply cannot make this stuff up) only to be found out as he attempted to slink away from the National Archives. And don't get me started on the nauseatingly privileged treatment Hillary Clinton was given by the FBI over her illegal home-brew server. In these other cases, the FBI did not storm the homes of the guilty, as they did with Trump and Mar-a-Lago. Ironically, this double standard actually bolsters Trump's standing, as his charge that there is one set of rules for Democrats and another for Republicans sadly looks all too true. For all these reasons, don't buy the hype about the Biden "comeback." My firm, which called the 2020 outcome perfectly (down to the tie in the Senate) has the GOP still likely to take the House by 20-30 seats with the Senate still too close to call (today we have it at 50-50). When wishful thinking replaces genuine thinking, you get stories such as these. *Dr. John C. Hulsman is the president and managing partner of John C. Hulsman Enterprises, a prominent global political risk consulting firm. He is also a senior columnist for CityAM, the newspaper of the City of London. He can be contacted via johnhulsman.substack.com. Courtesy: Arab News*

## Flood and blood flowing together

Historic monsoon and flooding in Pakistan have affected more than 30 million people during the last few weeks. Thirty million represent about 15% of Pakistan's population. Rain water is high not only on both sides of the Indus in Southern part of Pakistan but has triggered a new flash flood phenomenon where it's raining in 7-8 unprecedented cycles, super flooding areas from a merciless sky. These merciless sky claimed several lives so far and forced millions to live without shelter. Current situation is being compared with the devastating 2010 floods and it is also claimed that the current situation is the worst than that.

The water is flowing from the north like 2010 flood. It is equally more devastating in its sweep and destructive power. Flash floods caused by heavy rains have swept away bridges and communication infrastructure in various areas of the country. Flood has not only drown the houses rather tears, hopes and blood swept away in this flood. Flood in recent week has done havoc and it is evident to say that it is the result of wrath of nature and human's negligence. Allah says in Quran "A man gets nothing but what he strives" (Alquran). It means we can't blame anyone else for what is happening to us. We are harvesting what we have sowed in last 75 years. In the flood, village after village wiped out, millions of houses destroyed, Blood and flood both are flowing together in half of Pakistan. The flood is a blatant exposure of our mismanagement. The negligence of the authorities and improper mechanisms to deal with natural disasters have put the lives of millions of people in peril. As a result the lives of the people have been drastically affected with the destruction and loss of vast areas of agriculture land.

Now all we hear is appeal from higher authorities for fund raising. They are appealing public and international community to come forward and help the people in devastation. They are least concerned to have empathy and sympathy towards those who are suffering. Their main focus is appeal for funds because during this calamity, foreign funding is a blessing in disguise for those corrupt authorities. Instead of spending the

funds on infrastructure, they gulp down the funds. The two key institutions, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Federal Flood commission, are evidently underperforming. The reasons are familiar: inadequate funding and moribund management structures compounded by the fact that technical experts are subservient to the generalists. The Punjab wing of the Disaster Management authority also could not respond as it was expected. The irony of the situation is this that, this man-made disaster has increased the possibilities for the authorities to profit from this latest natural disaster. In case of destruction every year Pakistan receives funding from both common public and international community but that fund lack proper track record. Funds disappears as the horn on the head of a donkey vanishes. It can be said without any fear of contradiction, this flood situation is probably the worst in the history of Pakistan.

Although Pakistan is going through its toughest ride but funding is not the solution of problems. It is the negligence that is biggest disaster in Pakistan. At first we need to address it, rest will be sorted out on its own. Entire management system is needed to be revamped. We need to empower civilian to ensure and secure the true democracy and power of common man. We need to be a voice of flood affectees, they don't need just ration and tent. They need a secure tent of honest and emphatic leadership. We are in dire need of a leadership that doesn't have temporary mindset rather it has a vision. It doesn't just focus on present, it has an eye on generation. It doesn't hold promises rather it has a purpose. Next time when people of Pakistan go for voting and happen to meet any politician or any civil servant they must ask them if they have any vision for their coming generation? If the answer is satisfactory then consider them to vote otherwise its better not to vote than to give to a "wrong number". As a nation it is important to pledge that in coming elections we shall not waste our right of vote for whom, who drown our hopes, emotions, houses and blood in a flood.

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Analysis  
Marium Rauf

# Russia says it foiled Ukrainian attempt to seize nuclear plant

*IAEA visit to Ukraine nuclear plant highlights risks*

ZAPORIZHZHIA/MOSCOW: Ukrainian forces attempted to capture the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in an attack on the facility on Friday night, Russia's defence ministry said in its daily briefing on Saturday.

The ministry said a Ukrainian naval force of more than 250 troops attempted to land on the coast of a lake near the Zaporizhzhia plant in southern Ukraine at around 11 p.m. local time (2000 GMT) on Friday.

"Despite the presence of representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the Kyiv regime once again attempted to seize the plant," the defence ministry said.

Russia said its forces foiled the attack with strikes from military helicopters and fighter jets, destroying 20 Ukrainian vessels and causing others to scatter and call off the attack.

Kyiv and Moscow have traded accusations about attacks on the power plant, Europe's largest nuclear energy station, in recent months. The plant was captured by Russian forces in March, but is connected to the Ukrainian power grid and is still operated by Ukrainian staff.



Ukraine's and Europe's largest nuclear plant has stopped supplying Ukrainian-held territories with electricity, Kremlin-backed authorities said Saturday, as a team of inspectors from the U.N. nuclear watchdog continued their mission at the site.

The Russian-appointed city administration in Enerhodar, where the Zaporizhzhia plant is located, blamed an alleged Ukrainian shelling attack on Saturday morning, which they said had destroyed a key power line.

"The provision of electricity to the territories controlled by Ukraine has been suspended due to technical difficulties," the municipal administration said in a post on its official Telegram channel. It wasn't clear whether electricity from the plant was still reaching Russian-held areas.

Vladimir Rogov, a member of the Kremlin-appointed regional administration said on Telegram that a shell had struck an area between two reactors. His claims could not be immediately verified.

Over the past weeks, Ukraine and Russia have traded blame over shelling at and near the plant, while also accusing each other of attempts to derail the visit from U.N. experts, who arrived at the plant Thursday. The International Atomic Energy Agency's mission is meant to help secure the site.

The plant has repeatedly suffered complete disconnection from Ukraine's power grid since last week, with Enerhodar blaming mortar shelling and fires near the site.

Local Ukrainian authorities accused Moscow of pounding two cities that overlook the plant across the Dnieper river with rockets, also an accusation they have made repeatedly over the past weeks.

In Zorya, a small village about 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the Zaporizhzhia plant, residents on Friday could hear the sound of explosions in the area.

It's not the shelling that scared them the most, but the risk of a radioactive leak in the plant. "The power plant, yes, this is the scariest," Natalia Stokoz, a mother of three, said. "Because the kids and adults will be affected, and it's scary if the nuclear power plant is blown up."

## Russia reports 50,000 COVID-19 cases



MOSCOW: Russia recorded more than 50,000 new daily COVID-19 cases for the second day running on Saturday, the government's coronavirus task force said.

Over the last 24 hours, 51,699 cases were detected across Russia — the most in a single day since March 9.

On Friday, Russia's caseload passed the 50,000 mark for the first time in almost six months. Infections rose in July and August as new highly-transmissible variants of the coronavirus swept across the country. The task force said 92 people had died with COVID-19 over the last 24 hours.

According to excess fatality statistics, Russia has been among the most severely affected countries by the pandemic, with vaccine uptake slow and the government reluctant to impose restrictions beyond a short lockdown in 2020.

## Blinken denounces new three-year term for Myanmar's Suu Kyi



WASHINGTON: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken denounced a new three-year sentence imposed on Myanmar's ousted elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi and urged further pressure on the country's junta. "We strongly condemn the Burma military regime's unjust sentencing of Aung San Suu Kyi to three more years of prison, including hard labor," Blinken said, using Myanmar's former name.

"We must work together to hold the regime accountable for its escalating violence and repression of democratically elected leaders in Burma."

The latest sentence, handed down behind closed doors, takes the total jail time the Nobel laureate and democracy figurehead is facing to two decades. The new sentence was over purported electoral fraud in 2020 polls that her party won by a landslide.

The military deposed and detained her the following February, and has piled on a series of charges including corruption that her supporters say are trumped up. The United States and other Western nations have imposed a series of sanctions on Myanmar's junta since the coup — but to little avail.

The United States pledged further action after the junta executed four democracy activists in July, but has held back from the key step of sanctions on its oil and gas industry amid opposition from Thailand, which imports energy from its neighbor.

## Fuel leak disrupts NASA's 2nd shot at launching moon rocket



APE CANAVERAL: NASA's new moon rocket sprang another hazardous leak Saturday, as the launch team began fueling it for liftoff on a test flight that must go well before astronauts climb aboard.

For the second time this week, the launch team began loading nearly 1 million gallons of fuel into the 322-foot (98-meter) rocket, the most powerful ever built by NASA. Monday's attempt was halted by a bad engine sensor and leaking fuel.

As the sun rose, an over-pressure alarm sounded and the tanking operation was briefly halted, but no damage occurred and the effort resumed. But minutes later, hydrogen fuel began leaking from the engine section at the bottom of the rocket. NASA halted the operation, while engineers scrambled to plug what was believed to be a gap around a seal in the supply line.

The countdown clocks continued ticking toward an afternoon liftoff; NASA had two hours Saturday to get the rocket off.

NASA wants to send the crew capsule atop the rocket around the moon, pushing it to the limit before astronauts get on the next flight. If the five-week demo with test dummies succeeds, astronauts could fly around the moon in 2024 and land on it in 2025. People last walked on the moon 50 years ago.

Forecasters expected generally favorable weather at Kennedy Space Center, especially toward the end of the two-hour afternoon launch window.

On Monday, hydrogen fuel escaped from elsewhere in the rocket. Technicians tightened up the fittings over the past week, but launch director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson stressed that she wouldn't know whether everything was tight until Saturday's fueling.

Even more of a problem on Monday, a sensor indicated one of the rocket's four engines was too warm, but engineers later verified it actually was cold enough. The launch team planned to ignore the faulty sensor this time around and rely on other instruments to ensure each main engine was properly chilled.

Before igniting, the main engines had to be as frigid as the liquid hydrogen fuel flowing into them at minus-420 degrees Fahrenheit (minus-250 degrees Celsius). If not, the resulting damage could lead to an abrupt engine shutdown and aborted flight.

## Erdogan warns Greece over Aegean airspace violations

ISTANBUL: President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday warned Greece it would pay a "heavy price" if it continued to "harass" Turkish planes over the Aegean.

"Hey Greece, take a look at history. If you go further, you will pay a heavy price," Erdogan told a rally in the Black Sea region.

Turkiye has in recent months complained of what it calls provocative actions by Athens, saying such moves undermine peace efforts.

The two uneasy NATO neighbors have long-standing sea and air boundary disputes which lead to near-daily air force patrols and interception missions



mostly around Greek islands near Turkey's coastline.

Athens accuses Ankara of overflying Greek islands.

Turkiye says Greece is stationing troops on islands in the Aegean Sea in viola-

tion of peace treaties signed after World Wars I and II.

An infuriated Erdogan on Saturday accused Greece of "occupying" the islands.

"We have only one word to tell Greece: Do not forget

Izmir (Smyrna in Greek)," Erdogan said, referring to the end of the Greek occupation after Turkish forces entered the city in the Aegean coast in 1922.

"Your occupation of the islands does not bind us," Erdogan said. "When the time comes, we will do what's necessary. As we say, we may come suddenly one night," he added, using his often-repeated words when he talked about launching an operation into neighbouring Syria.

In June, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Ankara would challenge Greece's sovereignty over the islands if it continued to send troops there.

## Dozens killed by Ethiopian ethnic militia: survivors

NAIROBI: Militia members from Ethiopia's second largest ethnic group killed dozens of people and torched and looted homes in an attack on a town in the country's restless Oromia region, survivors told AFP.

The attack took place early Monday in Agamsa in Oromia, Ethiopia's largest and most densely populated region which is regularly rocked by clashes between the Oromo and Amhara ethnic groups.

"The attackers attacked... from three directions using gunfire and continued their attacks until around 2:00 pm," a survivor, who fled Agamsa told AFP.

"They killed around 100 residents, torched many houses and shops and looted food warehouses using rickshaws, cars and motorcycles. I saw the attack with



my own eyes, but managed to flee unharmed."

Another survivor said the assailants stole cattle and killed more than 100 people.

Both said the men were members of a militia based in the neighboring Amhara region.

The Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), which is designated a terrorist organization by Addis Ababa, said the

Amhara Fano militia staged the attack and killed at least 62 people in Agamsa.

Neither the regional or federal governments responded to AFP's demands for confirmation.

Locals said the attack came after rotating regional troops left the area on Sunday but had not been replaced. A resident, who fled Agamsa but returned,

said: "I'm still in Agamsa town but there is no government security forces presence. We're afraid the attackers will come again."

In August last year, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission said over 210 people were killed in a week of ethnic attacks in Gida-Kirimu, near Agamsa. In June, hundreds of mainly Amhara civilians were killed in a restive area in the far west of the country.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed blamed the Oromo Liberation Army, saying it was "inflicting damage" on people as its fighters fled an offensive by security forces in western Oromia. Officials have blamed the OLA for a number of massacres targeting Amharas, although the rebels have denied responsibility.

## Sri Lanka's ousted president returns home after fleeing

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's former president, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country in July after tens of thousands of protesters stormed his home and office in a display of anger over the country's economic crisis, has returned to the country after seven weeks.

Rajapaksa flew into Colombo's Bandaranaike international airport around midnight Friday from Bangkok via Singapore. On being welcomed by lawmakers in his party, Rajapaksa left the airport in a motorcade heavily guarded by armed soldiers and reached a government-owned house allocated to him as a former president, at the center of the capital, Colombo.

On July 13, the ousted leader, his wife and two bodyguards left aboard an air force plane for the Maldives, before traveling to Singapore from where he officially resigned. He flew to Thailand two weeks later.



Rajapaksa has no court case or arrest warrant pending against him. The only court case he was facing for alleged corruption during his time as the secretary to the ministry of defense under his older brother's presidency was withdrawn when he was elected president in 2019 because of constitutional immunity.

For months, Sri Lanka has been in the grips of its worst economic crisis, which triggered extraordinary protests and unprecedented public rage that ultimately forced Rajapaksa and his brother, the former prime minister, to

step down. The situation in the bankrupt country was made worse by global factors like the pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but many hold the once-powerful Rajapaksa family as responsible for severely mismanaging the economy and tipping it into crisis.

The economic meltdown has seen monthslong shortages of essentials such as fuel, medicine and cooking gas due to a severe shortage of foreign currency. Though cooking gas supplies were restored through World Bank support, shortages of fuel, critical medicines and some food items continue.

The island nation has suspended repayment of nearly \$7 billion in foreign debt due this year. The country's total foreign debt amounts to more than \$51 billion, of which \$28 billion has to be repaid by 2027.

On Tuesday, President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who took over after

Rajapaksa resigned, and his administration reached a preliminary agreement with the International Monetary Fund for a \$2.9 billion bailout package over four years to help the country recover.

Rajapaksa, a former military officer, was elected on promises to uplift the country's economy and ensure national security after Islamic State-inspired bomb attacks killed some 270 people in churches and hotels on Easter Sunday 2019. He relinquished his American citizenship when he contested the election because laws at the time made dual citizens ineligible from holding political office.

As a top defense official he is accused of overseeing human rights violations by the military during the country's three-decade civil war with the now-defeated Tamil Tiger rebels who fought for an independent state for the country's ethnic minority Tamils.

*TEVTA employees are an asset: Mamoon Jaffar Tarrar*



Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chairperson Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA) Mamoon Jaffar Tarrar called on the delegation of TEVTA employees and ensure his full support in resolving several long-lasting issues.

While talking to the delegation, the Chairperson said that employees are an asset of TEVTA and he will use every forum to resolve their issues. He also directs them to work hard as no interruption in the teaching process will be bear.

"I expect that employees will give full support for the mission of promotion of technical education, as I will not compromise on the quality training of students", he added. Mamoon Jaffar Tarrar said that modern and upgraded training helps students in getting job opportunities, and their quality education will be provided as per market demand.

He said that he is talking about personal interest in issues of employees and will do every possible for their welfare.

The delegation has shown full support for the chairperson and congratulated him on taking charge of the office.

*Karim Tordher visits Rashakai SEZ, meets officials*

PESHAWAR: Officials from Rashakai Special Economic Zone Development and Operations Company (RSEZDOC) and China Road and Bridge Corporations (CRBC), along with the members of the board of Directors (BoD) KP-EZDMC, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC), Javed Iqbal Khattak, Vice Chairman-KPBOIT, Said Mehmood and Director KP-TEVTA, met with Special Assistant to Chief Minister KP on Industries, Abdul Karim Tordher, said a press release issued here on Saturday.

Hassan Farid, Member BoD KP-EZDMC and Director RSEZDOC was also present on the occasion.

The Special Assistant was briefed by the RSEZDOC team on the Rashakai Special Economic Zone (SEZ) through a detailed presentation on the progress of development work, marketing strategy chosen for the promotion of the Zone, enterprises presently working, enterprises in the approval process and concerns pertaining to the Zone. APP

*Over 1.5m cotton bales reach ginneries across Pakistan*

MULTAN: Seed cotton (Phutti) equivalent to over 1.5 million or exactly 15,39,710 bales have reached ginning factories across the country till September 1, registering decrease of 14.04 percent as compared to corresponding period of last year.

According to a fortnightly report of Pakistan Cotton Ginneries Association (PCGA) released on Saturday, over 1.4 million or 14,04,254 bales have undergone the ginning process i.e. converted into bales. Cotton arrivals in Punjab were recorded at over 0.7 million or 7,03,993 bales registering a surplus of 29.09 percent as compared to corresponding period of last year when arrivals were recorded 1,58,650 bales. APP

# Inflation is setting new records, affecting lives of masses

*Atif Ikram Sheikh says the flood also swept away the weak education system*

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: FPCCI's Presidential candidate Atif Ikram Sheikh on Saturday said after the agreement with the IMF the government's first priority should be to reduce inflation.

Punishing inflation has been increasing at an unprecedented pace for the past four months which has broken the back of the people, he said.

Talking to traders and industrialists, Atif Ikram Sheikh said that the fifty-year record of inflation in Pakistan has been broken and if it is not stopped, inflation will make new records.

He informed that according to official data, transport is now costlier by 63%, food 31%, rent and bills 27.6%, clothing etc. 17.6%, education



10% and health facilities 11.8% which many cannot afford.

According to the IMF, the average inflation in Pakistan will be 19.9 percent while the State Bank of Pakistan has estimated it between 18 and 20 percent but business community think that inflation will remain at least 25 percent.

Runaway inflation will be a challenge to manage while it may deprive millions of proper diet, he observed. Atif Ikram Sheikh said that for the last several years, the standard of living of the people is continuously falling and they are waiting for relief which is only being promised.

He said that the flood has also washed away our state-run education system. Thousands of schools have been damaged or destroyed and hundreds of thousands of children may lose

their education.

If inflation is not reduced, many parents will make their children earn instead of learning, which will be very dangerous for the future of the country, he warned.

The floods and torrential rains are being blamed on worsening weather patterns as a result of the climate crisis, with Pakistan ranked as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, while it contributes less than 1% of the global greenhouse gas emissions.

He called upon donors around the world to recognise the terrible situation and help children. Beyond immediate life-saving supplies like shelters, food and water, we also need to establish emergency schools where children can go.

## IFA 2022: TCL strengthens its innovations

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: TCL Electronics (1070. HK), one of the dominant players in the global TV industry and a leading consumer electronics brand, held an international press conference at IFA 2022 in Berlin. It showcased the latest offerings; a new flagship RAY•DANZ soundbar, an XL Collection of Mini LED, QLED TVs in Europe, and the most recent A energy class washing machines. TCL also showcased its latest sports sponsorships and sustainability commitments.

At IFA 2022, TCL showcased the EISA Premium Mini LED TV C835, an all-around 4K Mini LED TV with fantastic picture quality paired with Dolby Atmos for immersive sound. To bring the cinema into homes and offer a comprehensive, immersive experience, TCL went ahead with 98-inch QLED TV and the introduction of its latest XL Collection TV to Europe.

In audio, TCL introduced the newest flagship X937U soundbar with exclusive RAY•DANZ technology. For an expansive viewing environment, TCL also presented its TCL NXTWEAR Wearable Display Glasses with upgrades that enrich the user experience.

For TCL, user experience at the heart of every innovation is fundamental to the company's values and vision. From the proprietary FreshIN air conditioner and washing machine to an assortment of refrigerators, air purifiers, and robot vacuums, TCL provides products that connect seamlessly and are easy to use. With home appliances that win awards for their design, TCL offers technology and stylish pieces of furniture to blend into any home décor.

Through the TCL and Google Home App, now you can control all your smart devices, including Mini LEDs, QLED TVs, UHD TVs, A/Cs, and products, as mentioned earlier, with a plan to add more in the future.

As a responsible company with a global



footprint, TCL acknowledges its commitments extend well beyond developing and selling products to its customers. Responsible environmental stewardship is of critical importance.

Earlier this year, TCL introduced a new brand signature, Inspire Greatness, by dedicating itself to unleashing the most inspiring moments in people's lives. TCL brings excitement to customers through its relationships with trusted names in entertainment, sports, gaming, and technology.

TCL has been a global partner of FIBA since 2018 and is proud to support the FIBA EuroBasket Championship this September. European basketball fans will watch the FIBA EuroBasket Championship in their homes, starting today and taking place in Germany, Italy, Georgia, and the Czech Republic.

The new football sponsorships include Brazilian player Rodrygo, English player Phil Foden, Raphael Varane from France, and the rising Spanish star Pedri.

The 2022 TCL Team will bring excitement and happiness worldwide through the world's most popular sports and entertainment TV experiences.

TCL Pakistan is also a proud sponsor of the Pakistan National Men and Women Cricket Team. TCL Logo has been displayed on the team's official jersey at the 2022 most esteemed cricket series, including Pak Vs. Aus Series, Asia Cup, and Pak Vs. Sri Lanka ODIs. This cooperation was a great milestone for TCL as cricket is one of the favorite sports of millions of Pakistan's passionate fans.

Pakistan is one of the most prominent and key strategic regions for TCL. TCL Pakistan, over the years, has maintained its No. 1 ranked TV Brand position in the country and expanded its product line by launching IoT products like smart Air Purifier Breeva and smart Vacuum Cleaner Sweeva. TCL Pakistan is dedicated to providing its customers with the advanced, innovative technology with premium quality.

## PBF for legislation on Balochistan Women Economic Policy

QUETTA: Vice Chairperson of Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Balochistan Chapter, Sana Durrani has urged the provincial government not to introduce new women rights laws in the province as the old ones have yet to be implemented.

Talking to media here on Saturday, she said the country can't be developed by sidelining the 52 percent of the country's population and continue exploiting the rights of women. Without involving females in economic sector, we can't expect progress in our province, she added.

Emphasizing on implementation of women acts and legislation introduced by the provincial government, Sana Durrani said that she had been consulting with parliamentarians to stop tabling further acts and bills regarding women rights because the already tabled ones have yet to be implemented in the province. "The government of Balochistan adopted Women Harassment Act in 2016 but it's ironical that they didn't appoint the ombudsman who should have been in charge of receiving applications regarding women facing violence and harassment," Sana said, calling the legislation as just a piece of paper and nothing more.

The PBF official added:



"There should have been quick implementation over Women Harassment Act and awareness campaigns had to be launched to let women know what constitutes their rights and how to protect them.

Sana Durrani who has been participating in all new legislation and policies regarding women empowerment in Balochistan requested the provincial government to introduce 'Balochistan Women Economic Policy', which would be helpful to empower women who are not allowed to work outside their homes.

"Why can't we become the first province of the country to adopt Women Economic Policy," Sana asked, citing the example of Punjab which passed Women Development Fund.

The PBF official also said that entrepreneurship and private enterprise needed to be strengthened to increase tax collection. She said that there was need to formulate the informal economy so that Balochistan could enhance its own revenue generation. APP

## KATI dispatched 2nd batch of relief goods for the flood victims

*9 trucks of goods have been sent to the victims of Sindh and Balochistan, President Salman Aslam*

Our Correspondent

KARACHI: Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) sent the second batch to help the flood victims. President KATI Salman Aslam said that 9 trucks of relief goods are being sent to the victims of Sindh and Balochistan. The relief items include flour, rice, pulses, oil, dry food items, mosquito nets, pillow, water cooler, slippers, soap, toffees and biscuits

for children. On this occasion, KITE Limited CEO Zubair Chhaya, Senior Vice President Maheen Salman, Vice President Farrukh Qandhari, Member Aid Committee Junaid Naqi, Sindh Council Member Moazzam Qureshi and others were present.

Salman Aslam said that earlier he had taken the first batch to Balochistan under his leadership, in which relief goods worth millions of rupees

had been dispatched, and the second batch is carrying goods worth more than 1 crore rupees. 3 trucks will be sent to Balochistan, remaining 6 trucks will be sent to Khairpur, Dadu, Sukkur and other areas of Sindh. President KATI said that we are determined to deliver aid to more than 20,000 families by the end of this month, while the aid supplies for 7,000 families has been completed. He said that the cooperation of Rangers

is with us in this activity, and the relief goods dispatched within Sindh and Balochistan under the supervision of Rangers which will be distributed at the designated points of KATI. Salman Aslam said that there was a meeting with Commissioner Karachi Iqbal Memon in which he told that there are more than 500 IDPs in Korangi, our effort is to take care of 16,000 IDPs came to Karachi so far. He said that after the

immediate aid, we are trying to take steps to bring their lives back to normal.

On this occasion, Zubair Chhaya, CEO of KITE Limited, said that I am grateful to the members of KATI, including Patron-in-Chief SM Muneer, President Salman Aslam, Commissioner Karachi Iqbal Memon, People's Party Korangi President Moazzam Qureshi, who are taking timely action, established a 7-member relief

committee and sent the first aid supplies from the business sector. He said that I appreciate KATI President Salman Aslam for coming to help the flood victims and taking part in the relief activities. He said that I appeal to the business community and all citizens to actively participate in the initiative taken by KATI and donate generously to help our brothers and sisters who have been badly affected by the floods.

## CTBCM a promising model to boost renewable energy

*For achieving emission reduction targets and counter energy crisis, says Chairman NEPRA*

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Chairman, NEPRA, Tauseef H. Farooqui said that, "In order to promote renewable energy (RE) in the country, Competitive Trading Bilateral Contracts Market (CTBCM) model is under trial and will be launched in December, 2022."

He was speaking at the 2nd day of the Annual State of Renewable Energy Conference organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute in Karachi on Friday. He further said that, input and output data is being consolidated by connecting transmission and dispatch companies, DISCOs, private and public power plants and 239 consumer meters.

He apprised that CTBCM is a market competitive model for inexpensive clean renewable energy which enables sellers to provide electricity to bulk consumers without any geographical limitation. He

emphasized on market liberalization, removing preferential subsidies, and developing competition from technology and price point of view. He further expressed that DISCOs are apprehensive because CTBCM will dismantle status quo by attracting private sector. He suggested that DISCO must modernize as "it will be survival of strongest". However, he said it is crucial to bring down cost for consumer through private companies and startups.

MD, NEECA, Dr. Sardar Mohazzam informed the audience that, "National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Policy has been approved which will open areas for investment. He highlighted that RE offers promising employment generation prospects across diversified regions and have profound socio-economic impacts."

Deputy Managing Director, NTDC, Muhammad Ayub, informed the audience that in order to meet 60% RE target,



NTDC has purchased site to add 500MW wind and 1000MW solar energy to the national grid annually. He stressed that DISCOs must be appraised on the need to modernize for surviving in the current market. Shedding light on CSR activities undertaken by NTDC, he mentioned that trees are planted on vacant areas on each NTDC property and the coal power generation is based on indigenous coal only.

Country Manager Pakistan, GoodWe, Salman Mohiuddin suggested that 17% GST and 3.6% additional tax should be reconsidered and waived off for RE technology imports to reduce financial cost not just for businesses and bulk consumers, but also for the residential consumers.

Partner, Stimulus, Hira Wajahat stressed on engaging entrepreneurs and stakeholders from

the energy sector to make across the line, comprehensive policy changes. She suggested exploring technological upgradation through innovative business modeling between distributors and technology innovators due to fiscal constraints in Pakistan.

CEO, Linkedthings, Sophia Husnain stressed addressing demand side inefficiency in technology and replacing old appliances at residential and industrial level to reduce transmission losses and improve conservation. Project Director, Sindh Solar Energy Project, Mehfooz Ahmed Qazi apprised the participants on various initiatives including 15MW solarization of public buildings and 400MW on grid added through solar power plants. He stressed that NEPRA must initiate competitive bidding which is a major challenge for IPPs.

VP Supply Chain, Unilever Pakistan, Abdul Hannan pointed out that Unilever had initiated

RE projects to reach 50% RE target which has reached its ceiling. However, now a new site and the technology is needed which requires financial resources. He stressed that CTBCM can resolve this issue for MNCs which is essential for decarbonizing their operations.

CEO Shams Power, Omer Malik appreciated NEPRA's CTBCM model for creating possibilities for the power companies to inject renewable power into the grid and facilitating MNCs who are committed to meet carbon reduction targets to attract green investments.

MD, SOWITEC Pakistan, Zeeshan Ashfaq credited inconsistency of policies on RE as a major obstacle in enhancing its share in Pakistan. He suggested that government should focus on adding capacity to the grid under a unified policy rather than presenting new policies.

Head of Strategy and Power Market Development, CPPA,

Omar Haroon, suggested that DISCOs need new consideration for planning and operations to upgrade with RE's penetration in the power system.

Head of Plant, FFC Energy Ltd, Assadullah Qureshi said that FFC Energy is pioneer in operating and managing its power plant completely through its own staff, as they have developed skilled capacity and also trained engineers and technicians from the local community. He also mentioned that FFC Energy prioritizes conserving biodiversity, and conserves and recycles water from its sites.

Research Fellow, SAARC Energy Centre, Ahsan Javed stressed on tracking the impact of CSR activities from gender perspective, as women proactively reach out for soft loans. He also suggested developing technical and educational capacity of local communities to actively incorporate them in operational capacity in these projects.

# Pakistan to meet India for 2nd time in Asia Cup today

*Shahnawaz Dahani ruled out of the key clash due to a suspected side strain*

DUBAI: Pakistan will meet India for the second time in Asia Cup Twenty20 tournament in a Super Four contest in Dubai today.

Pakistan on Saturday suffered a new Asia Cup blow with fast bowler Shahnawaz Dahani ruled out of the key India clash due to a suspected side strain, according to a press release issued by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

The PCB said Dahani's injury "happened while bowling in the match against Hong Kong in Sharjah on Friday".

"As in the case with any suspected side strain injury, the medical team will monitor him for the next 48-72 hours, following which they will make decisions, including carrying out a scan and further participation in the tournament," the press release reads.

But it is feared that Dahani will have to sit out the rest of the matches, with Hasan Ali, who made the team in place of Mohammad Wasim, his likely replacement in the squad.

Dahani is the third Pakistan quick to be forced out with injury after Shaheen Shah Afridi and Wasim left the team ahead of the six-nation tournament in the United Arab Emirates.

Pakistan lost the opener to India but hammered Hong Kong by 155 runs to enter the Super Stage of the tournament,



which acts as a tune-up for the T20 World Cup in Australia. Afghanistan and Sri Lanka are the other two teams in the Super Four from Group B after Bangladesh bowed out.

Pakistan thumped Hong Kong by 155 runs in the Group A fixture of the ACC T20 Asia Cup on Friday to set up Super-4 matches against India, Afghanistan

and Sri Lanka.

This was Pakistan's biggest victory in terms of runs after they had defeated the West Indies by 143 runs in Karachi in April 2018 and New Zealand by 103 runs in Christchurch in December 2010. For Hong Kong, their score of 38 was the joint-ninth lowest total in the history of T20Is behind Turkey (21), Les-

otho (26), Turkey (28), Thailand (30), Turkey (32), Finland (33), Philippines (36), Panama (37) and Cameroon (38).

Pakistan likely XI:

Babar Azam (c), Mohammad Rizwan, Fakhar Zaman, Iftikhar Ahmed, Shadab Khan, Khushdil Shah, Asif Ali, Mohammad Nawaz, Haris Rauf, Naseem Shah, Hasan Ali.

## Wood, Parsons impressed by young talent and NHPC facilities

**Tahir Amin Malik**

LAHORE: Power-hitting coach Julian Wood and fast bowling coach Gordon Parsons have started their stints at the National High Performance Centre, Lahore for the Engro Cricket Coaching Project under the PCB Pathway Programme.

The two seasoned specialist coaches arrived at the NHPC this week to work with the U13, U16 and U19 players selected for specialised training in the PCB Pathway Programme. A total of 107 players are involved in the first batch of the programme that is aimed at providing world-class coaching, training, education and development of life skills of the future stars of Pakistan.

Wood and Parsons are working with the players at the NHPC's indoor and outdoor nets besides delivering lectures in their respective areas of expertise. The players will also play practice and scenario-based matches in the upcoming days at the LCCA Ground and the Gaddafi Stadium.

In addition to the foreign coaches, some of the top-ranked local coaches including former Pakistan stars Arshad Khan, Rao Iftikhar and Ijaz Ahmed Jnr are also working with the players.

Fast bowling coach Gordon Parsons:

"I have received a rousing welcome here and have almost felt like royalty with the affection and hospitality offered by the players, coaches and the staff. The NHPC is a coach's paradise, the facilities are absolutely top-class, and my aim would be to contribute further to the rich heritage of Pakistan fast bowlers."

"The PCB Pathway Programme which has involved 100-odd players in their early to mid-teens is a fantastic concept that will surely benefit the future generation of Pakistan stars. As a fast bowling coach, I am delighted to see the talent of the bowlers who have converged here and their willingness to learn."

"For a fast bowler, 17 to 18 years of age is an ideal time of development, the mechanics of an action and run-up go in tandem with the development of a bowler's body while assessing potential injury risks. My aim would be to work on all these aspects to ensure these bowlers get the best out of this camp. Fast bowling is perhaps still the most exciting thing in cricket and there is nothing like a bowler bowling at 150kph regardless of the format."

Power-hitting coach Julian Wood: "I have had an amazing time so far since arriving at the NHPC, the facilities are

excellent and I am really excited to see the talent in the batters here. Most of the batters have solid technique, and their fundamentals are in place.

"We have some impressive young batting talent here with strong basics, technique and the desire to learn. As a specialised coach, I would endeavour to teach these players the ways and means of maximising their talent."

"The buzzwords these days are power-hitting, ball access speed, hand-speed, launch angles and creating angles while batting. In the shorter formats, the time is short, so everything needs to be done quicker but there is so much more to the concept and you need to have a touch game, a skill game and a power game and one thing I have noticed is that these young Pakistan players have all of it."

The remaining three foreign coaches (Julian Fountain, Toby Radford and Nicholas Webb) part of the Engro Cricket Coaching Project are expected to reach Lahore in the next seven to 10 days. After the completion of the pathway camp, the players selected for the inaugural edition of the Pakistan Junior League will join their respective sides in the lead-up to the tournament that starts in the first week of October at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

## VAR denies Everton winner in feisty derby draw with Liverpool

LIVERPOOL: Everton were denied a second-half winner following a lengthy VAR review in a feisty 0-0 draw with Merseyside rivals Liverpool in the Premier League on Saturday (Sep 3).

Both sides hit the woodwork in the first half at Goodison Park, with Tom Davies denied by the upright for Everton, before Darwin Nunez and Luiz Diaz both saw efforts come out off the frame of the goal for the visitors.

The game opened up after the break, with Jordan Pickford forced into several fine stops in the home goal, while Neal Maupay, making his Everton debut after signing from Brighton & Hove Albion in midweek, should have scored from close range.

Then came the moment Everton fans had been waiting for after Conor Coady tapped home at the far post but with pandemonium ensuing at Goodison, the goal was ruled out for offside after a lengthy VAR review.

Both sides pressed for a winner, with Everton substitute Dwight McNeil's deflected shot almost catching Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson out and Mohamed Salah firing against the post in stoppage time, but the rivals had to settle for a point each.

The stalemate means Liverpool remain in fifth, six points behind leaders Arsenal ahead of their trip to Manchester United on Sunday, while Everton stay 14th, winless from their six matches so far.

## Enjoying bowling with Naseem Shah: Haris Rauf

**Spokesman Report**

DUBAI: Pakistan's ACC T20 Asia Cup 2022 campaign had hit a major roadblock even before it began when their premier fast bowler Shaheen Afridi was ruled out due to a knee injury.

A few days before the team's tournament opener, fast bowling all-rounder Mohammad Wasim Jnr was declared unfit for the tournament due to a side strain. Now, Pakistan will take on India in their opening Super-4 game on Sunday without Shahnawaz Dahani, who has been advised rest for after picking up a suspected side strain injury during the

Hong Kong match on Friday.

However, such is the depth of Pakistan's pace bowling arsenal that despite these setbacks, the country's pacers have rocked Dubai and Sharjah conditions with their sizzling bouncers, scorching yorkers and wily cutters.

Naseem Shah has been a revelation. He accounted for KL Rahul in his maiden over in T20I cricket last Sunday and uprooted the off-stumps of a dangerous-looking Suryakumar Yadav. On Friday, he sent two Hong Kong batters back to the pavilion in a space of three balls, which provided a solid start to Pakistan's defence of 194. Hong Kong, even-

tually, were bowled out for 38 as Pakistan recorded their biggest T20I win in terms of runs. Naseem sits fourth alongside Shadab Khan on the list of bowlers with most wickets, but what stands out is his strike-rate of nine - meaning he is taking a wicket every second over.

Haris Rauf, now the most experienced bowler in this Pakistan pace attack, is looking forward to a partnership with Naseem. With these two bowlers' ability to constantly click above 145kph, swing the ball in the air and seam off the pitch, they promise to pose a threat to India, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka over the next week.

"I am really happy with the performance of my bowling line-up," Haris told PCB Digital ahead of Pakistan's Super 4 clash against India on Sunday in Dubai. "We kept it tight in the first match against India and got a thumping win against Hong Kong. We will try to keep this momentum in the Super 4 stage of the tournament."

"Bowling partnerships are very important in this format of the game and I am really enjoying bowling with the young sensation Naseem Shah. Because of his searing pace, he keeps the opponents on the backfoot, which gives edge to the other bowlers."

## All set for Intra Academy U-14 Futsal Championship

**Spokesman Report**

LAHORE: The 1st Intra Academy Under-14 Futsal Championship will take place on September 5 and 6, 2022 here at DHA Sports Complex Phase 6 Lahore.

Total eight teams' players will be exhibiting their prowess during the two-day prestigious futsal championship and enthralling encounters can be expected throughout the event. The participating teams include Smurfs, Bulls, TWK, Fame, Lahore Athletic, Kick-on, F5 and Lacas.

It is worth mentioning here that the Normalisation Committee, which has been assigned the task to run the affairs of Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) as well as conducting its elections in a fair and transparent manner, is aiming at working very professionally on its assigned task by the FIFA. At one hand, the NC has been trying to restore the national and international activities of the national football teams while on the other hand, it is also endeavouring to introduce and promote the latest formats of the game in the country that include futsal, beach football and such other games.

In a statement, Normalisation Committee Chairman Haroon Malik said: "The purpose of organising this futsal championship is to engage youth in healthy activities and also play a key role in further promoting these games in the region. This is a latest format of the game and the introduction of new formats will enhance the opportunities for Pakistani players, who have talent and potential and with extra effort and hard work, they can not only make into the national teams but also win international glories for Pakistan."

## IOC Olympic Solidarity Technical Course begins today

**Spokesman Report**

LAHORE: IOC Olympic Solidarity Technical Course for Gymnastics Coaches allocated by Pakistan Olympic Association to Pakistan Gymnastics Federation is taking its start from today at Lahore.

The course will be conducted by an international expert nominated by FIG, Mr. Hamid Reza Hashemi, from IR Iran. First time in the history of Pakistan, the participants from all divisions of Punjab, Sindh including females have been invited to attend the course. Participants from KP and Balochistan are also participating in this course. The course will be comprising of practical and theoretical sessions, therefore it will be very beneficial for the participants to disseminate the same down the level at divisions, district, tehsil, clubs and schools.

The opening ceremony of the course will be held at Pakistan Olympic House, Lahore on 04 September 2022 at 1700 hours. Lt Gen (R) Syed Arif Hasan HI(M), President Pakistan Olympic Association (NOC Pakistan) will grace the occasion as chief guest.

## Serena Williams falls in third round of US Open

NEW YORK: A defiant Serena Williams bid an emotional goodbye to the US Open with a third-round loss to Ajla Tomljanovic on Friday, in what may have been the last singles match of her glittering career.

Defeat has always been hard to swallow for the fiercely competitive Williams and no doubt the 7-5 6-7 (4) 6-1 loss to the 46th ranked Australian stung her to her core.

But after a joyous run into the third round there was no shame in a loss to the gritty Tomljanovic, allowing the 23-times Grand Slam winner to exit with dignity intact and head held high.

Her three matches, highlighted by a second-round win over world number two Anett Kontaveit, were a gift to her fans, the relentless never surrender attitude that made her tennis' dominant player for over two decades on display right until the very final point.

Always up for a fight, the 40-year-old came out swinging, forcing Tomljanovic to go the distance. The Australian needed six match points to deliver the knockout punch and bring an end to an engrossing three-plus-hour slugfest.

Williams had signalled her intention to retire last month, saying she was "evolving away from tennis" but never confirming the US Open as her final event.

## Reus helps Dortmund bag top spot

DORTMUND: A goal from forward Marco Reus has seen Dortmund claim first position on the Bundesliga table with a 1-0 win at home against Hoffenheim on Friday night. Dortmund won their fourth game of five this season - and their third 1-0 victory of the campaign - thanks to a first-half goal from Reus.

Reus opened the scoring after 16 minutes, thumping in a ball slid in by English teenager Jamie Bynoe-Gittens after some creative work from the impressive Julian Brandt.

The goal was Reus' 146th Bundesliga strike in 345 games - and the 60th time he has put his team up 1-0. "We did very well in the first half, in the second we ran out of steam a bit," Reus told DAZN immediately after the game. "We protected our goal well, we have to be a bit more cold-blooded up front."

Dortmund striker Anthony Modeste almost scored his second goal of the season after 68 minutes when he capitalised on a deflected strike from Thorgan Hazard, but Hoffenheim keeper Oli Baumann managed to throw his chest in the way.

## Duplantis, Fraser-Pryce suffer rare defeats in Brussels

BRUSSELS: Armand Duplantis and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce suffered shock defeats at the Diamond League meet in Brussels on Friday.

World, Olympic and European pole vault champion Duplantis, also the world record holder, failed three times at 5.91 metres.

That failure handed victory to Ernest Obiena of the Philippines. It was Duplantis' first defeat in a dominant season in which he won two world titles, indoor and out, setting two new world records (6.20 and 6.21m) in the process. His last loss came in Lausanne last August, the US-born Swede having since enjoyed a string of 21 victories.

Duplantis opened with a blip at 5.61m, going clear at the second time of asking with three of the 10-strong field already out of the running. He skipped 5.71 but became the first vaulter to clear 5.81m. Only one other, Filipino Obiano, was to follow, the rest of the field heading for an early shower.

Obiano cleared 5.91m on the third time of asking, Duplantis having clipped the bar on his three efforts, a band of African drummers adding a raucous atmosphere at the King Baudouin Stadium with balmy temperatures of 27 degrees Celsius (81 Fahrenheit).

"I did a lot of things poorly technically," admitted Duplantis. "It's rare for me to jump the way I did. "Maybe I needed a bit of a wake-up call. I've got to come back next year and do something more special for the people that came out." There was a similar upset in the women's 100m, Jamaica's Shericka Jackson trumping five-time world champion Fraser-Pryce.

Jackson, crowned 200m world champion in Oregon in July - also ahead of Fraser-Pryce, clocked 10.73sec in a photo-finish with her teammate, at one-hundredth of a second.

"I feel okay about today's race," said Fraser-Pryce, who was forced to skip

the Lausanne meet last week with a hamstring contraction. "It wasn't anything spectacular but I felt good. I do not have any injury so that is the most important part. I am not sure about (next week's finals in) Zurich, I will have to wait and listen to my body."

The versatile Jackson, who has stepped down into the sprints on the back of being an extremely proficient 400m performer, added: "It felt good. I wanted to execute a good start. "I was excited. I wanted to come out here and perform my very best and come out next week and do the same" at the Diamond League finals in Zurich.

On the track where in 2011 Jamaica's Yohan Blake famously ran 19.26sec - the second fastest time ever - current world bronze medallist Erriyon Knighton failed to get close to that meeting record. The 18-year-old American clocked 20.07sec for victory ahead of Alexander Ogando of the Dominican Republic, in 20.18sec.



One of the best performances of the night belonged to Olympic champion Jasmine Camacho-Quinn, the Puerto Rican racing to an impressive victory

in the 100m hurdles in 12.27sec, a new meet record and just one-hundredth of her personal best. Brazil's world champion Alison

Dos Santos also made no mistake in the men's 400m hurdles, winning in 47.54sec for a sixth victory of the season in the Diamond League.

"It was a very competitive field and I'm very happy with my result," said the Brazilian. "This year has been incredible for me. I've basically won everything that there was to win: the world title, the Diamond League."

"I'm very motivated to do even better next year. We have a great generation of 400m hurdle runners and it's always great to compete against athletes like (Rai) Benjamin, (Khalifah) Rossier and Karsten (Warholm). We push each other to a higher level."

Of the three rivals named, only Rossier was present in Brussels, finishing second, 0.34sec off Dos Santos' pace. Ukraine's two-time world silver medalist Yaroslava Mahuchikh won the high jump with a personal best of 2.05m, having three ambitious efforts at what would have been a world record 2.10.