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Govt moves SC against Imran over long march call



ISLAMABAD: The federal government has filed a contempt of court petition against former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf(PTI) Chairman Imran Khan in Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan over his long march call towards Islamabad.

According to details, the federal government has moved Supreme Court (SC) against Imran Khan, noting that the former premier was making announcements of long march that was violation of a court order.

The petition was filed by Interior Ministry on behalf of the federal government. In the petition, the federal government asserted that Imran Khan was making announcements to attack Islamabad.

"The PTI Chairman was violating the Supreme Court's order, which directed him to stage peaceful stage," the plea stated, urging the apex court to direct Imran Khan to ensure the implementation of its orders related to protests and sit-ins.

Earlier in October, former prime minister Imran Khan said that h will not reveal the long march date to anyone as "everything is being recorded". Speaking to senior journalists at the Chief Minister's House in Lahore, the PTI chief said that he had kept his long march plan secret and no one knew the long march date including the party's vice-chairman Shah Mehmood Qureshi.



Seeking world support

CICA Summit 2022

Pak needs help to rehab 33m climate-hit people: PM

Says the calamity has caused a loss to the tune of over \$30b

😂 Spokesman Report

ASTANA: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said Pakistan needs immediate help to rehabilitate its thirty three million climate refugees affected by the recent devas-

Pakistan ready to provide Tajikistan access to Gwadar. Karachi ports

ASTANA: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday highlighting the importance of promoting connectivity in the region reiterated Pakistan's readiness to provide access to Tajikistan to Gwadar and Karachi ports. In a meeting with President Emomali Rahmon in Kazakhstan's capital Astana, the prime minister emphasized the expansion of cooperation in the field of road transport and air links. The two leaders, who met on the sidelines of the 6th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), agreed on cement-ing bigh-level contacts, inter-parliamentary tips and technical level meetings to further promote substantive

PTI had record of attacking institutions: Sana

ISLAMABAD: for Interior Rana Sanaullah on Thursday said Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leadership had a record of attacking national institutions.

Talking to a private television channel, he said PTI leaders including Azam Khan Swati had targeted national institutions to defame them.

He said PTI chief Imran Khan and other leaders had been facing court cases on different charges, but they had

Minister taken bails to avoid punishment.

> Replying to a question about PTI's long march, he said the law enforcement departments would arrest its leaders if they created law and order situation during their so-called protest. No one would be allowed to create chaos, he warned. Rana Sanaullah said the PTI leadership while in government had instituted false and fabricated cases the PML-N leaders. APP

Power transmission fully restored countrywide

ISLAMABAD: The power transmission system has been fully restored across the country. According to Power Division, interruption in supply lines of 500 KV-2 lines south of Karachi has been cleared. Power supply is being increased from alternative power plants which will return to normal soon till Thursday next_ Staff Reporter

COAS visits floodhit areas of Sindh



"I have kept the date to myself... Shah Mehmood Qureshi is my vice-chairman, I did not tell him either". Agencies

tating rains and floods.

Addressing the 6th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia in Astana, Kazakhstan on Thursday, he said Pakistan is living through a colossal climate induced climate. He said unprecedented rains and flooding that have submerged one third of the consequence of global warming and climate change.

estimates, the calamity has Minister said the government has

peration. The prime minister underscored the need to boost cooperation in the energy sector. It was agree to work together for early completion of CASA 1000 project, which would be a harbinger of future energy dors with Central Asia. PM Sharif updated the Tajik President on the rehabilitation work being underta his government in the aftermath of the catastrophic floods in the country. He stressed the need to ma efforts to cope with the rising threat of climate change induced natural disasters. President Emomali Rahmon assured PM Sharif of Tajikistan's continued support in this regard, including despatch of an additional convoy of trucks carrying essential flood relief items.

Pakistan are without any doubt disposal for the rescue, relief and rehabilitation. Shehbaz Sharif said though

and shortage is managea-

Metrological Depart-

summer monsoon 2022

Balochistan and Sindh

Weath-

breaking amount of rain-

er outlook for the period

October-December 2022

respectively.

period.

than one percent of global carbon as the country transitions to the caused a loss to the tune of over emissions yet we are amongst the more daunting phase of reconthirty billion dollars. The Prime ten top countries most severely impacted by climate change.

marshalled all the resources at its Expressing his gratitude to the countries who extended support to flood affected people, the Prime Minister said Pakistan looks He said according to initial Pakistan is responsible for less forward to their continued support struction and rehabilitation.

He said Pakistan is deter-

mined to emerge stronger from these floods in a short period of time. The Prime Minister said Pakistan's location offers a natural bridge to regional economies. He said China Pakistan Economic Corridor has transformed the economic and connectivity landscape of the region.



with the locals and assured

Our Correspondent

them that Pakistan Army RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army will continue to serve people Staff General Qamar Javed to mitigate their suffering till they are rehabilitated. Bajwa visited flood affected areas in interior Sindh. Later, the COAS was

According to ISPR, the flown for aerial reconnaissance of flood hit areas of COAS met troops busy in flood relief efforts providing medi-Sindh. Earlier on arrival, cal and administrative care the COAS was received by Corps Commander Karachi to affected people in Noshero Feroz. Lieutenant General Muham-

The COAS also interacted mad Saeed.

FCA fixes wheat production targets at 28.4m tons for 2022-23

😂 Staff Reporter

at 28.4 million tons by targets. cultivating the crop over crop season 2022-23 in order to fulfill local requirements.

The meeting held with Minister for National Food Security and Research respectively. Tariq Bashir Cheema in chair reviewed the output informed that cotton above normal (175%) overof Kharif crops and set the production during current all the country. targets for Rabi crops for season 2022-23 besides million bales from an area discussing the inputs of 2.1 million hectares. throughout the season.

81.64 million tons as it was discussed in the meeting. cultivated over 1.32 million sugarcane showing an increase of 12.44 %, whereas area under crop grew by

production is estimated

tively. The maize production is ISLAMABAD: Federal estimated at 9.24 million IRSA Advisory Committee Committee on Agriculture tons as it increased by (FCA) here on Thursday 21.02% and area enhanced fixed wheat output targets by 86% against the fixed

The mung bean produc-9.3 million hectares during tion for 2022-23 is estimated at 183.7 thousand tons conditions are supportive from an area of 213.2 thousand hectares showing an ble. increase of 12.58% and 2.29

% in area and production ment informed that The Committee was

rainfall remain significantly season is estimated at 6.3 provinces received record

fall in July and August Production achieve-The Committee was ments of major and minor 2022 with positive anominformed that sugarcane crops like wheat, mash, aly 450% and 426%, while production for season gram, potato, lentil, onion, KPK, GB and Punjab received 33%, 104% and 2022-23 is estimated at tomato and chilies were also 70% above normal rains

The committee has fixed hectares. The output of the production target for other Rabi crops including gram pulses, potato, onion and tomato and fixed at 23 % as against set targets. 560, 6,029, 2,422 and 622 Meanwhile, the rice thousand tons respectively.

The seed availabilat 5.53 million tons from ity for Rabi crops was an area of 2.99 million also discussed and it was hectares showing a decrease informed that certified of 2.4 % and 34.51 % in seed availability for Rabi area and production respec- crops increased by 14% as

Polio vaccination a religious, humanitarian compared to the last year. duty: Al-Azhar For Rabi 2022-23, University has anticipated a shortfall of 18%. During the Rabi



ISLAMABAD: Internationally acclaimed Al-Azhar University of Islamic teachings in a fatwa said vaccination against the deadly Polio disease was a "religious, medical, and humanitarian duty."

The Al-Azhar University dismissed the fatwas issued in Pakistan against Polio vaccination of children and termed it a violation of rights of the children and their families.

The fatwa said that prohibiting any vaccine that is beneficial for the children, is against the Sharia.

suggest that the amount of rainfall is likely to below The Al-Azhar also normal over the country. urged the people, relief Northern Punjab, KPK, organisations, countries GB and AJK are likely to to reach out to the flood receive below normal rainaffected people of Pakifall while near normal rainstan, whose livelihood, fall is expected in the rest homes and infrastructure of the country during the have been devastated in the recent floods. APP

IK asks why terrorists being allowed to enter Swat

PTI chief says the thieves have pushed the country into quagmire

MARDAN: Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan has said that his government had taken control of terrorism and the borders were under the control of the federal government and terrorism shouldn't be tolerated in Swat and tribal areas.

Addressing charged crowd in Mardan on Thursday, he asked why are the terrorists being allowed to enter when the people of Swat and tribal areas have rendered matchless sacrifices.

Imran Khan said that the thieves have pushed the country into quagmire and they have further indebted the nation.

The PTI chairman went on to say one of the biggest reason for the poverty in the country is that the rulers have plundered country's wealth and asked the people to vote for Nawaz Sharif and Asif Zardari if they [people] think they [Nawaz and Zardari] are honest.

The former PM while declaring the Election Commissioner a dishonest man said that they Copponents] will cast 10 to 15,000 fake votes and we still have to defeat them. He urged the people to start door to door campaign and convey PTI's message.

"I was in power for three and a half years and I challenge anyone to prove even my theft," Imran Khan said and asked to look at his three-and-a-half-



vear record.

On Wednesday, while addressing a rally in Sharaqpur, former PM said that the rulers appoint NAB and FIA heads to save them instead of eliminating corruption, while four witnesses of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Hamza Shahbaz have already died.

He said that the incumbent rulers would never let the institutions strengthen. "I have never favoured anyone during the three and a half years of my government," he said and added "neither I want judges nor army chief of my choice but want to bring people to office on merit who will strengthen the institutions."

He hoped that the people of Sharaqpur will again vote for the PTI candi-

date in the upcoming by-election, adding that this election is part of Pakistan's "Haqiqi Azadi" because culprits have been imposed in the country who plundered country's wealth.

Earlier, Imran Khan, while addressing a ceremony in the federal capital, said that what would be worse for the country than Sharif's getting another NRO.

The PTI Chairman said that if he had stacked money abroad, he would not have the courage to say "absolutely not". Criticizing government policies, Imran Khan said that a slowdown in the economy will result in more unemployment and it will become more difficult for the salaried class to make their ends meet. Agencies



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Ecomomy matters

Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar held a meeting with Ms. Antoinette Sayeh, Deputy Managing Director, IMF on Thursday.



Floods management

Chinese team to jointly work with Pakistani experts

BEIJING: The Chinese Government and people attached great sympathies and concern to the suffering people in wake of the unforeseen catastrophic floods in Pakistan, Xu Xianbiao, Department of Flood Control and Drought Relief, Ministry of Emergency Management of China.

Xu Xianbiao, a member of Chinese expert team on disaster management, said that the Chinese Government has dispatched the delegation to work fast and accurately with experts from Pakistan to tackle the challenges.

"By working together with Pakistani brothers and sisters, we will make sure that our advices will be based on the national factors, conditions of the affected places and the local development situation, so that the advices could be applied in short terms."

Nation urged to forge unity to end polarization

President Dr Arif Alvi says we should focus on reality-based issues instead of wasting time on irrelevant debates

😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has stressed upon the nation to forge unity among their ranks in order to end the widening gap of polarization. In an interview with a private TV channel, he said that we should focus on reality-based issues instead of wasting time on irrelevant debates

Underling the need of holding dialogue, he said the process could take time and even countries could engage with each other through a process of dialogue. He said after a 'free and fair election', any party could get a full public mandate which will help improve the economic indicators.

Replying to a question, the President said that under the constitution, the prime minister's advice is mandatory for the appointment of a new army chief. The in order to avoid the holding of the long march. To a query regarding, the lifetime disqualification of legislators, Dr. Arif ing awareness about the importance of areas who could not afford the high cost Alvi said that the Supreme Court could take any decision on the issue, adding that

the judiciary is working independently. The President lauded the active role of the armed forces in the war on terror and in the recent floods.

Meanwhile, President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday said that the adoption of digital technology and telemedicine, and strengthening preventive health care was essential to help overcome the increasing healthcare challenges faced by the underprivileged population.

The president said this in a meeting with the delegation of Global Executives of Siemens Healthineers led by CEO of the Middle East & South Africa (MESA) Regions Ole Per Maloy, who called on him here at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Talking to the delegation, the president emphasized that healthcare providers should embrace innovation and transform healthcare delivery to improve the quality President underlined the need of creat- of healthcare services and enhance people's ing conducive atmosphere for dialogue access to medical services in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

He said a healthy lifestyle could be adopted by observing cleanliness, regular exercise, eating a balanced diet, management of tension and anxiety, avoiding smoking and use of drugs and seeking medical assistance at the early stage of health issues faced by them.

The president said that there was a need to repeatedly inculcate the importance of a healthy lifestyle and taking precautionary measures to prevent the occurrence of diseases

He said the early detection of disease or illness to the general public through all possible means of communication was also important.

He added that the advance of smart devices and software solutions had a great potential to transform the medical sector, especially in Pakistan where the health system was fragile and overburdened.

President Alvi stressed the need to develop telemedicine facilities and use mobile units to provide awareness, medical He underlined the need to promote advice and treatment to the unprivileged healthcare.

Finance Minister meets officials of SAR WB, IMF

😂 Spokesman Report

WASHINGOTN: Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar held a meeting with Vice President SAR, World Bank Martin Raiser on Thursday.

Dr. Ayesha Ghous Pasha, Ambassa-Yaqoob Shaikh were also present in program.

the meeting.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister also held a productive meeting with Deputy Managing Director of International Monetary Fund Antoinette Sayeh in Washington.

In a tweet of the Finance Minis-Federal Minister for Economic try, Ishaq Dar extended gratitude Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Minister to the IMF for an excellent support of State for Finance and Revenue provided to Pakistan for macroeconomic stabilization and assured dor of Pakistan to the USA Masood the government's commitment to Khan and Secretary Finance Hamed the implementation of the fund's

PIA: Islamabad-Beijing-**Islamabad direct flights** from Oct end

😂 Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) is all set to start its direct weekly passenger flights on Beijing-Islamabad-Beijing route by end of October after an approval from the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC).

At present, the national flag carrier is operating a weekly flight on Islamabad-Xian-Beijing-Islamabad sector. The PIA plane leaves Islamabad on Saturday and arrives in Xian on the same day. After disembarking all the passenger, the plane lands in Beijing on Sunday and leaves for Islamabad on Sunday evening.

However, considering Pakistan as the only all-weather strategic partner of China and shared interest and cooperation in various areas between the two countries, the CAAC has accorded approval to PIA to start direct weekly operation to and from Beijing, official sources told APP here on Thursday.

The CAAC has also asked the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) to notify PIA to submit schedule filings for grant of timely approval.

The Islamabad-Beijing-Islamabad direct passenger flight will facil-

AJK PM urges UN to take notice of Kashmiri leader's killing

MIRPUR: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilvas Khan Thursday appealed to the United Nations to take immediate notice of the custodial killing of prominent Kashmiri leader Altaf Ahmed Shah. Terming Shah's death in Indian custody as a part of Modi government's policy to punish and persecute Kashmiris, the prime minister said, "The cold-blooded murder of Sved Altaf Shah in custody raises serious questions about the

itate passengers especially living in the Chinese capital including officials, traders and students. The flight will also facilitate Chinese personnel working on different projects being completed under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Pakistan.

A passenger who intends to leave for Islamabad from Beijing Capital Airport said that PIA is expanding its flights network for China and is providing more options to Pakistani and Chinese travelers to directly reach in different cities between China and Pakistan.

It may be mentioned here that PIA has also been operating direct weekly passenger flights between Islamabad and Chengdu, capital city of China's Sichuan province on every Wednesday since March this year.

Earlier, the national flag carrier had increased discount for students from 10 percent to 15 percent and an additional 7 percent discount on surcharge making a total of around 22 percent on the flights between Pakistan and China.

The students who are returning to China or planning to go back home after completion of their education could take benefit from the discount.

preventive healthcare system by creat- segment of society in rural and far-flung prevention and early detection of diseases associated with diagnostic and curative by adopting a healthy lifestyle.

safety of Kashmiri political prisoners whose only crime is that they have been demanding the right of self-determination promised to Kashmiris by the United Nations". Referring to the plight of Kashmiri prisoners, the prime minister said, "It is shocking to hear that the Indian authorities did not provide pen and paper to the deceased leader to write his last will". Staff Reporter

FM for strengthening ties with Maldives, Switzerland

😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Maldives Vice-Admiral Retired Muhammad Fayyaz Geelani called on Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Islamabad on Thursday.

Foreign Minister has urged ambassador-designate to play his role to increase trade relations and promote tourism with Maldives.

Martial Retired Shahid Akhter also called on Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto.



Ambassador-designate to Syria Air in the field of commerce and education between both countries.

He urged Ambassador-designate to er called on Foreign Minister Bilaw- the two countries in the fields of trade, find new scopes of mutual cooperation al Bhutto Zardari in Islamabad today. culture and tourism.

Talking to him, Foreign Minister hoped that the new ambassador of Meanwhile, Switzerland's New Switzerland will play his important role Ambassador to Pakistan, Georg Stein- in strengthening the relations between

Incentivisation of consumers guarantee to end plastic pollution: Sherry

for Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman on Thursday said incentivisation of consumers was guarantee to end single-time use plastics pollution as South Asian states owing to their large population sizes could not ensure large scale policing and penalisation.

Addressing the inaugural session of the high-level national consultative event: "Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia Initiative" of the Ministry of Climate Change jointly organised by South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP), the Minister said plastic pollution was totally a capacity issue.

Senator Sherry Rehman said the

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister plastic bags pollution was a complex be the most exposed to plastic waste. issues that needed public's stakeholder ownership to meet the task of shunning its overwhelming use in our day to day life business. "There needs to be some incentive for the consumers at the end to change their habits of using plastics as there is going to be no shift in the public attitude despite all efforts of

strict enforcement and prohibitions." The Minister stated that the country generated a total of 26% of plastic waste and there were baseline studies that claimed out of which 4% was recycled.

She quoted the World Bank study claiming that by 2050 there would be more plastics in oceans than marine life and Pakistan's oceans and rivers would

Senator Sherry Rehman also mentioned that a project was underway for cleaning up of Indus River's banks and the Ministry was also developing partnership with coca-cola to clean up Malir River.

She reminded that all plastics were not polluting and also all of it was not recyclable whereas the entire narrative and science had to be simplified for the public that they were ingesting plastics in the form of the fish consuming plastics from rivers and oceans. "We have done it by our anthropogenic activities. Our nutritious cycle is polluted where every food item on way or the other has plastic contamination." Agencies

Half of world not prepared for disasters: UN warns

😂 🛛 Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: A new report from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released on Thursday, warns that half of the world's countries are not protected by multi-hazard early warning systems.

Coinciding with the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, the numbers in the report are even worse for developing countries on the front lines of climate change, the report states. Less than half of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and only one-third of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have a multi-hazard early warning system.

The report, Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems - Target G, is based on new data that shows that the countries with limited early warning coverage have mortali-

times higher than the countries with tion as only half of the countries substantial to comprehensive coverage.

"The world is failing to invest in protecting the lives and livelihoods of done the least to cause the climate crisis are paying the highest price", said UN Secretary-General António Guterres, in a video message marking the day.

The report shows that LDCs, SIDS and countries in Africa require the most investment to increase early warning coverage and adequately protect themselves against disasters.

"As this report was being prepared, Pakistan is dealing with its worst recorded climate disaster, with nearly 1,700 lives lost", said Mami Mizutori, UN Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR.

"Despite this carnage, the death toll would have been much higher if not for early warning systems."

ty rates during disasters, that are eight lights significant gaps in protec-

globally have Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems", she added. "This is a situation that needs to urgentthose on the front line. Those who have ly change, to save lives, livelihoods, and assets."

> Petteri Taalas, WMO Secretary-General, said the number of recorded disasters had increased five-fold, "driven in part by human-induced climate change and more extreme weather. This trend is expected to continue. Early warning systems are a proven and effective climate adaptation measure, that save lives and money.

> "But we can and must do better. We need to ensure that early warnings reach the most vulnerable and that they are translated into early action," he added. "This is why WMO is spearheading a UN initiative on Early Warnings for All in the next five years."

"As ever-rising greenhouse gas "Worryingly, this report high- emissions are supercharging extreme weather events across the planet,"



Secretary-General Antonio Guterres hand, the devastation unleashed by the warned in his message for the International Day, that climate disasters were hurting countries and economies "like never before".

He explained that increasing calamities were costing lives and hundreds of billions of dollars in loss and damage, and recounted how he witnessed first-

recent floods on his visit to Pakistan. "Three times more people are displaced by climate disasters than "half of humanity is already in the

danger zone." He argued that the world was "failing to invest in protecting the lives and society".

livelihoods of those on the front line".

At the same time, Guterres said those who had done the least to cause the climate crisis were paying the highest price.

"Entire populations are being blindsided by cascading climate disasters without any means of prior alert," said the UN chief, stressing that "people need adequate warning to prepare for extreme weather events".

For this reason, he reiterated his call for universal early warning coverage over the next five years.

"Early warning systems - and the ability to act on them - are proven life-savers.

At the UN climate conference (COP27) in Egypt next month, the Secretary-General said that he would war," the UN chief said, adding that launch an action plan to make his five-year deadline a reality, and urged support from all "governments, international financial institutions and civil

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National

Friday, October 14, 2022

Chairman HEC stresses use of innovation, technology in education sector

7th International Applied Business Research Conference held at Int'l Islamic University

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed has said that the world is focused on digital transformation, innovation and use of technology in the education sector, in view of contemporary requirements, HEC is helping the universities to adopt smart classrooms, blended education and hybrid systems.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the 7th International Applied Business Research Conference at the International Islamic University, Chairman HEC said, for success in the future, it is necessary that we have to move with the pace of contemporary changes in technology.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed opined that instead of buildings and models, it is the era of smart university ideology. He said that smart university education has benefited the global education system during the global pandemic. Chairman HEC said that universities should use cloud computing under developing at a fast pace due to techthe guidance of HEC. He furthered nology, which includes innovations that technology has to be utilized keep-



place in the next decades.

Dr. Mukhtar said that the work is going on to utilize a blended learning and hybrid system so that in the future we will not be left behind in the world. He hailed efforts of IIUI for organizing the conference on the most contemporary and important topic and also assured full cooperation.

Speaking on this occasion, IIUI President Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi said that the world is traveling and such as 3D printing, robotics and arti-

ing in mind the changes that will take ficial intelligence after the Internet. He opined that in human history, older things were replaced by innovations and technology, and the same world saw during the world realized the importance of digital transformation.

President IIUI apprising of the initiatives at university told about preparation of open and distance learning system, campus management system, new strategic plan and preparation of the new organogram of IIUI. The vice presidents of the university, Dr. Ahmed Shuja Syed and Dr. Ayaz Afsar also expressed their views in the conference. Dr. Ahmed Shuja

discussed the advantages of technology and aspects of utilizing business opportunities. Dr. Ayaz Afsar, Vice President Academic Affairs appreciated the organizers of the conference. In the conference, more than 650

policy makers, industrial experts and research scholars from USA, Malavsia and Turkey participated to share thoughts and experiences on the themes of finance, technology management, entrepreneurship, management and marketing in the light of digital transformation and other contemporary advancements and needs of the field. Conference participants agreed that initiatives to increase export, data driven governance and digital transformation are the keys to a bright future for the country.

Earlier, chair of the conference and Dean FMS, Dr. Abdul Raheman Dean FMS apprised of the objectives of the conference. He discussed Digital transformation, resistance to change and other themes of the conference. Dr. Fozia Syed, Academic chair of the conference, presented the report and recommendations of the conference.

Panel discussion on dengue held at Iqra University



😂 Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Dengue is spreading rapidly throughout the country this year, which requires not only medical facilities but also public awareness

These views were expressed by the well-known microbiologist Prof. Dr. M. Rafiq Khanani in a panel discussion held at the Iqra University North Campus while doing the awareness campaign about Dengue (Know All About Dengue).

He said that if a timely diagnosis is made, it is possible to treat people infected with the Dengue Virus. In the panel discussion, the symptoms, consequences, and treatment of the Dengue Virus were also discussed in detail.

On this occasion, Dr. Masroor, Dean of Iqra University Health Sciences, Dr. Hasan Waseem, Dr. Lubna, Dr. Sobia Hasan, Dr. Tehreem Anees, Dr. Alisha Noreen, Dr. Tabinda, along with other faculty members were also present. At the end of the ceremony, Dr. Masroor presented the shield to Dr. M. Rafiq Khanani and expressed his gratitude to the participants.

Fiji Muslim League donates USD 50,000 for flood relief



😂 Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The Fiji Muslim League (FML) has made a collection of Fijian Dollars 100,000.00 (USD50,000) to assist the Pakistani communities, who have been severely affected by the recent floods.

FML launched the Pakistan Flood Appeal in September to raise funds for the affected families.

Speaking on behalf of FML, Mr. Saud Minam said the Fijian community understands the impacts of such disasters and the need for assistance in the aftermath of the devastating weather conditions.

"Climate change related impacts such as tropical cyclones and devastating floods are common for Fiji. Hence, we realize the immediate need for humanitarian assistance for impacted families," said Mr. Minam.

"We stand together with our Pakistani families during this difficult time and with these funds, we hope to make a difference in the life of those affected by the floods."

City mayor approves 26 building plans

PESHAWAR: Mayor Peshawar, Haji Zubair Ali chairing a meeting here on Thursday approved 23 residential and three commercial building plans and directed strict implementation of approved layouts.

The meeting was attended by Director Capital Metropolitan Arshad

NIMA in collaboration with IRS organizes seminar

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The seminar on "Indian Maritime Ambitions & its Effects on the Region and Beyond" was organized by the Indian Ocean Study Centre, of the NIMA, Islamabad in collaboration with the Institute of Regional Studies.

Eminent speakers: Air Marshal (R) Farooq Habib HI(M); Dr RizwanaAbbasi and Syed Muhammad Ali shared their intellectual insights. Vice Admiral (R) Abdul Aleem HI(M), DG NIMA welcomed all the worthy speakers & participants and highlighted the significance of the seminar regarding the Indian maritime ambitions and its effects on the region and beyond.

Syed Muhammad Ali explained Liberalization, Modernization, and Urbanization of the Indian Ocean. Air Marshal (R) Farooq Habib HI(M) stated fear, interests, and honour are



China, the US, and India are dominating forces in the Indian Ocean.

President IRS Ambassador Nadeem Riaz while concluding the session statthe policy cardinals of Indian Maritime ed that India always considers the Interests in IOR, which is reflected in Indian Ocean as "India's Ocean" and the expansion of the Indian Navy. Dr. claims herself as a Net Security Provid-RizwanaAbbasiargued that the Asian er backed by the US, which is contracentury is a reality. Russian influence is ry to the reality of the IOR maritime using in Eastern Europe, whereas environment and against the overal

strategic interests of the region. India's intention to rule the Indian Ocean and its Hindutva thinking are major challenges not only for Pakistan but all littoral states of IOR.

The seminar was well attended by academia, professionals, students of universities, researchers of think tanks, and policy makers

Sindh Governor urges joint efforts to help to flood victims

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori has visited the office of JDC in PIB Colony, area of the metropolis, to oversee the organization's efforts in discharging their philanthropic duties for the flood victims.

According to the press release ssued on Thursday, the governor, speaking at the occasion, said that a large segment of the population in Sindh was facing difficulties due to the heavy rains and floods, urging the entire nation to support the affected people in mitigating their sufferings.

The governor credited the JDC for rendering remarkable services to alleviate the sufferings of humanity, adding that aspirants who seek the pleasure of God in this world and hereafter must spend their lives in serving people.

Meanwhile, JDC Chief Zafar Abbas briefed the governor on the aims and objectives of the organisation and its welfare projects, and apprised that JDC was preparing 50,000 ration bags for the flood

nator at The Asia Foundation, said,

'BuiltByHer 3.0 is another successful

collaboration between NIC Karachi

Through our work together we have been able to empower young women

across the nation. Apart from the

hackathon we are also collaborat-

ing with NICK for implementing

'Impact Collective' an initiative that

will promote research based dialogue

among the academia and policymak-

ers on understanding ESG frame-

works to build climate resilience in

and the Asia Foundation.

3rd BuiltByHer Hackathon concludes successfully

😂 Spokesman Report

KARACHI: National Incubation Center Karachi, in collaboration with The Asia Foundation, concluded the 3rd BuiltByHer Hackathon by hosting the top eleven teams for a competitive grand finale.

BuiltByHer is a 48-hour long hackathon that requires women lead teams to hack and find solutions to the most pressing issues prevalent in of climate change and received appli-



tion focused exclusively on the issue to resolve the problem sets. After the in the grand finale. three day hackathon that was held

society. The 3rd iteration of competi- cations from more than 130 teams recently, 11 teams were invited to pitch

Farva Minhas, Program Coordi-Pakistan.



"Tariq Sharif Smart City" Private Housing Scheme Mouza Barki Badhal, Dhoray, Barki Chohan Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi.

Public is hereby informed that

Mr. Tarig Sharif Bhatti son of Muhammad Sharif Bhatti (CNIC# 37401-8338315-5) Resident of Barki Badhal, Ward No. 12 Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi.

Office Address:- Sajid Sharif Plaza, Office No. 23, 1st Floor, Sector G-11 Markaz Islamabad

Has applied to Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency for the sanction ing of a Private Housing Scheme namely "Tariq Sharif Smart City" located in Mouza Barki Badhal, Dhoray, Barki Chohan Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi.

The detail of area is as under:

Owner	Mouza	Total Area		
		Kanal	Marla	Sft
Tariq Sharif Bhatti	Barki Chohan	40	09	254
	Dhoray	302	05	193
	Barki Badhal	420	12	97.5
	Total	763	08	-

ANY PERSON having objection against sanction of "Tarig Sharif Smart City" Private Housing Scheme Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi or ownership/title of land mentioned above may, within FIFTEEN **DAYS** of publication of this notice, submit the same in writing to undersigned. Any objection filed after due date shall not be entertained.

(The notice shall not be taken as commitment of Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency for sanction of the scheme).

> AZHAR SAEED AWAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR PUNJAB HOUSING & TOWN PLANNING AGENCY AIRPORT LINK ROAD NEAR WATER TANK

ADP progress LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minis- this committee would present its

Punjab Chief Minister reviews provincial

ter Chaudhry Parvez Elahi on proposals. Thursday chaired a meeting at his office to review progress on funded projects should be provincial Annual Development completed in time as it would Program (ADP) as well as other ensure correct utilization of financial matters.

by Provincial Finance Minister Mohsin Leghari, chief secretary, secretary finance, secretary P&D, secretary C&W and delay and the pace of work be other officials.

The CM directed to achieve welfare oriented schemes. the target fixed for increasing provincial resources and added that solid steps should be taken in this regard so that people could be provided more facilities through revenue generation.

The CM also sought a comprehensive plan for reforms timeline was the responsibility in Punjab pension fund and directed that best utilization of Punjab pension fund should be ensured for payment of pensions. The officials concerned should provide the plan next week, he added and directed to review the issuance also be promoted through of Punjab bonds. A committee private sector, he said and added was constituted to formulate recommendations with regard al growth should be ensured to issuance of Punjab bonds and through development strategy.

The CM directed that ADP resources while enabling the The meeting was attended people to benefit from the development schemes. He directed that public welfare projects should be completed without accelerated on development and

> Similarly, he said that water supply schemes along with health and education projects should be completed on a priority. The Punjab government believed in delivery, and achievement of targets within of concerned departments, he said. The CM asked the departments to ensure timely and correct utilization of released funds.

> Along with it, increase in growth and investment should that a target of balanced region

Ali, Director Administration, Muhammad Awais, Deputy Director Engineering, Ishraq Ahmad and concerned officials.

Addressing the meeting, Mayor Peshawar directed strict implementation of approved designs saying it must be ensured that construction work is done according to approved designs. He also directed building inspectors to monitor their areas and take steps against blockades of road and street due to construction.

Transparent conduction of MDCÂT is big challenge: **Secretary HED**



🐞 Spokesman Report

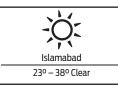
PESHAWAR: The Secretary Higher Education Department Muhammad Daud Khan has said that transparent conduct of MDCAT 2022 is a big challenge for Education Testing and Evaluation Agency (ETEA) and Khyber Medical University (KMU) Peshawar. Since the career of our future doctors depends on this test, all important and necessary steps for this test will be taken on priority basis.

He has expressed these views while presiding over a joint meeting of ETEA and KMU organized in KMU regarding the MDCAT 2022, while on this occasion vice chancellor KMU Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq, Special Secretary Health Abid Ullah Kaka Khel, Pro vice chancellor KMU Prof. Dr. Lal Muhammad Khattak, Executive Director ETEA Khalid Ilyas, Director ETEA Dr. Asim Ali Shah, KMU Coordinator Admission Prof. Dr. Jawad Ahmed and Director Admission Muhammad Arshad Khan were also present at the occasion.

In the meeting, besides confirming the decision of the provincial admis-Sunday, November 13 simultaneously in five regions of the province, it was decided to prepare the test paper according to the syllabus of PMC under the management of ETEA.

In the meeting, it was also approved to conduct the test in indoor halls for the convenience of students and to avoid any kind of weather problems. The decision was also confirmed in the meeting that the test will start at 11 am and end at 2 pm simultaneously in all the centers and after the test, apart from providing the carbon copy of the paper to the students, the KEY of the test will be uploaded on the same day to PMC, ETEA and KMU websites.

Earlier, while addressing the meeting, Secretary HED Muhammad Daud Khan said that in the past, ETEA and KMU have been conducting medical and dental admission tests together successfully and it is also expected that transparent and best arrangements will be made for the success of the MDCAT 2022. He said that the organization of MDCAT is a manifestation of the trust of Pakistan Medical Commission and Provincial Government on KMU and ETEA and it is hoped that both instision committee to hold the test on tutions will use all possible resources to make this test ideal.



SERVICES

Namaz T	imings	
Fajr	4:48 am	
Zohr	11:54 am	
Asr	3:57 pm	
Maghrib	5:37 pm	
Isha	7:00 pm	
EMEDGENCV		

EMERGENCY Rescue (Police) 15

Bomb Disposal . 15 Fire Services Rawalpindi/1122 & 16 Islamabad . Emergency Ambulance...... 1122 & & Rescue Services 4451122 Motorway Police9266044 Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596 9270601-20 Rawalpindi

ENQ	UIRY
dhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	
A Carea	0200020

9280979 PIA Cargo. Railway Inquiry WASA Rawalpindi ..5555489 .9281092

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS Water Tanker Service

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

Zhang, Sattar discuss bilateral ties



'Govt needs support to overcome flood-induced crisis'

Ahsan Iqbal says Govt utilizing all available resources to get out of crisis

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ensuring the Government's commitment and full support towards rehabilitation of flood affected communities, Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal said "Government is moving all available resources to get out of this natural crisis caused by the devastating floods and for this purpose we desperately need sustained and regular support of all kinds from the international community".

These thoughts were expressed during a meeting with a delegation of international humanitarian organization Save the Children (SCI) here on Thursday.

The delegation comprised Country Director SCI M. Khurram Gondal and Global Humanitarian Director, SCI Gabriella Waaijman and Usman Aslam, Director Policy, Advocacy & Communications. The delegation also held separate meetings with Federal Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman and Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lt Gen Akhtar Nawaz Satti

in Islamabad. Purpose of these meetings was to further strengthen collaboration in the government's efforts towards protecting flood affected population especially children from water-borne diseases like diahorrea, eye infection, skin problems and their rehabilitation along with resolving nutritional issues of children, lactating mothers and expecting women including taking measures to prevent climate induced disasters

😂 Spokesman Report

in the flood-affected areas of

fully cooperate with Red Cres-

(PRCS) Sardar Shahid Ahmed

reconstruction phases.



such as the recent mega-floods.

During their meeting with the NDMA Chairman, the SCI delegation briefed him about the sustained support as well as projects their organization has launched for the rehabilitation of affected population especially children.

The NDMA Chairman said that we are strategizing to drain out the stagnant flood water from affected areas as it is the major cause of diseases spread. He also said that other projects like nutritional issues of pregnant and lactating mothers, building resilient communities, recovery of agriculture and farming and ensuring long-term psycho social support of children are at different stages of execution.

Country Director SCI M. Khurram Gondal assured his support and said that SCI has established temporary learning

centres (TLCs), Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) and rural health centres in various flood-hit districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan. He also informed that SCI is collaborating with the Sindh government to establish over 600 TLCs in most affected districts of Dadu, Sanghar, Shikarpur and Khairpur to promote education and provide most critical psycho-social support to the affected children, so that children could be children again.

Meanwhile, the SCI delegation called on Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman.

On the occasion, Global Humanitarian Director SCI assured Save the Children's support & collaboration in addressing the climate related issues faced by Pakistan to prevent disasters such as the recent flood which has caused havoc.

UN assures full cooperation to PRCS for rehab of flood victims



Pakistan and said that UN will Ahmad Laghari said that PRCS provision of food, cash grant is undertaking several intercent in the rehabilitation and areas for the relief and reha-This was stated during their bilitation of the flood-affect- installed 8 water treatment stan Red Crescent Society ing, he highlighted some of the country that are providing the major health challenges of thousands of liters of safe and

and supply of medicines to ventions in the flood-affected affected population were also discussed. He said PRCS has meeting with Chairman Paki- ed families. During the meet- plants in different districts of

days. He said distribution of tents, essential items, food items, cooked food is continuing. PRCS ambulances, Mobile Health Units and Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) are providing medical assistance effectively in the flood affected areas.

Shahid Laghari said that Red Crescent reached even where access was impossible and millions of people are also benefiting from the relief operations of the Pakistan Army, Pakistan Navy, and Pakistan Air Force alongside the government.

On this occasion, Julien Iernes said that Pakistan i



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Palestine to Pakistan Ahmed Rabei, Chairman, Pakistan Association of Exhibition Industry Khurshid Barlas, Executive Member Mohammad Amin ur Rahman, Fahad Barlas, Convener Diplomatic Affairs and Mohsin Khalid presenting the shield to the Palestinian Ambassador, Chairman Khurshid Barlas after the meeting.

Palestine warns against Israel's escalating crimes

😂 Spokesman Report

The Spokesman

ISLAMABAD: The State of Palestine warns against Israel's escalating crimes, including collective punishment and unlawful blockades imposed on Palestinian cities, villages, and refugee camps. The international community to urgently intervene to protect the Palestinian people, in occupied East Jerusalem, Nablus, Jenin, Gaza, and others.

For the past week, Israel, the occupying Power, has been besieging hundreds of thousands of Palestinians into enclaves, depriving them of access to health services, education, and food supplies, in violation of international law.

The State of Palestine holds Israel, the occupying Power, fully responsible for the repercussions of its deliberate and dangerous escalation and calls on it to immediately cease its criminal policies and practices.

Collective punishment is a war crime and a form of persecution and is an affront to the elementary principles of humanity, dignity, and rule of law.

Israel, the occupying Power, continues to employ such declared criminal policies with full impunity, with the intent to punish the Palestinian people collectively, cause immeasurable suffering to millions of people, and lead to the eventual displacement of the Palestinian people from their homes and lands.

No amount of methodical violence and chaos of Israel's making will overshadow its willful failure to end its illegal occupation and engage in a political process.

In line with the international legal obligations respecting state responsibility, the international community should take all measures, including countermeasures and sanctions, necessary to hold Israel accountable for its crimes.

The Palestinian people will continue to collectively persist and exercise their legitimate right to resist Israel's crimes until their fundamental rights are realized, respected, and upheld.

NPC delegation visits ICCI



😂 🛛 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Diplomat of Embassy of the People's Republic of China holds a meeting with Senior Joint Secretary of National Heritage and Culture Division.

Zhang Heqing Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Director China Cultural Center in Pakistan visited National Heritage and Culture Division, Islamabad.

Senior Joint Secretary Abdul Sattar Khokhar received the worthy Counsellor along with Director General Department of Archaeology & Museums and Senior officials of the Division. Pak China mutual activities for promotion of arts, culture & archaeology have been discussed.

Laghari in the UN office here women, newborn babies and drinkable water to communion Thursday.

PRCS Chairman Sardar Shahid

the outbreak of diseases in the ties while more water treat-Speaking on the occasion, flood hit areas of the country. ment plants will be installed in infrastructure has also been Matters pertaining to other flood-hit areas in coming irreparably damaged.

going through a historic disaster, the economy as well as the

Edhi Foundation, Jazz provide flood assistance to flood affectees

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Edhi Foundation in partnership with Jazz provided assistance to thousands of families, distributing food and medical supplies, and hygiene and disaster relief kits in flood affected areas. This collaboration is a part of Jazz's PKR 1 billion flood relief pledge.

The areas covered under this initiative include 23 districts of Sindh including Nawabshah, Dadu, Sukkur, Jamshoro, and Larkana as well as 10 districts of Balochistan including Quetta, Lasbela, and Nasirabad. Floodstruck parts of South Punjab including Taunsa, Jampur, and



DG Khan were also covered. Jazz unfolding of an unprecedentalso mobilized its volunteers to ed calamity. To mitigate the assist Edhi's on-ground teams in distributing relief items.

effects of this climate-induced catastrophe, I implore all private rate and Regulatory Affairs "We have witnessed the companies to come forward. Officer – Jazz.

Jazz has historically always risen to the occasion when the country and its people needed it the most. The nationwide flood relief initiative is another example of this and we greatly value their decision to collaborate with us," said Faisal Edhi, Director - Edhi Foundation.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the all the families affected by floods. We are working with key partners in distributing relief supplies so it reaches the affectees in time. We stand by our fellow citizens during these tough times," said Syed Fakhar Ahmed, Chief Corpo-



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of National Press Club Islamabad led by its President Anwar Raza visited the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) to congratulate the new Office Bearers.

Addressing the delegation, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that Pakistan's economy is currently facing great challenges, but frequent adventurism by various stakeholders in the Capital to register their protest, which badly affects the business activities, causes great losses the business community and creates serious hardships for the citizens.

He said that once again talks of a long march to Islamabad has created great concerns in the business community. He demanded the government to allocate a separate venue for any protest outside Islamabad so that the business community can be saved from further damages and the economy may not suffer more.

He proposed that ICCI and the National Press Club should jointly prepare policy papers and recommendations for the improvement of the economy that should be shared with the government to formulate business-friendly policies

He further said that ICCI has taken discounts for its members from various hospitals, laboratories and other institutions including schools and colleges and efforts will be made to provide the same facilities to the members of the National Press Club. He emphasized that the journalist community should cooperate in highlighting the important problems of the business community to draw the attention of the government to address them.

Anwar Raza, President, National Press Club Islamabad said that NPC has already organized a successful All Parties Conference for Revival of Economy in collaboration with ICCI and it would take more initiatives in cooperation with Chamber for the betterment of business and economic activities.

racy. However, the big priorities

are tackling poverty, building

common prosperity, ensuring

that everybody has a home, has

access to healthcare, has access

to education, clean water, and

modern energy, ensuring people

are protected from the pandem-

ic, dealing with pollution, devel-

oping renewable energy, cracking

China has the capacity to reshape global order: Speakers

🐞 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A roundtable discussion titled "An Appraisal of 10 years of Chinese National Congress and Regional Outlook" was organised under the banner of Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution (IICR), an Islamabad-based think tank.

The panelists included Professor Zamir Ahmed Awan, Founding Chair GSRRA, Lecturer NUST; Dr George H Cooke, Diplomatic Historian, Sri-Lanka: Mr Shakeel Ahmad, Political Economist; Mr Carlos Martinez, Independent Researcher & Co-editor of Friends of Socialist China, UK: Dr Tahir Mumtaz Awan, Head of China Study Centre, COMSATS Universitv. Ms. Sabah Aslam, Executive Director of IICR delivered opening remarks and welcomed the guests and panellists.

Professor Zamir Ahmed Awan, Founding Chair GSRRA, Lecturer NUST, said "The future is

China, China is the rising superpower, and the Communist Party of China (CPC) has played the main role in achieving such a feat. He further said that Chinese President Xi Jinping is a visionary leader with a global perspective. The policies implemented under his leadership in China are being followed by multiple countries across the world.

He asserted that the US openly considers the emerging power China as a threat and is exercising a policy to contain China. counter China, and engage China at strategic diplomatic, and economic levels. China has the capacity to reshape the global order, as its leadership has emerged as the strongest in the world. China has successful-

While addressing the panel, ly curbed the menace of corruption which led to the eradication of poverty.

In his virtual presentation over Zoom link, Dr George H Cooke, Diplomatic Historian, Sri-Lanka, said that the most precious aspect of Chinese economic and social development in the last 40 years of reform and opening up has been the ability of the country to grasp the logic of history and adapt to the tendency of the times. He underscored that the Chinese leadership has sought to strategize foreign policy efficiency by basing it on domestic

demand and policy. Mr Shakeel Ahmad, Political Economist, in his talk on the occasion said that the most important contribution of CPC is the production of visionary people who possess leadership characteristics of wisdom, competence, and selflessness.



He further highlighted how the Chinese Leadership could foresee things beyond the wall, possess the competence to draft and frame policies, and steered the state out of poverty. He underlined that selflessness, and high moral and ethical values of the leadership helped China to emerge as a rising power.

Mr Carlos Martinez, Independent Researcher & Co-editor of Friends of Socialist China,

al Congress being held in three days, it is an opportune moment of people's democracy, a subject that is often misunderstood and misrepresented. Particularly in the western world in the context of a new cold war where China is constantly demonized and labelled as being undemocratic.

western world has positioned to China's rise as a global power. the nation.

itself as the sole arbiter of democ- China is working further to become not only more powerfor the Chinese Government ful but aiming for regional prosperity and common growth, he added.

He stressed that China has a policy of non-interference and not suppressing other nations. China was the first country to receive and send diplomatic delegations to and from Afghanistan post US withdrawal in 2021.

In the concluding remarks Ms Sabah Aslam stressed that Pakistan dearly needs a strong and selfless leadership like that of China. We need to learn lessons from the Chinese to help develop our country Pakistan. We need to National Congress has been evaluate the Chinese growth and strength and allow the national government to consolidate and strengthen so as to be impactful and strong enough to implement the policies for the betterment of

down on corruption, and gener-UK, with the 20th CPC Nationally improving people's quality of life, this is people's democracy. Dr Tahir Mumtaz Awan, to take a look at china's system Head of China Study Centre, COMSATS University, in his address said, The 20th CPC termed as 'Xi Jin ping's Coronation'. Hopefully, CPC and Xi Jinping will emerge even more

resilient post the 20th CPC He went on to say that, the Congress, which paves the way

The Spokesman

Editorial/Opinion

Friday, October 14, 2022

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Vice Chairman: Managing Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Bureau Chief Karachi:		Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan
Bureau Chief Lahore: Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza		(mszk786@gmail.com Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com) a. L8 Markaz
Karachi office:	Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11. Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.	
Lahore Office: Email: Whatsapp:	7-E,Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com 0346-5008408	

CICA summit for peaceful dialogue

t is an important gesture that Pakistan expressed willingness to work with all the neighboring countries including India in economic development. Unfortunately, the present Indian regime prefers to follow its hegemonic policies rather than to improve relations with SAARC countries. Pakistan is adopting a clear policy that it is interested in maintaining strong relations with all countries for the sake of regional peace and prosperity. The minorities in India are unsafe as the Hindu extremists are forcefully promoting Hindutva ideology. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif rightly stated that India is negating UN resolutions on the Kashmir issue for the last seven decades and committing the worst atrocities on innocent Kashmiris. Pakistan has always desired for meaningful and result oriented engagement yet India always steps back.

India never played any notable role in Afghanistan. The United States tried to use Indian forces in Afghanistan. The former Afghan president proposed to get the Afghan National Army by India but soldiers refused to get training from India. After the US withdrawal and formation of an interim Afghan government, India tried to reach out to the Afghan government but the Afghan government refused to give any role to India in Afghanistan. Moreover, India has repeatedly been involved in using the Afghan soil to destabilize its arch nemesis Pakistan. The Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in his address to the 6th summit of CICA rightly pointed out the Indian role of peace spoiler in regional peace and stability. The United States has realized that Pakistan is the only country that can play an important role in Afghanistan.

The Prime Minister in his address at 6th CICA summit once again reiterated the commitment that Pakistan is ready for interaction and conflict resolution provided India is also willing to do so. Unfortunately, the present Indian government is having hegemonic designs and wants to keep all the neighboring countries under pressure. India has also played the role of peace spoiler in the region particularly in Afghanistan. The instability and insecurity in Afghanistan have direct impacts on Pakistan. The peaceful and stable Afghanistan is in the best national interest of Pakistan.

India always tried to harm Pakistan and used Afghan soil in order to destabilize Pakistan in the past. Now the interim government in power in Afghanistan is not interested in developing strong relations with India. Pakistan on the other hand has accommodated a huge number of Afghan refugees in the country. Moreover, Pakistan always supported Afghanistan in crucial times. Pakistan has a crystal clear policy that it supports peaceful, prosperous and stable Afghanistan. The Prime Minister has rightly stated that if India is interested to resolve issues with Pakistan, then it has to review its aggressive policies towards the minorities. The international community must urge India to stop committing state terrorism in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Ukraine war calls for greater EU role in Gulf security

Dr. Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg

he Gulf Cooperation Council this week hosted an important session of political dialogue with the EU that

focused on the evolving security situation in the two regions. Two issues dominated the discussion: The repercussions of the Ukraine war and the need to work together to counter Iran's regional activities and nuclear proliferation.

The EU and GCC foreign ministers met in Brussels on Feb. 21, three days before Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The two sides had been in discussions for some time about upgrading their relationship to a "strategic partnership," adding a more active political role and extensive security cooperation. The looming crisis then added a sense of urgency to the meeting of the 33 nations and they adopted a five-year Joint Action Program reflecting the new priorities.

There was a subsequent meeting in New York last month. on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, which stressed accel-

was agreed in Brussels. The newly discovered vulner-

abilities have led to greater political cohesion and security integration in Europe and across the Atlantic, while also underscoring the EU's new desire for security cooperation outside its borders. When France assumed the bloc's rotating presidency in January 2022, it proposed a new securitv vision. President Emmanuel Macron called for a stronger security framework internally and a more active role externally. He said that the EU should not be satisfied with merely reacting to international crises and called for the speedy formation of a rapid reaction force to defend the EU's external borders. Then-French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian added that "we need to make proposals aimed at building a new security and stability system in keeping with our collective security interests," in coordination with NATO and the US.

The war in Ukraine has shelved for now any talk of "strategic autonomy" and similar ideas popular before the war. Instead, Europe's new emphasis is on maintaining its internal security while strengthening its external partnerships. Instead

erated implementation of what of reacting to crises and prob- crises more effectively, whether tion Treaty obligations. lems after they reach its borders, it wants to play more active global and regional roles, including in the Gulf, Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Libva and elsewhere.

GCC countries share many of Europe's security concerns and, as such, their partnership could address those concerns more effectively. For example, both sides are concerned about the security of trade routes and food and energy supply chains. The Gulf region is home to about 50 percent of global oil and 20 percent of gas reserves. It produces and exports significant shares of both. It can help Europe deal with shortages and rising prices. But if there are disruptions in the region, energy supplies and prices will be affected around the world, including Europe.

Because of their geographic proximity, regional crises affect the Gulf countries and Europe directly and indirectly. The GCC and EU share a preference for employing softer tools in such situations. They advocate dialogue and political solutions and stand ready to provide generous humanitarian and development assistance when needed. Greater GCC-EU cooperation could help address those

in Palestine/Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Iraq, Yemen or Afghanistan.

Combating terrorism, human trafficking and illegal migration are among the priorities of both sides. Cybersecurity has also become a greater priority for both and their ties can be further enhanced by joint action between the two regions.

Maritime security is a rising concern for both sides; they need to coordinate their efforts on the security of water passageways and shipping lanes to combat arms smuggling, human trafficking and organized crime. Both have an interest in extending their present collaboration to the Red Sea. The two blocs have also

demonstrated great concern about Iran's destabilizing role in the region and its nuclear, ballistic missile and drone programs. The EU has staked its diplomatic reputation on saving the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action nuclear deal, but Tehran has so far made it impossible to accom-

plish that job. Instead, it has chosen to continue to develop its program way beyond peaceful needs and the limits of the JCPOA, while raising demands to be freed of its Non-Proliferaing, modalities for enhanced partnership in addressing all these issues were discussed. Both sides are aware that, at times, they may have different priorities or modus operandi, but regular dialogue will help align them as much as possible and allow the two blocs, or some of their member states, to work

So, at this week's Riyadh meet-

in unison on issues they agree on. The main emphasis should be on practical work on areas of common interest and priority. Debate on unbridgeable differences should not stand in the way of joint action on agreed matters. Time is of the essence; officials and experts should not spend too much time fine-tuning frameworks and implementation instruments. Instead, practical work should be prioritized and the perfection of the tools will happen by itself in due course.

Dr. Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg is the GCC assistant secretary-general for political affairs and negotiation, and a columnist for Arab News. The views expressed in this piece are personal and do not necessarily represent GCC views.

Courtesy: Arab News



Turkmenistan towards SDGs; Humanitarian Response to Pakistan-I

emerging country in central Asia with a distinct policy of neutrality and an abundance of natural resources. It provides gas and electricity to all citizens ensuring no one is recovery to the injured. left behind to access energy as a fundamental source of livelihood traditions of friendship and good strongly following the internation- neighborliness of the Turkmen al commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations.

Turkmenistan is committed to ed People of Pakimeeting international commitments ranging from gender equality to climate change and is targeted to achieving Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The government of Turkmenistan is always at the forefront of helping humanity who are suffering from disasters. Humanitarian relief to Afghan 40 tons of relief people in times of crisis and giving relief support to the flood-affected people in Pakistan are the contributions that reflect Turkmenistan's global outreach in humanitarian missions.

Immediately after the Government of Pakistan declared a national state of emergency in light of the severe floods, the President of Turkmenistan H.E. Mr. Serdar Berdimuhamedov sent his deep condolences to the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, and Prime Minister H.E. Mr. M.M. Shehbaz Sharif. istan became a sovereign state in On behalf of the People and the 1991, and celebrates its independ-

well as on his own behalf, the President of Turkmenistan conveyed words of deep empathy and support at this difficult moment to the families and friends of the victims and wished for a speedy

Following the centuries-old people, the President of Turkof relief goods to the flood-affect-

stan. In September 2022. a Analysi special cargo flight reached Karachi, and delivered Turkmenistan's humanitarian aid in the amount of Engr. Qaiser Nawab goods, including textile items,

clothing, blankets, food products, clean drinking water, medicines, medical supplies, and other items. This humanitarian cargo flight became another confirmation of the friendly and brotherly relations between two nations.

Bilateral relations between Turkmenistan and Pakistan are based on the mutual understanding which prospects for greatpolitical-economic relations, especially in energy cooperation. Turkmen-

urkmenistan is an Government of Turkmenistan, as ence day on September 27. Subsequently, diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in May 1992. In 2001, Pakistan issued special postal stamps, devoted to the 10th anniversary of Independence the brotherly country Turkmenistan. Moreover, both countries share the same or similar views on regional and international issues and coordinate within and 2017. international and regional mechmenistan initiated the donation anisms like UN, NAM, ECO, OIC and G-77.

On the diplomatic front, late Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto visited Turkmenistan in October 1994, followed by the visit of then Prime Minister Mian Muhmmad Nawaz Sharif to Turkmenistan in

1997. Furthermore, the then President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari visited Turkmenistan in 2010. After his reelection for the third time into the power in 2013, Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, the three times Prime Minister of Pakistan visited Turkmenistan in 2015 to take part in the groundbreaking ceremony of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline. Shortly after his 2015 visit, Sharif visited Turkmenistan again in 2016. The then Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi lance Journalist and an expert on

continued furthering the bilateral relations and visited Turkmenistan in 2018.

Conversely, the first Turkmenistan President Saparmurat Niyazov made several visits to Pakistan beginning from 1995. The second President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov visited Pakistan in 2011, 2016

The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline is the center point of most of the recent Pakistan and Turkmenistan engagements. The both side are interested in speeding the implementation of the project. Upon completion, the natural gas will be supplied from the second in the world gas field of Galkynysh of Turkmenistan to the energy-stressed countries i-e Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Furthermore, TAPI is a marvelous instance of regional cooperation, peace, and harmony.

Pakistan and Turkmenistan inked scores of Inter-governmental MoUs and accords to improve partnership and collaboration in the field of energy, agriculture, trade, livestock, technology, education, science, health, tourism, and sports.

To be concluded The author is a Global Peace and Climate Activist, Pakistani Youth Leader, UN SDGs Advocate, Free-

Climate change a huge threat to disaster reduction agenda

Andrew Hammond

head of Thursday's International Day for Disaster Reduction, there was an extraordinary reminder of the game-changing impact that climate change could have on this agenda.

In the last year, the UN has asserted there were some 432 disastrous events related to natural hazards worldwide, with an estimated \$252 billion of economic damage reported, but this could significantly increase as global warming intensifies. On Monday, the UN and the Red Cross launched a hard-hitting study that forecasts that heat waves will become so extreme in regions like Southern Asia, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa that they could make human life there unsustainable within decades, triggering "large-scale suffering and loss of life.

It is forecast that the number of poor people living in extreme heat conditions in urban areas will jump by 700 percent by 2050. However, one critical point made in the report is that this tragedy is already unfolding, as exemplified by the climate catastrophes in Pakistan and Somalia this year. The organizations warned that, if greenhouse gas emissions are not significantly reduced, the world will face "previously unimaginable levels of extreme heat."

As the Egyptian government finalizes its plans for next month's COP27 climate summit, this report is a chilling reminder of the impact of global warming, especially in the developing world, where much of the continued growth of the planet's population from about 7.7 billion today to as much as 10 billion in 30 years' time - will be most keenly felt. According to the UN, more than half of

this population growth will be concentrated in nine countries, mainly in the developing vorld and particularly in so-called megacities.

By the end of 2008, there were 26 megacities (cities of 10 million or more inhabitants). But by 2030, the world is projected to have 43. Key megacities include New Delhi (whose population was 29 million in 2018), Shanghai (26 million) and Mexico City and Sao Paulo (both 22 million). Cairo, Mumbai, Beijing and Dhaka also all have about 20 million inhabitants.

Despite the economic success of many megacities, governments are preparing for the growing risks they pose. It is therefore fitting that one of the discussion points of COP27 in Egypt will be the foundations for more sustainable development models for large urban areas.

As megacities continue to grow, demands will increase as supplies of food, water and resources for industries and infrastructure require energy for transportation. The associated increased carbon dioxide emissions will contribute to global warming.

There is a pressing need for urban areas to develop emergency refuge areas, or what this week's UN report calls "thermally appropriate" shelters and "cooling centers." In most cases, such refuges will need to be built from scratch.

Taken together, the prizes for getting this agenda right remain huge, including safer, cleaner and more sustainable urban living. However, the challenges are massive too, especially the financing gap. With COP27 on the horizon, will we seize the remaining window of opportunity that may still exist or let it slip through our fingers?

Andrew Hammond is an Associate at LSE IDEAS at the London School of Economics. Courteys: Arab News

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Islamic Banking & Finance The Spokesman 5

11th Global Islamic Microfinance Forum to be held in UAE

Under the theme of Financial Inclusion, Outreach Strategies & Innovations

🐞 Spokesman Report

DUBAI: 11th Global Islamic Microfinance Forum (GIMF) will convene in Dubai - U.A.E on November 21 - 22, 2022 under the theme of "Financial Inclusion, Outreach Strategies & Innovations" to explore and discuss innovative financial inclusion strategies that can create clear pathways to poverty alleviation.

This Apex event is jointly organized by AlHuda CIBE FZ LLE, Islamic Microfinance Network, Pakistan Microfinance Network and Wings Media "The Alliance to Promote Islamic Finance and Microfinance globally". Alliance members are an established name in the microfinance & financial inclusion sector with a vision to increase outreach of financial services, especially with the unserved and marginalized segment.

More than 30 countries will be participating in this prestigious event and around 25 international speakers will be addressing in the event. Majority of the speakers will be from industry leaders and experts. This event helps the industry practitioners to join the common platform and strengthen the networking for industry development in true and innovative ways.

Mr. Muhammad Zubair, the Managing Director of AlHuda CIBE said that the 11th GIMF will explore how new and effective strategies (according to Shariah compliant procedures) be formulated to alleviate poverty and er the stakeholders under one plat- inance, Financial Inclusion, Evidence Visit" from November 23 - 24, 2022.



for economic sustainability.

He further said that now the time has come that the International Organization like UN, ADB, IFC, USAID, GIZ, DIFD, and IFAD etc. play their role to alleviate poverty from are expected from almost 30 different the world by including Islamic Microfinance strategies to reduce poverty. The purpose of this forum is to gath-

form, to find out the remedy to these of Impact, Rural development, use of problems to give strong support to the rapidly increasing Islamic Microfinance industry.

A gathering of 120+ Participants wherein a large variety of topics will

IT in Microfinance, Micro Takaful, Rural credit, Small business problems and solutions, and General Economic Development under Shariah rulings.

The Forum will be followed by two countries to participate in the forum, days Post Event Workshop on "Practical Aspects of Islamic Micro, Agribe covered including; Islamic Microf- culture & Rural Finance and Exposure Adib launches 'Small Business Finance' to support SMEs



DUBAI: Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank (Adib), a leading financial institution, has unveiled a new offering 'Small Business Finance (SBF)' to support small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in the UAE.

The new product offers a complete financial solution for up to AED1.5 million to support the short and long term goals of SMEs.

Adib's SBF is designed to offer a bespoke financial solutions for small and medium businesses in the UAE catering to their business objectives. With an easy and fast application process, businesses will also get a comprehensive range of benefits that includes collateral free business finance, working capital finance for local and international purchases or Capex Finance for equipment, Machinery and Auto, payment based on Equated Monthly Installment (EMI), flexible tenure, while also providing accessibility to expert advice and more benefits to give each Business the Makeover it needs

Commenting on the new product launch, Mohammed Al Salem, Head of Business Banking, Adib, said: "SMEs play an important role in shaping economies globally. Adib recognises their importance to the local economy and has been constantly supporting them through several initiatives that enable business owners to reach their full potential.

"Our new product is aligned with the UAE's vision as supporters and contributors to small businesses' growth and reinforces our position as one of the largest Islamic Banks offering a range of business banking products to support the needs of businesses."

Bolstering the nation's continuous efforts to develop the business sector in the UAE, Adib's SBF provides a complete financing solution to further assist individuals to realise their business goals and remain committed to support the growth and sustainability of this segment.

Al Rajhi Bank can provide up to \$240mln facilities to REIT Fund

RIYADH: The board of Al Rajhi REIT Fund gave a green light to increase the limit of the Sharia-compliant facilities from Al Rajhi Bank for the purpose of acquisition by SAR 300 million.

The Saudi lender can provide up to SAR 900 million worth of funding instead of SAR 600 million, according to a bourse disclosure. The financial assistance however should not exceed 50% of Al Rajhi REIT Fund's total assets The board also passed the reduction of profit margin on total financing from Al Rajhi Bank, in addition to hedging against unstable interest rates for a facility amounting to SAR 193.70 million. Therefore, approximately 50% of the total financing to the REIT Fund, equivalent to nearly SAR 448 million, will have a fixed cost at a rate of 4.52% until the end of 2025. The board's resolutions will likely increase the ability to acquire assets, reduce the risk of profit rate fluctuations, and have a positive impact on the fund as of 2023. During the first half (H1) of 2022, the Saudi lender generated net profits worth SAR 8.4 billion, compared to SAR 6.90 billion in H1-21.

Shariah-compliant Islamic Coin ADIB Amwali sees rapid growth in first partners with Brazil's FRAMBAS year of its operation

DUBAI: UAE-based Shariah-compliant cryptocurrency and blockchain company Islamic Coin, has partnered with Brazil's FAMBRAS, the world's largest manufacturer and exporter of halal food products.

partnership, The announced at the Fintech Surge Summit, part of GITEX Global 2022 in Dubai, is intended to increase the transparency and traceability of halal foods across the world. FAMBRAS will use Islamic Coin's proprietary blockchain, the Haq network, to register its halal certificates and trace the journey of the food product from slaughter or manufacture to supermarket shelf. "When we talk about bringing the halal food manufacturers or exporters to our network, there are two sides to this - certificates for of the payment options, it is the food, ensuring that the very fast, very reliable and food is halal and following reduces the cost of transacthe food production journey tion for both parties," added from the first step of slaugh-Alhashmi. ter, packing, shipment, until it reaches the end user," said first Shariah-Compliant Mohammed Alkaff Alhashcryptocurrency, while its Haq Network, which is also Sharimi, co-founder of Islamic



ABU DHABI: Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank (ADIB), a leading Islamic financial institution, reported significant growth achieved by 'Amwali' in the first year of its operation. The world's first Islamic digital bank account gained high traction with 27 per cent month-over-month growth over 12 months.

With over 8,000 total accounts opened since August 2021, ADIB's Amwali aims to address the gap in a demographic that has been largely underserved in the region. Currently, 74 per cent of customers are Emiratis with a ratio of 61 per cent male, 39 per cent female In addition 54 per cent of accounts are in the age group between 15 – 18 years.



ah compliant, also focuses on Coin. Using smart GPS location, enabling projects that beneusers will be able to follow the fit society. entire journey of the products by scanning a QR code.

"The second part is the rules - it is transparent, it is to Fonte's State of the Globpayment part. People are traceable, it is reliable - this is al Islamic Economy report.

Islamic Coin is the world's

going there for goods they all we need to make sure we are buying, and Islamic can do things the proper way," Coin can be utilised as one said Alhashmi.

FAMBRAS was founded in Brazil by Hussein El Zoghbi in 1979 after arriving from Lebanon. The company initially started as a halal certification body in Latin America and today it has evolved to become the world's largest exporter of halal food products and employs over 1500 people.

The halal food market is "Blockchain technology is set to be worth \$1.38 trillion globally by 2024 according very compatible with Shariah

When Amwali was first introduced in August 2021, it was intended to empower youth to develop financial management skills early in life. Over the past year, ADIB witnessed that youth are inclined towards acquiring the knowledge and skills to build responsible financial behaviour and make informed financial decisions. Amwali enables them to practice sound money management at a young age while building their financial literacy in the process.

Amwali provides tailored banking experience for target customers' segments with a plethora of niche features including receiving money from parents and family, tracking balance and spending, creating saving goals, paying friends, and more. Customers of Amwali receive a debit card to use for day-to-day shopping, online payments, cash withdrawals, and can even add it to Apple as balance inquiries, fund transfers, as of August 2022.

Pay and enjoy exclusive offers on and transaction history via automatfashion, electronics, gaming, enter- ed responses.

Since its launch, Amwali has been getting a lot of traction among young people and is adding more customers, while maintaining a high retention rate of Amwali users. ADIB recently received the "Outstanding Innovation in Mobile Banking" award from Global Finance for tion of customers and introduced an Amwali and its mobile banking app. The digital bank account recorded It provides users with services such approximately 800,000 transactions

SNB proceeds its leading role in community service

efforts that back up the community in many ways, aimed to support, rehabili-

tives of Vision 2030 by creating and that address community needs under the Bank's collective and social responsibility programs of "Ahalina."

supporting and empowering the community through the "Ahalina" Social Responsibility program, within the framework of the "Ahalina" Community Investment Program, which intends to enable non-profit organizations to implement sustainable projects in line with Vision 2030.

SNB funded 8 development projects which aims to achieve economic empowerment for 240 citizens. 80 employees from 17 non-profit organizations received training in a number bilities.

for the future, and to inspire them to become entrepreneurs capable of tate, and put a smile on everyone's face, starting successful projects. A total of by providing a secure living environ- 21 projects were chosen for funding in ment for the diverse segments of society. both Accelerators specializes in Fintech The bank aspires to play a proac- and in Social Entrepreneurship Acceltive role in empowering the commu- erator. SNB, in collaboration with the nity and helping to realize the objec- Ideas Bus Tour, provided financial support for the 43,000 beneficiary implementing innovative programs participants with the goal to promote the idea of freelancing amongst university staff. This is to encourage a free flow of ideas, and the adoption of the SNB continued the journey of entrepreneurial spiritin 15 universities throughout the Kingdom.

SNB also signed a Cooperation Agreement with Monsha'at for the Innovation Financing Program, which aims to provide non-refundable financial support to enable entrepreneurs and startups in the initial stages of the facility to start commercial work, inspire innovative quality projects, during the first phase of the program, and cover financing gaps for emerging projects within the innovation stage.

The winners of the "Ahalina" and "Sayidaty" award for leadership were also announced. The first-place award of areas to develop their specialized went to the "Naseej Market Project", an administrative and professional capa- online marketplace that brings together owners of crafts, handicrafts, and local SNB continues to focus on the Entre- artwork. The second-place award went preneurs Program to empower young to a project for incubators and accelera-

RIYADH: SNB is making quality men and women to better prepare them tors, and the third-place award went to the Child Care Center Project.

The Productive Families Financing Program provides microfinance in the form of group loans to women with families so they may be inspired to work and improve their social and economic standing. 6 independent (Ahalina) social responsibility branches are responsible for distributing the payments in Jeddah, Riyadh, Al-Ahsa, Hail, Buraidah, and Abha. With a total financing amount of SR 14,331,000, the amount of financing given to female beneficiaries during the first half of 2022 increased to 2,386women.

The AlAhli Handcraft Production Program, which SNB has devised to help empower women, has helped women gain new skills, increase productivity, and participate in the workforce. Three strategic agreements were established by the Bank to teach over520 women through 8 training programs in 7 other cities throughout the Kingdom.

The Bank worked to establish marketing opportunities and find creative sales outlets, in order to display local projects to advertise for and support 25 women, thus helping to create marketing chances for these women through a variety of channels.



tainment, online shopping and more

to help them grow into financially

In line with its digital transforma-

tion strategy, ADIB has constant-

ly been enhancing the digital bank-

ing experience for the new genera-

AI chat bot for "Amwali" last year.

smart and successful adults.



Economy/Commerce

Friday, October 14, 2022

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

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
42,085.72	42,007.14	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
42,121.40	41,900.85	
Index Value	Change	
7,427,653,970	+78.58	
Percentage	Time	
+0.19%	13 Oct, 2022 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
6,850.27	+24.12	
Percentage	Time	
+0.35%	13 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
29,816.90	+606.05	
Percentage	Time	
+2.07%	13 Oct, 12:02 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
26,237.42	-159.41	
Percentage	Time	
-0.60%	13 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		

Selling Currency Buying Australian Dollar 137.71 138.96 582.86 Bahrain Dinar 578.36 Canadian Dollar 160.81 162.16 China Yuan 30.91 31.16 28.78 29.13 Danish Krone 212.2 214.2 Euro Hong Kong Dollar 27.7 28.05 Indian Rupee 2.65 2.73 1.1 1.15 Japanese Yen 700.77 705.77 Kuwaiti Dinar 47.24 47.69 Malaysian Ringgit NewZealand \$ 122.66 123.86 Norwegians Krone 20.5 20.8 569.23 Omani Riyal 564.73 Qatari Riyal 60.37 60.87 Saudi Riyal 58.55 59.15 153.43 154.73 Singapore Dollar Swedish Korona 19.58 19.88 Swiss Franc 220.79 222.54 Thai Bhat 6.2 6.3 U.A.E Dirham 60.85 60.25 UK Pound Sterling 242.15 244.65

GITEX 2022 in Dubai: Green flag steals the show

IT Minister Syed Amin Ul Haque has set forth ambitious target of \$5b exports in FY23 and \$15b in five years

😂 Spokesman Report

DUBAI: Zohaib Khan, Chairman P@SHA, has apprised that Pakistani IT companies; under the umbrella of Pakistan Software House Association (P@SHA); has displayed their diverse capabilities to who is who of international IT industry at Gulf Technology Exhibition (GITEX) 2022.

These services included, but not limited to, IT & ITeS services, internationally-acclaimed accomplishments & potential, human resource strengths & skill-sets, untapped export potential, business process outsourcing (BPO) capabilities, internationally-accredited tech infrastructure, services in artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain technologies, fintech ecosystem, web 3.0 & metaverse and software & app development competencies.

Zohaib Khan also had the distinct honor to inaugurate Pakistan Pavilion in GITEX 2022 in Dubai along with Syed Amin Ul Haque, Pakistan's Federal Minister for IT and Telecom; who is leading a high-profile official delegation of Pakistan to GITEX 2022, comprising of various institutions under Ministry of IT & Telecom (MoITT).

The Chairman P@SHA highlighted the fact that experientially GITEX 2022 has proven to be the most successful exposition for Pakistani IT companies' vis-à-vis hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of business generation.

Zohaib Khan has expressed his profound optimism that tangible gains have been accomplished during the exhibition - be that export orders, investment propositions, skill development collaborations, single-country follow-up meetings, B2B alliance or ground-breaking discussions on joint ventures.

It is pertinent to note that GITEX is the biggest show & event in the entire middle-

east & GCC region for IT, IT-enabled services SHA is all geared-up to turn this dream into for the past couple of years; but, on the other (ITeS) and other allied technologies. This year 29 member companies of P@SHA are partici- posted an export growth of 150 percent in IT considerably enhanced funding. Therefore, it pating in GITEX in collaboration with Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB).

GITEX 2022 in Dubai.

IT Minister Syed Amin Ul Haque has set forth an ambitious target of \$5 billion exports in FY23 and \$15 billion in five years; and, P@ ly venture capital markets have been shrinking in a short-span of 3 years.

a reality. Conspicuously, Pakistan has already exports during FY19 - FY 22 and no other industry in Pakistan could achieve that much of growth in export numbers.

Zohaib Khan maintained that international-

hand, Pakistani IT companies have received would be counterintuitive & counterproductive to not capitalize on the enormous potential of the IT industry of Pakistan - which may result in half-a-million new jobs for the youth

in collaboration with ICMA KCCI advised to look into possibility of organizing exhibition

😸 Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Chairman Strategic Board, Institute of Cost & Management Accountants (ICMA) Pakistan Zia ul Mustafa Awan has asked the Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) to look into the possibility of jointly organizing an exhibition in collabora tion with ICMA with a vision to further improve the industry-academia linkages which would certainly prove favourable not only for the businesses and graduating students but also for the economy. "The proposed exhibition to be organized in collaboration with KCCI can be staged next year either in the month of March or April", added Zia ul Mustafa Awan, who led an ICMA delegation during its visit to KCCI. President KCCI Muhammad Tariq Yousuf, Senior Vice President KCCI Touseef Ahmed, Vice President KCCI Haris Agar, Executive Director ICMA Aamir Ijaz



TEXPO Pakistan has become iconic event: Fareeha Khan

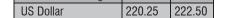
😂 M.A Rashid

FAISALABAD: TEXPO Pakistan has become an iconic event for the country which will not only help promote textile exports but will also portray the soft image of Pakistan to the rest of the world. The mega event is aimed to promote & highlight the concept of from 26-28 May 2023, promising more sustainability in the textile sector of the rewarding opportunities for its partici-Pakistan and increase its share in glob- pants, she said. al trading.

has not only contributed immensely to reposition the country's image but has also been instrumental in generating economic activity in the country in general, and within the export community in particular. Strengthened by the success of last 3 editions, the upcoming edition of Texpo Pakistan is scheduled

Speaking at the occasion, the Assistant





Govt should solve problems in Chapter 84, 85: Central SVC of PHMA

😂 Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The Central Senior Vice Chairman Pakistan Hardware Merchant Associa tion (PHMA) Tariq Rasheed requested to the Government to sort out the problems in Chapter 84, 85 which is facing by Business community and PHMA members.



He said that as soon as possible Government should resolve this issue so that Importer, Exporter, Traders to save the heavy loses. He said that Phma and Anjuman-e-Tajran Branderth Road Rehman Galian played vital role for flood affectees and we both contributed Rs. 10 million which 5 million was donated to Pak Army for the help of flood affectees and 5 million was donated to Akhuwat Foundation and for this PHMA Chairman Ch. Sultan Mehmood and Aniuman-e-Tairan Abdul Rab and Sheikh Younas played vital role and PHMA will continue a part of mission in difficult time for flood affectees. He further added that Pakistan Army has great services for Pakistan and specially paid the rich tribute to Pak Army.

Khan, Joint Director ICMA Satish Asim, Director ICMA Samreen Noman Ansari and KCCI Managing Committee Members attended the meeting. Chairman Strategic Board ICMA informed that ICMA has also initiated a Leadership Program wherein prominent members of the business & industrial community were invited to share their success stories with students so that they could also be encouraged to go for starting up a business.

While expressing deep concerns over complex taxation procedures, he underscored the need for introducing simplified taxation system so that maximum number of individuals and businesses could be encouraged to come into the tax net. "We should collectively raise voice for a simplified taxation system otherwise, the criteria would remain cumbersome as consultants and the bureaucracy would certainly never want this to happen", he added

Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) here on Thursday, the Director Trade Development Authority of Pakistan Fareeha Khan has said that the 4th edition of Texpo Pakistan scheduled to be held in May 2023 will provide unprecedented opportunities to its participants to witness the showcase of high quality products from Pakistan.

This is the largest trade show of the country, organized with an objective to display the entire range of quality products under one roof for the assessment of international buyers. She added that a large number of international buyers from different countries have established business contacts through this exhibition in 2019.

Addressing the members of Pakistan Manager Textiles Zameer Ahmad Soomro said that the Government is making efforts to promote Pakistan's exports by exploring new avenues of trade and focusing on non-traditional markets. For this purpose, single country exhibitions are being planned to grab the untapped trade potential within the African and Central Asian region.

Highlighting the importance of Texpo Pakistan, he said that the upcoming event would be one stop sourcing platform for new business alliances and investments. Texpo Pakistan will portray the soft image of the country that Pakistan has a business friendly atmosphere and the mega event will help in enhancing the textile exports of the country. He assured that all the facilities will be The commencement of this event provided to the exhibitors in the event.

IWCCI bringing presidents of all women's chambers under one roof

building.

ident

Naima

Former Pres-

ri said that the

Ansa-

😂 Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IWCCI) is holding the 3rd All Pakistan Women Chamber of Commerce President's Conference on Friday (October 14) in Islamabad to promote the cause of empowering women entrepreneurs.

Presidents of twenty women chambers will participate in the All Pakistan Women Chamber of Commerce President's Conference to be held in Islamabad, said Samina Fazil, Founder President of IWCCI.

She said that we have been providing support and encouragement to women in business, we also provide a voice to women within the Chamber for issues in business



attended by government officials, diplomats, professionals, community leaders. and business owners, she said, adding that it will also be open to the general public and those working for the rights of women.

It is our mission to uplift the standards of living of women who play an indispensable role by acting as agents of change. We

and host meetwant to put a spotlight on all women and ings and events address the status quo with respect to the that foster growth empowerment of the women's communiand relationship ty, said Naima.

Gender equality, women's engagement in different disciplines, future challenges, IWCCI and opportunities, businesses, and health concerns and we warmly welcome everyone to join this platform and be a part of conference will be a network that envisions a change for the better, she said.

Ms Ansari said that over 30 million people have been affected by the floods and 6.4 million are in need of humanitarian assistance. Among them are more than 1.6 million women of reproductive age, with nearly 130,000 pregnant women in need of urgent health services.

CBD Punjab advocates development initiatives

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District (CBD Punjab), is committed in uplifting the economic well-being of Punjab and believes the youth to be the driving force of this commitment. The authority is working on the agenda of national development and the authority has initiated multiple projects for youth to polish

an affirmation of its commitment CBD Punjab, conducted its first-ever Development Discussion Forum called the "Dev Talk" at The Beaconhouse National University Lahore.

The reason behind Dev Talk was to Involve the academia of Punjab to become advocates for ongoing projects of CBD Punjab and provide them with sought-after insights behind the creation of Pakistan's first business district and development landscape their professional skills, as in Punjab.

PTCL Group's posts strong financial performance

8% YoY Revenue Growth in 2022

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: PTCL Group, the country's leading telecom and ICT servic- PKR 110.5 billion YoY, mainly driven es provider, has announced its financial results for the nine months ended er segment led by fixed broadband, September 30, 2022, at its Board of mobile data, and wholesale & busi-Directors' meeting held in UAE on ness solutions, along with microfi-October 13, 2022.

PTCL Group remained on the

quarter as its fixed and wireless streams continued to perform positively.

Revenue has increased by 8% to by strong performance in the consumnance services

The Group's profitability remained growth trajectory during the third under pressure due to significant hike

in power and fuel tariffs, devaluation of the Pak Rupee against USD, higher interest rates, and other costs associated with the acquisition of 4G spectrum and related network rollout. The Group has posted a net loss of Rs 5.6 billion. During the first 3 quarters, the

company's fixed broadband business grew by 11.7% YoY. Within the broadband business, revenues from Flash Fiber, the company's premium FTTH

YoY. Voice revenue stream has seen a decline due to lower voice traffic and continued conversion of customers to OTT services

PTCL continues to perform consistently with enhanced customer experience through the company's seamless fixed broadband, including the fastest internet service in Pakistan through the

service, showed significant growth of Flash Fiber brand. PTCL has expanded 98.7%. IPTV also showed 8.6% growth its FTTH services in 35 cities, and the subscriber base has doubled on a YoY basis as the company continues to tap into the demand for growing internet and data services.

with overall YoY revenue growth of 8.8%, the business solutions segment sustained its market leadership in IP bandwidth, Cloud, Data Center, and by 13.9% over last year.

other ICT services. PTCL's corporate business grew by 13.0% as compared to last year. Within the wholesale business segment, carrier revenue grew by 16.2% but the overall wholesale segment revenue has declined as While continuing momentum a result of closure of certain international IP leased circuits. International revenue, helped by the favorable impact of currency devaluation, has increased

Sports Friday, October 14, 2022

The Spokesman

Nawaz's quick-fire 45 helps Pakistan beat Bangladesh

Pakistan, Bangladesh big guns fire ahead of T20 World Cup

CHRISTCHURCH: Four of the best batters in the world look to be in fine form ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup after they hit half centuries during Pakistan's narrow victory over Bangladesh in Christchurch on Thursday.

While Pakistan had already booked their spot in the final of the tri-series against New Zealand and Bangladesh had little to play for, both sides were keen to show their wares just days out from the start of the T20 World Cup in Australia.

It was no surprise to see experienced openers Mohammad Rizwan and Babar Azam on song in the victory, with the pair putting on their eighth partnership of 100 or more in T20I cricket to expertly lay the platform for the successful run chase.

Babar (55 off 40 balls) was the aggressor early on, while Rizwan (69 off 56) kept his composure throughout and only fell to Soumya Sarkar in the penultimate over after putting his team in a controlling position.

(45 off 20) to finish the job for Pakistan, per Shakib Al Hasan (68) also hit an



with the all-rounder hitting Mohammad Saifuddin to the boundary on the second last ball of the match to seal the seven-wicket triumph.

Litton Das celebrated his 28th birth-It was then left to Mohammad Nawaz day in style with a stylish 69, while skip-

excellent half-century as Bangladesh posted a respectable total of 173/6 after winning the toss and electing to bat first at Hagley Oval.

The main issue was no other batter scored greater than 12, with Das and Shakib contributing 137 runs between

them from 84 balls and the rest of their line-up only making 31 runs between them from the remaining six overs.

Shakib knew he left a few runs out there when he was dismissed in the 19th over and took some of the blame for leaving his side a little short.

But Bangladesh have been too reliant on the likes of Das and Shakib for years and need some new names to chip in when the T20 World Cup gets underway next week.

While Nawaz was the star of the show with the bat, the left-armer was wayward with ball in hand as he conceded 37 runs from three costly overs as Das and Shakib took a liking to his slow spinners.

It was instead left to Naseem Shah and Mohammad Wasim (2/33) to shine with the ball, with the former in particular impressive as he picked up two wickets and gave up just 27 runs from his four overs. Naseem produced 12 dot balls during his four-over spell and looks to have recovered well from his illness and primed to perform at his best during the T20 World Cup.

Work underway to lay astro-turfs in five major cities

in five major cities across the country.

"The government has recently laid down synthetic hockey Turfs at Islamabad and Quetta. Whereas, work regarding lying of turfs in Wah Cantt, Pesha- mance and International war, Abbottabad, Faisalabad ranking of national team and Muzaffarabad are under process, an official told APP. hockey structure.

He said the government was also introducing new governance system and national sports policy for structure including hockey in the country.

"Government of Pakistan was committed for the to PHF as a Special Grant," promotion of sports includ- he said.

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to ing hockey in the country. revive hockey and encourage In pursuance of this goal 5.5 million was released to youth towards the national the federal government game, the work was under- through Pakistan Sports way on lying of astro-turfs board provides administrative, technical and financial support to these games," he said.

He said to the extent of hockey, the government has taken several steps for the improvement of perforand overhaul of domestic

"The Government has Hockey Federation as Annual Grant during the last five the overhauling of sports vears. The Government has also released an amount of Rs. 3.5 million and under the PM directive 7.3 million

Pakistan Hockey federation for training cum competitions. "Pakistan Sports Board also established National Hockey Training Camps and incurred around Rs. 7 million. Service of

Foreign Coach for the period 21-11-2021 to 30-04-2022 (05 months & 10 days) amounting to US\$42,667 is also being provided," he said. However, he said that the subject of sports was devolved after the 18th provided Rs. 9 million to constitutional amendment and the role of Federal Government has become

limited. "The Provincial governments are mainly responsible for promotion of sports in their respective provinces. National Sports Federa-

He said an amount of Rs. tions are autonomous bodies and responsible to carryout their sports activities at national and international level.

He said the federal government extends its technical and financial support through National Sports Federations. "To the extent of providing sports infrastructure, the Federal government has completed two projects including laying of synthetic Hockey Turf and construction of Boxing Gymnasium at Quetta, Balochistan.

'Similarly, a project to rehabilitate and upgrade existing facilities of PSB, Coaching Center at Quetta having estimated a cost of Rs 379.311 million has been included in the current year PSDP," he said.

Matsuyama struggles to one-over 71

INZAI: Defending champion Hideki Matsuyama struggled to a one-over 71 in the first round of the US PGA Tour's Zozo Championship in Japan on Thursday as Xander Schauffele carded a 67 to lie just three shots off the lead.

Home favourite Matsuyama had thousands of fans behind him at a soggy Narashino Country Club outside Tokyo but he gave them little to cheer, finishing seven shots behind leader Brendan Steele who rattled in six back-nine birdies in his 64.

Matsuyama, who became Japan's first male major winner at the US Masters last year, started badly when he found his ball wedged between a tree and a power cable on the second hole, which he ended up bogeying. He said he was looking to "improve right across the board" after a stuttering round containing only two birdies against three bogeys.

"It was raining and it was a tough round - I didn't give a good account of myself today," said Matsuvama, "I was able to get some good rest last night and I was feeling better physically, so it's a shame that I ouldn't get a good score today." Matsuy ama's playing partner Schauffele, who won gold at last year's Tokyo Olympics, fared better in damp and gloomy conditions. Schauffele said he saw one of his drives "just get knocked down by the rain" during a heavy downpour, but conditions are set to improve with clear skies forecast for the rest of the week. "It was one of those days where you could play yourself out of the tournament with the weather being pretty bad," said Schauffele, who carded four birdies with just one bogey. "It was supposed to be worse and I was happy it didn't rain every single hole we played. Overall, pretty happy." The American Steele caught fire with six birdies on the back nine including a spectacular chipin on 17. The veteran bogeyed the 14th hole to slip back to two-under but reacted in the best way possible, reeling off four straight birdies to take the clubhouse lead "Everybody says that if you birdie 18, dinner tastes better," said the 39-year-old, who finished joint-second behind Matsuyama at last year's tournament. "But four in a row is definitely really, really nice." Steele led playing partner Adam Schenk by one stroke on 65, with Sam Ryder, Matthew NeSmith and Keegan Bradley one shot further behind on 66. Schauffele, Rickie Fowler, Maverick McNealy, Mito Pereira and Japan's Kazuki Higa were tied for sixth on 67. Fowler hit seven birdies overall but a double-bogey on the 11th hole pushed him back below the leading pack.

Vietnam's F1 track left abandoned

HANOI: Fenced off to the public and dotted with plastic waste, Hanoi's motor race circuit lies largely abandoned while hopes fade that Vietnam's capital will ever host a Formula One grand prix. The city was set to make its F1 debut in 2020 but the inaugu-

ral Vietnamese Grand Prix was cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic, and Hanoi has not appeared on the race calendar since

Now, the spectator stands have been removed and most of the circuit sits empty - save a few hobby cyclists who sneak in, lured by the open space in the traffic-clogged city.

They race past yellowing grass, weeds and trash blown in by the wind, but the track itself appears like new, with "Vietnam" still clearly visible where it was painted on the tarmac.

Outside the surrounding metal fence, Hanoi's ubiquitous motorbikes have already reclaimed the roads once earmarked to form part of the 5.6-kilometre (3.5-mile) track.

Vietnam inked a 10-year deal with Formula One in 2018, betting that the glamour of the sport could reshape Hanoi's staid image, and reflect the country's economic liftoff. Costing Vietnam \$60 million a year, the fee was to be picked up in full by the country's largest private conglomerate, VinGroup, which had been hoping to dazzle with a night race.

But after the 2020 cancellation, the race was dropped from the 2021 global calendar when city mayor Nguyen Duc Chung, a major supporter of the grand prix, was arrested. Chung was sentenced to 10 years in jail on corruption charges

"Without Chung, the future of the race in Hanoi is gloomy," a source close to the race told AFP on condition of anonymity in 2020. State media said city authorities in June last year ruled out hosting the race between 2022 and 2029. Authorities, however, refused to confirm the news to AFP.

Hanoi was absent again from the 2023 race schedule announced last month. Two-and-a-half years after the first race should have been staged, there is still disappointment among the country's small but growing F1 fanbase. "It would have been my first opportunity to see the drivers, the F1 cars, the racing teams in real life... and I wanted to feel what it was like to sit next to an F1 circuit," said 23-year-old Bui Viet Giang.

Quartararo unfazed by poor form

PHILLIP ISLAND: Reigning MotoGP world champion Fabio Quartararo insisted Thursday he remained calm and unfazed by a string of a poor results that has thrown the title race wide open.

The Frenchman has taken just eight points on his Yamaha in the last three races, allowing Italy's Francesco Bagnaia on a Ducati to close within two points of at the top of the standings with three grands prix left.

After 17 races, five riders are within 40 points and all in contention, with 75 still up for grabs. Quartararo finished a disastrous 17th at a wet Thailand a fortnight ago and was so frustrated he refused to speak to the media, for which he apologised on Thursday.

"I expected a much better race of course," he said. "We made a mistake from the beginning, starting with a really high (tyre) pressure. "At the end of the race it was tough. I took the decision not to talk to the media. I apologise to all the people who were in Thailand. It was especially tough, I had no feeling.

With Bagnaia finishing third, both riders agreed the title fight was "just beginning" at Phillip Island in Australia this weekend. "We have to think about the championship now, but actually

I want to take it race by race because it might be the end (of the season), but it is like the beginning of the championship," said the Frenchman. After challenging for the world title in 2020 and winning it last year, Quartararo said the experience could prove invaluable as the season races to a finale.

"Having the title from last year brings me a lot of confidence and much more experience," he said. "So of course the experience of the last two years has helped me a lot to be calm in this situation." Bagnaia, who surged into contention after taking 36 points from the last three races, agreed that it felt like the se was just beginning. "Like Fabio said, it is like we are now starting the championship and we have five riders with the possibility to win the title," he said. "For sure, me and Fabio have more possibilities, but the others are not so far behind and we know this year that everything can change. "But I think out potential is very high, we are in a good moment and we should use it." Spain's Aleix Espargaro (Aprilia) is within 20 of Quartararo, while Italian Enea Bastianini (Ducati) remains just 39 adrift with in-form Australian Jack Miller (Ducati) a point further back.

Inoue to fight Butler for undisputed bantamweight crown

YOKOHAMA: Japan's Naoya Inoue announced Thursday that he will fight Britain's Paul Butler in December when all four bantamweight world championship belts will be at stake.

The 29-year-old Inoue, nicknamed "Monster", holds the WBC, WBA and IBF bantamweight belts and is aiming to become undisputed world champion by capturing Butler's WBO title on December 13 in Tokyo.

"I want my name to go down in international boxing history, and to change Japan's boxing history," the overwhelming difference in unbeaten star said at a press conference to announce the showdown.

"Paul Butler is an extremely well-rounded fighter, with no obvious weak points," Inoue said. "In the fight, I want to weaken him little by little with my boxing, before taking him down.

"I will demonstrate the



strength between us, and unify the four organisations." A victory would make Inoue the first undisputed world champion from Asia and

only the ninth since the fourbelt era began in 2004. Earlier this year, Inoue

became the first Japanese fighter to top Ring Magazine's prestigious pound-

for-pound rankings as the turns 35. "I've always said I best fighter across all weight divisions, before dropping to second behind heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk. Inoue repeated his aim to move up from bantam-

weight (118lb, 53.5kg) to belts. He has said previous-

super-bantamweight (122lb, 55kg) after he unifies the

my career in bantamweight and the start of super-bantamweight," Inoue said. "This is not the goal. It is

only a passing point. I am still trying to aim higher. This will be a fight for me to bring ly that he will retire when he my career to a higher level."

want to fight to unify the four

championship belts. This

will be the final chapter of

Sri Lanka defeat Pakistan by one run

SYLHET: Sri Lanka defeat Pakistan by one run in a tense Women's Asia Cup 2020 in the last-over thriller of the semi-final in Sylhet on Thursday.

The Islanders had set a 122-run target for the Bismah Maroofled side after opting to bat first.

Achini Kulasuriya defended nine runs in the last over to help Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by a run in the last over thriller.

Kulasuriya was handed the ball in the last over when Pakistan needed nine runs with in-form Nida Dar and Aliya Riaz at the crease. Kulasuriya conceded just seven runs to lead Sri Lanka to victory.

Set to chase 123 runs, Pakistan's openers provided a quick start by scoring 31 runs in three overs. Muneeba scored 18 runs off 10 balls in 31-runs opening partnership.

Bismah Maroof rescued Pakistan after a couple of wickets fell quickly. She scored 42 off 41 balls laced with four boundaries.

Nida Dar stayed till the last but her run-a-ball 26 didn't help Pakistan complete the run-chase. Inoka Ranaweera bagged two wickets while Sugandika Kumari and Kavisha Dilhari bagged a wicket each.

Salah scores fastest UCL hat-trick

the mood around Liverpool had been lifted after Mohamed Salah came off the bench to score the fastest hat-trick in Champions League history in a 7-1 demolition of Rangers at Ibrox on Wednesday.

The Reds had won just four of their first 11 games of the season and fell behind for the eighth time this campaign when Scott Arfield fired the Glasgow giants into an early lead.

But Rangers are being schooled on their return to the Champions League for the first time in 12 years as they crumbled to a record-equalling European defeat in the second half.

The Glasgow giants remain without a point and have conced-

GLASGOW: Jurgen Klopp said ed 16 goals in four games. "The to beat the previous record held first half and the last half an hour was night and day," said Van Bronckhorst. "I cannot explain it. "The performance was not the way we

want to represent this club." Roberto Firmino's double either side of half-time turned the game around before the Brazilian teed up Darwin Nunez to kill off the contest.

Klopp had left Salah, Thiago Alcantara and Diogo Jota on the bench with one eye on Sunday's clash against Manchester City in the Premier League. But they were brought on in the final quarter and Salah did not miss the chance to cash in against a belea-

guered Rangers defence. The Egyptian's treble arrived in just six minutes and 12 seconds

by Bafetimbi Gomis in Lyon's 7-1

win over Dinamo Zagreb in 2011. "It changes the mood definitely, and that's good," said Klopp. We all know who is coming on Sunday. That will be different, but it's better to go in with the feeling

from tonight. "When we play to our potential we're a pretty good football team. That's what we showed tonight." Harvey Elliott rounded off the scoring on a sobering night for a Rangers side that only months ago reached the Europa League final.

A draw in Amsterdam will suffice for Liverpool to reach the last 16 when they face Ajax in two weeks' time. But Napoli remain out in front in Group A after a 4-2

win over Ajax sealed their place in the knockout stages.

Klopp's team selection was partly a reaction to losing Trent Alexander-Arnold, Joel Matip and Luis Diaz to injury in a 3-2 defeat by Arsenal on Sunday that left the Reds already 14 points adrift of the Premier League leaders.

The visitors have made a habit of slow starts this season and were caught cold again when Arfield's run was not tracked from midfield and the former Canadian international produced a brilliant finish to find the bottom corner.

Fortunately for last season's Champions League finalists, Rangers' own defensive frailties were exposed for the equaliser on 24 minutes. Not for the first



time this season, Giovanni van Bronckhorst's men were guilty of soft defending from a set-piece as Firmino was given the simple task of nodding in Kostas Tsimikas' corner.

Liverpool clicked through the gears after the break with Firmino

again doing no harm to his case to be handed a contract beyond the

end of this season. Firmino stroked home his eighth of the season from Joe Gomez's fine low cross and then teed up Nunez as the Uruguayan the linesman's initial decision to

grabbed another much-needed rule the goal out for offside.

score down as Liverpool won the first meeting between the sides 2-0 at Anfield last week. But McGregor's age showed as Salah came off the bench to end his goal

Rangers' 40-year-old goalkeep-

er performed heroics to keep the

Allan McGregor.

drought from open play in style. Salah fired in from a narrow angle before catching out McGregor on his near post and then completed his hat-trick with a sumptuous finish on his left foot. The pain was not over there for Rangers as Elliott swept home the rebound after McGregor denied Jota and a VAR review overturned