



Federal aid not received as expected: Shaukat Yousafzai

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government spokesperson Shaukat Yousafzai on Sunday lashed out at the federal government and said that the infrastructure was more affected than in the 2010 flood while the KP government did not receive federal aid as expected. Shaukat said 289 people have died so far, adding that more than 675,000 people are homeless, 87,000 houses have been destroyed.



Over 1,200 medical relief camps in flood hit areas: Patel

Minister of National Health Services Abdul Qadir Patel said over 1,200 medical relief camps have been established in flood hit areas to provide medical assistance to flood victims. He said that 300 health camps were being set up in six districts of Balochistan and Sindh and 400 in eight districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rs300b for rehab of flood hit areas of Balochistan demanded

Staff Report

ISLAMABAD: Balochistan Minister for Agriculture and Cooperative, Mir Asadullah Baloch Sunday appreciated Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's announcement of Rs. 10 billion aid for the province, however he demanded to raise the money as the estimated overall loss faced by Balochistan stands around Rs. 300 billion.

Asadullah Baloch demanded the Federal government and donor agencies to come forward and help the provincial government in rehabilitation of flood affectees as out of estimated Rs. 300 billion loss, the agriculture sector alone faced Rs. 150 billion loss.

The provincial minister said that people of Balochistan were hit by worst natural calamity in the history and were looking for the help from federal government, philanthropists and NGOs to mitigate their sufferings as Balochistan was the second worst affected province after Sindh.

Consumers' to get relief in bills soon

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Energy has started implementing relief announced by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to the electricity consumers using up to three hundred units.

A notification in this regard has been issued by the Ministry. According to the notification, consumers who have already paid their bills will be credited their amount in next month's billing.

The last date to pay the bills has also been extended.

Briefing on Flood Damages

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif receives briefing regarding Pinjara bridge and infrastructure damage by flash flood in district Kachhi, Balochistan on Sunday.



Photo: PID

Nation working in unison over flood damages: PM

Shehbaz Sharif appreciates authorities who restored the damaged bridges

BUREAU REPORT

KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said during the current situation which arose after the monsoon rains and floods, the entire nation was working in unison and inspiration to overcome the problems which was very important.

Expressing his view after getting a briefing from the relevant authorities over the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts of road, rail and bridges infrastructure in the area, the prime minister said that it was a matter of satisfaction that all the people had been involved to overcome the enormous issues after the natural calamity hit the country.

Appreciating the efforts of the

PM urges UNICEF, global agencies to help Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has urged the United Nations, UNICEF and other global agencies to support Pakistan as the climate-induced calamities have adversely affected the country's children. In a tweet, the Prime Minister said over 400 children died in recent floods which make up one-third of the overall death toll. He expressed regret the children are exposed to a greater risk of water-borne diseases.

district administration authorities and others, the prime minister said their commitment and devotion had been a source of inspiration for the general public.

He said that he saluted all those who had been involved in the relief and rehabilitation efforts. The chief minister and the chief secretary had been coordinating and working with all the relevant authorities, he added.

It was your commitment to the nation, he said, adding that their efforts would serve as a beacon of light for the people. It was the teamwork that could yield results in trying times, he opined.

The prime minister announced Rs5 million relief grant for the labourers who were working there in the difficult situation and another amount of Rs1 million for the staff that was working for

the restoration of gas pipelines. A committee would be set up to dispense the amount on merit.

The prime minister said the floods had caused large-scale damages across the country, affecting all the provinces. About 1300 lives were lost, livestock swept away, while the economic and infrastructure damages were enormous.

In this district, the prime minister said, recent floods had swept away Bibi Nani bridge, disrupting traffic from Quetta to Sukkur and leaving about 6000 people stranded on both ends.

He appreciated the NHA, law enforcement jawans and other authorities who restored the damaged bridge within 8 hours, adding that they did a great national service.

PTI chief is stuck in his ego: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb said that the nation is trapped in the flood but Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan is stuck in his ego.

On September 3, Imran Khan addressed a public gathering in Bahawalpur and criticised the PML-N leadership for stealing the nation's money.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz got on the nerves of Imran Khan even while he was visiting the flood-hit South Punjab.

The information minister criticised Imran Khan for playing politics for his personal gains. "Imran Khan has again filled his stomach with false politics instead of donating something to the hungry people in the flood-affected areas," she said.

Imran Khan does not want justice in Pakistan, as he wants



to impose the PTI's "revenge system" in the country, she added.

Earlier, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb says Imran Khan is focusing on his own politics instead of helping the flood victims. Responding to Imran Khan's statement, she said the PTI Chief does not want to bring a system of justice, but he desires to introduce a system of revenge.

Fawad refutes report on backdoor contacts

Says no one has anything in their hands now

ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Fawad Chaudhry has refuted a news report on backdoor contacts with both Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf by some quarters.

A private-run TV channel, which the PTI leaders have often praised for its coverage of the party, reported about the "on going" backdoor contacts with the PMLN and PTI, without stating openly who had contacted either of the party.

It said that Imran Khan had recently met a key person in Islamabad and that there were reports of a 'thaw'.

Retweeting the report, Fawad Chaudhry said that "backdoor talks happen only where matters are decided by the elite and not the people."



"But now in Pakistan no one has anything in their hands. People have taken the decisions in their own hands. [The PTI is] ready for talks with the government but these talks won't be held secretly. There is only one conditions for the talks that fresh elections are announced," Fawad said. Agencies

Imran to hold another int'l telethon for flood-hit people

FAISALABAD: Former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan has announced that he will hold another international telethon next Sunday to raise funds for flood victims.

Addressing a public rally in Faisalabad, the PTI chief said record crop production was witnessed during the last two years of the PTI government. He added that the situation has overturned now as people are witnessing a rise in unemployment and fuel prices after an imported government was imposed through a foreign conspiracy.

"The PTI government had planted 10 billion trees to reduce the effects of climate change in Pakistan. We have to construct more dams. Our government had constructed 10 dams," he added.

The former PM said that Faisalabad is the Manchester of Pakistan and it is an industrial city. The country's drainage system must be fixed, adding that corrupt people steal the country's money and send it out. We have to build dams to protect the country from floods. "I will soon collect billions of



rupees again for the flood victims through another telethon next Sunday," Imran announced.

While lashing out at PML-N and PPP top brass, Imran Khan said that Shehbaz Sharif, his brother Nawaz Sharif and Asif Ali Zardari were allegedly involved in laundering public money abroad. He alleged that Sharif and Zardari's families were looting the national treasury for the last 30 years.

The former PM added that the PTI government

had provided subsidies to the masses after the record collection of taxes during its tenure instead of increasing the financial burden on the nationals.

He warned of another wave of inflation over the directives of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Imran Khan reiterated that political instability in the country can only be ended through fresh elections. He asked the youth to be prepared for his call to get real independence in the country. Agencies

Masood appeals Pak expats to donate for flood victims

Spokesman Report

WASHINGTON: Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan has appealed the Pakistani American community to donate generously for the flood victims in Pakistan.

Addressing a large gathering organized by Pakistani American community in connection with Pakistan Day, he said the floods have caused unprecedented destruction in the country.

The Ambassador said many people have died in the floods. People have also lost their houses and cattle and millions of families are waiting for food, basic facilities and medicine.

He urged the community to come forward and generously help flood victims as they did in past at the time of 2005 earthquake and flood in 2010.

Earlier, the Ambassador met editorial board of Chicago Tribune and briefed them about the devastation of flood in Pakistan.

26 more die due to monsoon catastrophe: NDMA

12,588 individuals got injured since the onset of the rainy season

ISLAMABAD: The unprecedented torrential monsoon rains across the country on Sunday inflicted further lives and property losses as the total death count in various incidents reached 1,290 and 12,588 individuals got injured since the onset of the rainy season.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) issued a 24-hour situation report released on routine basis that accounted overall life, property and infrastructure losses incurred by the heavy rains lashing out various parts of the country.

The heavy rains and flash floods caused deaths of a child in Zhob and a man whereas the details of the latter were to follow.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa some two perished due to roof collapse and flood in various districts including a woman due to flood in DI Khan and a child due to roof collapse in North Waziristan.

However, in various incidents of roof collapse a man in Lower Dir and three children in North Waziristan were reportedly injured.

The NDMA underlined that the Provincial Disaster Management Authority of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) reconciled its death data as the number of a deceased woman was reduced by the PDMA.

The data reconciled by the NDMA



mentioned that two perished men and women each figures were reduced by the PDMA Sindh. However, segregated data of nine individuals was still awaited from PDMA Sindh.

In Punjab's District Rajanpur a man drowned in flood water.

In Sindh, 22 people perished including four men and a child died in Noushero Feroze, two men, a woman and four children in Shikarpur; two men, a woman and two children in Badin, a man died due to house collapse in Matiari, a man died in Khairpur and three children died in Ghotki.

There was no incident or loss to report Islamabad Capital Territory

(ICT), Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Punjab and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). In Balochistan M-8 was blocked as the route of 100 - 140 kilometers (Km) was blocked due to land sliding in 24 Km section of Wangu hills.

In KP, N-95 was blocked as the route (Madyan) between Behrain - Laikot (27 km) was blocked.

At the N-50, the road was opened for traffic except breached section of Sagu bridge and preparation of approaches on both sides of Sagu bridge was in process.

In Sindh, N-55, Meher Johi Canal to Khairpur Nathan Shah was submerged and road was closed.

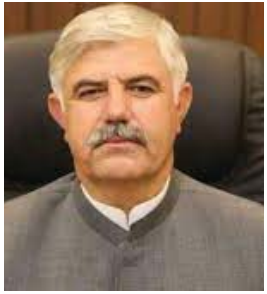
Relief & Assistance

HYDERABAD: Displaced people from flood lives in newly built Tent City, organized by Sindh Government and PDMA at Labor colony.



Photo: Online

KP Climate
Change policy
2022 approved



PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has formally approved Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Climate Change policy 2022 that was aimed to minimize effects of global warming.

The policy has been approved with requisite action plan that encompasses necessary steps to combat challenges, said a press release issued here Saturday.

As many as 129 factors have been identified in different sectors that negatively impact climate and the action plan includes possible steps and measures to reduce these factors along with adaptation of 172 environment friendly practices.

The Chief Minister has termed the policy as a pressing priority adding that KP province was also witnessing effects of climate change like other parts of the country.

He added that these effects had become more evident over the past couple of years including forest fires due to severe heat wave that destroyed much of the forest cover in the province.

Similarly, monsoon rains had also caused severe floods that could be prevented by timely necessary steps.

He reiterated that effects of climate change had also become evident in the northern areas of the province. He clarified that climate change policy had been divided into various categories keeping in view the priorities. APP

Amidst flood devastation

US reaffirms its support to Pakistan

The US delegation also commends key role played by Pakistan for establishing regional peace

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The United States has reaffirmed its support and solidarity with the government and people of Pakistan amidst the devastation caused by flash floods and rains in the country.

The support was extended during meeting of a US delegation with Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani in Islamabad on Sunday. The delegation comprised chairperson of Pakistani caucus in the US Congress Congresswoman Sheila Jackson, Congressmen Al Green and Thomas Suozzi and US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome.

Expressing grief and sorrow over the loss of life and property during recent floods in the country, the delegation vowed to continue support to Pakistan in tackling natural calamities.

The delegation also commended the key



role played by Pakistan for establishing peace and stability in the region.

On the occasion, the Chairman Senate briefed the delegation about the current situation of floods in the country and expressed gratitude for the United States' support to Pakistan during this difficult time.

He termed the support of USAID for flood affected people in Pakistan, crucial. Underlining the importance of the delegation's visit in deepening Pak-US ties, Sadiq Sanjrani said Pakistan is desirous of long-term and sustainable relations with the United States.

He emphasized the need for strengthening Pak-US trade and economic relations. The Chairman Senate said bilateral cooperation is inevitable to address problems related to health, security, counter-terrorism and climate change. Agencies

Flood Assistance

China to provide another 300m yuan to Pakistan

Bureau Report

LAHORE: China has announced to provide another 300 million yuan of relief supplies to Pakistan.

The announcement was made by Director of China International Development Cooperation Agency, Luo Zhaohui during a meeting with Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Lieutenant General Ahhtar Nawaz via video link.

Luo Zhaohui requested the Pakistani side to provide a list of urgently needed supplies at an early date and determine the mode of transportation so that the Chinese assistance can reach the flood victims as soon as possible.

The Chairman National Disaster Management Authority thanked Chinese leadership and people for their assistance.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Chinese companies led by China's Consul General in Pakistan Zhao Shiren called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Lahore on Sunday and presented him a cheque for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood affectees.

Talking to the Chinese delegation, the Prime Minister said the government and people of China never left Pakistan alone in its hour of need.

He said that the friendship of the two countries was higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the ocean.

Sarwar urges UN to raise emergency aid to \$10b

LAHORE: Former governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said the United Nations announcement of \$160 million emergency plan for flood relief in Pakistan was not sufficient to address the devastation and the world body should raise the emergency aid to \$10 billion.

He said millions of people had been displaced while more than 1,250 people died besides unprecedented loss of livestock, crops and houses. The former governor, who is also chairman of Sarwar Foundation, is visiting the United Kingdom (UK) to raise funds for the flood relief and rehabilitation. Ch Sarwar said he would also appeal to the G20 countries to give debt relief to Pakistan, adding that the international financial institutions should also facilitate the country in loan repayments. He said the country had to make almost 2 million Pounds debt repayments and the unprecedented crisis situation demanded extraordinary support from the world community in these testing times.

Japan hands over emergency relief goods to Pakistan

Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Japan has handed over emergency relief goods comprising tents and plastic sheets to the National Disaster Management Authority at the Jinnah International Airport Karachi on Sunday.

Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office Kinoshita Yasumitsu and Consul-General of Japan in Karachi Odagiri Toshio were present on the occasion.

Mr Odagiri said Japan is deeply saddened by the widespread damage in Pakistan caused by the unprecedented flooding and hoped that these goods would help to the victims. He said, Japan would continue to work closely with Pakistan and the Japanese Embassy and JICA would cooperate with each other to respond to the situation.

Consul-General said JICA is committed to support relief, recovery, and rehabilitation effort of Pakistan with the motto of 'Build Back Better'.

Additional Rs1b to be allocated for mothers, children

ISLAMABAD: Minister of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Shazia Marri has said Benazir Income Support Programme in collaboration with World Food Programme has decided to cover the flood affected pregnant mothers and children under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme. She said for this purpose, an additional amount of one billion rupees would be allocated for the flood affected mothers and children apart from the existing beneficiaries.

She said around 33 million people have been displaced at national level as a result of the recent floods which is a big number. Shazia Marri urged the international community and philanthropists to stand with the flood victims and extend support. APP

UN to ensure maternal health for flood-hit women: Pakistan

NEW YORK: A top Pakistani diplomat has urged the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to scale up its emergency response for flood-devastated Pakistan to provide life-saving reproductive health services and commodities, especially to some 650,000 pregnant women among the 33 million displaced people.

Addressing a session of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA and UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) at which Pakistan's UNFPA Country programme (2023-2027) was adopted, Ambassador Munir Akram said that out of the displaced people,



an estimated 8.2 million are women of reproductive age, and up to 73,000 women, who are expected to deliver next month, will need skilled birth attendants, newborn care, and support.

Emphasizing that success

of any policy or programme depends on the "willful and determined" participation of the target population, the Pakistani envoy said it was important that the cultural particularities and sensitivities along with national priorities are taken well into consideration while implementing the programme.

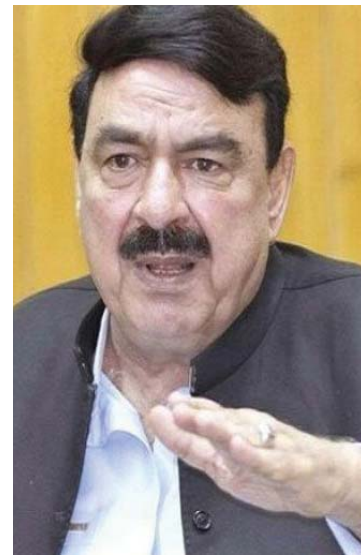
He said that the Covid-19 pandemic, spiraling prices of food and energy and security challenges, have severely constrained Pakistan's ability to respond to the goals of ensuring the nutritional, health, and hygienic needs of the population, particularly of the most disadvantaged among them.

IK to give call for Islamabad march after floods ease: Sh. Rasheed

ISLAMABAD: Lashing out at the coalition government over soaring inflation and its alleged plan to impose further taxes worth Rs608 billion on the masses, former interior minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed on Sunday announced that PTI Chairman Imran Khan will give a call for march on Islamabad once the floods recede.

The statement by the Awami Muslim League (AML) chief comes a day after Imran Khan, at a public rally in Gujrat, warned the PM Shehbaz Sharif-led government to stop the "persecution" of his party workers with court cases, saying that he will otherwise head for the federal capital once more with his supporters.

Taking to his Twitter handle today, Rasheed warned: "Sitambar Sitambar ho ga (September will be cruel)."



"The IMF struck yet another deal with the government for recovery of Rs608 billion. First they robbed the national treasury and now they are looking to pick people's pockets," said the former interior minister.

Referring to the flood situation in Sindh, Sheikh Rasheed said that the flash floods have "opened the eyes" of the people of Sindh. "The floods have destroyed the Pakistan Democratic Movement's (PDM) reputation," he said.

He asked how other countries will give aid to a nation where the people refuse to donate to "these money launderers"?

Khan's aide said that people are not able to pay electricity bills and buy petrol "and yet the government is planning to increase taxes." Agencies

Under PM's directives

Major flood-hit road infrastructure restored

ISLAMABAD: Under directives of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, rehabilitation work on a number of flood-damaged highways, roads and links roads had been completed whereas on the remaining sections, the restoration work was continuing on an emergency basis.

Minister for Communication and Chairman National Highway Authority (NHA) are ensuring the early restoration of the damaged road infrastructure in different parts of the country.

The prime minister is personally supervising the roads rehabilitation work and receiving updated reports on daily basis, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Major flood-hit road infrastructure restored; emergency work continues under PM's directives

During the last fortnight, different damaged roads in the four provinces and Gilgit Baltistan had been restored.

The prime minister had already stressed that rehabilitation of the communication and links roads was the top priority.

N-15 had been restored from Mansehra to Chilas via Naran while N-25 from Karachi to Chaman where Hub to Khuzdar section was affected by flood had been restored for traffic. Karakorum Highway N-35 was also completely rehabilitated which was closed for traffic from Indus Kohistan to Hunza districts.

Major flood-hit road infrastructure restored; emergency work continues under PM's directives

Similarly, N-40 Quetta-Noshki section, N-45 Chakdara-Dir section, Indus Highway N-55 Rajanpur-Taunsa and DIKhan-Pezu sections, N-65 Sibbi-Quetta section, N-70 Fort Munro section, N-90 Alpuri-Basham section, N-140 Gilgit-Shandour section and Strategic Highway S-1 Shangous section were restored for traffic.

The restoration work on certain highways was still continuing which included N-50 Zhob-DIKhan section, N-95 Fatahpur, Kalam section and Motorway M-8 Wangu Hills-Banja section. These highways would be soon re-opened for traffic. APP



Education expo

Malaysia becoming hub of higher education: Dr. Yasmin

The minister says Pakistan has cordial and brotherly relations with Malaysia

Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid has said that it is encouraging that Malaysia is becoming the desired destination of foreign students for higher education and specialization.

She said this while inaugurating a two-day Education Expo arranged by the Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS) for the benefit of students who are aspiring for higher studies abroad at Avari Hotel on Saturday here. As many as 10 leading universities of Malaysia have been invited to participate in the expo.

Dr. Yasmin Rashid said that Pakistan has cordial and brotherly relations with



Malaysia and this expo is a timely initiative which will benefit the students who are aspiring for higher studies abroad. "I am happy to see that the Malaysian

universities are offering higher studies in multiple disciplines, including medicine," she added. EMGS CEO Mohd Radzlan bin

Jalaludin disclosed that the event is going to be an ideal opportunity for Pakistani students, faculty and counselors to meet the Malaysian govt and universities representatives directly and discuss their study and visa options.

Mohd Radzlan bin Jalaludinsaid the students would be able to seek visa guidance directly from the Malaysian government officials. He said that the participating universities are offering generous scholarships up-to 50 per cent and tuition fee waivers to the Pakistani students. He said that the enrolled students would have an option to get the US, UK and Australia degree at one-third the cost in Malaysia and with the option to transfer to UK or Australia to complete their degree.



ISLAMABAD: Ammad Rasheed Honorary Consul General of Tunisia for KP & CEO WINGS International Mag Islamabad presenting the souvenir to Mohsin Hassan Butt PSP, PPM, Director General Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) at the FIA HQ Islamabad.

AJK President for timely completion of Rathwa-Haryam project

Our Correspondent

MUZAFFARABAD: Stressing the need for early completion of work on Rathwa Haryam bridge the President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has asked the Public Works Department of Azad Kashmir to redouble its efforts to get the much-delayed project completed as soon as possible.

The AJK president said this while speaking at a briefing session arranged by the Public Works Department of Azad Kashmir on the Rathwa Haryam Bridge here today. Directing the concerned authorities to remove all obstacles in the way of the completion of the project, the president warned that no further delay would be tolerated in completion of the project.

"The Rathwa Haryam Bridge project has been delayed for a long time due to which the local population suffers badly", he said adding that the Kashmiris living abroad have also voiced their concerns over the matter.

Training session held at IUB

BAHAWALPUR: Office of the Registrar, IUB organized One Day Training Session for Assistant Registrars, Assistant Controller of the Examinations and Assistant Treasurers on "Overview of IUB Act of 1975 and Preparation of Planning Commission Forms".

Muhammad Bilal Irshad Additional Registrar (Litigation) address for "Overview of IUB Act of 1975 and Ms. Farkhanda Tahseen, Additional Director P&D lecture on Preparation of Planning Commission Forms. Mr. Usama Shafique Assistant Registrar Training and Development elaborated the objectives of training. PR

Arrangements afoot to welcome PM on his visit to Bagh

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Arrangements were being finalized to accord a historic welcome to Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan on his upcoming visit to his home constituency-Bagh.

There has been a lot of excitement in the public, the main highway that leads to Bagh has been decorated with welcome banners and people are raring to receive their leader.

A grand welcome has been arranged for the Prime Minister on his arrival at Kohala, Dhirkot, Urja, Mang Bajri, Naumanpura and Bagh. During his stay at Bagh the prime minister after addressing a public gathering in the city is scheduled to attend the annual anniversary of Saheed Syed Khadim Hussain Gardezi on September 06.

He will visit the grave of Sardar Sagheer Chughtai and participate in the prayer ceremony and then meet with the local leadership of Tehreek-e-Insaf at Sardar Palace Bangoen. On September 7, the PM will visit Sardar Bagh Hussain's residence to condole the latter's demise.

British Council partners with LBF for Virtual Museum

Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The British Council and Lahore Biennale Foundation (LBF) have partnered to launch the Lahore Biennale Foundation Virtual Museum project at the National College of Arts, Lahore. The virtual museum is a digital platform for artists, academics and creative practitioners to re-examine our shared cultural language and artistic legacy. The launch event was attended by senior members of the arts community as well as representatives from the British Council and the British High Commission. The project is part of the British Council's Pakistan-UK Season: New Perspectives programme to mark the 75th anniversary of Pakistan.

The project invited a diverse group of curators, collaborators and artists across the board to respond and contribute to 75 years of Pakistan's rich, multifaceted history and culture post-independence. The aim is to facilitate broader socio-cultural changes in public interaction which has led to the need of providing people with a virtual space to reconnect with their cultural heritage. The project also questions the role of the "traditional forms of museum making" and builds on the global reality of virtual connectivity despite physical borders, making cyberspace an ideal platform for local and global conversations-transcending boundaries by making knowledge production an accessible and open-ended reality. The LBF's Virtual Museum engages in new forms of museum making, over-



comes physical boundaries, and functions as an enduring online resource. Kate Joyce, Business Director Cultural Engagement, British Council South Asia, said: "The Virtual Museum is an innovative way to use art and heritage in community building in an inclusive and impactful way. This formed part of our programme of activity for Pakistan/UK: New Perspectives programme. I look forward to many young artists and curators contributing to this space and meaningfully sharing ideas that pave the way for an inclusive and sustainable future. The tragic recent events in Pakistan with the floods underline the importance of working together to tackle global challenges."

The curators and themes for the

project are Dastaan-I-Urdu, curated by Ali Usman Qasmi (Co Curator: Mahmood Ul Hasan); The Body and Beyond: Women's Movements in Pakistan, curated by Farida Batool; Taos Chaman-Post-Colonial Identity in Artistic Practices in South Asia, curated by Masooma Syed; Manduva: Exploring What We Won't Like to Call 'Lollywood', curated by Sarmad Sultan Khoosat; Ilm-e-Mosiqi: Classical Legacies, Folk Music and Contemporary Classics, curated by Sarah Zaman and Architecture through Space and Time: Conversations with the first generation of Pakistani Architects, curated by Tanvir Hasan. All these themes respond to a different aspect of our country's shared history, cultural language and artistic legacy.

DEO (Female) SW takes notice of GPGS Kanigoram



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Proceedings of the District Education Officer (Female) of South Waziristan Tribal District, Ghulam Fatima running news on social media, the concerned ESDO has been issued notice to make the Government Primary Girls School Kanigoram functional immediately and for the attendance of the staff School cleanliness, chana, attendance of female teachers will be ensured.

District Education Officer (Female) Ghulam Fatima South Waziristan Tribal District. According to the details, District Education Officer (Female) Ghulam Fatima expressed serious concern over the deteriorating condition of the school and issued an order to the concerned ESDO on the news circulating on social media.

That the cleanliness of the school, election and attendance of the staff should be ensured as soon as possible Ghulam Fatima said that the future of girls is tied to schools, we cannot compromise on this.

Raising Awareness

Media can play key role to counter deceptive campaigns of tobacco industry

To promote harmful emerging tobacco products in Pakistani youth



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: "Media can play a strong role to counter the deceptive campaigns of tobacco industry to promote harmful emerging tobacco products in Pakistani youth" expressed health activists during a consultation organized by Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC). The health activists and the senior journalists explored the need to ban emerging products such as nicotine pouches, e-cigarettes and heated tobacco devices, as they are becoming increasingly popular among Pakistani youth due to elaborate advertisement and promotional campaigns.

Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Country Lead Vital Strategies, former technical head/Director, Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of NHSR&C, former technical focal

person of Government of Pakistan for WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) mentioned that the number of smokers in Pakistan has reached up to 29 million. Tobacco consumption is causing serious health implications on Pakistanis and yearly, 170,000 people die due to tobacco consumption. Pakistan became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) on February 27, 2005. Our country was already struggling to counter threats posed by cigarettes but now the tobacco industry has launched these emerging products to gain more profit at the expense of public health.

Dr. Zia mentioned that in Pakistan there's no federal or provincial legislation regarding emerging products. Prohibition of Smoking and Protection of Non-Smokers Ordinance

2002 provides key guidelines regarding advertisement, promotion and sale of tobacco products to children. Such

"Pakistan is lucky to have a majority of population in youth; 61 million of youngsters are an asset for our country" — Khalil Ahmed Dogar, Program Manager, SPARC

measures are required for emerging products as well to take them out of reach of children and youth. Malik Imran Ahmed, Country head,



Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, utilizing the gap in policy making, tobacco industry has launched deceptive campaigns and profited from them. Emerging products have been directly targeted at youth using icons such as famous musicians, actors and models for paid social media content. The industry has even launched a music show. Furthermore, despite the claims, emerging products are being sold nearby educational institutions, playgrounds and restaurants to attract young customers. Imran mentioned that the media's extensive and unbiased coverage is the reason for increase in prices of cigarettes after 3 years. Media needs to play its role in exposing the tobacco industry's tactics regarding emerging products as well.

Khalil Ahmed Dogar, Program Manager, SPARC, Pakistan is lucky to

have a majority of population in youth; 61 million of youngsters are an asset for our country. Nicotine addiction serves as a gateway to many other forms of substance abuse and may cause serious health and mental health issues among youth. Such dangerous products should have no room in a country like Pakistan.

Khalil further mentioned that due to cheap and easy affordability nearly 1200 children begin smoking every day in Pakistan. We can't afford any more getting addicted to emerging products. Khalil highlighted the media's role in improvement in all child rights indicators in Pakistan and requested the media to take this issue as a child rights issue. He urged editors and senior journalists to conduct investigative studies on deceptive advertisement, sales and promotional tactics of tobacco industry to spread emerging products in Paki-

stan. Shariq Mahmood Khan, CEO, Chromatic Trust, shared that tobacco companies are investing huge money in online campaigns on almost all social media platforms. The algorithms of advertisements are designed in such a deceptive manner that the ads appear even on those articles which are written to discourage people from tobacco. Shariq urged the media websites to take down these advertisements and raise awareness on harms of nicotine, second hand smoking, and adverse impacts of tobacco products on public economy and environment. He mentioned that media is the strongest tool of social change and should support civil society campaigns to discourage the sales, promotion and advertisement of the emerging products to save precious lives.

Enhancing Cooperation

Vietnam is a role model for developing nations, says Mumtaz Zahra Baloch

The 77th Anniversary of Vietnam's National Day held in Islamabad

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Additional Secretary (Asia Pacific) Ms. Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said that in 77 years, Vietnam has become one of the most vibrant economies and a role model for developing nations. Since the establishment of our diplomatic ties in 1972, bilateral relations between Pakistan and Vietnam have grown in all spheres of cooperation.

She expressed these views while addressing the gathering on the occasion of the 77th National Day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The event was hosted by Nguyen Tien Phong, Ambassador of Vietnam and his spouse at the Marriott Hotel at the 77th Anniversary of Vietnam's National Day. The event was attended by Ambassadors, Charges d'Affaires, and representatives of international organizations. All ASEAN ambassadors shared the stage with the chief guest and host to celebrate the event in a befitting manner. Additional Secretary (Asia Pacific) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mumtaz Zahra Baloch was the chief guest. Dean of Dip Corp and Ambassador of Turkmenistan Atadjan Movlamov also present on the occasion.

Mumtaz Baloch said this year both countries are celebrating 50 years of diplomatic relations. Pakistan and Vietnam are committed to further deepening and enhancing mutually beneficial partnerships in all areas of cooperation. There is a deep reservoir of goodwill for Vietnam in Pakistan.

She added that Pakistan is grateful for Vietnam's continued support to Pakistan (in ASEAN) including in its quest to become the Full Dialogue Partner of the ASEAN.

Pakistan has also included Vietnam in the list of business-friendly countries whose nationals can get a visa on arrival in Pakistan. This year Pakistan was registered as an exporting country of plant origin products to Vietnam.

She concluded that Pakistan is committed to supporting businesses in both countries to enhance the bilateral trade of agricultural products.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador of Vietnam to Pakistan Nguyen Tien Phong said that over the past 50 years, Vietnam and Pakistan have enjoyed excellent friendship and cooperation in many fields, including trade, investment, and technology.

He made these remarks while addressing a reception to celebrate the 77th Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Islamabad.

In his speech, the Ambassador also expressed his deep and profound sympathy and condolences over the loss of more than 1000 lives resulting from the recent unprecedented floods and calamities in Sindh and Balochistan. He wished that Pakistan and the people would soon overcome these natural catastrophes.

He said this year, 2022, Vietnam and Pakistan are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations. Fifty years ago, on November 8, 1972, Vietnam and Pakistan officially established diplomatic relations, opening a new page in friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

In terms of economic and trade, notably, the trade volume between Pakistan and Vietnam increased from 54 million USD in 2005 to more than 700 million USD in 2017 and reached more than US\$ 794 million in 2021, increasing 54.41% compared to 2020. However, it is still very low compared to both sides' huge potential.

Currently, Viet Nam and Pakistan are preparing to organize the third Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) and the fifth Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) and Joint Trade Commission (JTC), he added.

Ambassador said 77 years ago, on 2 September 1945, President Ho Chi Minh, who has been honored by UNESCO as National Liberation Hero and World's Cultural Celebrity, read the Declaration of Independence officially giving birth to Viet Nam Democratic Republic, now the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

He said Over the past 77 years, under the leadership of President Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party, with the spirit of "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom", Vietnam in the Ho Chi Minh ERA overcame many difficulties and challenges to maintain its independence and unification and achieved many proud construction and development achievements.

From the strong reforming spirit of "Doi Moi" 1986, with persistent efforts, Viet Nam from a country ravaged by wars, underdeveloped, with limited foreign relations... has now risen to become a developing economy, people's living standards are improved; Social and political stability; national defense and security are guaranteed; foreign policy and international integration are deepening.

With an average annual GDP growth of about 7% over the past 36 years, today, Viet Nam ranks among the Top 40 economies with the largest GDP in the world, and the Top 16 most successful emerging economies. Viet Nam is a convergence of tens of thousands of investors from 140 countries and territories with a total investment of nearly 430 billion USD.

Nguyen Tien Phong said Vietnam and Pakistan have signed a remarkable number of MoUs and Agreements in many fields and they are very significant foundations for further enhancement of the relationship. And it is the time for us to implement, to bring into play and realize substantively all the huge potential for the sake of our peoples and countries.

He said "I always remind myself that I am here with the assignments from our State, Party, Government and Vietnamese people to boost up the relations comprehensively and in all fields, to those goals, we need to elevate people to people contact, strengthen mutual understandings between our peoples, it is the key for the development of our bilateral cooperation relations. And it is very feasible, I am sure, why? The reason is that, despite of difficulties, obstacles, Ambassador Osman Hyder came to Ha Noi Viet Nam as a first Pakistani diplomat for the beginning of our diplomatic relations journey together, and



Photos by Ghulam Farid

Vietnam, Pakistan enjoy excellent friendship and cooperation in many fields

Ambassador of Vietnam to Pakistan Nguyen Tien Phong



now why not any citizen of our two countries be a diplomat in his/her fields, and why not any of our diplomat of Vietnam Embassy here in Islamabad and your diplomat

in Hanoi be a facilitator, an implementer for the cause of bridging our peoples closer, of creating more and more value added in our traditional and friendly relations, it is

absolutely possible". Nguyen Tien Phong said we are living in an era of globalization, full of rapid and unpredictable changes. Most extraordinarily, the emergence and outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, traditional and non-traditional security challenges, such as conflicts in many areas, climate change.

Notably the climate change, extreme natural disasters that we are witnessing here in Pakistan and other parts of the globe put severe impacts on the peoples and the countries all over the world, the climate change is not a problem of a single people or country, like in Pakistan now, it is, as UN SG Antonio Guterres said few days ago, "Climate change today is the problem of Pakistan and tomorrow it will be your country problem". That is we are all interlinked in all issues of above mentioned difficulties and also interlinked in all our success, development and achievements.

He said Viet Nam hopes to join hands with Pakistan and all other countries to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges, foster globalization and international integration and connectivity, and work towards a green, clean world of more sustainable, inclusive and humanistic development. Viet Nam focuses on discussing and forging consensus on matters of importance related to peace, security and development in the world and the region, including cooperation to combat COVID-19 and yes the issue of climate change.

At the end of the speech, the Ambassador of Vietnam said "I look forward to working closely with all of you for common interest and for peace, cooperation, development, and for the common good and prosperity of all nations in the world".

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 Bureau Chief Lahore: **Syed Afraz Ali Nazish**
 (afrazalishah@gmail.com)
 Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz.
 Karachi office: Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11.
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 Email: spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com
 Whatsapp: 0346-5008408

My Words My Talk



Analysis
Mudassar Qadeer

ing to their lectures free of charge. Regarding the schools run by District Education Authority in Lahore, Muhammad Tariq Habib Farooqui.

He said that in five tehsils of Lahore city, there are 1121 public schools and more than 2000 private schools running on behalf of the District Education Authority, which the authority gives licenses and looks after their affairs. The number of government schools in Lahore city is very less. I have been posted as Chief Executive Officer in Bhakkar and Muzaffargarh in the past where the number of government schools is more than Lahore. Muzaffargarh has 1800 government schools, Leh has 1500 and Rahim Yar Khan has more than 3000 government schools, whose matters are looked after by the education authority of the concerned district and when I assumed charge in Lahore, a notification was issued in this regard that wherever a new housing society is to be built in the city in the future, NOC should not be issued for such a long time. Until they allocate two kanals more than that area for a government school on which later we will build a government school, thus not only jobs will be created for the local people but also the children of this area will have their homes. Will study closely. Chief Executive District Education Authority Moham-

mad Tariq Habib Farooqui also expressed his determination that children are our future and we have to provide them with quality of education, best infrastructure and a good environment so that they can play their role in the construction and development of tomorrow. Pay in the best way.

Tariq Habib Farooqui mentioned in the conversation about the lack of government schools in Lahore. I totally agree with this because I am suffering from this problem regarding my children's education since I moved out of the city to a rural society, where they can continue their education. Believe it or not, wherever you go in the city of Lahore, you will find a line of middle and high schools for boys and girls within a radius of 5 km, in the streets and neighborhoods of the union councils. There are those whose arrangements are also looked after by the District Government and the Metropolitan Corporation, but the previous governments have to be praised for giving NOCs to private societies, but they have taken practical measures to allocate school space for the education of children in these societies.

Not to mention, the situation now is that as soon as you get off the Shaukat Khanum Hospital bridge, you don't see government schools, but there are a large number of private schools everywhere, which have

turned education into a profitable business. The focus of CEO Education is very clear that it is about children's education. How dynamic they seem to be, but will they be able to establish government schools in already established societies is a very important question that should be answered by the Chief Executive Officer before them.

But why did they not consider such measures as necessary and why did they fail to fulfill their duties in time, due to which private schools became monopolized and public schools were stopped? You must have been the chief executive of the authority three times but could not establish government schools in private housing societies. The people living in the flooded areas are like us, speak the same language, dream like us, these people are our brothers who are going through a difficult and painful period today. Of course, our small efforts and assistance can make things easier for these flood victims. In this regard, the Voice of Pakistan Radio Pakistan will start the marathon transmission of help to flood victims today after the news at 7 pm, which will continue until 5:44 am. Therefore, all the centers of Radio Pakistan have been informed.

Be a support to your homeless and suffering brothers in this hour of trouble. Support for those who do not have clothes to

wear, house to live in and food to drink. Of course, our small efforts and assistance can make things easier for these flood victims. Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervez Elahi has said that the Punjab government is committed to the rehabilitation and resettlement of the flood victims. Immense destruction has been caused by the recent floods and I first reached the flood victims myself. I saw the devastation in the flood affected areas of Rajanpur, Taunsa, DG Khan with my own eyes. The entire team was present in the affected areas and still the relief activities are going on continuously in the affected areas.

Rescue 1122 has done immense work in the affected areas and actively participated in the relief activities. The provincial ministers, members of the National and Provincial Assembly started the restoration work with all their hard work and effort. Due to the disaster, Pakistan has lost about 10 billion dollars in total. People's houses, cattle and property are completely submerged in water. Schools, hospitals and food reserves were all flooded. People are forced to live on the streets or in makeshift tents under the open sky. Diarrhea, skin diseases and gastroenteritis are on the rise. The victims are currently in need of food, clean drinking water and medicine on an emergency basis.

Policies and economic situation of country

Finance Minister Miftah Ismail recently said that the national economy is moving in the right direction due to prudent policies of the government. In his remarks, Miftah said revival of the IMF programme was top most priority of the government after taking reins of power. The scope of tax net is being increased and business class is being brought under tax net. He said that the government by adopting prudent policies has saved the country from default. The Finance Minister said that flood-affected people will not be left alone in this testing time and they will be compensated by utilizing all available resources, even diverting PSDP funds for their rehabilitation.

It is worth mentioning here that flash floods have caused devastation on a large scale in the country. An amount of 28 billion rupees has been disbursed through Benazir Income Support Programme in order to provide relief to the affected people. Initially an amount of 25 thousand rupees is being transferred to affected families so that they can meet ration needs.

After IMF package, economy is moving in right direction due to prudent economic policies of the present government. The government inherited a weaker economy and had to take difficult decisions to improve the situation. Pakistan has to mobilize its industry to flourish its economy and ensure that we are able to meet our domestic and international financial obligations. We also need to work on our import policies and heavy duties should be levied on luxury items to discourage their use. Pakistan is now facing devastating floods which will impact the economy as human lives, properties, crops and livestock have suffered huge damages. The incumbent government and stakeholders are working ceaselessly to provide as much relief to the affected people as possible.

In this regard, the agreement signed between the government and the IMF is adequate and they have also promised additional aid. The country's economy is going in the right direction. There are several ways in which the aid could be used, but it is different because this amount will be used as foreign exchange reserve. The investment of around \$12 billion from friendly countries will help boost the economic situation of the country and will help in generating employment in different sectors.

The government now has to devise new policies to attract more foreign direct investment into the country. The revenue coming in should be capitalized for the betterment of the people.

In order to better manage the economy, the government needs to formulate policies to increase exports. However, if we reduce the imports to a great extent, it could also hurt the exports. Moreover, the government needs to curb the imports of luxury items. The biggest step to take is to restore confidence of people and investors. This is the only solution to improve economy. Political stability in the country is vital for improving the economy.

Tariq Habib Farooqui's determination, Radio Pakistan's marathon for flood victims and Pervez Elahi's initiatives

Recently, there was a meeting with CEO Education Lahore, Muhammad Tariq Habib Farooqi, in which a detailed discussion was held regarding school education. In progress, a school has been selected in the suburbs of Lahore where this project will be launched. He added that his focus will be on the quality of education and the maintenance of the infrastructure of the schools without any compromise, for which I visit the various schools of the city on a daily basis.

I am visiting so that I can be aware of the problems faced by the students and teachers and help in solving them. Will be started. This project of online academy will prove to be very helpful and effective for our children, it will enable the children to prepare for their exams by listen-



Preventing future food security crises

Turki Faisal Al-Rasheed

History repeats itself and, after more than a decade, food security is again at the top of the agenda of governments worldwide, calling to mind the food crisis of 2007-08. Agriculture, food systems and supply chains are facing multiple challenges: The COVID-19 pandemic, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, natural calamities caused by climate change, supply chain disruption and inflation have all exacerbated global food insecurity.

Many countries have been affected by the current food security crisis, and the increase in food prices threatens to destabilize political and social order. A good example of this is the collapse of the Sri Lankan government.

The looming food security crisis has not come as much of a surprise to Saudi Arabia. After the 2008 food crisis erupted, the country prepared to strengthen its food reserves by encouraging local farmers to harness the techniques of smart agriculture and by sourcing food internationally.

At the start of the pandemic, the abundance of food in Saudi Arabia's local markets meant that citizens and residents did not feel any threat of food shortages. This was thanks to various government programs and initiatives, such as those addressing rural agricultural development and agricultural investment abroad, and

to the encouragement given to farmers to plant locally and utilize the governmental programs and support offered to them. In fact, Saudi Arabia has achieved a high level of self-sufficiency in eggs, dairy produce, vegetables and fruit.

In 2019, the total production of dates was 1.5 million tons, a self-sufficiency rate of 125 percent, while vegetable production reached approximately 1.6 million tons, a self-sufficiency rate of 60 percent.

Potato production reached nearly 403,000 tons, making the Kingdom 92 percent self-sufficient in this sector. Fruit and citrus production stood at 650,000 tons, a 35 percent rate of self-sufficiency; this marked a significant increase compared to 2016, when production reached 266,000 tons (a 15 percent rate of self-sufficiency), according to the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture.

Saudi Arabia achieved a high rate of table egg production in 2019, with a production level of 315,000 tons and a self-sufficiency level of 116 percent, compared with 102 percent in 2016. The production of fresh milk and its derivatives stood at 2.4 million tons, achieving a self-sufficiency rate of 109 percent.

The fish production sector has also been surpassing its past performance: In 2020, it reached a production level of nearly 155,000 tons and achieved a 55 percent self-sufficiency rate, compared with 90,000 tons and 15 percent in 2016.

The most recent government food security initiative is its program to support the poultry industry in order

to boost the self-sufficiency rate for poultry meat to 80 percent by 2025. The Kingdom's rate of self-sufficiency in poultry meat production has already jumped from 45 percent in 2016 to 68 percent in 2022. A government investment of SR17 billion (\$4.52 billion) between now and 2025 is intended to achieve a production capacity estimated at 1.3 million tons of broiler chickens annually. This will support national food security and provide jobs.

The war between Russia and Ukraine has affected many countries, including Saudi Arabia. World

Russia, the world's third-largest wheat producer, is also the largest global exporter of wheat. It exported more than \$7.3 billion-worth of wheat in 2021, accounting for about 13.1 percent of total wheat exports that year. Ukraine is the 10th-largest exporter of wheat.

food prices are increasing, but Saudi Arabia's reserves of strategic food crops are enabling it to weather the associated threat to food security.

Food security is of critical importance for any country and is vital for

its sustainable development. Currently, the majority of the world's wheat is produced in only a few countries, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

China, the world's largest wheat producer, has begun to allocate more of the wheat it produces to domestic consumption to help meet its rising food demand. China is the world's largest consumer of wheat — in 2020/2021, the country accounted for approximately 19 percent of global wheat consumption.

The second-largest wheat producer is India. Like China, India allocates most of its wheat to domestic consumption because of significant food demand across the country.

Russia, the world's third-largest wheat producer, is also the largest global exporter of wheat. It exported more than \$7.3 billion-worth of wheat in 2021, accounting for about 13.1 percent of total wheat exports that year. Ukraine is the 10th-largest exporter of wheat.

The agreement between Russia and Ukraine to resume the export of grain despite the war between the two parties — under the auspices and guarantees of the UN and Turkey — represents a lifeline for many countries, including Arab nations, and for millions of poor people around the world. This is a crucial element in ending the current global food crisis: Russia and Ukraine currently form the backbone of the global systems for the production of grains, oils and fertilizers. It is sufficient to know that the agreement enables Ukraine to export 22 million tons of grain and

other necessary agricultural products that were previously stuck in its Black Sea ports due to the war.

Proving the importance of this agreement are Europe's statements welcoming it, despite Europe's apparent hostility to Russia, its supply of weapons to the Ukrainians and even its demand for the agreement to be implemented faster.

What preoccupies Arabs now, with optimism increasing that the food security crisis is easing, is the importance of learning lessons from this crisis and the need to ensure Arab food security in the future.

I suggest the formation of an Arab committee of senior specialists officially charged with studying food supply factors and taking steps that would ensure Arab food security, especially in times of crisis. Everyone involved must realize that there is no Arab food security without the cooperation of all stakeholders.

A further recommendation is to invest in publicly listed companies (headquartered in the host countries) that own freehold agricultural land. The purchase of shares in Egypt's Misr Fertilizers Production Company by the Saudi Public Investment Fund is a good example of an investment that provides a win-win situation for the host country and the investing country.

Turki Faisal Al-Rasheed is adjunct professor at Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, part of College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Arizona. Courtesy Arab News

Contempt of Court

Munir M Hasan, PhD

If I were Imran Khan, I would not give any letter of apology to the Islamabad High Court on the contempt of court case against him. Let the Islamabad High Court disqualify Imran Khan. In that case the historians will write and identify those who were sincere to Pakistan and who were destroying Pakistan in the name of laws.

A political leader can achieve true respect and honour by serving and winning the hearts and minds of the people, which the former Prime Minister, Imran Khan, has done. The judges can achieve respect and honour by providing natural justice to the people as instructed by Allah in Qur'an.

However, in Pakistan, the judges have been and are being appointed who were having political affiliations with some political parties. So, the justice system in Pakistan has been completely destroyed. It is an undeniable truth that in Pakistan, the military, and judiciary, including superior judiciary, have been playing politics since the creation of Pakistan, against their oaths.

That is the reason that, in the 2021 world ranking, Pakistan's overall position in the world Judiciary is 130 out of 139 countries. It is really a shameful situation because it confirms that Pakistan is not providing justice to the people.

Instead of being ashamed of this situation, the judiciary is using the law of contempt of court to keep the people quiet in an attempt not to disclose the political and corrupt practices of the judiciary. They have forgotten that, one day, they will be answerable to Allah for breaking their oaths, and for all that they are doing now.

Ukrainian port city, Kharkiv come under Russian shelling

Ukraine's Zelenskiy warns Europeans to brace for bleak winter

KYIV: Russian shelling hit the southern Ukraine port city of Mykolaiv during the night, damaging a medical treatment facility, the city's mayor said Sunday.

Mykolaiv and its surrounding region have been hit daily for weeks in the conflict. On Saturday, a child was killed and five people were injured in rocket attacks in the region, governor Vitaliy Kim said. Mykolaiv city mayor Oleksandr Senkevych did not specify whether there were any injuries in the overnight attack, which he said also damaged some residences.

Mykolaiv, on the Southern Bug River about 30 kilometers (20 miles) upstream from the Black Sea, is a significant port and shipbuilding center.

In Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, Russian shelling late Saturday set a large wooden restaurant complex on fire, according to the region's emergency service. One person was killed and two injured in shelling in the region, governor Oleh Synchubov said.

Pavlo Kyrylenko, governor of the eastern Donetsk region where Russian forces have been trying to take full control, said four people were killed in shelling on Saturday.

The head of the U.N. nuclear watch-



dog said Saturday that the Russian-controlled Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant in Ukraine was disconnected from its last external power line but was still able to run electricity through a reserve line amid sustained shelling in the area.

International Atomic Energy Agency Director-General Rafael Grossi said in a statement that the agency's experts, who arrived at Zaporizhzhia on Thursday, were told by senior Ukrainian staff that the fourth and last operational line was down. The three others were lost earlier during the conflict.

But the IAEA experts learned that

the reserve line linking the facility to a nearby thermal power plant was delivering the electricity the plant generates to the external grid, the statement said. The same reserve line can also provide backup power to the plant if needed, it added.

"We already have a better understanding of the functionality of the reserve power line in connecting the facility to the grid," Grossi said. "This is crucial information in assessing the overall situation there."

In addition, the plant's management informed the IAEA that one reactor

was disconnected Saturday afternoon because of grid restrictions. Another reactor is still operating and producing electricity both for cooling and other essential safety functions at the site and for households, factories and others through the grid, the statement said.

The Zaporizhzhia facility, which is Europe's largest nuclear plant, has been held by Russian forces since early March, but its Ukrainian staff are continuing to operate it.

Vladimir Rogov, the head of the Russia-installed local administration in Enerhodar, the city where the plant is located, was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying there had been no new shelling of the area on Sunday as of midday.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy has told Europeans to expect a difficult winter as the Russian assault on his country leads to cuts in oil and gas exports by Moscow.

Zelenskiy was speaking on Saturday night after Moscow shut down a main pipeline that supplies Russian gas to the continent. "Russia is preparing a decisive energy blow on all Europeans for this winter," he said in his daily video address.

US Navy assault ship takes part in Baltic Sea training



ABOARD USS KEARSARGE: U.S. Navy amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge is taking part in international training in the Baltic Sea amid Russia's war in Ukraine and tensions in the region.

The Kearsarge is the first ship of the Wasp class to take part in international training in the Baltic in at least two decades. Associated Press journalists visited the ship last week.

"It's a first off for us in recent memory and it's been very exciting," said Capt. Tom Foster, the commanding officer of the Kearsarge. With some other U.S. Navy ships, the Kearsarge has been training for several months with the militaries of Sweden and Finland, which formally applied to join NATO after Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24.

The training mission is to promote safety and security in the region. "In the past several months, we have been operating in the Baltics and in the Mediterranean," said Capt. Aaron Kelley, commander of the Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group.

"We'll continue to operate in those areas. And always the goal there is promoting safety and security in those regions and in international waters," Kelley said.

The USS Kearsarge allows for training by such aircraft as AV-8B Harriers, UH-1 Y Venom and AH-1Z Viper helicopters as well as MV-22 Osprey planes. The Baltic Sea countries are Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and Denmark.

6 Israeli soldiers injured in bus shooting attack



JERUSALEM: Seven Israelis were injured in a shooting attack on a bus of soldiers in the occupied West Bank on Sunday, the Israeli military said.

The incident took place outside the Hamra settlement in the Jordan Valley.

A soldier was severely injured when assailants opened fire from a passing vehicle, a military spokesperson said in a statement. Five other soldiers and a civilian were lightly injured, it added.

Two armed suspects were arrested following a manhunt in the area, the army said, adding the security forces believe more persons were involved in the shooting and were continuing the searches.

In the wake of the incident, Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz issued a statement stressing that Israel will increase "the anti-terror activity" in the West Bank. Israel seized the West Bank in the 1967 Middle East war and has kept its control over it despite international criticism.

171 killed by explosive war remnants in Syria so far

DAMASCUS: A total of 171 civilians have so far been killed in 2022 by explosions of landmines and other ordnance left uncovered in previous war zones across Syria, a war monitor reported on Sunday.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said that 171 civilians, including 86 children, have been killed and 251 people, including 141 children, have been wounded by the explosives so far this year.

On Sunday, three children were killed by an explosive device in the village of Daba'a south of the central province of Homs, according to the UK-based watchdog group and the state news agency SANA.

Almost every week, the Syrian army detonates explosives it uncovers in various previous battle zones. In June, the UN said explosive ordnance contamination represents a major protection concern, with one in two Syrians estimated to be living in contaminated areas.

Leak ruins NASA moon rocket launch bid

CAPE CANAVERAL: NASA's new moon rocket sprang another dangerous fuel leak, forcing launch controllers to call off their second attempt this week to send a crew capsule into lunar orbit with test dummies. The inaugural flight is now off for weeks, if not months.

The previous try on Monday at launching the 322-foot (98-meter) Space Launch System rocket, the most powerful ever built by NASA, was also troubled by hydrogen leaks, though they were smaller. That was on top of leaks detected during countdown drills earlier in the year.

After the latest setback, mission managers decided to haul the rocket off the pad and into the hangar for further repairs and system updates. Some of the work and testing may be performed at the pad before the rocket is moved. Either way, several weeks of work will be needed, according to officials.

Trump moves to general election mode with Pennsylvania rally

WILKES-BARRE: Larry Mitko voted for Donald Trump in 2016. But the Republican from Beaver County in western Pennsylvania says he has no plans to back his party's nominee for Senate, Dr. Mehmet Oz — "no way, no how."

Mitko doesn't feel like he knows the celebrity heart surgeon, who only narrowly won his May primary with Trump's backing. Instead, Mitko plans to vote for Oz's Democratic rival, Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, a name he's been familiar with since Fetterman's days as mayor of nearby Braddock.

"Dr. Oz hasn't showed me one thing to get me to vote for him," he said. "I won't vote for someone I don't know." Mitko's thinking underscores the political challenges facing Trump



and the rest of the Republican Party as the former president shifts to general election mode with a rally Saturday night in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, the first of the fall campaign.

While the rally was organized to bolster Oz and Doug Mastriano, the GOP's hard-line nominee for governor of Pennsylvania, it was Trump's first rally since the FBI's search of his Mar-a-Lago club, and Trump spent

part of the evening railing against it.

"They're trying to silence me and more importantly they're trying to silence you. But we will not be silenced, right?" Trump said. Investigators recovered thousands of documents in the search, including more than 100 with classified and top secret markings.

Trump's endorsed picks won many Republican primaries this summer, but

many of the candidates he backed were inexperienced and polarizing figures now struggling in their November races. That's putting Senate control — once assumed to be a lock for Republicans — on the line.

In addition to Oz, among the others are author JD Vance in Ohio, venture capitalist Blake Masters in Arizona and former football star Herschel Walker in Georgia.

"Republicans have now nominated a number of candidates who've never run for office before for very high-profile Senate races," said veteran Republican pollster Whit Ayres. While he isn't writing his party's chances off just yet, he said, "It's a much more difficult endeavor than a candidate who had won several difficult political races before."

APHC slams custodial killing of AJK resident

SRINAGAR: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference has denounced the custodial killing of a mentally-challenged resident of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Tabarak Hussain, by the Indian army in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Tabarak Hussain was shot at and arrested by the Indian troops after he unintentionally crossed the Line of Control in Nawshera area of Rajouri district, last month. He was martyred in the custody of the Indian army, yesterday. As part of Indian nefarious attempts to defame Pakistan at the international level, Indian officials had claimed that Tabarak Hussain was bribed to attack an Indian army post in IIOJK. However, some videos of Tabarak Hussain had emerged on social media in which he seemed to be quite an abnormal and mentally-challenged person. In some of these videos captured while he was at his home in Azad Kashmir, he had been seen tied with ropes and chains so that he could not harm himself or other people.

The APHC spokesman in a statement issued in Srinagar said torturing innocent Kashmiris to death has become new normal in the occupied territory. He added that Tabarak Hussain was mentally ill, which the Indian authorities knew as he had also mistakenly crossed the Line of Control six years back and was returned through Wagah border. The APHC urged the international community particularly the United Nations to hold India accountable for war crimes being perpetrated by its troops in occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Indian police arrested a religious scholar from a seminary Madeenatul Uloom at Dadpeth in Kishtwar district of Jammu region. The scholar identified as Abdul Wahid, a resident of Cherji Dool tehsil of the district, was a staying with his wife and a son in a house adjacent to the madrasa, where he was working as religious teacher. He has been arrested on the ridiculous charge of presence of people from across the Line of Control and religious content in his whatapps and facebook accounts.

A Central Reserve Police Force man died under suspicious circumstances in Karnah area of Kupwara district.

Chile votes on proposed constitution with big changes

SANTIAGO: Chileans voted in a plebiscite Sunday on whether to adopt a far-reaching new constitution that would fundamentally change the South American country.

The proposed charter is intended to replace a constitution imposed by a military dictatorship 41 years ago. For months, opinion polls have shown a clear advantage for the rejection camp, but the difference has been narrowing, giving hope to the charter's supporters that they can pull out a victory.

"We are clearly in a situation in which the result will be close," said Marta Lagos, head of MORI, a local pollster. "The Chilean is a political animal who decides at the last minute."

The outcome will have a resounding impact on President Gabriel Boric, 36, who has been one of the main

proponents of the new constitution. Analysts say voters also likely view the vote as a referendum on Chile's youngest-ever president, whose popularity has plunged since taking office in March.

Voting is mandatory in the plebiscite, which climaxes a three-year process that began when the country once seen as a paragon of stability in the region exploded in student-led street protests in 2019. The unrest was sparked by a hike in public transportation prices, but it quickly expanded into broader demands for greater equality and more social protections.

The following year, just under 80% of Chileans voted in favor of changing the country's constitution that dates from the country's 1973-1990 military dictatorship led by Augusto Pinochet.

Then in 2021, they elected

delegates to a constitutional convention. Amid the anti-establishment fervor of the time, Chileans largely chose people outside the traditional political establishment to draft the new constitution. It was the first in the world to be written by a convention split equally between male and female delegates.

After months of work, delegates came up with a 178-page document with 388 articles that, among other things, puts a focus on social issues and gender parity, enshrines rights for the country's Indigenous population and puts the environment and climate change center stage in a country that is the world's top copper producer. It also introduces rights to free education, health care and housing.

The new constitution would characterize Chile as a plurinational state, estab-

lish autonomous Indigenous territories and recognize a parallel justice system in those areas, although lawmakers would decide how far-reaching that would be.

In contrast, the current constitution is a market-friendly document that favors the private sector over the state in aspects like education, pensions and health care. It also makes no reference to the country's Indigenous population, which makes up almost 13% of the country's 19 million people.

"This is a door to build a more just, more democratic society," said Elisa Loncon, an Indigenous leader who was the first president of the convention. "It isn't as if Chile will wake up with all its political and economic problems automatically resolved, but it's a starting point."

India's main opposition protests rising prices, lack of jobs

NEW DELHI: Thousands of Indians rallied on Sunday under key opposition Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi, who made a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government over soaring unemployment and rising food and fuel prices in the country.

Gandhi accused Modi of pursuing policies benefitting big business groups at the expense of small and medium industries and poor farmers and workers. He also said the government was creating an atmosphere of fear and hatred, in reference to Hindu-Muslim tensions.

He said the prices of petrol, diesel, cooking gas and essential

food items like wheat have shot up 40%-175% since Modi came to power eight years ago. Without naming the business leaders, Gandhi said two key groups were running India's ports, airports, oil refineries, information technology sector and big media houses.

The rally was held at Ramlila Ground in New Delhi, which is used for religious festivals, major political meetings and entertainment events.

The Modi government says it has provided millions of people with toilets, gas connections, drinking water, bank accounts, free health insurance and homes.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman defended the govern-

ment's handling of the economy in Parliament and said there was zero probability of India slipping into recession despite battling the COVID-19 pandemic and supply-chain disruptions caused by the ongoing Ukrainian conflict.

The rally came three days ahead of the start of Gandhi's 3,500 kilometers (2,185 miles) walking tour covering Indian cities, towns and villages over the next five months.

The objective is to win people's support ahead of two key state legislature elections in Modi's home state of Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh state that are likely to impact the country's next national elections due in 2024.

Swapan Dasgupta, a lawmaker from Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party, said in his blog on Sunday that since losing power to the BJP in 2014, the Congress, once the default party of Indians, has "meandered its way from crisis to crisis, losing election after election and being a mute spectator to the desertion of important leaders."

The Congress is also finding it difficult to find a successor to ailing Sonia Gandhi as the party president, with her son, Rahul, quitting the post following the party's debacle in 2019 national elections.

The opposition has been infuriated by the government's deci-



sion last month to impose a tax on packed milk curd, cheese,

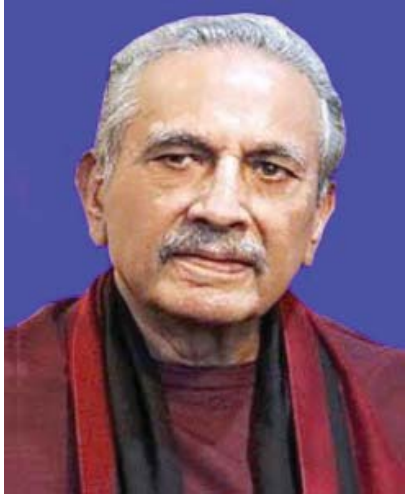
butter, buttermilk, packed rice, flour and wheat. The government earlier

raised fuel prices.

India's economy, Asia's third largest, had been recovering from a pandemic slump. Multiple waves of COVID-19 outbreaks have impacted India's large informal sector, with unemployment rising to nearly 8.5% in August, according to data from the think tank Center for Monitoring Indian Economy.

With e-commerce registering an upsurge since the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020, the medium and small industries are finding it difficult to compete with larger corporations with deeper pockets to meet capital requirements to tide over distress caused by the pandemic.

Price of construction materials should be controlled: Dr. Shahid Rasheed



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Sunday said construction activities have been started in some parts of Punjab and it will gain momentum across the country after floodwater subsides.

Large-scale construction activities will begin in the country for the construction and repair of destroyed structures, bridges, dams, schools, shops and houses, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that large quantities of steel bars, cement, and other construction materials will be required for the purpose and the government should keep an eye on the prices. He said that if the cement and steel mafia is allowed to take advantage of the opportunity, the rehabilitation will be delayed and the whole process will also become expensive.

The business leader said that apart from steel and cement, there is a need to control the price of other items including aluminium, fibre and wood etc.

He informed that about three hundred thousand houses have been swept away in the flood as the construction activities start, the demand for cement is likely to increase by seven lakh tonnes and the demand for steel bars up to eight lakh tonnes.

The government should try to stop profiteers and if it cannot do so, then the prices should be moderated by ordering construction materials from neighbouring countries.

What millions of victims had earned all their lives were washed away or buried under the rubble of their houses; millions of small businesses suffered which need the support of the government.

He said that the budget for health, education and other social sectors should be increased and a plan should be made for the rehabilitation of small businesses.

Govt urged to take measures to control inflation



ISLAMABAD: Global food prices are poised to keep climbing even after jumping to a record high in August placing the heaviest burden on vulnerable populations while adding to headwinds for the global economic recovery.

Addressing as keynote speaker at a seminar titled "Impact of Food, Oil and Gas prices on Pak Economy in the wake of Russia-Ukraine Conflict" held under the aegis of "Gold Ring Economic Forum" Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Meher Kashif Younis said on Sunday that food prices rose 23.1 percent last year globally, the fastest pace in more than a decade, the highest since 1961. Now war in Ukraine and sanctions on Russia are upending shipments and possibly production for two of the world's largest agricultural producers, he added.

He said the both countries account for nearly 30% of the world wheat exports and 18% of corn, most of which is shipped through Black Sea ports that's now closed. In South Asia, wheat accounts for only 7% versus 42% for rice, for which price increases so far have been relatively contained, he added.

He said reduced fertiliser supplies and higher oil prices bound to increase costs for harvesting, transport, and processing food.

Meher Kashif Younis said policy makers must prevent those pressures from fuelling food insecurity by avoiding protectionism and increasing social assistance for the poorest. China which holds more than half of global wheat and corn reserves, could consider releasing supplies to Pakistan to lower prices, he suggested. He feared if conflict lasted long, more countries including Pakistan will be confronted with grave challenges.

He said future fuel hikes would be detrimental to Pakistan as it's bleak economy can not absorb such shocks. He said the construction industry has also taken a hit because Pakistan was importing steel from Ukraine. Also Pak exports to Ukraine have ceased, which will harm local industries and economy, he viewed.

Aid to flood affectees should not be tainted by politics: PEW

Dr. Murtaza Mughal says geo-economics has not been given top priority as claimed

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Sunday said the selfishness of the politicians is increasing the problems of the flood affectees.

The victim assistance system should not be allowed to be tainted by politics, otherwise, all resources will be exposed to corruption, it said.

Fifty-year record of inflation in the country has been broken and to solve this, sales tax and withholding tax on the import of tomatoes and onions from Afghanistan and Iran have been abolished for four months which is insufficient for Pakistan's needs, said Dr.

Murtaza Mughal, President PEW.

In a statement issued here, he said that no decision is being taken regarding the import of food items from India, which indicates a lack of courage and indifference towards the plight of the public.

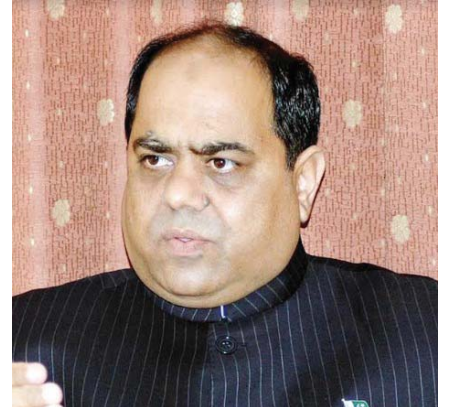
Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that the government is trying to put all the blame for the devastation of floods on climate change, but is silent on the poor performance of the agencies dealing with natural disasters.

He said that international aid organizations want to buy food and relief goods from India and distribute them in Pakistan, which is not being allowed, which is tantamount to cruelty. He said that half of the country's agri-

culture has been destroyed, forty percent of the grain has been wasted due to a pathetic food storage system, and hoarders are out to make billions overnight with no regard for the law.

At this critical time, a political party is opposing the import of vegetables from India, which during its tenure imported cotton, sugar and yarn from India to benefit the elite when there was no emergency in the country.

It seems that geo-economics has not been given top priority as claimed and geo-politics still dominates the system otherwise food items should have been imported from India to give some relief to the people reeling under record inflation, he observed.



Google CS First Phase 4 to be launched

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: After the successful implementation of Google CS First in selected cities, Sindh Information, Science & Technology Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tech Valley Pakistan, a local country partner of Google for Education, to launch CS First Phase 4, with the support of Google and Ministry of IT & Telecom, in Pakistan's one of the biggest metropolitan cities, Karachi now.

The past three phases of Google CS First were conducted throughout Pakistan in cities like Islamabad, Lahore, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Mainwali, Quetta, and trained more than 130 trainers and 600 students on early-age coding.

CS First, a program of Google, empowers teachers to teach computer science to kids between 9 to 14 years with easy-to-use tools and resources. Through this program, students learn through instructors, video tutorials, and block-based coding in Scratch, which helps in enhancing their creative and analytical skills.

Asif Ikram, Secretary, Information and Science Department, Sindh, while signing the MOU, said, "This partnership would take our mission of making a difference in the lives of citizens through digital interventions. We need such capacity-building programs so that when our kids reach the



advanced level, they have sufficient background knowledge and necessary skills such as coding."

Under Phase 4, Google for Education's Partner in Pakistan, Tech Valley, will collaborate with the Sindh Information, Science & Technology Department to organize training sessions in different government schools in Sindh and equip kids with basic coding knowledge.

Tech Valley, the local country partner for Google for Education, has localized the global CS First curriculum to suit the Pakistani context and has developed a detailed implementation plan. CEO Tech Valley Umar Farooq said during the cere-

mony, "Tech Valley is grateful to Google and its team for supporting this excellent initiative in Pakistan. Apart from teaching kids coding through Art, Storytelling, and Game Design, we have also clubbed the Be Internet Awesome Program in these training sessions so that students can be smart, responsible, safe, and aware while surfing the internet."

Tech Valley Pakistan is a global innovative consulting firm working with various development organizations, INGOs, and private and government organizations. Its mission is to inculcate a culture of technology and entrepreneurship through digital innovations.

Industry destroyed due to excessive increase in electricity bills: Akram Farid

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Executive Member Pakistan Steel Re-Rolling Mills Association and Former President Islamabad Chamber M. Akram Farid while addressing the meeting has clearly informed the government about excessive and unbearable increase in electricity bills. The industry has been devastated because the government is not even listening to the genuine concerns of the businessmen regarding the exorbitant and unsustainable increase in electricity bills and these electricity bills are unpayable. M. Akram Farid further said that the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister should immediately look into this desperate situation

and the possible bankruptcy of thousands of businesses in the coming days and immediately start the all-important consultation process with the business community.

He said that the business community has no way to pay electricity bills at Rs 55-60 per unit. Now there is no justification for imposing fuel adjustment charges and fixed charges on electricity bills as the increase of Rs 5 in base tariff and Rs 9.91 per unit fuel price adjustment (FPA) and fixed charges from August 2022. All these additions are made after the sale of the industry's product, which is in no way recoverable and these losses are unbearable for the business class and it is not possible to continue business under such conditions, electricity

rates and taxes.

The steel melters industry has been hit by a crisis due to the rise in inflation, which has led to the fear of millions of workers going out of business and millions of people being unemployed due to the fluctuation of the dollar rate. Every day due to increase in electricity rates, QTA, fuel price adjustment, various charges and taxes, all the industries, especially the steel industry, are suffering from economic downturn and there is a fear of their closure soon. He further said that if rising inflation, interest rates, increase in petrol prices and heavy taxes continue, industries will be forced to close and these businesses will go bankrupt, leaving millions of workers unemployed.

M. Akram Farid added that steel melters And the re-rolling industry uses electricity as a raw material and in the current economic context this industry has come under severe pressure. Businesses are unable to open LCs and import scrap. Due to severe difficulties, some steel industries in Islamabad, Lahore and Gujranwala, Hattar have closed down or this industry has reduced its business to half. Despite this, 100% MDI is being charged in their electricity bills, which is completely unfair. He said that Prime Minister, Finance Minister should pay attention to this issue and save this industry from complete destruction. Which employs millions of people and is an important part of the queen's economy.

A cap on Russian oil prices? G7 eyes untried, risky plan

NEW YORK: Capping the price of Russian oil, an approach G7 members said Friday they want to pursue "urgently," would be an unprecedented move and one which some analysts say could backfire.

Russian oil would be purchased at a discount from prevailing market prices, to limit Moscow's profits as it prosecutes its war against Ukraine; but it would keep the price above the cost of production to ensure incentive for its export.

The discounted rates, calculated separately for crude oil and refined petroleum products, could be regularly revised, according to a US Treasury official.

2003, allowed Iraq to sell oil but only to pay for food, medicine and humanitarian needs.

But there has never been an attempt to impose a differentiated price on a country.

G7 members (Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States) have already limited or suspended their Russian petroleum purchases.

But for the plan to be effective, other countries will have to take part — particularly big countries like India and China, some of Russia's most important clients.

While the G7 plan offers the prospect of lower prices, "China and India are already getting cheaper — cheap enough — oil," said Bill O'Grady of Confluence Investment.

historically high, and extremely volatile.

The European Union (with the exception of three members) is preparing not only to ban Russian petroleum imports as of December 5, but also to block European insurers from covering transport costs to non-EU destinations.

"I do think that Washington is really uncomfortable" with those insurance restrictions, said O'Grady, adding that they would "really be a big deal."

Roughly 90 percent of maritime petroleum transport is insured by EU and British parties.

"I think the administration's afraid that if that (the insurance ban) gets put into place, that Russian supplies will really fall," O'Grady said.

The price-capping plan, initiated by the US and then endorsed by the G7, would exempt from the embargo the transport of cargoes sold at reduced price — limiting its impact.

Agha Steel's Green steel to make Gulberg Mall

KARACHI: Agha Steel Industries Ltd. a renowned Steel manufacturing company in Pakistan has signed an accord with Gulberg Mall and Signature Living to supply Green Electric Arc Furnace Technology steel rebars to their mega project, making it Islamabad's first eco-friendly Green Structure Project.

Speaking at the event, Zeeshan Ahmed (CEO Gulberg Mall and Signature Living) said "this is our dream project and we are fully committed to go green as this aligns with our long-term goal of becoming an eco-friendly company, providing our customers with solutions that are in line with the utmost stringent global sustainability standards"

He also said, "We chose Agha Steel as our exclusive steel provider because they are the only steel manufacturer in Pakistan using an Eco-friendly Electric Arc Furnace Technology to produce Steel and at the same time giving us the confidence regarding the structural integrity of our project, keeping in mind that Islamabad lies on an earthquake prone belt."

At the signing ceremony Mr Hussain Agha, CEO of Agha Steel Industries Ltd said "We are elated to be entering into this arrangement with Gulberg Mall and Signature Living for providing steel to Islamabad's First Eco-Friendly

Green Structure Project. It is a great initiative and I feel it is high time that we all play our part towards environmental protection, as we can already see the devastating effects of climate change with the recent floods in Pakistan that has put our Nation's Infrastructure to test. We, at Agha Steel, are committed to ensuring that we do everything we can to pursue a sustainable future for our generations to come."

Agha Steel Industries commenced the Green Steel Revolution through ESG initiatives by inaugurating a 2.25 Megawatt solar power project and signing a term sheet with Engro Energy for further Renewable Energy commitments. It is estimated that once Agha Steel installs MiDa technology in 2023, it would reduce its electricity consumption by a hefty 20% and its production losses in terms of raw material would be reduced by 8%.

Hussain Agha concluded by stating that Agha Steel utilizes scrap-based Electric Arc Furnace(EAF) technology for producing 100% refined green steel. "By using recycled scrap for our raw material, we reduce the need for natural resources. Our CO2 Scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption intensities are approximately 7 times less than the global steel making average, making the Green Arc Furnace Technology environmentally friendly."

Akzo Nobel Pakistan invigorate 'Dulux Aquashield'

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: AkzoNobel Pakistan on Sunday launched three new customer-centric innovations under its Dulux Aquashield range of premium waterproofing solutions. These include Dulux Aquashield Pre-treatment coat for multiple surfaces, Dulux Aquashield Interior basecoat and Dulux Aquashield Roofbasecoat.

"While it isn't possible to control the weather, consumers can now effectively manage how the weather affects their homes. At AkzoNobel, we know that every surface is unique and so are its waterproofing solutions. Whatever be the waterproofing woe or the surface, consumers can now rest assured that with the all-new Dulux Aquashield range, their homes will stay protected from water damage, look as good as new for longer and their families will thrive in a healthy living environment," shares Mubbasher Omar, Chief Executive Officer, AkzoNobel Pakistan Limited.

Chalking, visible cracks, recurring black spots and foul smell due to fungal and algae growth on damp walls are most common problems caused due to dampness and seepage on walls. If left untreated, water damage not only compromises structural integrity of homes, but

also the health of families living in them. This is where the Dulux's ultimate water defence range comes in to elevate the peace-of-mind of homeowners in Pakistan to the next level.

The invigorated Dulux Aquashield range of advanced waterproofing solutions helps consumers prepare and protect their homes from water damage with its four offerings:

Suitable for new and old, exterior and interior surfaces, the NEW Dulux Aquashield pre-treatment coat solves consumer concerns on algae and fungi outbreak on walls due to exposure to moisture. Its unique FungiClean Technology with unique Anti-Microbial pack reduces and prevents fungal and algal attacks, thereby enhancing the performance of the topcoat.

Providing ultimate protection to interior walls against internal wall seepage, humidity and dampness is the NEW Dulux Aquashield Interior Waterproof Basecoat. This high-quality premium basecoat comes powerpacked with the advanced DampProtect Technology that provides waterproofing protection to interior walls. It's special formulation also works hard to cover and prevent hairline cracks, enhance topcoat life and prevent unsightly alkali salt deposits.

Asia Cup

Rizwan, Nawaz power Pakistan to victory against India

It is Pakistan's highest successful run chase against India in T20Is

DUBAI: Pakistan chased down 182 with one ball to spare in Dubai to record a brilliant win over India in the Super Four phase of the Asia Cup on Sunday.

Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul began in fifth gear, blasting boundaries at will and giving India a rousing start on a flat wicket in Dubai. The skipper began with a four and a six off Naseem Shah in the first over, while Rahul helped himself to two sixes in the third over. Three of the four overs at the beginning went for over 10 runs as India made no effort to hide their evident intent. The opening duo put on a fifty-run stand inside five overs to give India a solid platform to build from. With a long batting line-up after adding Deepak Hooda and bringing Hardik Pandya back into the XI, India's care-free approach at the start piled the pressure on Pakistan.

With pace not working, Pakistan resorted to spin early with Mohamamd Nawaz. While it didn't quite reap rewards inside the powerplay, with a spread out field, Pakistan's spinners kept India's scoring rate in check. With Rohit and Rahul back in the hut, India looked to consolidate, but Nawaz struck a big blow with the wicket of Suryakumar Yadav.

Rishabh Pant too fell to spin — Shadab Khan getting the wicket off an ill-timed reverse sweep — and India were struggling a bit after the great start at 126/4 in the 14th over. India might have struck early in the run



chase with the wicket of Babar Azam, and then again pegged Pakistan back with the wicket of Fakhar Zaman in the ninth over, but Pakistan threw a spanner in the works with the promotion of the left-handed Mohammad Nawaz.

With India looking to bowl the leg-spin duo of Yuzvendra Chahal and Ravi Bishnoi in tandem, Nawaz's promotion and aggressive approach at the crease forced

Rohit to change his plans. Nawaz changed the complexion of the run chase in the company of Rizwan, who completed yet another T20I half-century. Nawaz's quickfire 90-ball 42, and Rizwan's calculated aggression at the other end, put Pakistan on course to chase the target down.

Nawaz was eventually dismissed by Bhuvneshwar Kumar in the 16th over, but not before he had brought the equation down to 46 runs needed off 27 balls.

India had Nawaz and Rizwan dismissed in successive overs, but there was further drama to unfold. Asif Ali survived a caught behind appeal and a dropped catch by Arshdeep Singh to smash a six and a four in the penultimate over from Bhuvneshwar.

The 19-run over swung the momentum Pakistan's way, but Arshdeep, guilty of dropping the sitter in the 19th over, bowled a brilliant final over, executing his yorkers well.

He sent back Ali with a sharp yorker off the fourth ball to bring the equation to two runs needed off two balls, but Ifthikhar Ahmed held his nerve to loft a low full toss down the ground for a couple off the fifth ball in the final over to seal a tense, yet brilliant win for Pakistan.

It was Pakistan's highest successful run chase against India in T20Is. The victory also meant India succumbed to their first defeat in this format in the Asia Cup.

Ali, Adil inspire Northern and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to victories

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Northern recorded their first win of the Kingdom Valley National T20 Cup 2022-23 — thanks to Ali Imran's superb half-century.

They defeated Central Punjab by three runs at the Pindi Cricket Stadium in a rain-reduced match on Sunday. In the second match of the day, Adil Amin's quickfire 40 not out helped Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to third consecutive win as they defeated Sindh by six wickets.

Tayyab Tahir's third half-century of the tournament — the most for any batter — went in vain as

Central Punjab lost to Northern by three runs.

The Central Punjab opener scored 53 off 39 (six fours and a six) and stitched a crucial 83-run second wicket partnership with Abdullah Shafiq (33 off 23, five fours) in a contest curtailed to 16 overs because of rain.

Northern's Ali Imran — later named player of the match — smashed 56 at a strike rate of over 164 after Central Punjab captain Qasim Akram elected to bowl. Ali struck three sixes and as many fours in his 34-ball knock before he was dismissed by Mohammad Ali — who returned three for 33 — in the penultimate over.

He added 39 runs with opener Hasan Nawaz (24 off 23) and 47 with Mubasir Khan (18 off 17) in what was an extraordinary rearguard after Northern were reduced to 10 for two in nine balls.

Sohail Tanvir made his experience count down the order spanking 20 runs off eight deliveries (two fours and a six).

It was Adil Amin's sparkling 40 not out off 24 that helped Khyber Pakhtunkhwa surmount 152-run target with eight balls spare. Player of the match Adil smashed three four and two sixes as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa crossed the line with six wickets in hand.

Adil was provided a solid platform for the run chase by openers Sahibzada Farhan (45 off 34) and Mohammad Haris (37 off 29) as they added 82 for the first wicket. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had a scare in the 11th over when both were dismissed by leg-spinner Zahid Mehmood.

Sind's Saad Khan top-scored with 40 off 36 and wicketkeeper Sarfaraz Ahmed made 27 not out off 24 after captain Saud Shakeel elected to bat. The other notable batters in Sindh's innings were opener Saim Ayub (23 off 20), Saud (20 off 15) and Danish Aziz (21 not out off 15).

European giants set to rule Champions League roost

PARIS: Thirty years after the dawn of the modern Champions League, the group stage of this season's competition kicks off this week in the penultimate year in its current format, as Real Madrid begin their defence of the trophy.

Marseille were the champions in that inaugural 1992/93 season, but no French club has won the trophy since, and England, Spain, Italy and Germany have provided every winner since Jose Mourinho's Porto triumphed in 2004.

Indeed, since Inter triumphed in 2010, only five clubs have lifted the trophy — Barcelona, Chelsea and Bayern Munich have been champions twice each, and Liverpool once.

Meanwhile, Madrid beat Liverpool 1-0 in Paris in May to be crowned European champions for the fifth time in nine years, confirming the enduring brilliance of veteran stars like Luka Modric and Karim Benzema.

They will set out with the aim of winning a 15th European Cup in Istanbul next June, with the group stage unlikely to overly trouble Carlo Ancelotti's side.

Real will face RB Leipzig, Celtic and Shakhtar Donetsk in Group F, fully aware that even a home defeat to Sheriff Tiraspol last year ultimately proved inconsequential.

"Last year the easiest game was supposedly against Sheriff at the Bernabeu and we lost it, so we need to respect these teams," Ancelotti told Spanish media.

He was also quick to point out another factor which could come into play this season. Usually the group stage finishes in December, but the World Cup has forced UEFA to fit all six Champions League matchdays into a period of nine weeks starting earlier than usual.

"We will have to be ready not just for the quality of the opposition but also for the different demands and rhythms," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, whose team begin at Napoli on Wednesday as they look to put their defeat against Real in the final last May behind them.

It could be that the real impact of that is only felt when the knockout rounds start in February, when many players at Europe's biggest clubs will have had to come through the draining experience of a mid-season World Cup.

Nevertheless, the idea that someone from outside a narrow band of elite clubs might win the Champions League is fanciful.

Hunaid Lakhani inaugurates sports ground

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Hunaid Lakhani, Chairman of Iqra University, a well-known social leader, inaugurated the spacious multi-purpose sports ground at Iqra University North Campus and he also announced taking an initiative towards the Iqra Cricket Academy. On this delightful occasion, the Inter-Campus Cricket Tournament 2022 was also organized to celebrate the ceremony even more. Taking full advantage of the curricular and extracurricular, he also appreciated and encouraged the efforts of the teachers and the students in the promotion of sports.

Dr. Wasim Qazi—Vice Chancellor, said that cricket instils the spirit of hard work,



fitness, and competition in the youth, which improves their skills and enthusiasm. In this way, balance is created in life and dedication to the competition and a sense of victory are born in youth. He praised and applauded the students and teachers

of all campuses for their energetic participation in the tournament. He expressed the commitment that, along with academic activities, various sports competitions will also be continued so that our students can play a prominent role in every field.

The well-known and the most talented Pakistani cricketers Fawad Alam and Muhammad Sami also became an honorable part of it as Chief guests, and they were presented with a bouquet and a shield by the Campus Director, Dr. Syed Ali Raza.

Dr. Imtiaz Arif, Kamran Kazmi Khan, Dr. Syed Shiraz and Mr. Moeed Khaliq were also present on this auspicious occasion. At the conclusion of this match, Farhad Ali received the best bowler award, Syed Sohaib received the runner-up trophy, Abdul Basit secured the man of the match award and other prizes were distributed amongst the students and the teachers who participated in full swing and zeal.

Winning at Sevilla 'good sign' for Barcelona: Xavi

MADRID: Robert Lewandowski scored again as Barcelona defeated Sevilla 3-0 in La Liga on Saturday, while Real Madrid made it four wins from four with victory over Real Betis.

Barcelona rode their lucky early on at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan as Marc-Andre ter Stegen denied Ivan Rakitic and Youssef En-Nesyri before the visitors struck against the run of play.

Raphinha headed in the rebound after Lewandowski's dinked effort was cleared off the line, but the Poland star didn't need long to get on the score-sheet himself.

Lewandowski controlled a flighted pass from Jules Koukou in his chest and volleyed past Bono for his fifth league goal in four appearances.

Eric Garcia tapped in Barcelona's third five minutes after half-time after Raphinha's cross was nodded across goal by Koukou, who was sold by Sevilla for 50 million euros (\$49.8 million) this summer. "It was a very good match



overall, we dominated and even had chances to score more," Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez told Movistar.

"We're going through a good period. Winning 3-0 at Sevilla is a good sign," Barcelona, who host Viktoria Plzen on Wednesday in the opening round of Champions League group games, are two points behind Madrid, but Sevilla have just one point so far.

"The situation we find ourselves in is a bit difficult," said Sevilla midfielder Rakitic. "I ask forgiveness for the

results, but also for confidence and patience. We have full confidence in our coach (Julen Lopetegui)."

Vinicius Junior struck for the third game running as Madrid took an early lead at the Santiago Bernabeu, but Sergio Canales soon equalised with a goal against his former club. Rodrygo secured a 2-1 win for Carlo Ancelotti's side just past the hour with his first goal of the campaign, ending Betis' perfect start.

"He's a special forward because he can play in any position. He's very quick and very intelligent without the ball," Ancelotti said of Rodrygo, now in his fourth season with Real. "The apprenticeship is over and now he's a Real Madrid player in every way."

Next up for the European champions is a trip to Celtic in the Champions League. "The most important game of the first part of the season is coming up on Tuesday. We're going to be taking on a team that's on a fantastic run and it's going to be very difficult," said Ancelotti.

Bangladesh veteran announces retirement from T20Is

DHAKA: Bangladesh veteran Mushfiqur Rahim took to social media to announce his retirement from T20I cricket.

In the post, Mushfiqur Rahim explained the reason behind his decision to retire from the shortest format as he wants to focus on Tests and ODIs going forward. As a result, Mushfiqur Rahim, who has represented Bangladesh in every T20 World Cup since the inaugural edition, will not be available for the marquee event next month in Australia.

He also added that he will be available to play franchise league cricket. "I would like to announce my retirement from T20 INTERNATIONALS and focus on Test and ODI formats of the game."

I will be available to play franchise leagues when the opportunity arrives. Looking forward to proudly represent my nation in the two formats," said Mushfiqur Rahim in his post.

The decision comes after Bangladesh crashed out of the 2022 Asia Cup with-



out a win against their names.

This comes as a second blow to Bangladesh heading into the T20 World Cup. Earlier this year in June, star opener Tamim Iqbal too retired from T20Is to concentrate on the longer formats.

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Piastri rues lack of clarity at Alpine

AMSTERDAM: Australian Oscar Piastri said a lack of clarity and a "breakdown in trust" with Renault-owned Alpine played a part in his decision to join Formula One rivals McLaren.

McLaren confirmed at the Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort on Friday, after winning a contract dispute, that the 21-year-old Alpine reserve driver would race for them next season. "I felt McLaren was a great opportunity. They were very straightforward and very keen and enthusiastic to have me," he told the www.formula1.com website in an interview published on Saturday.

"To be completely honest, there was a lack of clarity around my future at the team at Alpine." Piastri won the Formula Two title last year, after winning Formula Three the season before that, but his progression stalled with no seat available in Formula One.

He has spent this year embedded at Alpine, who had drawn up an intense preparation programme, but the future was uncertain with the team discussing a contract extension with double world champion Fernando Alonso.

Alonso, who had wanted a two-year deal, last month announced his departure for Aston Martin at the end of the season. But Piastri had already signed for McLaren by then, inking a contract on July 4. "The lack of clarity around my future, and ultimately a breakdown in trust, I felt the very attractive offer of McLaren and the positive dealings with them thus far were all reasons why I felt McLaren was where I was best off," said Piastri.

Alpine announced in a statement in August that Piastri would be racing for them but the Australian then posted a message on social media ruling that out. He told the website he was disappointed with Alpine's handling of the situation and said his management had twice informed the team previously that he would be leaving.

"It was quite upsetting as the announcement was false and it also denied me the opportunity to properly say goodbye to everyone at Enstone," he said. Alpine principal Otmar Szafnauer said the team had delivered everything promised in a heads of terms agreement and had shown loyalty to the youngster.

Six-member Pak team to feature in Int'l Bowling WC

ISLAMABAD: A six-member Pakistan tenpin bowling team would compete in the International Bowling Federation (IBF) World Cup 2022.

According to Pakistan Tenpin Bowling Federation (PTBF) the IBF World Cup would run from November 11 to 23 at Suncity Bowl on the Sunshine Coast, Australia. The event would see around 750 tenpin bowlers from 120 countries to vie for the prestigious individual and team awards.

The six-member Pakistani team included Ahmer Sal-dera, Ijaz ur Rehman, Shabeer Laskar, Ali Suria, Amjed Mehmood and Muhammad Hussain Chattha.

"The training camp for the preparation of the world cup will start from September 1 at Leisure Bowling Club Rawalpindi," President PTBF Ijaz ur Rehman said. Ijaz, who was also part of Pakistan team said Pakistan would be trying to make a respectable finishing in the event.

In this regard, the team training camp under the auspices of Pakistan Tenpin Bowling Federation (PTBF) and in collaboration with Pakistan sports board was underway at Leisure City Bowling Club, Jinnah Park, Rawalpindi.

He said 12 players including Ahmer Saldera, Ijaz ur Rehman, Shabeer Laskar, Ali Suria, Amjed Mehmood and Muhammad Hussain Chattha, Rana Afzaal, Skindar Hayyat, Danyal ur Rehman, Atif Hussain, and Bilal Shah from all over country would participate in the two months training camp.

FIFA World Cup trophy arrives in Ghana

ACCRA: The FIFA World Cup trophy arrived here at the start of a two-day tour.

The World Cup trophy was accompanied by French legend and World Cup Ambassador David Trezeguet. Ghana Football Association (GFA) president Kurt Okraku expressed his delight at the arrival of the trophy on Ghanaian soil.

"I am super energized and motivated and I guess that motivation will enter the team," he said in an interview. The trophy tour invited football fans to view the most iconic symbol in football and experience the real magic of one of the world's largest, most anticipated sporting events.

Ghana is among the five African countries that will participate in the 2022 FIFA World Cup scheduled to take place in Qatar in November and December.

China hopes fade at US Open as Zheng, Yuan exit

NEW YORK: Zhang Shuai was left as the last Chinese woman standing at the US Open after Zheng Qinwen and Yuan Yue crashed out.

Zhang, Zheng, Yuan and Wang Xiyi made history in New York by all reaching the third round—the first time four women from China had advanced to the last 32 at the same tournament.

But China's hopes of extending their campaign into next week wilted on Saturday as both Zheng and Yuan were beaten.

Zheng was ousted by Germany's Jule Niemeier 6-4, 7-6 (7/5) while Yuan slid to a 6-2, 6-7 (6/8), 6-0 defeat to American eighth seed Jessica Pegula.

With Wang making her exit on Friday, it means Chinese hopes rest with Zhang in Sunday's fourth round.