



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
ہم سے ابو ایمان نے بیان کیا کہ ہم کو شہب نے خبر دی ان سے زہری نے بیان کیا کہ مجھ سے ابو سلمہ بن عبد الرحمن بن عوف نے بیان کیا اور ان سے ابو ہریرہ رضی اللہ عنہ نے بیان کیا کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ چھوٹی کوئی حقیقت نہیں۔
(بخاری: حدیث نمبر 5773)
Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

RAWALPINDI

AJK PM for timely completion of dev projects

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan has sought establishment of a separate unit on modern lines to identify defects and monitor the development projects being executed under the supervision of the Communication and Public Works Department (C&PWD) of Azad Jammu & Kashmir.



Govt to achieve SDGs target to eradicate poverty: Marri

Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Shazia Marri Tuesday expressed strong resolve to achieve the SDGs target to eradicate hunger and poverty while ensuring safe and nutritious food by 2030. Shazia Marri said that COVID-19 and the recent floods have pushed the people into food insecurity. She added that inflation, economic instability, and climate change disasters were leading to food insecurity.

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Terrorist attack

3 Pakistani soldiers martyred in Kurram



Our Correspondent

RAWALPINDI: Three Pakistani soldiers embraced martyrdom during exchange of fire with terrorists from inside the Afghanistan's border in general area of Kharlachi, Kurram District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In a statement, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said that terrorists from inside Afghanistan across the international border, opened fire on Pakistani troops, who responded in a befitting manner. As per credible intelligence reports, due to fire of own troops, terrorists suffered heavy casualties.

Those who embraced martyrdom while fighting gallantly, include Naik Muhammad Rehman, resident of Karak; Naik Maweez Khan, resident of Jamrud, Khyber; and Sepoy Irfan Ullah, resident of Dargai, Malakand.

The statement said Pakistan strongly condemns use of Afghan soil by terrorists for activities against Pakistan and expects that Afghan government will not allow conduct of such activities in future.

It said that Pakistan Army is determined to defend Pakistan's borders against the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of brave soldiers further strengthen its resolve.

Deliberation

Islamabad: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs Federal Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

Federal Cabinet Meeting

Relief, rehab of flood victims govt's top priority: PM

Cabinet quashes health ministry's summary on price hike of 10 medicines

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has urged all stakeholders to actively engage in ongoing relief and rehabilitation efforts in the flood affected areas of the country.

Addressing meeting of federal cabinet in Islamabad on Tuesday, he paid tribute to all those who have rendered their best services during the flood disaster.

Shehbaz Sharif said this is a testing time demanding unity in our ranks. He said victims of this disaster will always remember those who helped them in this difficult time.

Alluding to the recent visit of UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to flood-hit areas of country, the Prime Minister said

Renewable energy, vital for Pakistan's future: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that Pakistan's future hinged upon the utilization of renewable energy as these alternative resources of energy could help generate inexpensive power. During a meeting with a delegation of Zonergy Corporation, a Chinese company, the prime minister said the production of low priced-power would also remove the burden of price hike upon the general public, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The Secretary General emphasized on practical steps for helping the flood affected people.

He said the UN Chief recognized that Pakistan has become the worst victim of a disaster induced by climate change, a phenomenon in which it has little to none contribution.

Meanwhile, the Federal cabinet has been urged to increase retail prices of ten different medicines.

The federal cabinet, which met in Islamabad on Tuesday, declined a summary of the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination regarding hike in medicines' price.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that he did not support the idea of enhancing medicines' rates.

The Prime Minister also gave a task to Finance Minister Miftah

Ismail, Minister for Food Security Tariq Bashir Cheema, Minister for Maritime Affairs Faisal Sabzwari, Commerce Minister Syed Naveed Qamar, and Advisor on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Qamar Zaman Kaira for improving harmony among provinces regarding fixing of wheat prices and distribution of urea.

The cabinet also extended Minimum Energy Performance Standards for electric fans till the end of June this year. However, the Prime Minister directed to improve the Minimum Energy Performance Standards before 30th June this year.

A summary for Mutual Legal Assistance for countries with whom no such agreement exists at present also got nod of the federal cabinet.

Remittances up by 7.9% to \$2.7b in August

ISLAMABAD: The overseas workers' remittances recorded an inflow of US\$2.7 billion during August 2022, posting an increase of 7.9% when compared to the previous month's inflow of \$2.53 billion.

On year-on-year basis, the remittances also witnessed an increase of 1.5% when compared to the inflow of \$2.68 billion recorded in August 2021.

On average, the remittances posted 3.2% decline during first two months of current fiscal year as the remittances fell from \$5.42 billion in July-August (2021-22) to \$5.25 billion in same period of the current fiscal year.

According to data released by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Tuesday, remittances' inflows during August 2022 were mainly sourced from Saudi Arabia (\$691.8 million), United Arab Emirates (\$531.4 million), United Kingdom (\$369.7 million) and the United States of America (\$294.4 million).

During the corresponding

month, the overseas Pakistanis living in Bahrain sent \$42.8 million, from Kuwait \$77.3 million, from Qatar \$88.6 million whereas \$92.1 million were dispatched from Oman.

Similarly the inflows from Germany, France, The Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Greece, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, and Ireland were recorded at \$40.1 million, \$37.1 million, \$4.6 million, \$45.4 million, \$76 million, \$30.5 million, \$5.9 million, and \$10.2 million, 19.1 million and \$10.9 million respectively.

Likewise, from Malaysia, Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, and Japan, the workers dispatched \$14.5 million, \$10.6 million, \$3.7 million, \$60.9 million, \$56.3 million, and \$7.1 million respectively.

Remittances from South Africa during the month under review stood at \$26.9 million while that from South Korea stood at \$8.3 million. Similarly \$72 million were received from other countries. APP

Cooperation

Pakistan important partner of EU

Pampaloni says constructive dialogue with Pakistan will continue in future

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Managing Director Asia and Pacific Department of European Union (EU) Paola Pampaloni Tuesday called on Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah and discussed matters of mutual interest including the promotion of bilateral relations between the European Union and Pakistan.

The EU Ambassador Dr Riina Kionka and Additional Secretary Interior Momin Agha and other senior officials were also present in the meet-

ing. During the meeting issues of human rights, enforced disappearances, illegal immigration, human trafficking and criminal law reforms were discussed in details. The meeting also reviewed the progress on the readmission agreement between Pakistan and the European Union.

The meeting also discussed action against elements involved in human trafficking and smuggling from Pakistan. Paola Pampaloni appreciated Pakistan's role in the evacuation of Afghan nationals from Afghanistan after 15 August 2021.

PM to attend SCO summit in Uzbekistan

PM Sharif will hold bilateral meetings with other participating leaders on the sidelines of the CHS

Spokesman Report

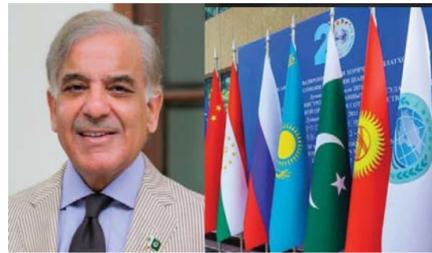
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will attend the annual meeting of the Council of Heads of State (CHS) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) being held on September 1-16 in Uzbekistan's city Samarkand.

"The prime Minister will be participating in the SCO-CHS on the invitation of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who would chair the meeting," the Foreign Office said on Tuesday.

The leaders of SCO members and observer states as well as heads of SCO organizations and other special guests will attend the meeting.

Besides attending the summit, PM Sharif will hold bilateral meetings with other participating leaders on the sidelines of the CHS.

The CHS is the highest forum of the SCO, which considers and defines the strategy, prospects, and priorities of the Organiza-



Collectively, the SCO member states represent nearly half of the world's population and a quarter of global economic output.

The SCO's agenda of promoting peace and stability, and seeking enhanced linkages in infrastructure, economic, trade and cultural spheres, is aligned with Pakistan's own vision for enhancing economic connectivity as well as peace and stability in the region.

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IPU President eulogizes PIPS services

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: President Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) Duarte Pacheco Tuesday eulogized Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS) for strengthening the parliamentary system in Pakistan.

The IPU President during his visit at PIPS gave a detailed briefing regarding the establishment, history and functioning of PIPS.

He was accompanied by Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman, Executive Director PIPS Muhammad Anwar and other officers welcomed the guests.

On the occasion, President IPU said that institutions like PIPS play a very important role in promoting democracy. President IPU visited the PIPS library and also recorded his comments in the visitor's book. Later, Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman and Executive Director PIPS presented a commemorative shield to President IPU. President IPU is visiting Pakistan to express solidarity with Pakistan due to recent flood situation.

PTI's clarification

Imran says he only talked about appointment of COAS on merit

Will call protests this month if fresh elections not announced immediately: Imran Khan

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan on Tuesday warned that he would issue a call for protests later in September unless his demand for immediate elections is accepted.

Moreover, he clarified his recent comments on a television talk show regarding the appointment of the new army chief. In an informal meeting with reporters on Tuesday afternoon in Islamabad, he said that if fresh elections are not called immediately, he will issue a call to his supporters to stage countrywide protests.

He reiterated that delays in elections were not acceptable. Asked about his recent comments in which he hinted at his willingness to grant an extension to Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa.

Imran clarified that his words had been misconstrued.

Instead, he said that he had never called for granting an extension to the army chief, nor had he ever expressed his preference for appointing a particular general as army chief.

Instead, he said that the 'best' officer should be appointed as the chief on



merit.

The former prime minister added that the military is the only institution in the country which is insulated from politics and where appointments are not made on a political basis. Rather, merit is prioritized.

Further clarifying his comments on elections, he said there is a need for the flood waters to drain from large parts of Pakistan. He added that if elections

are deferred until such a time that flood waters are drained, then he was willing to wait until that time.

He reiterated that the appointment of the new army chief should also be deferred until fresh elections are held. Imran clarified that lest his statements are misconstrued that he wanted delays in elections until March or April next year, he reiterated that he was not ready to accept such a delay.

IPU takes up a host of issues

Islamabad: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf in a group photo with participants of 3rd IPU Regional Seminar on SDGs for the Parliaments of Asia-Pacific Group at Parliament House on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

PML-Q's MPAs express full confidence' in CM Elahi

Our Correspondent



LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) lawmakers on Tuesday expressed

their 'full confidence' in Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi.

The meeting of the parliamentary party of PML-Q was chaired by CM Elahi, in which the parliamentary party expressed full confidence in the leadership of CM Elahi and said that they stand by the side of Elahi, while terming him [CM Elahi] as their 'leader'.

Meanwhile, expressing his views on this occasion, Chief Minister Elahi said that PML-Q as a party is united and will remain so. The Chief Minister further said that the journey of serving the people of Punjab will be accelerated by joint efforts.

After devastating flood

President IPU urges int'l community to help Pakistan

NA speaker says Pakistan to play role for strengthening democratic traditions in Asia Pacific Region

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The "Third Inter-Parliamentary Union Regional Seminar on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Parliaments of Asia-Pacific" began at the Parliament House in Islamabad on Tuesday.

The seminar aims to highlight the vulnerabilities of developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, to the ever-intensifying impacts of global climate change.

Addressing the inaugural session, Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said the seminar will dilate upon a wide spectrum of topics such as inclusive development, climate change, hunger and malnutrition, promoting quality education and decent work for youth and ensuring equitable access to health.

The speaker urged the participants to deliberate on the grave challenge of climate change to human security. He said it is also for the legislatures to

understand their role in ensuring effective mitigation of climate change.

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said Pakistan is ranked eight amongst the countries most vulnerable to climate change despite contributing less than one percent to global emissions. He said the recent flood in Pakistan caused irreparable loss of precious lives and destruction to basic infrastructure including roads, houses, schools and basic health units.

The NA Speaker assured that Pakistan will continue to play its role for strengthening democratic traditions in the Asia Pacific Region, including introducing innovative parliamentary mechanisms for institutionalizing the 2030 development agenda.

The Speaker said that the seminar provides us a very timely opportunity to re-assess the national and regional strategies toward achieving the SDGs till 2030 in wake of huge socio-economic jolt to our countries due to the COVID-19 pandemic especially viz a viz challenges of providing decent work, equi-

table health and ensuring food security in a world marred by adverse effects of climate change in the form of extreme droughts in some regions while flash floods in other.

Speaking on the occasion, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Duarte Pacheco urged the international community, especially the developed countries to help Pakistan recover from the catastrophe of floods. He pointed out that the contributions of Pakistan to climate change are too small but the consequences it is facing are too big. He said the biggest economies of the world, hence, need to understand their responsibilities to cope with the challenge of climate change. He stressed we need to act now to deal with this challenge.

The President of the Inter Parliamentary Union called for collective efforts to protect the environment and achieve the sustainable development goals. He was also appreciative of Pakistan's commitment to the SDGs and the establishment of a Task Force for this purpose.

KSA sends 180 tons of aid to flood victims

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief), launched on Tuesday a relief airlift from Saudi Arabia to provide urgent assistance to flood victims in Pakistan.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Rabeeah, advisor to the Royal Court and general supervisor of KSrelief said that the first two planes in the airlift would depart Today from King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh carrying 180 tons of food, medical, and shelter assistance.

He added that more than 19,000 people affected by the floods would benefit from this batch of aid.

"At least ten airlift relief planes will be sent within the coming days, and that the airlift coincides with a relief land convoy that is being launched inside Pakistan in coordination with the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Islamabad and local authorities.

"The convoy is carrying shelter, food and medical aid which will be distributed in affected areas."

Al-Rabeeah stressed that this airlift reflected the leading global humanitarian role being played by Saudi Arabia, and underscored the Kingdom's ongoing commitment to alleviating the suffering of people in need around the world, Saudi Gazette reported.

KSrelief chief expressed his thanks and appreciation to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the Crown Prince for the constant care and attention they give to supporting needy and vulnerable people worldwide.

He added his hopes that the aid delivered during this airlift campaign would help to save and improve lives across Pakistan as the country seeks to overcome the devastating effects of the extensive flooding that has occurred there over the past several weeks.

In lust of power IK can't see miseries of masses: Marriyum

Our Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Tuesday castigating PTI Chairman Imran Khan said that he was unable to see the country and people submerged in floods as he only wanted to see himself back in power.

In a statement, the minister said that Imran Khan's real problem was his personal ego, arrogance, self-righteousness, lust for power and corruption.

She said Imran Khan should first decide what was his problem foreign conspiracy, real freedom, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) or NRO for corruption?

The minister alleged that the PTI leadership did not want real freedom, but an NRO for what she called their "real corruption".

There was no foreign conspiracy, but they want NRO for their "real conspiracy of foreign funding", she maintained. Marriyum Aurangzeb said Imran Khan's aim was not general election but closure of corruption cases against him. Imran Khan was asking for NRO by threatening and using abusive language, she said adding that the PTI chairman was also seeking NRO for Farah Gogi and Bushra Bibi.

She said Imran Khan was a sick, defeated mentality and a corrupt person who was a liar, egoist and selfish bigot who was asking for NRO in foreign funding of the PTI.

PTI moves SC against acceptance of MNAs' resigns

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The PTI on Tuesday challenged the Islamabad High Court (IHC)'s September 6 verdict that dismissed the party's plea against the partial acceptance of its MNAs' resignations in the Supreme Court.

Last week, the high court struck down PTI's petition against National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf and the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) for "piecemeal" acceptance of the resignations of its lawmakers.

The PTI moved the IHC to challenge the acceptance of only 11 MNAs out of 23.

All the PTI MNAs had announced to resign en masse on April 11, two days after then prime minister Imran Khan was removed from office through a no-confidence vote.

PTI leader and former finance minister Asad Umar has challenged the IHC verdict before the apex court. Advocate Faisal Chaudhry filed the petition on the behalf of the PTI.

In its petition, the PTI pleaded with the apex court to declare the IHC's September 6 verdict as "null and void." The petitioner requested the top court to declare the 'piecemeal' acceptance of its lawmakers' resignations by Speaker Raja Pervaiz as illegal and unconstitutional.

US will not leave Pakistan alone in difficult times: Tahir Javed

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Tahir Javed, a well-known American businessman and the Deputy National Finance Chairman of the American ruling party, Tahir Javed, has said that Pakistan is suffering from flood disasters and America will not leave Pakistan alone in this difficult time. He said this while talking to the media after his arrival in Lahore on Monday.

He said that in the first phase, aid of 30 million dollars has been given to the flood victims and they will try to take this series of aid up to 200 million us dollars. He said that the members of the American Congress had also come to Pakistan with him.

"We visited the flood-affected areas. We did not see anything there except water, the land route of these areas



was cut off from all sides, thousands of acres of land were submerged and crops were submerged in water, a large number of cattle were washed away in the flood, and people were waiting for help in a state of helplessness. The houses were submerged in water."

Tahir Javed said that when the members of Congress of the United States Sheila Jackson Lee and Thomas R. Suozzi reached the flood-affected areas, tears came to their eyes when they saw the people in the state of lack of service and expressed their solidarity with the affected people and said that the United States is sorry for the prob-

lems of the Pakistani people.

"We are aware and we will provide all possible assistance to Pakistan in this hour of trouble", he added.

He further said that one hundred thousand tents have been delivered to Pakistan while the rest of the necessary items will also reach the flood-affected area soon. At the beginning of the conference, the question was raised that this aid is insufficient, apart from this, talks are also going on with the international financial institutions to postpone the loan installment and interest of Pakistan for some time in this hour of trouble and soon about it.

"Pakistani people will hear good news soon" he said further, adding that we have also met the President Dr. Arif Alvi Imran Khan Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and have assured our full cooperation on behalf of the United States.

In Power Sector

Governance model vital to tackle cyber security: NEPRA Chief

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Expressing concerns over the continuous occurrence of cyber security incidents in the national energy sector, NEPRA Chairman Tauseef H. Farooqi has stressed the need to develop a comprehensive cyber security governance model to deal with this challenge and promote security.

He said this while addressing a session on "Cyber Security Challenge in Critical Infrastructure (Power Sector)" at the NEPRA Tower here on Tuesday. The event was organized by TechAccess Pakistan jointly with its industrial partner RTA.

Purpose of the event was to solicit awareness amongst national public and private sectors' energy power entities



against the global risks of cyber-attacks. A large number of power sector's professionals, trade and business representatives and NEPRA members of the Authority and professionals attended the session.

Highlighting the importance of the session, the NEPRA Chairman said, "Cyberspace is the 21st century's new warzone. Most of the cyber-attacks in 2021 and 2022 were focused on ener-

gy sector. Cyber security is more challenging within power sector due to dispersed geo-locations of generation plants and interdependence between OT and IT infrastructure.

He added that cyber security incidents are now "Eco-System" challenges because it is not just one electricity supply chain actor that is targeted but the weakest link in somewhere in country's power system."

President calls for documentation of businesses for fair taxes

Industries and businesses play a key role in progress, uplift of country, says Dr Arif Alvi

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has called upon the chambers of commerce and industry to motivate and convince their members to fully document their businesses for bringing transparency in the business inputs and outputs which would lead to levying of just and fair taxes.

This, he said, would increase the tax base and tax collection, minimize incidents of corruption and corrupt practices and would eventually lead to reduced taxation on the businesses.

He said that non-documentation and lack of transparency in the business processes and resultant low tax collection compelled the government to resort to indirect taxation which equally hurt the poor and the rich and therefore direct taxation needed to be enhanced with the

help of the business community.

The President expressed these views while addressing the Achievement Awards Ceremony, organized by the Sargodha Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Tuesday. President SCCI Chaudhary Shoaib Ahmed Basra, also spoke on the occasion.

The President said that Pakistan was the fifth largest country in terms of population and, therefore, it should also be the fifth most important country in terms of socio-economic growth.

He added that it was possible, provided the businesses encourage their female family members to enter into trade and industry on key posts to lead the way for better participation of women.

He said "Our youth bulge should be provid-



ed with high-quality skills, especially in the IT sector, our businesses need to create close linkages with the research and development institutions and universities for bringing qualitative and quantitative improvement into their goods and services and expanding their reach in the existing export markets, and exploring new export markets.

The President urged the business communi-

ty to voluntarily pay due taxes which, he said, would provide liquidity to the government for improving roads, utilities and other services for the business community, thus helping the business community to further improve their business processes and become price competitive in the local and international markets.

He also urged the business community and the industrialists to keep social welfare at the

forefront of their business policies and to play their role in uplifting the socio-economic conditions of the people of their respective areas.

The President said that the Small and Medium Scale industries were the backbone of the country's economy and the government should further improve the policy, the licensing and regulatory regime, and levy of just and fair taxation in close coordination and consultation with all the stakeholders to further improve ease of doing business to help promote this vital sector of the country on a fast-track basis.

He also stressed the need to strengthen border control to curb inward and outward smuggling of goods to protect the local industry.

The President said that industries and businesses played a key role in the progress and development of the country and the prosperity of its people.

Sindh CM reviews flood situation and relief work

Murad Ali Shah directs health department to get camps anti-mosquito spray

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presided over a meeting at CM House on Tuesday to review flood situation and relief work being carried out in the flood devastated areas directed all the departments to dismiss the officers who were not performing duties and post efficient, hardworking, honest and willing workers in their place.



"We need best staff members who feel the pain of the affected people and believe in their service, therefore placement of the staff of health, local bodies, PHE, irrigation and others be made accordingly." The meeting was attended by provincial ministers, Dr Azra Pechuho, Sharjeel Memon, Mukesh Chawla, Bari Pitafi, Advisors-Manzoor Wassan, Murtaza Wahab and Rasool Bux Chandio and chief secretary Sohail Rajput, PSCM Fayaz Jatoi, concerned secretaries, representatives of Corps 5, Engineering Corps, Pakistan Navy and Airforce. Minister Irrigation Jam Khan Shoro attended the meeting through video link.

The CM was given briefing/presentations by Irrigation, health and PDMA and he decided that the distribution of relief goods would be made right from

union council level so that it could reach everyone affected and displaced by the heavy rains/flood.

The chief minister was told that the flood position in the river Indus was going to be normal.

The Guddu and Sukkur Barrages have turned normal from last one week but there was only one problem at Kotri which remained in the high flood and still it was in the same position. But its water level has reduced to 575,435 upstream and 555,185 downstream.

Manchhar Lake level has also come down from 122.75 RL on Sept 12 to 122.50 RL on September 13. The water level at Dadu-Moro bridge has also shown a reduction from RL 130.4 to RL 126.9. At this the CM said that it was a good reduction of 3.5 RL

The level of Amri Bridge has also come down from RL111.4 to 19.9 RL. He said that the outflow from Manchhar to River has been recorded at 141,200 cuses which was a good sign.

It was pointed out that four cuts were given to LS Bund. As a result water level has reduced at Mehar and KN Shah by one foot and three feet respectively. The water level in MNV at RD-30 has also come down by three feet and Indus (Link-RD 45) by one foot. The work on Ring Bund to protect Bhan has been completed and water level was also on the decline.

The CM told that there was enormous pressure upon the banks of the spinal from RD-816 to RD-159. The catchment area of LBOD received heavy rainfall yesterday and even it was expected up to Wednesday which would exert further pressure on its embankments.

The health department told the chief minister that they have set up 206 fixed camps where 317 doctors, 648 paramedics and 145 volunteers were working. The department has also arranged 382 mobile camps on which 396 doctors, 765 paramedics and 171

volunteers were working in relief camps.

On September 12, the doctors of both the camps, fixed and mobile, checked 371,440 patients in the camps, of them 18804 had gastro related diseases, 20968 skin related, 8731 Malaria (suspected), 80 dengue (suspected), 43903 other issues. Five patients died so far, 169 have died in camps.

The chief minister directed the health department to get the camps anti-mosquito spray and take care of all the people, particularly women, children and elderly people living in the camps.

The PDMA told the meeting that they have dispatched 6873 tents, 500 tents, 21200 tarpaulin, 50,536 ration bags to all the six divisions for onward distribution on September 12, 2020. If the total figure of relief goods is counted it would come to 203,173 tents, 181,161 Tarpaulin, 396,162 ration bags distributed in the affected areas so far.

The chief minister concluding his meeting directed the Irrigation and local government and PHE departments to brief him about the water drained out from the cities and towns in the next meeting.



KARACHI: Brig (r) Dr. Riaz-ul-Haq, CEO Hamdard Univerity Hospital, Taj Medical Complex addressing at the Hamdard Naunehal Assembly Karachi chapter on "We children are the defenders of Pakistan, either in peace or war." at Bait-ul-Hikmah Auditorium, Madinat al-Hikmah Karachi. Ms Sadia Rashid, President, Hamdard Foundation Pakistan is also present on this occasion.

Punjab CM lifts ban on ad-hoc appointments in Health Dept

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi has lifted the ban on ad-hoc appointments in the Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department and Specialized Healthcare And Medical education Department.

A summary sent by both the departments has been approved by the CM, said a handout issued here. This would remove the shortage of medical staff as doctors, nurses and other staff would now be recruited on ad-hoc basis.

Huawei ICT competition cultivating new talent

Hashim Ali

ISLAMABAD: When I saw 2022 Seeds for the Future notice from HEC website and social platform, it recalled me a great memory about excellent experience in 2021. One of Huawei's most prestigious programs to cultivate local ICT talent and sow its investment in the country's potential has been its 'Seeds for the Future Program', first launched in Pakistan in 2015. As part of the cross-cultural learning program, leading engineering students (picked by HEC with rigorous criteria) of the country come together for training sessions.

I still have vivid recollections of Huawei SFTF 2021 and it fills me up with the same excitement I had when I first heard the news of my enrollment. I loved each and every moment of the week-long ICT Training. During the one week online learning, students from Pakistan received technical training from Huawei and industry ICT experts, who shared their expertise on courses covering a wide range of topics like the Chinese language, strategic leadership, 5G, cloud computing, AI etc. Students were required to finish a number of compulsory courses and get a minimum of 60 marks on the test at the end of the course. Out of the 40 students, 30 successfully passed the course and got the graduation certificate. The top ten students also received awards, like Huawei Free Buds, Huawei Pad or Huawei Nova 7i mobile phone.

From connecting with the best ICT students in the country, learning the courses like 5G & Cloud, leading a team to runner up position in solving a national problem, to representing Pakistani Culture in front of fellows from China and Bahrain, it was truly an amazing journey for me. I was also very fortunate to be part of virtual visit to Huawei Headquarters Experience Center and foreseeing the latest Huawei 5G Equipment. In addition, we also got a chance to explore Chinese culture and the virtual visit to The Forbidden City was the main highlight of it. A truly remarkable archaic masterpiece!

Chief Secretary for ensuring availability of eatables at fixed rates

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Secretary (CS) Kamran Ali Afzal on Tuesday directed the all deputy commissioners to ensure availability of food items at fixed rates and keep a close check on the supply and demand of the items along with prices.

He gave this instruction while presiding over a video link meeting of all divisional commissioners and deputy commissioners at the Civil Secretariat here. The meeting reviewed prices and availability of daily-use items and public welfare initiatives.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief secretary said that profiteering would not be tolerated in any case. He asked the officers to fully monitor the auction process in the agricultural markets to ensure stability in the prices of vegetables and fruits.

He said that only notified officer would be authorized for price checking. The chief secretary also issued instructions regarding the continuation of public welfare measures.

NICL at LUMS holds Investor Summit



Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The National Incubation Centre Lahore (NICL) at LUMS held its capstone event—the Investor Summit, which brought together its 9th Cohort of change-driven start-ups, pitching their ventures in Agritech, Cleantech, Edtech, Healthtech, and Fintech to seasoned investors and start-up founders in Pakistan.

The Investor Summit is the culmination of a 6-month long Foundation Programme where the necessary skills and knowledge are imparted to the incubated entrepreneurs to underpin their start-ups with real-world experience.

While addressing his experience of being part of the Investor Summit,

Humayun Mazhar, Founder & CEO at CresVentures, said, "The passion, the energy, and the youth excites me, and whenever I come here at NICL, I feel younger. I love the energy of this place." Referring to NICL's start-ups, he added, "The start-ups graduating from here are adding value in terms of employment and revenue to the national exchequer and I'd like to see them grow in the times to come."

"I'm thoroughly impressed by the quality and variety of founders that has only grown over the last 5 cohorts which is very refreshing. That goes to show the effort that NICL is putting in and making sure that the graduating start-ups are more mature when pitching their ideas," said Hamza Iqbal, NICL Foundation Council Member and CEO

at Healthwire, while sharing his thoughts on the work NICL is doing within the start-up ecosystem of Pakistan.

The participating start-ups at the Investor Summit were (in order of presentation) SAY Global, Roshni, Janwar Mandi, Gamma Green Recycle, Raftar Technologies, Wholly Ranch, Cashmail (Pvt.) Ltd., eBilty, Print Me All, Kitchen Collabs, Darzi Cut, Zarai Zambel, and SAFE Space, pitching to spark investors' interest.

NICL was founded in 2018 by Ignite National Technology Fund (IGNITE) and the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MOITT), and has since graduated 152 ventures, and housed 84 female entrepreneurs in verticals of interest.

Mirza Gohar Rasheed a league of his own



ISLAMABAD: Gohar Rasheed is setting the bar high, with various mega projects, streak of successes, and an umpteen number of blockbuster hits.

In the dramas, films, or theatre, Gohar Rasheed has unquestionably made a name for himself in the show-biz industry within the country and world-over. He is undoubtedly one of the most diverse young actors we have and has set the bar high with his noteworthy performances!

The Laapata actor has a notable list of nominations and awards to his name. Not only he was awarded the best supporting actor for Ishqiya at the inaugural ARY People's Choice Awards, his villainous role in the film Rangrez led him to being nominated at the Lux Style Awards. For his phenomenal work in the movie Seedlings, he received a nomination for the Best Actor at the coveted New York Film Festival in 2012.

He has a long list of successful plays to his name, including "Man Mayal," for which he received an award for best supporting actor at the PPA Awards, "Ishqiya," "Digest Writer," "Raaz-e-Ulfaat," and "Laapata" in which he played the psycho two-faced lover.

Rasheed has been dominating the cinema industry with his incredible performance and wide range of roles in addition to building a name for himself in theatre. From villainous roles, devious characters to the boy-next door, he's done it all.

After the astounding success of London Nahi Jaunga where Rasheed was playing Humayun's best friend, the actor now has two major films in waiting. The historical blockbuster in the making, 'The Legend of Maula-Jatt' where he will be seen in an avatar like never before. Playing the antagonist, 'MakhaNatt' in the film, we can't wait to see Rasheed's magic on the silver screen. The movie is all set to release on the 13th of October.

Chinese investors provide relief goods for flood victims

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Panda Industries Association, an organization of Chinese investors in Pakistan, has sent seven trucks of relief goods worth millions of rupees to Dera Ghazi Khan for 4000 flood victims in Punjab.

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren released seven trucks of relief goods for Dera Ghazi Khan from Challenge Textile Manga Mandi on Multan Road, Lahore. Addressing the ceremony of dispatching relief materials at Manga Mandi Challenge Textile Factory, Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren said that seven trucks will be handed over to Commissioner Dera Ghazi Khan tomorrow.

The Chinese government has also given assistance of Rs13.20 billion to the Pakistan government and it will be increased the aid further and assistance will continue until the complete recovery of the flood victims.

Qamar Khan, Patron Chief of Panda Industries Association, an organization of Chinese investors in Pakistan,



said that the first batch of goods sent to the flood victims included mosquito nets, ready-to-eat items, mineral water, clothes, tents and medicines.

He said that trucks of relief goods will be handed over to Commissioner Dera Ghazi Khan tomorrow and these goods will be distributed among the

flood victims of Rajanpur.

Karen Chen, Managing Director of Challenge Textile Company, while speaking, said that Pakistan and China are two brotherly neighboring countries and the flood victims are in dire need of help and China stands with Pakistan in this hour of difficulty.

Japanese ambassador visits Karachi

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Mitshurio Wada, Japan Ambassador to Pakistan had arrived in Karachi.

It is his first official visit to Karachi on assuming the responsibilities as Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan. CEO Sohail Shams United Marine Agency had organized an interactive lunch in his honor in a local hotel. Kaleem Farooqi Chairman Pakistan Japan forum, CEO UMA Sohail Shams Chairman Event & Media Company and Members of the Board of Directors warmly received and welcomed Mitshurio Wada.

Sohail Shams said in his speech that we thank the Japanese Ambassador Mitsuhuro Wada for his visit and will work with him to further strengthen the relationship between Pakistan and Japan. Kaleem Farooqi



during his speech thanked Japanese Ambassador and assured him of his full support and cooperation. Japanese envoy Wada during his speech emphasized on further strengthening the fraternal and friendly relations between the two countries. Mr. Wada also stressed upon the need for cooperation between the two countries in the

realm and execution of the mutually cherish goals of economic cooperation in diverse fields.

Mitshurio offered and sympathies to the bereaved families of the recent flood victims. Wada said that Japan was deeply saddened by the widespread damage in Pakistan caused by the unprecedented flooding and has

contributed 7 Million US dollar for the flood affected people in Pakistan. Mitshurio apprised the audience about the ongoing support and role of japan in rehabilitation of the infrastructure efforts and cooperation in affected areas with government of Pakistan to respond to the situation.

Wada humorously mentioned that the meaning of his name in Urdu is promise and commitment and he on this occasion pledges to play his diligent role in solidifying the bond of ties between Japan and Pakistan.

Mitshurio said that Japan and Pakistan are holding joint business dialogues on 29th Sept 22. He expressed his satisfaction over the existing diplomatic relations between the two countries and hoped that both the sides will play galvanizing role for the promotion of 70 years of Pakistan-Japan relations in coming years.

OGDCL pledges to contribute Rs105m for flood relief efforts



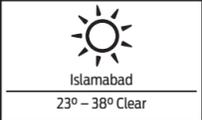
Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) has pledged to contribute PKR 105 million to support nationwide flood relief efforts through much needed emergency supplies. The company is contributing donations and providing emergency supplies including food items, medicines, tents and shelters directly to flood victims in various parts of the country.

As a responsible corporate entity, OGDCL under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has so far spent PKR 55 million to provide relief items to flood affectees in and around the company's operational

areas. Furthermore, the company has additionally allocated PKR 50 million to complement the government's flood relief and rehabilitation efforts and gain normalcy in the flood-hit areas of the country. During the current climate induced catastrophic floods across the country; OGDCL CSR has responded by extending relief to flood victims in the form of provision of donations, food hampers, medicines and tents and shelters.

It is pertinent to mention here that OGDCL is busy in flood relief activities in Balochistan, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab provinces and provided relief items to the affected communities to mitigate their sufferings.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	4:25 am
Zohr	12:04 pm
Asr	4:31 pm
Maghrib	6:18 pm
Isha	7:42 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

President urges young scientists to work hard

Says OIC states need to adopt new technologies

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Those who are ahead in OIC states come forward and provide leadership for changing attitude towards the adaptation of new technologies to achieve success in all spheres of life, said the President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi while addressing the inaugural session of "Youth Forum on Biotechnology" organized by COMSTECH in collaboration with Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Turkiye and Islamic Organization for Food Security, Kazakhstan.

Dr. Alvi said that biotechnology is a landmark development, without this technology the green revolution could not have been possible. He said we need to develop intellect and evolve new ideas. He said that the scientific instruments guide the humanity to find the truth. The President mentioned



that new technologies like gene therapy and CRISPR techniques help the humanity to make tailor made specific changes in the genome to develop new traits of any living being.

The President mentioned many examples from the past like human body dissection and the printing press innovation and said we adopted these technologies many centuries late which is the reason of our lack-

ing behind from the advanced world.

Dr. Alvi urged the young scientists to work hard and come up with novel and innovative ethical and moral solutions for the humanity and quick adoption of the new technologies for the rapid growth of the developing world. He asked COMSTECH to take the lead in the prompt adaptation of emerging technologies in OIC region.

Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary welcomed the participants of the forum. He said that this forum is significant to address the challenge of food security. He urged the need of the introduction and use of new technologies and better management to tackle the issue of food security faced by OIC states. He said that agricultural biotechnology will help in producing enough food to feed the hunger.

Director IOFS, Dr. Ismail Abdel Hamid said that the biotechnology is critical for the human development and achieving food security. He said that this forum will help us to explore new avenues, generate novel ideas and methodologies to understand the biotechnology and its use to address the issue of food security. Dr. Hamid presented a brief review of IOFS program and projects.

Electric kiddy truck

ISLAMABAD: An Artist named Mudassar Jutt made a fully electric kiddy truck. As the electric kiddy truck covered the distance of 35 kilometres and fully charged in nine hours and have a 15 seating capacity, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Ahsan emphasizes timely completion of census

ISLAMABAD: Third Meeting of Census Monitoring Committee (CMC) to be held under the chair of Ahsan Iqbal at Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives.

As per recommendations of CMC, Pilot Census for 7th Population & Housing Census - 2022 was conducted w.e.f. 20th July, 2022 to 3rd August, 2022 in 33 districts throughout the country including Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan with the aim to test tools and technology before going into full rollout. Pilot Census Evaluation Report has been finalized by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. CMC is responsible for supervision and evaluation of Pilot Census and recommendations for full roll-out of Census-2022.

Therefore, the main objectives of meeting were debriefing on Pilot Census, finalization of revised work plan based on timelines provided by NADRA and to provide updates on meeting with Chief Minister Sindh regarding enumeration methodology to the committee.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretaries of all Provinces/Regions with relevant Secretaries, Additional Commissioner Islamabad, DG Military Operations, Directorate, Chairman NADRA, MD NTC and senior officers from Education, Local Government, Finance and Senior officers of PBS.

'ekaterra' to provide 100 tonnes tea for 1 mln flood-affected families

ISLAMABAD: As part of the national plan of providing maximum relief to over 33 million flood-affected people across Pakistan, 'ekaterra' has pledged to donate 100 tonnes of tea to one million families displaced by the devastating floods.

The relief assistance would be provided through ekaterra's partner nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), Indus Hospital, The Citizens Foundation, Al-Khidmat Foundation, and Roshan Academy, said a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The step has been taken keeping in view the importance of tea in our society.



The flood devastation in Pakistan is of an unimaginable magnitude: almost 20% of the world's 5th most populous country is submerged under water. Pakistan emits less than 1% of the greenhouse gases in the world and yet it is still reeling from the effects of intense climate change. It's not a matter

of "if" but "when" we'll all be affected for mistreating Mother Earth," said Farheen Salman Amir, President BSPAN and GM Pakistan, ekaterra, while announcing the tea donation.

She said that ekaterra believes in giving back more than it takes from nature. "We're announcing our commit-

ment to the flood affectees by donating 100 tons of tea to one million displaced families, that's 100% of the displaced families as per the latest UNHCR data."

Pakistan continues its relentless battle against the floods triggered by the heavy monsoon rains which have claimed 1,400 lives and injured over 2,000 people. Over 33 million have been affected and one million families have been displaced, while over 218,000 houses have been destroyed, and a further 500,000 damaged. More than 750,000 livestock, which is the most critical source of sustenance and livelihood, have died and around 2 million acres of crops have been impacted.

Italy eyes €6 billion bilateral trade potential with Pakistan

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Roberto Neccia, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Italy has said that the bilateral trade of €1.5 billion between Italy and Pakistan was much below the actual potential of both countries and both should work for improving their two way trade to at least €5-6 billion per annum as they have the potential to achieve this target.

He said this while addressing the business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Dr. Roberto Neccia said that a trade section was being opened in the Italian Embassy and hoped that it would give a jump to bilateral ties between the two countries. He said that the Iran-Italy Chamber of Commerce and Industry contributed posi-



tively for trade and floated the idea of a Pakistan-Italy Chamber of Commerce & Industry to strengthen networking and business linkages between the private sectors of both countries.

He said that Italy has 5 million family owned SMEs and close cooperation between the SMEs two countries would be helpful in sharing experiences and promoting bilateral business relations. He lauded the contribution of the Pakistani community in Italy and said that they could act as a bridge for improving trade ties.

He said that Italy would support Pakistan for renewal of the EU's GSP plus concession. He said that Pakistan should send sector-specific trade missions to Italy to explore untapped areas of mutual cooperation and assured that his embassy would provide all possible facilitation to the Pakistani business community in promoting business relations with Italy.

Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Shakeel Muir, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Pakistan considers

Italy an important country for trade and economic relations as both countries have good potential to cooperate with each other in many areas. He said that Italy has advanced technology & machinery, therefore, close cooperation with Italy is beneficial for Pakistan to improve its economy.

He said that Pakistan has a lot of reserves of marble & granite and import of latest marble machinery from Italy can help us to produce value-added marble products and increase their exports. He said that Pakistan can import industrial & agricultural machinery from Italy while Italy can import many products from Pakistan including raw materials, textiles, surgical instruments, marble products, pharmaceuticals, leather products, sports goods and more. He stressed

that both countries should encourage regular exchange of trade delegations to explore all potential areas of bilateral trade promotion.

Jamshaid Akhtar Sheikh Senior Vice President and Muhammad Faheem Khan Vice President ICCI said that ICCI is planning a trade delegation for Italy and hoped that it would help in exploring new areas of business collaborations with Italian counterparts.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam, Ch. Muhammad Ali, Javed Iqbal, Saeed Khan, Raja Hassan Akhtar, Ch. Ashraf Farzand, Ch. Javed Iqbal, Hamayun Kabir, Shahbaz Majeed, Faseeh ullah Khan, Khalid Mehmood, Raja Imtiaz, Ms. Parveen Khan and others also spoke at the occasion and gave useful suggestions to improve trade and economic ties between Pakistan and Italy.

Health Corner

Headache affects 52% of global population

ISLAMABAD: A new review of the evidence suggests 52% of the global population are affected by a headache disorder every year, with 14% reporting migraines. The review is published in The Journal of Headache and Pain.

Headaches are one of the most prevalent and disabling conditions worldwide. However, studies of headache prevalence can vary greatly in their methods and samples, which may impact how the global rates of headaches are estimated.

Authors from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology reviewed 357 publications from between 1961 and the end of 2020 to estimate the global prevalence of headaches. The majority of publications considered in the review reported on adults between 20 and 65, but some also included adolescents and children down to 5, and elderly people above 65.

Building on a previous report from 2007, Lars Jacob Stovner and colleagues also measured the differences in methods across the studies they reviewed. They modelled these differences in methods and how they are associated with estimates in headache prevalence. Most studies reported on headache prevalence during the past year. However, some studies reported on headache prevalence across the whole lifetime and some for much shorter periods, including instances of headache within the last day.

Based on the 357 publications reviewed, the authors estimate that 52% of the global population have experienced a headache disorder within a given year, with 14% reporting a migraine, 26% reporting a tension-type headache and 4.6% reporting a headache for 15 or more days per month. From the 12 studies that reported on headache during the last day, the authors estimate that 15.8% of the world's population have a headache on any given day, and almost half of those individuals report a migraine (7%).

Lars Jacob Stovner, lead author, said: "We found that the prevalence of headache disorders remains high worldwide and the burden of different types may impact many. We should endeavour to reduce this burden through prevention and better treatment. To measure the effect of such efforts, we must be able to monitor prevalence and burden in societies. Our study helps us understand how to improve our methods."

All types of headache were more common in females than males, most markedly for migraines (17% in females compared to 8.6% in males) and headaches for 15 or more days per month (6% in females compared to 2.9% in males).

The authors also investigated the association between study methods and headache estimates. Some of the different measures the authors looked at, such as screening questions, sample size, publication year, and how diagnostic criteria are applied, amongst others, explained 29.9% of the variation in migraine estimates and less for other headache disorders. This suggests that there may be other methodological factors accounting for the greater variations across the studies. When modelling the variation in migraine prevalence estimates, the publication year of studies was associated to 6% of the variation in headache estimates, with higher prevalence estimates associated with more recent publication. The publication year was not associated with other headache types. The authors propose that this might reflect a real change with migraines becoming more common over the last three to four decades. Alternatively, this finding could suggest improved methods of diagnosing migraines. Courtesy Science Daily



Lack of facilities in Greenline bus service irks commuters



Khizar Manzoor

ISLAMABAD: The residents of Bahara Kahu and adjacent areas expressed disappointment due to long waiting times and even long queues just because of the insufficient number of Greenline buses.

Capital Development Authority (CDA) had constructed terminal bus stops for Greenline buses at the Dhoke Jillani area of Bahara Kahu and PIMS (Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences). Shuttle service was introduced to pick and drop passengers from Dhoke Jillani to Hafiz Jhuggi stop in the area. In between the terminal stations, the Green Line Bus passes through Malpur, Lake View Park, Dhokri Chowk, Sports Complex/Aabpara, and Zero Point to reach its final destination-PIMS.

Many commuters talking to the scribe complained about the shortage of buses. They believed that the number of buses is much less to fulfill needs and congestion has become a common problem, especially during duty hours. Shuttle service responsible for pick and drop of passengers is another example of negligence whose drivers are found misbehaving with the public under the pretext of controlling the mob.

The commuters demanded an extension of Greenline route so that the public can get rid of the shuttle service.

"The route of Greenline busses should be extended to the Athal chowk bus stand located in the center of Bahara Kahu. People, who do not have their modes of transport to reach the station, suffer the most. One has to walk for more than 20 minutes to reach the bus stop because just two Toyota vehicles are deputed to pick up and drop passengers to and from Bahara Kahu, with such a limited number and capacity, the shuttle service is unable to accommodate everyone. Route of Shuttle service has already been shortened and it turns back from Athal chowk instead of Hafiz Jhuggi stop. This abrupt decision has increased miseries of females, children, students, and senior citizens especially," said a commuter requesting anonymity.

Sadaf, 35, who uses the service daily to reach the office located in the G-8 sector of the Federal Capital despondently informed that she barely found a seat to sit due to the heavy rush. No doubt, newly inducted buses have decreased the complaints of female commuters clearly but there is a need to do more.

However, a large number of citizens are feeling happy and contented over the provision of bus service by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a short period after taking charge of office.

Manzoor, 65, told that Greenline provided a respite to the public who was sick of private transport. "We had to pay to get insulted by drivers and conductors, they had nothing to do with taking care of senior citizens or anyone else, they (transport mafia) were only interested in filling their own pockets," he mentioned.

Zeeshan, 20, a collegiate from Malpur said, "I had to travel to Aabpara daily but it was very nasty before Greenline, it is a speedy means of transport and passengers do not have to wait too long to reach their destination".

Passengers stressed the need to resolve the issues and expressed hope that the problems would be minimized after adding more vehicles. Citizens expressed happiness over "Shehbaz speed" in dispensing basic amenities to the public at large. Citizens expressed satisfaction over the fare price calling it nominal as compared to the fare charged by the private transporters on the route.

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Global Development Initiative: Prioritizing global development

Tom Fowdy

In 2021, China proposed the Global Development Initiative (GDI), which calls for staying committed to development as a priority, a people-centered approach, benefits for all, innovation-driven development, harmony between man and nature, and results-oriented actions. The initiative shows that China stands ready to work with other countries in putting development at the center of the global agenda.

First of all, China's development pathway has taken what is commonly described as a "people centric" approach, which prioritizes the interests of society at large, reducing uneven development, and cutting inequality in the distribution of wealth.

Most notably, this has included China rapidly building up international synergy for coordinated development, as shown by its efforts in coordinating the construction of high-quality infrastructure, both at home and overseas through the Belt and Road

Initiative (BRI), connecting regions and countries alike. Not only has this consisted of necessary transport infrastructure, but it has also addressed human needs such as through the construction of schools, hospitals, internet connectivity and more. This outlook understands development not as a natural phenomenon brought about by unfettered market dynamics - which has in fact disadvantaged many countries in the global south - but focuses first on improving people's basic livelihoods.

Although not strictly economic based, a key example of these different models in general, and certainly an important aspect of the GDI, is China's approach to public health. China has prioritized public health in fighting the pandemic, and also supports other countries in responding to the virus.

This ties into the need for the GDI to be a multilateral and international project, confronting the global challenges of the time collectively, as opposed to unilaterally or mini-laterally.

China has long under-

stood that its development and growth prospects are not merely centered on what it does at home, but in an increasingly integrated international society, and are interdependent with those of the

to establish global connectivity for common development, it also covers other issues too. These include deepening mutual market access, regulatory standards and other provisions through free trade

eration in the name of ideological and geopolitical struggle. This includes attempts by these countries to form exclusive blocs or groupings which have the sole goal of targeting others, forcing their members to take sides and subsequently limiting their cooperation with others. This may also involve forcing them to reject certain markets and technologies, or to attempt to rewrite supply chains in highly costly and inexpedient ways in the name of geopolitics. These policies undermine the foundations of globalization, cause growing inflation and set the global community backwards. It aims to build walls instead of bridges.

As a result, the most pressing challenge in this global environment is for countries to remain open, prudent and to act in their own best interests, as opposed to fighting the hegemonic struggles of other countries.

Tom Fowdy is a British political and international relations analyst and a graduate of Durham and Oxford universities.

Courtesy: China.org.cn

In setting this out, joint efforts are needed to tackle the big challenge to common global development - the ambitions of some countries to roll back globalization and cooperation in the name of ideological and geopolitical struggle. This includes attempts by these countries to form exclusive blocs or groupings which have the sole goal of targeting others, forcing their members to take sides and subsequently limiting their cooperation with others.

rest of the world. Development is a common and collective goal - the economic success of one country is directly related to that of its neighbors and other countries.

Therefore, China's GDI looks at the bigger picture. While most predominantly this has involved the BRI, which as noted above strives

and economic agreements, as well as coordination on issues such as renewable energy with a view to global challenges such as climate change.

In setting this out, joint efforts are needed to tackle the big challenge to common global development - the ambitions of some countries to roll back globalization and coop-

Post-flood situation slightly improving

The devastating flood situation is gradually improving, as most rivers are flowing normally and the water is going into the Indus River. Both the federal and provincial governments are trying every possible way to drain the water out in the inundated areas. But, it will take more time to completely clear these areas because of the intensity of the flood. The incumbent government and stakeholders are doing whatever it takes to contain the spread of deadly diseases in the affected areas. The relief operation is continuing in full swing, and we are providing food and medical assistance to the flood hit persons. The people around the world and from Pakistan have shown immense support to provide as much relief as they can to their brothers in need. A meeting is going to be conducted soon to assess and calculate the damages in the flood hit areas to take next action.

The rescue and relief operation in twenty six districts of Balochistan has been completed successfully, while it continues in remaining areas including Jhal Magsi. A Disaster Management Committee has been established, which includes members from NDMA, PDMA, Pak Army and district officials. It is assessing the amount of damages in these areas. The roads wiped out in the flash floods have been repaired and the connectivity to the affected areas has been restored. The rescue teams are now looking for affected people in the major affected areas. In the first phase, relief packages were provided and now rations are being provided to the flood hit people.

More flood relief goods have arrived in Pakistan from across the world for flood affectees. Meanwhile, the federal government launched the 'Digital Flood Dashboard' of the National Flood Response Coordination Center (NFRCC) aimed at ensuring transparency in relief and rehabilitation efforts. The portal will provide information to the general public and development partners about the flood relief assistance being received from home and abroad as well as its utilization. Earlier, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal said that Pakistan was facing with an unprecedented calamity which has affected 33 million people. The damages caused by the floods was being assessed on daily basis with the cooperation of the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, the United Nations and the provincial governments. However, the federal minister said, the final estimates of damage would be available only after water recedes from all parts of Sindh and Balochistan provinces.

The digital dashboard will ensure transparency of flood relief items and the whole process of rehabilitation of flood victims. Pakistan despite its meager contribution in the global emission was facing the huge effects of climate change. Pakistani nation has valiantly faced calamities in the past and it will cope with the current one with the same spirit. Still there is a dire need that the whole nation should come forward to help address the miseries of flood-hit people and enhance the relief and rehabilitation efforts.



Unforgettable services of institutions in flood situation

Floods have paralyzed the life system in all the provinces of our country. The raging merciless flood waves have swallowed thousands of human lives, the bitter lives are camped in a state of helplessness, there is no proper provision of food, there is no water to drink, no clothes to wear, whatever there was in sight of the flood waves. Flood has destroyed cities in southern Punjab, Sindh, KPK, and Balochistan. Millions of animals have died, millions of acres of crops have been destroyed and thousands of kilometers of roads have become ruins. Due to the flood disasters, Pakistan is facing an extraordinary situation. Due to poor Pakistan's economic condition, Pakistan cannot solve all the problems alone. The Pakistani economy was already struggling to restore the economy of Islamic & friends countries. Billions of dollars are needed to restore human life in the flood areas. These days, the Secretary General of the United Nations, António Guterres, is on the visit to Pakistan's flood affected areas, Mr. Antonio Guterres expressed that Pakistan needs at least 30 billion dollars to deal with the flood disaster. He added that all countries should come forward to help Pakistan. While giving an interview to a Televi-

sion Channel, the Secretary General of the United Nations has said that I have no words to describe about this disaster. My country is three times bigger than Portugal; it is an unimaginable devastation that he has visited Pakistan to witness. United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres has strongly appealed to all countries to help Pakistan. Certainly, Pakistan is facing the biggest flood in history, the damage of which is difficult to estimate.

International electronic, print and social media is giving special coverage to Pakistan's flood situation. By the way, every department of the country is showing the spirit of patriotism in the hour of this difficulty, according to their financial capacity, they are engaged in relief operations in the affected areas. Exemplary and historic activities has been performed to deal with the flood-affected areas, providing food to the affected people, protecting property from damage, transporting animals to safe places, and providing medical facilities. The entire nation is proud of its forces.

It is a big truth that along with

the protection of the country's borders, it also actively participates in other welfare works. Apart from the army, All the federal and province departments are playing their vital role to help the flood affected areas people, apart from their professional duties. Health, Livestock, Charitable and Welfare Institutions, NGOs, Pakistan Television and Radio Pakistan are busy in relief operations for the betterment of flood affected areas in all over the country.

The electricity system has also been completely destroyed in the flood-affected areas; the land connection between the provinces has also been completely cut off due to which the mass media cannot reach millions of people. People are aware of the country's situation through Radio Pakistan, because the transmission of Radio Pakistan reach in all over the country, it is not necessary to have electricity to listen of Radio Transmission. Radio Pakistan was considered to be the only and most effective communication, but in the current flood situation, the importance of this institution has increased. All the stations of Radio Pakistan are

continuing the special transmission day and night for the victims of the flood affected areas, especially the marathon transmission of the Islamabad station has been going on frequently for the last several days. Under the leadership of DG Radio Pakistan Sohail Ali Khan, director of Islamabad station Muhammad Askari along with his team till late night to highlight the spirit of patriotism among the people and to encourage the religious and welfare organizations engaged in relief operations in the flood affected areas. Various programmes are being broadcast for the donors, apart from this; other radio stations are also broadcasting day and night transmission to raise funds for the relief of the flood victims.

There is no other opinion that food items, clothes, medicines and other necessities of life are arriving from all corners of Pakistan to help the flood victims. However, there is a shortage of food items in many areas. Billions of dollars are urgently required to restore electricity systems and roads and reconstruct houses to the homeless. If Pakistan is not immediately helped by the international community, Pakistan may face a number of problems. International Community should go ahead to help the flood victims of Pakistan.



Analysis

Zeeshan Haider

Digital transformation to spur growth

He Shuquan

In July, Shanghai released a blueprint to boost the development of its digital economy during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), setting ambitious goals and also putting forward a series of supporting policies to promote enterprises' digital transformation.

The digital economy has seen unprecedented progress around the world in recent years, especially when it comes to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Such progress is promoting profound changes in industrial production, people's way of life, and governance.

In Shanghai, targeted policies have been adopted to boost the development of artificial intelligence, 5G technology, and industrial internet throughout the city over the past few years. Thereby, a large number of high-tech enterprises have emerged and reached new achievements. More investments have also been injected into new infrastructure projects across the city, ensuring a boon for the city's digital economy development.

In 2021, the share of digital economy in Shanghai's GDP surpassed 50%, making it a prominent driving force for the city's economic growth. This has enabled the city to establish its one-stop e-governance platform to offer online public services in a more efficient manner, facilitating the development of companies and its citizens.

The rapid progress of Shanghai's digital economy benefits not only local enterprises but also international companies, providing them with more opportunities and access to China's economic hubs, as well as a chance to tap into the world's second-largest economy.

For example, German behemoth Siemens set up the first digital enabling center for cooperation on intelligent infrastructure in Shanghai in June to expand cooperation on intelligent infrastructure, while Swiss conglomerate ABB Group reached a new agreement with

China Telecom and Huawei in July to integrate its cutting-edge three-party communication and automatic distribution network technologies and promote 5G smart power distribution solutions.

Furthermore, a new generation of information and communication technologies is expected to see remarkable progress as cooperation between Chinese and international companies grows. This will ensure an accelerated integration among various industries and thereby boost the digital transformation of enterprises and industries as a whole.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has attached great importance to the development of the digital economy. According to a report on the global digital economy released last month, the share of the digital economy in China's GDP has increased from 20.9% to 39.8% between 2012 and 2021, making it a key driving force spurring China's economic growth. Moreover, the added value of China's digital economy hit \$7.1 trillion last year, accounting for over 18% of the amount of 47 major countries across the world.

Now second year in its 14th Five-Year Plan period, China's development of the digital economy is expected to be a new boon, aiming to ensure that the added value of core industries accounts for 10% of GDP by 2025, which will ultimately add new impetus to the country's high-quality development.

Against this backdrop, Shanghai has made the digital transformation of industries a long-term priority in order to build the city into a "digital hub" by 2035. More efforts are expected to be made to boost innovation in terms of planning, policies, and core technologies so as to foster a favorable environment for the development of the digital economy. In turn, this will help unleash the growth potential of digital transformation and technological innovations and contribute to Shanghai's economic growth as well as the country at large.

He Shuquan is a professor at the School of Economics, Shanghai University. He is also a member of the Fudan University-Jingguang Group Think Tank.

Courtesy: China.org.cn

Ukraine piles pressure on retreating Russian troops

KHARKIV: Ukrainian troops piled pressure on retreating Russian forces on Tuesday, pressing a counteroffensive that has produced major gains and a stunning blow to Moscow's military prestige.

It was not yet clear if the Ukrainian blitz in the northeast after months of little discernible movement could signal a turning point in the nearly seven-month war. But the country's officials were buoyant, releasing footage showing their forces burning Russian flags and inspecting abandoned charred tanks. In one video, border guards tore down a poster that read, "We are one people with Russia."

Momentum has switched back and forth before, and Ukraine's American allies, for one, were careful not to declare a premature victory since Russian President Vladimir Putin still has troops and resources to tap.

Still, the Kremlin struggled to respond to the defeat, its largest since its forces abandoned a botched attempt to capture Kyiv early in the war.

Among the latest claims, Ukraine's border guard services said the army took control of Vovchansk — a town just 3 kilometers (2 miles) from Russia seized on the first day of the war.

While every individual claim of military success could not be verified, Russia acknowledged that it has withdrawn troops from areas in the northeastern region of Kharkiv in recent days.

Reports of chaos abounded as Russian troops pulled out — as well as claims that they were surrendering en masse. Ukraine officials have said they have captured so many soldiers that they are struggling to house them. The claim could not be immediately verified.

Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Defense Hanna Maliar said Kyiv is trying to persuade even more Russian soldiers to give up, launching shells filled with flyers ahead of their advance. "Russians use you as cannon fodder. Your life doesn't mean anything for them. You don't need this war. Surrender to Armed Forces of Ukraine," the

flyers read.

In one indication of the blow sustained by Moscow, British intelligence said that one premier force, the 1st Guards Tank Army, had been "severely degraded" during the invasion and that "Russia's conventional force designed to counter NATO is severely weakened. It will likely take years for Russia to rebuild this capability."

The retreat didn't stop Russia from pounding Ukrainian positions, however. Early Tuesday, it shelled the city of Lozova in the Kharkiv region, killing three people and injuring nine, said regional governor Oleh Syniehubov.

And Ukrainian officials said Russia kept up shelling around Europe's largest nuclear facility, where fighting has raised fears of a nuclear disaster. The Nikopol area, which is across the Dnieper River from the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, was shelled six times during the night but no injuries were immediately reported, said regional governor Valentyn Reznichenko. Strikes have also continued unabated on the city of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest and one that has been hammered by artillery for months.

Zelenskyy specifically criticized Russia for targeting energy infrastructure in its attacks over the past days. "Hundreds and thousands of Ukrainians found themselves in the dark — without electricity. Houses, hospitals, schools, communal infrastructure ... sites that have absolutely nothing to do with the infrastructure of the armed forces of our country."

He said it could only point to one thing. "This is a sign of the desperation of those who contrived this war. This is how they react to the defeat of Russian forces in the Kharkiv region. They can't do anything to our heroes on the battlefield."

The counteroffensive has provoked rare public criticism of Putin's war. Meanwhile, some of its defenders in Russia played down the idea that the success belonged to Ukraine, blaming instead Western weapons and fighters for the losses.

Lula continues lead over Bolsonaro ahead of Brazil election

SAO PAULO: Brazil presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva continues to poll ahead of President Jair Bolsonaro, extending his lead to 15 percentage points, according to an IPEC poll published.

The survey showed Lula with 46% of voter support against 31% for Bolsonaro in the first round of the election scheduled for Oct. 2, compared to 44% and 31% respectively in the previous poll.

In the expected second-round runoff, Lula's lead grew slightly to 17 points from 16, indicating he would get elected with 53% of the vote versus Bolsonaro's 36%, the poll showed. Meanwhile, Bolsonaro's approval rate stayed the same as the previous poll at 30%, despite the incumbent passing welfare programs and measures to tackle inflation.

His disapproval rate was up slightly to 45% from 43% the previous week, according to the poll.

Pollster IPEC, formerly known as IBOPE, interviewed 2,512 people in person between Sept. 9-11. The poll has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

UN sums up climate science: world heading in wrong direction

GENEVA: With weather disasters costing \$200 million a day and irreversible climate catastrophe looming, the world is "heading in the wrong direction," the United Nations says in a new report that pulls together the latest science on climate change.

The World Meteorological Organization, in the latest stark warning about global warming, said weather-related disasters have increased fivefold over the last 50 years and are killing 115 per day on average — and the fallout is poised to worsen.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres cited the floods in Pakistan, heat waves in Europe, droughts in places such as China, the Horn of Africa, and the United States — and pointed the finger at fossil fuels.

"There is nothing natural about the new scale of these disasters. They are the price of humanity's fossil fuel addiction," he said. "This year's United in Science report shows climate impacts heading into uncharted territories of destruction."

"Yet each year we double-down on this fossil fuel addiction, even as the symptoms get rapidly worse," he added.

Lawmakers in Australian state pledge allegiance to king

CANBERRA: Lawmakers in an Australian state pledged their allegiance to King Charles III on Tuesday with some using the occasion to call for an Australian republic.

Australia's center-left Labor Party government wants an Australian president to replace the British monarch as the nation's head of state. The death of Queen Elizabeth II last week after a 70-year reign is seen by many as an ideal opportunity for change.

Lawmakers from the minor Greens party used their swearing in ceremony in the Victoria Parliament to advocate for an Australian head of state.

"We're here as Victorian MPs to swear allegiance to King Charles III, a new head of state decided for us, but not by us," Greens leader Samantha Ratnam told reporters before the ceremony, referring to members of Parliament.

"This is a really important time to reflect on the role of the British monarchy going forward in Australia, the impact of colonization and the need to move forward in this country with a treaty and with a republic," Ratnam added.

Seoul says N. Korea will self-destruct if it uses nukes

SEOUL: South Korea on Tuesday warned North Korea that using its nuclear weapons would put it on a "path of self-destruction," in unusually harsh language that came days after North Korea legislated a new law that would allow it to use its nuclear weapons preemptively.

North Korea will likely be infuriated by the South Korean rhetoric as Seoul typically shuns such strong words to avoid raising tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Despite North Korea's increasingly aggressive nuclear doctrine, some experts say the country — outgunned by more superior U.S. and South Korean forces — will still unlikely use its nuclear weapons first.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said the legislation would only deepen North Korea's isolation and prompt Seoul and Washington to "further strengthen their deterrence and reaction capacities."

UP government begins survey of madrasas

LUCKNOW: The government in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh started, today, the process of conducting a survey of the madrasas (Islamic education institutions).

Muslim organizations and leaders have strongly opposed the UP government's move. Bulandshahr Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Arvind Kumar Singh, said the survey of all unrecognised (private) madrasas is starting in Uttar Pradesh from today.

Acting upon a government order, the teams of officials for the madrasas survey have been constituted by District Magistrate (DM).

"As per government orders, a survey of all unrecognised Madrasas is to be done. The DM has constituted teams of officials, Tehsil-wise. Survey work will start today on the basis of 12 points," SDM Arvind Kumar Singh said.

Earlier, the UP government declared to conduct a survey of unrecognised madrasas with the claim to ascertain information on the number of students, teachers, curriculum and its affiliation with any non-governmental organisations. On the other hand, the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind termed the move a malicious attempt to disparage this education system, asserting to defend the Islamic seminaries at all costs.

Azerbaijan MFA's statement on Armenian provocation

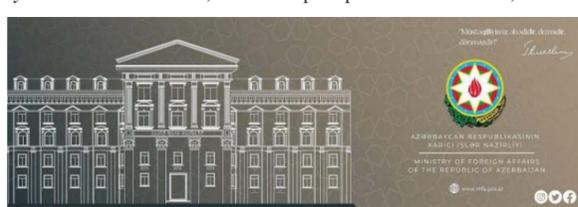
BAKU: On September 12, 2022, starting at late night, the units of the armed forces of Armenia held large-scale provocations in the directions of Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin of Azerbaijan-Armenia state border.

According to the information provided by the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the sabotage groups of the armed forces of Armenia using the mountainous relief of the area and existing valley gaps carried out planting landmines on the areas between the positions of the units of Azerbaijan's army and the supply roads in different directions. In addition, the Armenian armed forces fired intensively at the positions of the Azerbaijani Army in Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin regions with different types of weapons, including mortars. As a result, there are casualties among the personnel of our armed forces, damage was inflicted to the military infrastructure.

In order to prevent further provocations by the armed forces of Armenia and military threats against the territory and sovereignty of our country, to ensure the safety of our military personnel, including civilian workers involved in infrastructure activities in the territory of Kalbajar and Lachin regions, the expansion of the scale of the military hostilities was averted, and in order to silence the firing points of the armed forces of Armenia definitive retaliatory measures were taken by the units of the Azerbaijani Army deployed in this direction. Moreover, the information disseminated by the

Armenian side that Azerbaijan's Army allegedly targets the civilian population, facilities, and infrastructure does not reflect reality, and is another disinformation spread by the Armenian side.

In general, during the last month, the provocations of the Armenian armed forces in the direction of Lachin, Gadabay, Dashkasan and Kalbajar regions of the state border, and cases of the firing of the positions of the Azerbaijani Army in those regions with various types of weapons, were intensive and systematic. At the same time, Armenia's



increase in militarization along Azerbaijan's borders, deployment of heavy equipment and large-caliber weapons in the region indicated that Armenia was preparing for a large-scale military provocation.

At the same time, delaying the normalization process by Armenia with various pretexts, showing a destructive position in the negotiations conducted with international efforts, not withdrawing the Armenian armed forces from the territory of Azerbaijan contrary to the obligations within the framework of trilateral

statements and agreements, continuing planting landmines, including recently produced in Armenia in the territory of Lachin, putting forward new conditions and disrupting the process of opening of communications and transport routes, as well as not responding to the peace agenda demonstrated that Armenia is not interested in the peace process and aims to undermine them.

The following aggression of the Armenian side against Azerbaijan is a gross violation of the fundamental norms and principles of international law, as well as

the provisions of the trilateral statements signed between the leaders of Azerbaijan, Armenia and the Russian Federation, and the agreements reached between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

These steps of Armenia are completely contrary to the ongoing normalization and peace process. At the time, when the Azerbaijan is carrying out large-scale restoration and construction works in these territories liberated from occupation, Armenia by allowing aggression once again demonstrates that it is hindering this process by all means.

EU lawmakers support ban of goods linked to deforestation

BRUSSELS: European Union lawmakers have backed a proposal for a law that would ban the sale in the 27-nation bloc of agriculture products linked to the destruction of forests.

MEPs gathered on Tuesday in Strasbourg, France, supported and strengthened a plan from the EU's executive arm with 453 votes to 57, and 123 abstentions. The EU Parliament will now start negotiations on the final text with EU member states.

Once approved, the law would force companies and producers to give assurances that products are "deforestation-free." Businesses would be forced to verify that agricultural goods sold in the EU have not been made on "deforested or degraded land anywhere in the world," the Parliament said.

"Acknowledging that the EU is responsible for around 10% of global deforestation, we have no choice but to ramp up our efforts to halt global deforestation," said Christophe Hansen, the lawmaker in charge of the Parliament's report.

In addition, MEPs proposed that banks and financial institutions should be covered by the law to prevent them from investing in projects linked to deforestation.

"This could be the beginning of the end of the money pipeline that is destroying forests around the world — but only if national governments across the EU step up and support this plan to make European banks deforestation-free in negotiations on the final law," said Giulia Bondi, from Global Witness campaigning group.

Deforestation in South America, Africa and Asia is driven mainly by agricultural expansion. Quoting data from the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, the EU Parliament said that some 420 million hectares of forest were lost to deforestation between 1990 and 2020. This is an area larger than the EU.

The European Commission, which proposes EU laws and supervises the way they are enacted, suggested last year that the legislation covered soy, cattle, palm oil, wood, cocoa and coffee.

Under the position adopted Tuesday, lawmakers also want to include pig meat, sheep and goats, poultry, maize and rubber, as well as charcoal and printed paper products.

Rochdale Asian Business Network organizes event

Spokesman Report

LONDON: The Rochdale Asian Business Network event was held at Castle-mere Community Centre, which was hosted by Lucy Smith, while former Mayor of Rochdale Muhammad Zaman, Councillor Sardar Shahid, local bank officer Justin Taylor, Nikla Wadekar, Dabeel Mian and other members of the community attended. Other business personalities participated.

The participants of the event agreed that there are people at the local level who are successfully running

their own businesses and are always ready to help whenever they need our help. Siddique Musa, the chief guest on this occasion, said that we want the network to be successful and the Asian community in Rochdale is already the most successful and we want it to grow further. Former Mayor Muhammad Zaman said that the event was attended by a large number of business people who are doing really successful business. I am happy that people are interested in it. Councillor Sardar Shahid said that there are numerous businesses

running successfully at the local level and the network will only get stronger with time.

Local Bank Officer Justin Taylor said that we are here to help the local community and entrepreneurs. There is an opportunity to communicate with each other so that they can further their interactions with each other. Nicola Walker said there is a golden opportunity for businesses to raise their concerns so that they can be heard and find out how we can help them. Dabeel Mian said that it is a golden opportunity for the entrepreneurs of the Asian

community to showcase their skills and inform the relevant authorities about their concerns and needs.

Host Lucy Smith said: "We are a charity that helps the local community to start up businesses so that in the current tough times when the cost of living has gone up so much, we help entrepreneurs and not their own." To be able to survive, but to carry flags of success. Hafiz Abdul Malik, the chairman of Pakistan Welfare Association and the soul of Castle-mere Community Center, organized the program very well.

Prospects for cooperation of Uzbekistan and Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Spokesman Report

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which is a large international association and a large-scale political and economic community, is developing rapidly. Today there is no doubt that the SCO has been able to establish itself as a new type of international regional organization. The formation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization after the collapse of the USSR became a necessary step in maintaining stability in the Central Asian region.

It can be said that the emergence of such an organization was inevitable, since the presence in the region of two states

gaining strength and power in the person of the Russian Federation and the PRC, holding fairly close positions on many issues, would in any case lead to the formation of a multilateral dialogue in view of the need to ensure the independence of the countries representing the region from the influence of the West.

The SCO summit held in Tashkent in June 2016, timed to coincide with the fifteenth anniversary of the organization's formation, was marked by the signing of memoranda of obligations between India and Pakistan to obtain the status of SCO member states. The Organization began to unite eight permanent members, including China, Russia, India and

Pakistan, which have the status of nuclear powers, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan as founders actively participating in its work today, which indicates that this structure is extremely important for strengthening stability and cooperation in Central Asia.

The new foreign policy strategy of Uzbekistan over the past five years has been vividly reflected in the activities of the SCO. Within the framework of the Organization, the country puts forward many relevant initiatives and proposals that contribute to improving its image in the international arena, corresponding to priority areas of socio-economic development, actively contributes to the enrichment of the existing

agenda.

It should be noted that in 2021-2022, Uzbekistan is the chairman of the SCO. The next summit of the organization will be held on September 15-16 in Samarkand. Within the framework of the meeting held on the eve of the Samarkand summit, a plan for the implementation of the "roadmap" of cooperation between the relevant ministries and departments responsible for the development of physical culture and sports of the SCO countries for 2022-2024 was approved. The document, aimed at improving the system of holding all events at a high level, provides for cooperation in the direction of creating favorable conditions for the development of physical culture and sports,



popularization of Olympic and non-Olympic sports, as well as ethnosport, professional development of athletes, coaches and judges.

In order to further expand the multifaceted partnership within the SCO, a comprehensive

program is being developed for the implementation of the Agreement on Long-term Good-Neighborhood, Friendship and Cooperation of the SCO member states for 2023-2027, a joint action plan for the development of intraregional trade.

It is planned to complete the process of developing and agreeing on the SCO Concept of Interconnectedness in the Field of Transport.

It is also planned to adopt a Program of infrastructural development in the SCO space, an Action program for cooperation between the leading medical centers of the SCO member states in the field of prevention of infectious diseases, a program of cooperation in the field of telemedicine, a Memorandum between the authorized bodies of the SCO member states on cooperation in the field of museums, an agreement on cooperation in the use of renewable energy sources between the member states of the SCO and a number of other important documents.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
42,001.34	41,862.29
Day's High	Day's Low:
42,092.72	41,862.29
Index Value	Change
3,104,026,917	+139.05
Percentage	Time
+0.33%	13 Sep, 2022 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,385.86	-87.17
Percentage	Time
-1.17%	13 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
31,500.60	-880.74
Percentage	Time
-2.72%	13 Sept, 11:47 am GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
28,614.63	+72.52
Percentage	Time
+0.25%	13 Sept, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	159.3	160.55
Bahrain Dinar	615.38	619.88
Canadian Dollar	178.27	179.62
China Yuan	33.41	33.66
Danish Krone	31.5	31.85
Euro	240.2	242.2
Hong Kong Dollar	29.48	29.83
Indian Rupee	2.92	3
Japanese Yen	1.6	1.65
Kuwaiti Dinar	746.75	751.75
Malaysian Ringgit	51.43	51.88
New Zealand \$	142.32	143.52
Norwegians Krone	23.49	23.79
Omani Riyal	600.03	604.53
Qatari Riyal	63.57	64.07
Saudi Riyal	63	63.6
Singapore Dollar	165.79	167.09
Swedish Korona	22.04	22.34
Swiss Franc	241	242.75
Thai Bhat	6.2	6.3
U.A.E Dirham	65	65.6
UK Pound Sterling	278.8	281.5
US Dollar	237	238

Trade Cooperation

South Korea to invest \$1b in Pakistan

CG South Korea says Pakistan imports \$1.5 billion worth of South Korean products each year

Our Correspondent

KARACHI: Suleman Chawla, Acting President FPCCI, has apprised that South Korea plans to invest \$1 billion in Pakistan's various industrial sectors and economically significant initiatives over the next 5 years and it will help Pakistan in many ways: (i) Pakistan will receive the much needed capital inflows in dollar terms (ii) the country will be able to adapt to the internationally-acclaimed hi-tech industrial techniques and standards to compete regionally & internationally (iii) Pakistani industrial units will secure numerous joint ventures in textile value-addition, IT, automobiles, healthcare devices and agriculture - to name a few (iv) and last, but not the least, hundreds of thousands of new jobs will be created.

Acting FPCCI Chief proposed that South Korea and Pakistani industrialists should form a joint forum of relevant business leaders & diplomatic staff from both sides to turn the huge investment of \$1 billion into a reality through prioritizing the right areas, B2B matchmaking and establishing an efficient liaison with the authorities.

Kim Haksung, Consul General of South Korea in Karachi, stated that Pakistan imports \$1.5 billion worth of South Korean products



Suleman Chawla, acting President FPCCI, is presenting the official crest to Kim Haksung, Consul General of South Korea in Karachi.

each year; while it exports only \$400 million worth of products. This phenomenon is causing a bilateral trade deficit of an approximate \$1.1 billion and his government is willing to facilitate Pakistani exporters of goods and services to bridge the gap. He also informed that over the past sixty years, South Korea has increased its GDP by 410 folds. Very few countries of the world have posted such enormous

and persistent economic growth, he added.

Shabbir Mansha, VP FPCCI, emphasized that IT is the most important industry of Pakistan vis-à-vis South Korea; both for enhancement of exports and exporting skilled human resources in IT. He noted that only 10,000 workers of Pakistani origin are working in South Korea and that number should have been hundreds of thousands. Additionally,

South Korea has the potential to be one of the top most destinations for Pakistan for earning the foreign exchange reserves through remittances in the years to come.

Sohail Nisar, Chairman of FPCCI's Pak-Korea business council, predicted that South Korea has progressed with such a pace and resilience over the past few decades that he foresees it becoming one of the world's top 5 economies in another decade or so down the line as they are already in top 10 economies of the world. He added that there are a number of large business houses and conglomerates in Pakistan which can make their mark in the international markets just through benefiting from the technological might of South Korea. They even have their own investments to pool in with South Korean companies through joint ventures, he added.

Zohaib Khan, Convener of FPCCI's Central Standing Committee on IT, maintained that South Korea has been instrumental in developing Islamabad's IT Park and now they are yet again at it with Karachi's IT Park. He added that Pakistan is one of the most attractive business-outsourcing, freelancing, HR-sourcing and IT services import destinations for South Korea on the back of a large pool of young, skilled and accomplished IT workforce.

Govt decision to promote agriculture lauded

Atif Ikram Sheikh says farmers and the public will get relief

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: FPCCI's Presidential candidate Atif Ikram Sheikh on Tuesday lauded the government's decision to promote the agriculture sector.

Government measures will reduce the risk of farmers and restore their confidence while the people will get some relief as the prices will fall, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh said that the move will increase the area under cultivation of important crops to improve food security, while the increase in cotton production will have positive effects on Pakistan's largest industrial and export sector.

The business leader said that the production of important



crops has been falling for several decades while the farmers are also shifting towards other crops instead of the main crops due to which billions of dollars

are being spent on importing wheat pulses and other commodities.

He said that the government's intervention will protect farmers from exploitation and they will be assured of cheap loans, quality seeds, fertilizers and pesticides and there will be enhanced focus on research and development.

He said that about 44 percent of Pakistan's total workforce is associated with the agricultural sector, and the share of agricultural income is about a quarter of the country's gross national product.

Despite the basic and very important role of agriculture in the development and prosperity of the country, this sector

has been neglected.

He noted that if the government focuses on the construction of dams, it will not only help in overcoming the power crisis, but it will also ease the possible threat of water crisis in the coming years.

An abundant supply of electricity and water will develop agriculture as well as the industrial sector and create ample employment opportunities. The foreign exchange that the government spend on the import of petrol will also be substantially reduced.

There is no shortage of resources in Pakistan, what is needed is proper planning, sincerity and determination, he said.

MAP elects Muhammad Azfar Ahsan as its President

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, Founder & CEO of Nutshell Group, has been elected as the President of the Marketing Association of Pakistan (MAP), the apex body of marketing in the country. He previously served MAP in various capacities, including his recent role as the Vice President of MAP. Azfar has served as Minister of State & Chairman, Board of Investment and Government of Pakistan. He is also the Founder of the CORPORATE PAKISTAN GROUP, which represents the elite of Pakistan's national intelligentsia, including corporate and government leaders, policymakers, academicians, defense personnel, media practitioners, and movers and shakers of civil society.

Other office bearers elected to MAP this year include Saqib Saleem from Arif Habib Investments as Vice President MAP; Jahangir Rasheed from Dalda Foods as Honorary Secretary; and Asim Shafiq from Abbott Laboratories as Honorary Treasurer.

Azfar is a visionary and has brought innovation and growth to all his ventures. He plans to restructure and expand MAP to become a global voice for Pakistan. He hopes to bring his expertise as an influencer and a connector to the marketing landscape, enabling all stakeholders to collaborate for the best global representation of Pakistan.

Commenting on the occasion, Muhammad Azfar Ahsan expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the marketing fraternity for reposing trust in his leadership and allowing him to serve the industry and Pakistan at large.

"My priority is to strengthen and expand the platform of the Association across the country, with the induction of new members and new chapters from the genres of traditional marketing and emerging digital space alike. Being an advocate of diversity, I look forward to more female leadership defining new contours of Marketing."

As Founder & CEO of Nutshell Group, which is the parent group for Nutshell Communications, Nutshell Conferences, and Nutshell



Solutions, he has led and initiated many strategic developments and discussions inside and outside Pakistan. He plans to give the same edge to MAP, by enabling experts to share the best visions for the future.

Azfar is the thought leader behind two of Pakistan's largest corporate events - LEADERS IN ISLAMABAD BUSINESS SUMMIT (LIIBS) and THE FUTURE SUMMIT (TFS). Through these platforms as well as several other initiatives, he has also hosted hundreds of foreign delegates in Pakistan in the last 2 decades.

Azfar served as the Chairman of MARCON 2016, Pakistan's flagship marketing event,

where he endorsed creativity and innovation as the drivers for business success. He was honored by the Canada Pakistan Business Council (CPBC) in 2019 and received the "Global Outreach Award" from them. In December 2020, the US State Department featured Azfar in their list of 80 selected alumni of the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP). These 80 individuals were selected out of 225,000 IVLP alumni worldwide. In May 2022, he received the "Global Visionary Award for Global Connectivity of Businesses and Communities" by the BSV Blockchain Association, further confirming his commitment to the modernization of businesses.

Azfar is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Financial Markets of Pakistan, RYTS Global (Ryts-global.com), Make-A-Wish Foundation Pakistan, and the Advisory Board of Shaukat Khanum Cancer Hospital Karachi. He plans to integrate his learnings for the sustained growth of MAP. His mission is to widen MAP's horizon to include all areas of expertise.

Saeed Ghani inaugurates 19th Int'l Pharma Asia 2022



Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Labour and Human Resource Saeed Ghani inaugurated the 19th International Pharma Asia exhibition at Expo Center Karachi on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, the minister said the pharmaceutical sector could play a crucial role post of devastating floods and assured to facilitate local pharmaceutical producers to ensure supply of low-cost medicines in the country.

He said events such as International Pharma Asia encouraged foreign investment and also promoted exports. He congratulated Dr. Khurshid Nizam for organizing the pharmaceutical exhibition and assured of all cooperation on his part.

He said diseases including Dengue were spreading fast after the floods and mentioned provincial government was taking all measures to provide relief and rehabilitate the affected.

Negating the rumours circulating social media, Saeed Ghani said provincial government formulated and started implementing the disaster recovery strategy

on war footings. Concerned departments and divisions had already mobilized their teams, and the work was being strictly monitored. Ministers were personally attending to the complaints for their redressal.

He also appreciated the philanthropic attitude of the people of Karachi. The Minister said government and police were working hard to control the crimes in the city. He said criticism was the constitutional right of people, but needless criticism only increased sensationalism.

Over 200 manufacturers and producers of pharmaceuticals and medical goods will showcase their products at the exhibition organized by eCommece Gateway in cooperation with the Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association. Moreover, 120 delegations from around the world including China, Singapore, Germany and Turkey will attend the event.

Spread over five halls, the 19th Pharma Asia exhibition is housing 600 stalls displaying pharmaceutical packaging material, machinery, laboratory equipment and pharmaceutical industry raw material.

Sindh's decision to double wheat support price criticised

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Tuesday criticised decision of the Sindh Cabinet to double the wheat support price terming it against the interests of masses reeling under inflation.

The decision should be reversed as it that will affect the whole country and the poor reeling under record inflation will die of hunger, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that the decision should be withdrawn otherwise the price of flour will increase to Rs150 per kg which the majority cannot afford.

He informed that last year, the support price of 40kg of wheat was Rs2200 which has now been increased to Rs4000 which has started price in the market and triggered hoarding by the profiteers who are benefitting from the development.

The move will result in a record hike in the price of wheat flour and it will become impossible for millions to manage food, he observed.

PTCL Group partners with Akhuwat to support flood victims

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: PTCL Group and Akhuwat Foundation collaborated to provide food assistance to flood affected families in five districts of Balochistan, including Qilla Saifullah, Loralai, Sibi, Lasbela and Lasbela (Uthal). President and Group CEO, PTCL & Ufone, Hatem Bamatraf presented a cheque to Dr. Amjad Saqib, Founder and Chairman Akhuwat Foundation in Lahore.

Speaking at the ceremony, President and Group CEO PTCL, Hatem Bamatraf said: "PTCL Group appreciates Akhuwat Foundation's role in bringing relief to the flood affected communities across the country and would like



to help the foundation to reach out to more deserving families. The scale of devastation is unpre-

cedented, which is why it is important that everyone contributes to the relief and rebuilding process.

Being a Pakistani company, PTCL Group has extended a helping hand during these testing times. The contribution to Akhuwat is part of PTCL Group's PKR 1.75 billion pledge for relief activities and I hope it will help rehabilitate displaced families."

Also speaking at the event, Founder & Chairman Akhuwat Foundation, Dr. Amjad Saqib said: "We are grateful to PTCL Group for extending the much-needed support to the flood affected communities of Balochistan. The impact on local communities is extremely overwhelming and the relief and rehabilitation work needs to be paced up. I find it heartening that the corporate sector is stepping up to make a difference in the

lives of people, who have lost family members, homes and sources of sustenance. I am positive that our nation will emerge stronger from the crisis due to its resilience and unwavering support from organizations such as PTCL."

PTCL Group has taken multiple initiatives to provide relief to the flood affected communities. Earlier, PTCL opened the doors of its medical centers nationwide to provide emergency health and care to the affected communities. In addition, despite power outages, Ufone 4G worked round the clock to ensure that its mobile network remained operational to aid relief activities, besides offering free calls to help people stay in touch with their friends and family.

Telenor reveals key trends shaping Pakistan's digital landscape

Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Nearly 73% of Pakistanis believe that their quality of life has been enhanced with greater connectivity with friends and family, a new report released by Telenor Asia has revealed.

The report titled "Digital Lives Decoded", released in conjunction with Telenor's 25th anniversary in Asia, surveyed over 8,000 mobile internet users across eight countries in South and Southeast Asia (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam). The report revealed a common appreciation for the benefits of an "always-on" life - that mobile connectivity enriches relationships, delivers convenience, and makes it easier for people to participate in the digital economy.

"It is often reported that mobile usage comes between people, distracting users from those around them and damaging relationships and interpersonal communication skills. However, this study dispels that notion. Compared to before the pandemic, mobile data usage has more than doubled in most Asian markets, reshaping how we communicate at work and at home. Interestingly, this survey shows that people want the changes in digital use and their daily lives to stay. In fact, they continue to immerse themselves in a digital world despite rules on travel and social interaction being relaxed," said Jorgen Rostrup, Head of Telenor Asia.

Irfan Wahab Khan, Chief Executive Officer, Telenor Pakistan said, "In this constantly evolving world where there are more devices than people, how does that technology translate to a socioeconomic uplift is up to innovative solutions that we work towards."

Webb hopes to create fitness culture amongst pathway programme participants

Nick Webb makes some elaborate plans for the youngsters training

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The first batch of the PCB Pathway Programme continues to train at full throttle at the National High Performance Centre in Lahore with players from across the country going through the hard yards under the supervision of foreign and local coaches.

Over the weekend, renowned strength and conditioning coach Nick Webb who hails from New Zealand joined the programme as part of the Engro Cricket Coaching Project initiative.

Webb has established his credentials as one of the most prominent S&C coaches in world cricket with highly successful stints with New Zealand and Indian men's teams.

Webb brought a change in the fitness culture and approach of both sides and his extensive knowledge of working with players from the subcontinent made him an attractive choice for the PCB when they began the hunt for an S&C coach to join the programme under the Engro Cricket Coaching Project banner.

With the players being in their formative years, Webb is keen on creating a



world-class fitness culture for the participants as they build towards their professional careers at the senior level for Pakistan across the three cricket formats.

Webb has made some elaborate plans both for the youngsters training at the pathway programme as well as local S&C coaches who are working closely with him as part of the PCB's plans of upskilling coaches.

Nick Webb: "I have been pleasantly

surprised both by Lahore and the high performance centre. It is an absolute privilege to be here and work with these youngsters who are full of potential. The PCB Pathway Programme is a fantastic initiative, my aim would be to create awareness amongst the participants on fitness requirements which can help them in their senior careers.

"This initiative can feed the senior team for a long period, we have got some good

consultants and organisers on-board who can help these youngsters develop high performance habits and culture.

"There is a two-pronged attack from my perspective, the first bit is to ensure these players are fit and strong in three years' time to handle the demands of international and professional cricket. There is also a coach education plan from my end for local coaches to enhance their knowledge from a sports science perspective so that they can too contribute on a long-term basis.

"It is also about recognising the individual fitness requirements of players, how a batter is different to a bowler, how a tall player is different to one who is short, similarly how players from prominent cities compare to those hailing from smaller towns and rural areas."

Besides Webb, power-hitting coach Julian Wood and bowling coach Gordon Parsons are delivering daily indoor and outdoor training sessions and lectures to the camp participants. The two remaining foreign coaches – part of the Engro Cricket Coaching Project under the PCB Pathway Programme – Toby Radford and Julien Fountain have also joined the camp.

Pak golf outfit to compete at WCGC World Final

ISLAMABAD: A two-member Pakistan team will feature in the World Corporate Golf Challenge (WCGC) World Final, to be staged in Tenerife, Spain from 17-21 October 2022.

Since its inception in 1993, WCGC has grown to such an extent that over one million golfers have participated from over fifty countries.

Pakistan's first appearance in the event was in 2015 wherein it finished at 13th position. In 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 Pakistan got second, third, fourth and eighth position respectively. And now after a two-year Covid-19 hiatus, it will be competing in the event for the sixth time "Our two



best golfers will be among golfing outfits of corporate sector of around 30 countries, contesting for the top honours in the island of Tenerife." Wing Cmdr (retd) I N Khokhar, Chairman of Loco Services, the Pakistan's official licence-holder of WCGC told APP on Tuesday.

According to Khokhar, Loco Services professionally conducted the first qualifier for South Region of Hashoo Group WCGC Challenge 2022 in Karachi, the second edition of North Region in Islamabad, while the third edition of Centre Region will take place in Lahore on

September 17.

"This will be followed by the National Final, to be held on September 18 in Lahore. We've selected six teams from Karachi, edition, five from Islamabad edition and as many will be selected from Lahore edition to compete in the National Final.

"The winning team of the National Final will represent Pakistan at World Final in Tenerife for the chance to be crowned as World Champions," he added.

He said the WCGC was the most established global "business to business" golf tournament opened to top level executives around the world who share a passion for golf.

NC heading fast towards PFF elections

Our Correspondent

LAHORE: FIFA appointed NC is heading fast towards PFF elections, the registration process of clubs under the 'Pakistan Football Connect' program is underway in the country. The registration has been operational for the last two weeks.

Till now, 2,826 clubs have applied for registration in the 'Pakistan Football Connect' program while 1500 clubs have been reponded and provided with the required information. Upon completion of the verification process applicant clubs will have direct access to the Pakistan Football Connect program portal.

727 applications have been received from clubs of Punjab, 643 from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 651 from Balochistan, 567 from Sindh, 98 from Capital, 86 from Azad Kashmir and 74 from Gilgit Baltistan

74 have become part of the registration process.

PFF Normalisation Committee spokesman said, "The keen interest in the registration of clubs has shown that the football community can now work together in an organized manner for the promotion of the game."

He further said that this process would determine the actual structure of the Pakistan football club and with this, they will be able to show its presence to the world. "The PFF Normalisation Committee is trying in the best way possible to complete the election process as this is one of the main mandates of the NC.

Besides conducting the Pakistan Football Federation elections in a free, fair, and transparent manner, it is also part of the NC mandate to hold the activities of the national football teams and engage them in activities in and outside the country."

Pak cyclists to participate in World Road Cycling Championship

LAHORE: Pakistan's six-member team will take part in the World Cycling Championship, the championship will be held from September 18 to 25 in Wallongong, Australia.

Pakistan Cycling Federation President Syed Azhar Ali Shah while said that Pakistan Cycling Federation For the World Championship, the trials were held in Quetta, Karachi and Lahore to participate in the road championship.

For the final trial, selected players from all provinces participated in Lahore, in which the best performing players were selected for the Pakistan team. Zainab Rizwan, Rabia Gharib and Maryam Aslam in junior women and Najeebullah and Ismail in men were selected. Najeebullah and Muhammad Ismail, two players of Pakistan cycling team will participate in individual road and under-23



road individual events.

For the first time, Pakistan's junior athlete Maryam Aslam will participate in individual road and road races. The World Road Championship will be held in Australia from September 18 to 25. The team is accompanied by Musazim Khan Claire as manager and Mumtaz Riaz as coach. The annual meeting of the World Cycling Union will be represented by Syed Azhar Ali Shah President and Moazzam Khan General Secretary of Pakistan Cycling Federation and Nisar Ahmada. Zainab Rizwan, Maryam and Muhammad Ismail are going in the first stage.

Namibia name squad for Men's T20 World Cup

WINDHOEK: Namibia have banked on experience in their 16-member squad for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 in Australia.

The squad will be led by talismanic skipper Gerhard Erasmus and sees a blend of youth and experience. Many of the impressive performers from the 2021 edition of the tournament have been retained as Namibia will hope to replicate their performances from the UAE in Australia.

Namibia impressed one and all in 2021, getting out of a tough group in Round 1 that included Sri Lanka, Netherlands and Ireland to make it to the Super 12 stage of the tournament. Many key names from that historic performance are retained in the squad, along with a few who will make their World Cup debuts. Skipper Erasmus could bank on the likes of JJ Smit, Stephen Baard, Jan Frylinck, Nicol Loftie Eaton, Ruben Trumpelmann and David Wiese, who were members of the squad from the campaign in 2021.

Namibia have also introduced some new names in the squad, who will make their T20 World cup debut. Wicketkeeper-batter Lohan Louwrens, batter Divan la Cock and pacer Tangeni Lungameni are the three names in the squad who will feature for the first time in the marquee tournament.

Namibia have been paired alongside Sri Lanka, Netherlands and UAE in Group A of the Round 1 stage of the 2022 tournament. They will open their campaign against Sri Lanka on 16 October at Kardinia Park in Geelong. They will face Netherlands on 18 October and UAE on 20 October at the same venue.

Pakistan team returns home

LAHORE: Pakistan cricket team on Tuesday come back home after playing Asia Cup 2022 in Dubai.

The players and other staff led by Babar Azam landed at Lahore airport. The Chairman Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Ramiz Raja had also been there with the team.

As the people saw the players at the airport they started chanting slogans "Pakistan Zindabad". The cricketers including Usman Qadir, Asif Ali and fast bowler Naseem Shah were seen together when the people chanted slogans. Families of the cricketers had also been there at the Airport to welcome them.

On Sunday, Pakistan lost final match to Sri Lanka for the sixth time by 23-runs. Sri Lanka had set the target of 171 runs which Pakistan could not chase.

Pakistan cricket team participates in telethon

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan cricket team on Tuesday participated in a 'Fund Raising Telethon' for flood victims aimed for their rehabilitation and re-building of affected areas.

Pakistan team members including Batting coach Mohammad Yousuf, Head coach Saqlain Mushtaq and star cricketer Muhammad Rizwan urged the people to come forward and to help out the people suffering from acute hunger, reported by a private news channel.

"Overseas Pakistanis should also come forward and donate their charities for the development and betterment of flood affectees," said Saqlain Mushtaq. Pakistani team has already collected sufficient amount to help the flood affectees, while also planning a visit to affected areas.

Pakistan thump Maldives to record first victory after eight years



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan women's football team thumped Maldives by 7-0 in their final group stage game of the SAFF Women's Championship in Nepal and bagged their first-ever victory in eight years.

Rameen Fareed became the opener and scored 1st goal in the 39th minute, right after 9 minutes; Khadija Kazmi provided a lead of 2-0 to the national side. The streak of goals continued in the second half as well when Nadia Khan played magnificently and gave a tough time to the women of Maldives by scoring four goals in the 53rd, 78th, 84th, and 89th minute, respectively and became the first ever Pakistani to score 4 goals in a women's international match. Anmool Hira also participated in the team victory and scored 7th goal in additional time.

Victorious Pakistan polo team reaches home

LAHORE: Victorious Pakistan polo team reached home after outshining India in the second Zone E playoff of World Cup, played at East Rand Polo Club in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The team was warmly welcomed here at Allama Iqbal International Airport. The Pak team put up a dazzling show in the event by stamping back to back two victories against India to qualify for the XII FIP Polo World Cup.

At the airport, Pakistan Polo Association Officials and polo lovers greeted the national polo team that comprised of Brig (ret'd) Badar Zaman, PPA Secretary Lt Col Ayaz Ahmed, Lt Col (ret'd) Omer Minhas, Hamza Mawaz Khan, Ahmed Ali Tiwana, Raja Jalal Arslan, Imran Shahid and Shahzad Ahmed.

Two members of the team Raja Samiullah and Raja Mikayel Sami landed at Islamabad Airport while another player Temur Nadeem went straight to UK from South Africa.

Asif Afridi provisionally suspended

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board, on 12 September 2022, provisionally suspended Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's left-arm spinner Asif Afridi with immediate effect under Article 4.7.11* of the PCB Anti-Corruption Code, which means that he cannot take part in any cricket-related activity, pending conclusion of the investigation being carried out by PCB's Anti-Corruption Unit.

Asif Afridi has today been issued a Notice of Charge for two breaches under Article 2.4 of the Code and has fourteen (14) days to respond to the charges.

Tuchel devastated to leave Chelsea

LONDON: Thomas Tuchel said he was devastated after being sacked as manager of CHELSEA following a poor start to the season.

The 49-year-old German was given the boot on Wednesday, the day after his team suffered a shock 1-0 defeat away to Dinamo Zagreb in their opening game of this season's Champions League.

"This is one of the most difficult statements I have ever had to write, and it is one which I hoped I would not need to do for many years. I am devastated that my time at Chelsea has come to an end," Tuchel wrote on Twitter on Sunday. "This is a club where I felt at home, both professionally and personally."

Tuchel made an instant impact when he replaced Frank Lampard in January 2021, reviving the team's Premier League season and taking them to the CHAMPIONS LEAGUE final where they beat Manchester City. "The pride and joy I felt at helping the team to win the Champions League and the Club World Cup will stay with me forever," TUCHEL said.

Cricket Namibia, Lahore Qalandars out to build on burgeoning partnership

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Lahore Qalandars' tour of Namibia came to an end, following the culmination of the inaugural Global T20 Namibia and two 50-over matches between the Pakistan Super League franchise and Namibia's men's national development team, Richelieu Eagles.

Richelieu Eagles were victorious in each of the 50-over outings, which came hot on the heels of the Global T20 Namibia that saw South Africa outfit DP World Lions beat Lahore Qalandars in the final.

The tour was the latest strengthening of ties between the Lahori franchise and Cricket Namibia, which started with Namibia all-rounder David Wiese's starring role in the Qalandars claiming a first PSL title earlier this year.

Cricket Namibia and Lahore Qalandars then facilitated the visit of four Namibians – Shaun Fouche, Nicol Loftie-Eaton, Mauritius Ngupita and Helao Ya France – to the latter's High-Performance Center, where they trained alongside Qalandars players and under the guidance of their coaches at the beginning of August.

The Qalandars then took their development side to compete in the inaugural Global T20 Namibia, with the two 50-over matches providing yet more invaluable experience for both teams.

"We view our relationship with Lahore Qalandars as a long-term partnership and value their support immensely," said Cricket Namibia CEO, Johan Muller. "Not only do we hope that they return to take part in the Global

T20 Namibia next year, but we're also determined to strengthen our relationship with one of the best T20 franchises in the world. By sharing our knowledge, by providing even greater opportunities for our players, and by spreading our respective fanbases into new corners of the world, our relationship can add great value to both parties.

"I want to thank [Lahore Qalandars COO] Sameen Rana for his positive mindset towards this tournament. He has opened the pathway for our two countries to create even more opportunities for players to grow and develop. We have a lot of respect for the cricket depth and talent in Pakistan and what they have achieved on international stage. The first Global Namibia Series definitely achieved more than we could ever imagine."

The two teams united ahead of the first 50-over encounter in a moment's silence before the start of play as they remembered the victims of the devastating floods in Pakistan that have left more than 1,200 people dead and swathes of the country under water.

It was a powerful moment at Windhoek's Wanderers Cricket Ground and highlighted the bond shared by Cricket Namibia and Lahore Qalandars.

Rana added: "We wanted to pay tribute to our countrymen ahead of the game and were moved by Cricket Namibia's support at this incredibly difficult time for us all. Our supporters already had a deep affection for Namibia thanks to David Wiese's efforts with us over the past four seasons. He's someone who has become an integral part of the Qalandars family and his contri-



but ion both on and off the field has been extremely impressive.

"I'm sure the Lahore Qalandars family will only have more passion for the nation of Namibia

after Cricket Namibia's heart-warming show of compassion and also by placing their trust in us to help their players' development in Lahore. We're incred-

ibly excited to continue building on our relationship with Cricket Namibia and to reap the multitude of benefits that this partnership has to offer."