



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
رسول اللہ ﷺ نے فرمایا: قیامت کے دن سب سے پہلے بندے سے جن نعمتوں کے بارے میں سوال کیا جائے گا وہ یہ ہیں: (1) اس سے کہا جائے گا: کیا تم نے تمہارے لیے تمہارے جسم کو تندرست اور خشک خاک نہ رکھا اور تم تمہیں غسل دیا پانی نہیں پلا تے رہے؟

بarkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

UN Chief slams firing at Imran Khan

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has condemned "in the strongest terms" the firing at the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman, Imran Khan, at a political rally in Gujranwala, and called for a transparent investigation into the incident.

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Fawad says Long March to continue until announcement of general elections

Central leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chaudhary Fawad Hussain on Thursday said that long march would continue until the announcement of general elections. In a tweet related to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's Chairman Imran Khan well-being, Fawad apprised that the PTI chief was being treated in the operation theatre.

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A lot of Watermelons

WAZIRABAD: Former PM Imran Khan minutes before the attack at Wazirabad in Gujranwala district



Imran Khan shot during Azadi March at Wazirabad, one killed, many injured

President, Prime Minister strongly condemn the firing on Imran Khan

Bureau Report/ Correspondent

LAHORE/WAZIRABAD :Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan and several party members were injured while a PTI activist was killed in firing incident at Imran Khan's container during his "Azadi March" in Wazirabad, on Thursday.

Talking to the media here, Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab on Home and Information Omer Sarfraz Cheema said that an accused opened fire at PTI Chief Imran Khan's container near Allah Wala Chowk, Wazirabad when the march was on its way to Islamabad, injuring Imran Khan and six PTI members including Senator Faisal Javed, Umar Dar, Ahmad Chatha and others, besides killing one, Moazam.

He said that after the incident, PTI Chief Imran Khan was shifted to a hospital, where he was undergoing medical treatment, adding that Imran Khan's health was stable but a medical board led by senior doctors was examining the injuries.

To a question, he said that foolproof security arrangements including layer system were in place to provide security to the PTI's long march, adding that investigation pertaining to this incident was in progress. One suspect involved in the firing incident has been arrested, he added.

Further investigation is yet underway. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday strongly condemned the firing at Imran Khan in Gujranwala and assured support to Punjab government on investigation and security.

"I condemn the incident of firing on PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the strongest words," he said in a series of tweets. He prayed for the recovery and health



of PTI chairman and other injured people. President Dr Arif Alvi also strongly condemned the "heinous assassination attempt" on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan, calling it "alarming and disgraceful."

"The blatant day-time attack on Mr Imran Khan, ex-Prime Minister and Chairman of one of the largest political parties of Pakistan, is highly alarming, worrying and condemnable act," the president said in a statement issued by the President House.

He prayed for the recovery and health

"Heinous assassination attempt on the brave Imran Khan. I thank Allah that he is safe but injured with few bullets in his leg and hopefully non-critical," the president tweeted.

Also terming the attack "shocking, deceitful and cowardly", the president expressed the concern that such flagrant incidents would further aggravate the existing political polarization and would harm the country.

IN BOX of lead story with killer picture A police video later showed the attacker, who was overpowered and arrested, saying he was not backed by anyone. "I wanted to kill Imran Khan as he's been misleading the people," he said on camera. There were unconfirmed reports of another gunman, with an automatic rifle, at the spot.

The attacker, a young man, fired pistol shots from below at Imran Khan as he stood atop a container-truck, which serves as the centrepiece of his 'Haqqeeqi Azadi' (True Freedom) March against the Shehbaz Sharif government.

"I shot #ImranKhan because he was misleading the people... I operated alone": #ImranKhan shooter in video released by police https://t.co/fqgaudihVpic.twitter.com/oa4RqCs7z

Mariyum says firing at Imran Khan should not be politicized

Demands thorough probe into incident

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb on Thursday condemned firing at Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan in Gujranwala and demanded a thorough investigation into the incident.

"The incident is very unfortunate and condemnable. It should not be politicized and speculations on the incident must be avoided," she said in a news statement.

Mariyum said the Punjab police as well as administration and other relevant departments should bring forth the facts after investigating the incident which occurred within the jurisdiction of Punjab government.

She said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had sought preliminary report on the matter, while Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah was in constant contact with the Inspector General and Chief Secretary Punjab.

The minister said the federal government would extend all-out cooperation to the Punjab Government in this regard.

"We are waiting for the



report of Punjab government over the incident," she added.

She advised the media to avoid speculation on the incident which was sensitive in nature. Speculations on such matter might lead to violence, she added.

The media was needed to act in responsible way and should only publish those facts which were shared by the provincial government and Punjab police, she stressed, adding verified information would be shared with media as soon as it was received.

Mariyum also prayed for early recovery of Senator Faisal Javed who also got injured during the incident. APP/PID

CJP visits LJCP for official launching of documentary 'Adlia Ka Safar-75 Saal'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Umar Ata Bandial visited the Secretariat of Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan (LJCP) to chair the official Launching Ceremony of the Documentary, 'Adlia Ka Safar-75 Saal.' The documentary was prepared for the 9th International Judicial Conference recently held in September 2022.

The Chief Justice was accompanied by his colleague Judges, Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, and Justice Ayesha A. Malik who supervised the activities of the Conference as Members of the Organizing Committee. On this occasion,

the Chief Justice of Pakistan appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat of LJCP the Pakistan Television (PTV) team for coming up with such a wonderful documentary that covers the judicial history of 75 years since the independence of Pakistan.

The Chief Justice also expressed his hope that the PTV would continue to support the LJCP Secretariat in other similar efforts to create awareness amongst the general public about the Constitution, laws and access to justice. The Chief Justice of Pakistan also applauded the LJCP team for organizing a successful conference and hoped that the Secretariat would continue to organize such events with equal spirit, dedication and commitment.

ISPR condemns firing incident during PTI's long march

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Thursday condemned the firing incident during Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) long march in Wazirabad.

The ISPR issued a condemnation on the firing incident. "Firing incident during Long March near Gujranwala is highly condemnable," the ISPR said.

"Sincere prayers for speedy recovery and well-being of Chairman PTI Imran Khan and all those injured in this unfortunate incident," it said.

Women play vital role in country's development: Ahsan Iqbal

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal said that women play a vital role in the development of any country and the development process remains slow where women are not given equal opportunities.

The Minister made these remarks while addressing at 19th Inter-Provincial Ministerial Group (IPMG) meeting organized by the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in collaboration with UN Women, and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) of the US Department of State, said a press release issued here.

Speaking at the occasion, the minister said that Islam has given equal rights to women but unfortunately, these rights were misinterpreted.

Ahsan Iqbal said the Planning Commission has established

a Gender Unit in the ministry in which all development projects would be planned according to principles of gender responsiveness so that the projects should not be approved without ensuring the interests of the women.

According to the minister, in vision 2025 several projects were added to empower women. Similarly, in recent floods, several initiatives were taken during their rehabilitation.

The planning minister assured the NCSW to entertain their recommendations in order to implement them.

The objective of the 19th IPMG meeting was to understand the data architecture at the national and provincial levels and finalize the data collection mechanisms for the National Gender Data Portal (NGDP).

While welcoming the participants, Chairperson, NCSW Nilo-

far Bakhtiar said, "The Global Gender Gap Report states Pakistan has closed the gender gap by 56.4% but still ranks us at second lowest from the bottom. It is important to know our ground reality to form law, legislation, and quotas to bring change."

The NGDP was developed in 2021 to collect high-quality data and evidence on gender statistics from across Pakistan.

The Country Representative, UN Women Pakistan Country Office, Sharmeela Rassool emphasized the importance of credible data for the development of the country and for gender equality and said, "IPMG is an innovative platform for identifying solutions that are tailor-made for Pakistan. NGDP is one such example of such solution. Data is important as it helps in identifying gaps in the policy along with helping officials to make informed decisions." PID

Centre demands Punjab Govt to constitute JIT to probe attack on IK



ISLAMABAD: The Federal Government Thursday demanded the Punjab government to constitute a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) comprising senior officers to investigate the attack on Imran Khan's container in fair, free and credible manner.

Addressing a press conference alongside Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah said that the entire government and its allies had condemned the firing incident.

Imran Khan's condition is stable: Dr Faisal Sultan



LAHORE :Doctor Faisal Sultan said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan was admitted to Shaukat Khanum Hospital for medical treatment after being injured in a firing incident during PTI's long march in Wazirabad, on Thursday.

Talking to media here, Dr Faisal Sultan, head of medical team constituted for treatment of Imran Khan, said the PTI chief's condition was stable, adding that his blood pressure and other vital signs

were normal.

He said that Imran Khan went through emergency evaluation which included x-rays and scans, adding that some fragments of bullet were present in his legs and 'tibia' bone of one leg was slightly chipped from right side.

He further told that Imran Khan had been taken to operation theater where his detailed evaluation would be carried out. Dr Faisal said that after detailed evaluation, Imran Khan would be given surgical treatment for chipped tibia bone and removal of bullet fragments.

To a question, he said that another two injured were also shifted to the Shaukat Khanum Hospital and they were being given medical treatment. He said that a detailed statement about Imran Khan's condition would be issued later. APP

Protest

LAHORE: PTI Supporters chant slogans as they block a road during a protest to condemn a shooting incident on Imran Khan's convoy, at Liberty Chowk in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Symposium held to foster understanding of key CPC congress

BELJING: Diplomatic envoys to China, think tank experts and journalists from nearly 80 countries exchanged their views on the guiding principles of the recently concluded 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at a forum on Wednesday.

The symposium titled "Hong Ting Forum: Understanding the 20th CPC National Congress" was jointly hosted by the Institute of Party History and Literature of the CPC Central Committee and Xinhua News Agency at the Museum of the Communist Party of China in Beijing.

Speaking at the forum, Qu Qingshan, president of the Institute of Party History and Literature of the CPC Central Committee, said the pivotal CPC congress reviewed the work of the past five years and the great transformations seen



in the first decade of the new era, laid out the Party's missions and tasks on its new journey of the new era, and outlined the development goals and major policies of the Party and the country for the next five years and beyond.

Think tank exchanges are important because they provide a platform for the international community to comprehend

the new concepts, domains and expressions pertaining to the CPC's history and theories, thereby paving the way to gain a deeper understanding of China, its people and the Party, said Qu, who is also chairman of the National High-Level Think Tank Council of the institute.

Fu Hua, president of Xinhua News Agency, shared his insights on the milestone

CPC congress. The report to the 20th CPC National Congress is a political declaration and a program of action for the Party to bring together the Chinese people of all ethnic groups and lead them in securing new success for socialism with Chinese characteristics, Fu said when addressing the forum, adding that the report serves as a window for the world to understand China.

To comprehend the 20th CPC National Congress, it is imperative to gain a profound understanding of the Party's new theories, its distinctive character featuring self-confidence and self-reliance, as well as the global vision the CPC has maintained, said Fu, who is also director of the Academic Committee of New China Research of Xinhua News Agency.

The agency will continue to boost its global communica-

tion capabilities, better convey the stories of China, the CPC and the new era, and serve as a bridge connecting China and the rest of the world, Fu said.

The opening of the forum was presided over by Lyu Yansong, editor-in-chief of Xinhua News Agency and deputy director of the Academic Committee of New China Research.

Other participants also exchanged their insightful perspectives both online and offline on topics covering the key role of the Party, Chinese modernization and China's fine traditional culture.

A symposium titled "Hong Ting Forum: Understanding the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China" is held at the Museum of the Communist Party of China in Beijing, capital of China, Nov. 2, 2022. (Xinhua/Xing Guangli)

China attaches great importance to PM Shehbaz Sharif's visit

BELJING: Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian Thursday said that China attached great importance to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's two-day official visit to Beijing.

China attaches great importance to it and gives high-level reception," he made these remarks in response to a question asked by APP regarding the visit.

Zhao Lijian said that Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was invited to pay an official visit to China from November 1 to 2.

This visit was Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's first visit to China since he took office.

"It is also the first foreign head of government to visit China after the 20th National

Congress of the Communist Party of China," he added.

He said during the visit, President Xi Jinping held a meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and held a welcome banquet for him.

Chinese Premier, Li Keqiang held a welcoming ceremony and talks for Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif while Chairman, National Peoples Congress (NPC) Li Zhanshu also held a meeting with the distinguished guest.

The spokesperson said that President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for the second time in less than two months, providing strategic guidance for the development of China-Pakistan relations in the next stage, fully reflecting the

particularity and high level of China-Pakistan cooperative strategic partnership.

"President Xi Jinping introduced the important achievements of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, pointing out that China will continue to adhere to the basic national policy of opening up to the outside world and continue to provide new opportunities for all countries in the world, including Pakistan, with China's new development," he added.

He said that on behalf of the Pakistani government and people, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif once again warmly congratulated President Xi Jinping on his re-election as General Secre-

tary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

"He believes that President Xi Jinping's vision will not only continue to lead China to create more brilliant achievements, but also lead the world to a brighter future," the spokesperson added.

Zhao Lijian said that the leaders of the two countries had an in-depth exchange of views on China-Pakistan relations and the international and regional situation.

"The two sides agreed that China and Pakistan are good friends, good partners and good brothers, and the friendship between China and Pakistan has been tested and unbreakable. In the face

of endless global challenges, the cooperative strategic partnership between China and Pakistan is of great significance," he added.

He said that the two sides reaffirmed their firm mutual support on issues involving each other's core interests, and will work together to deal with the chaos and accelerate the construction of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era," he added.

He said that the two sides agreed to deepen strategic docking, share development opportunities, promote the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor more efficiently, and create a "Belt and Road" demonstration project.

Fazl condemns firing incidents on PTI rally

ISLAMABAD: Jami- at Ulema Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Faz-ur-Rehman on Thursday condemned the tragic incident of firing on the rally of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf in Wazirabad.

Maulana Fazl who is also the head of Pakistan Democratic Movement said this incident had left a big question mark on the performance of Punjab government related to the law and order situation in the province.

He also prayed for early recovery of the injured.

Moonis Elahi challenges NAB inquiry in LHC

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) leader Moonis Elahi on Thursday challenged a NAB inquiry and the investigation into a family-owned company's assets in Lahore High Court. A two-member bench comprising Justice Ali Baqer Najafi and Justice Asjad Javed Gharal will hear Moonis Elahi's plea today (Thursday).

Advocate Amjad Pervez will appear before the court on behalf of the petitioner. As per details, the petitioner has requested the court to declare NAB's October 20th notice null and void. The court has also been requested to order NAB to halt any kind of illegal action. As per the petition, Chairman NAB, DG NAB



and others have been made respondents. The petitioner said, "NAB initiated an inquiry against Elahi's family in 2000 due to political grudges."

"Even after 20 years of

investigation, NAB could not find any evidence against any member of his family," he added. The petitioner adopted that NAB closed the investigation following a chal-

lenge before the Lahore High Court. FIA has registered a case against him and others by alleging assets of Hayat Khan Private Limited, as stated by the petitioner. The petitioner also stated that NAB has already investigated these assets and there is no point to summon Elahi for this case. As per details, NAB has issued call up notice to Company Secretary and launched a re-inquiry against the assets of Elahi family's company. The court ordered to suspend the notices issued by NAB, pleaded the petitioner. The court should also order NAB to refrain from taking any adverse action against them, the petitioner further pleaded.

UNHC/RC accompanied by UNOCHA Representative pays call-on Chairman NDMA Islamabad

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Humanitarian & Resident Coordinator, Mr. Julien Harnais made his welcome call-on Chairman NDMA, Lt. General Inam Haider Malik in his office at PM Office this morning. Head of the United Nations' Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), Mr Felix also accompanied the visitor. During the meeting, the aspects related to ongoing humanitarian assistance to the climate change induced floods in affected areas of Pakistan were discussed at length.

The magnified scope of shared efforts contributed through generous participation of global partners and donor agencies was appreciated by Chairman NDMA. The potential of work in areas of pre-disaster preparedness was discussed for

mutual undertakings and Chairman NDMA stressed this aspect to be lead subject of global focus. He reiterated the need to explicitly advance pre disaster preparedness at all upcoming UN and global initiatives, dialogue forums and meetings of think tanks.

Mr. Julien Harnais acknowledged the great and successful initiation of timely humanitarian relief by Government of Pakistan, various agencies and volunteers on ground. He raised certain improvement areas especially in the domain of resettlement plans, being finalized by federal and provincial levels. It was mutually agreed that the first response tier remain District level Disaster Management Response Regime. Chairman NDMA also indicated areas of greater participation through virtually linked early warning systems for maximized climate induced threat spectrum.

Long March to continue until announcement of general elections: Fawad



ISLAMABAD :Central leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chaudhary Fawad Hussain on Thursday said that long march will continue until the announcement of general elections.

In a tweet related to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's Chairman Imran Khan well-being, Fawad apprised that the PTI chief was being treated in the operation theatre.

"Imran Khan is in the operation theatre, May Allah protect him," he said.

He also said a meeting of PTI's senior leadership has been convened on Friday (tomorrow) in Lahore.

Meanwhile, Secretary General PTI Asad Umar in a video message said that Dr Faisal Sultan apprised him about the well being of Imran, adding that the latter's condition was stable and there was no danger to his life.

He said that Imran sustained bullet wounds at lower part of his leg.

Asad Umar said the CT scan of PTI chief had also been carried out.

Meanwhile, PTI workers and leaders condemned the firing incident at PTI's long march in Wazirabad.

They asked for independent and transparent investigation into the incident, seeking stern action against the culprits. APP

UN Chief slams firing at Imran Khan, calls for bringing perpetrators to justice



UNITED NATIONS: United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has condemned "in the strongest terms" the firing at the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman, Imran Khan, at a political rally in Gujranwala, and called for a transparent investigation into the incident.

"The Secretary-General is concerned about reports that former Prime Minister Imran Khan of Pakistan and several other people were wounded today during a rally," his spokesman Stephane Dujarric said in response to a question at the regular

noon briefing in New York on Thursday.

"He (UN chief) condemns in the strongest terms any violence against politicians and their supporters," the spokesman said.

"The Secretary-General wishes Mr. Khan and others injured a full recovery and calls for a full investigation into this violence and for bringing to justice the perpetrators," he said.

"We very much hope that this (incident) will not create further challenges to the political situation in Pakistan," the spokesman added.

NA speaker adjourns session due to lack of quorum

ISLAMABAD :National Assembly (NA) Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf on Thursday adjourned the session of the house till Friday, 1100 hours, as the house was not in order.

During the day proceedings, MNA Ghous Bukhsh Mahar pointed out the lack of quorum and after a headcount, the business of the house was

suspended.

Before taking up the business of the house, the NA speaker asked the Maulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali to offer Fateha for the departed soul of MNA Mussarat Rafique Mahesar's brother and those who had lost their lives in various incidents in the country.

Hefazat Technologies partners with Pak-Qatar Takaful and Salaam Takaful for customer purchase protection

Bureau Report

KARACHI : Insurance is a mechanism that can facilitate social mobility by allowing individuals and families to overcome shocks that can affect their wealth and future income-generating capacities.

The possibility of accessing insurance products and services may be the difference between individuals or families achieving the goal of social mobility or remaining in a situation of economic vulnerability.

According to damage estimations by Karandaaz chief risk officer Ammar Habib Khan and The Asia Group vice president Uzair Younus, Pakistan experienced \$13 billion in economic loss and infrastructure damage due to the floods. Without financial inclusion tools such as insurance, Pakistani citizens bore the consequences of the floods.

To help every Pakistani benefit from the social mobility benefits of insurance, Pak-Qatar General Takaful Limited and Salaam Takaful Limited recently partnered with insurance technology (InsurTech) market leader Hefazat



Technologies to introduce new products to give customers more flexibility in acquiring Takaful to protect their purchases.

Hefazat Technologies offers purchase protection, an extended warranty at the point of eCommerce checkout, and an

income continuation plan. The business is launching in Pakistan in mid-November amid a rise in mobile snatching, according to several hundred reported incidents on the VoC group on Facebook.

"It is great to have partners that

share a common goal and vision," said Ali Rehman, a founding team member at Hefazat Technologies. "Our desire to digitize Takaful and enable it in the consumers' lives in a convenience-driven way is shared by the leadership at Pak Qatar. We look forward to building more innovative solutions with the team's continued support at Pak Qatar to add value to the lives of consumers across Pakistan."

Hefazat Technologies was founded by Kash Rehman, an American business magnate that has long supported the Pakistan start-up ecosystem. His notable investments include Lettus Kitchens, RoomShare, and Foodem.

Hefazat Technologies has recently onboarded several founding team members, including Danish Ahmed as the chief technology officer and Saeed Ansari as the head of strategic partnerships and alliances. Ahmed has over 17 years of experience with big names such as K-Electric, Telenor Microfinance Bank Limited, TPL Rupiya, and Meezan Bank. Ansari has a decade of experience across Alibaba-owned Daraz, Kaymu, ECOM, and Sheep.

145th birth Anniversary of H.H Sultan Muhammad Shah Agha Khan 3rd

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi and Burushaski Research Academy organized a grand ceremony in connection with the 145th birth anniversary of His Highness Sultan Muhammad Shah Agha Khan 3rd at Auditorium II. Among the speakers, Chief Guest Commissioner Karachi Mohammad Iqbal Memon, Secretary Arts Council Ejaz Farooqui, Lecturer Pakistan Studies, Urdu University, Syed Minhaj Mousavi, Director Clinical Science Division Hamdard Laboratories Dr. Hanan (Alig), Chairperson Department of Urdu, University of Karachi Dr. Uzma Farman, Advisor Burushaski.

Research Academy Shahnaz Hanzai, Mushir Burushaski Research Academy and Assistant Professor Aga Khan Dr. Rubina Baro-



lia and Fida-e-muk were also present on the occasion, the Ismaili community also participated in large numbers. Commissioner Karachi Muhammad Iqbal Memon said that His Highness Sultan Muhammad Shah understood the importance of education from the first day.

Gave awareness not only for male but also for female education, apart from rendering great services for the prosper-

ity of the Indian subcontinent, he also played an important role in world politics and advocated the rights of the Muslims of the subcontinent at a high level.

His Highness Sultan is the first imam who has dedicated all his resources for the welfare of the community and a leader is one who thinks ahead, Arts Council Secretary Ejaz Farooqui said that His Highness Sultan Muhammad Shah. He has rendered

unparalleled services for the education and development of Ummah, he has done a great favor to Pakistan, he said that such events should be organized so that people can get awareness about their struggle.

We should pray for such personalities. Syed Minhaj Mousavi said that His Highness Sultan Muhammad Shah was the leader of the first page and a tall figure. We can see the influence of his personality in the subcontinent of Pakistan.

He entertained himself. Fida-e-muk said that the Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi is a leading institution which is in the forefront for the promotion of knowledge and literature. A bouquet was presented along with traditional gifts and a cake was also cut. In the end, Daoodi Band gave an excellent performance on regional tunes

Spotify supports Hasnain Raza & Hani Taha's 'Na Mukammal' as title sponsor

Amjad Naseem

ISLAMABAD : Stepping into the world of theater, Spotify, the world's most popular audio streaming platform, is partnering with the critically acclaimed play Na Mukammal as the title sponsor. The much anticipated play returns with more shows to be held this month in Karachi, Lahore and Dubai.

An original comedy drama centered around music, Na Mukammal is written and directed by Hasnain Raza who is possibly the youngest and the first to have penned an original play in over 5 years in Pakistan. The musical drama uniquely showcases two stories that run parallel and explores identifiable universal themes of love, loss and longing set against the 70s and 90s where music unites the characters and stitches the story together.

"I wrote this play only so I could play

all my favorite songs in a large theater hall. When I penned it, I didn't have any grand ideas for the story, just my love for classical jazz. My friends hated my playlist so I wrote this play, casted them [for the initial run] and made them fall in love with the music," said Hasnain Raza, writer and director of Na Mukammal.

The play is produced by award winning documentarian turned actor Hani Taha under her banner Hangami Productions that produces only original theatrical content. Hani is possibly Pakistan's only professionally trained female actor and producer actively doing theater in the country. Na Mukammal's November run is her third production this year.

"When I first saw Na Mukammal staged, I was blown away by its use of music, live rain, exquisite lights and a story so fresh and impactful that we had never seen in Pakistan. In over 5

years something original was put out and I instantly knew that this was a project that needed to be shown across the world as an emblem of our culture," said producer Hani Taha on why she chose to bank on Na Mukammal.

"Music and art go hand in hand, and we are excited about our collaboration with Na Mukammal, where music is playing the central character and is pushing the story forward," said Talha Hashim, Spotify's Marketing Manager for Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

After its shows in Karachi starting from November 04-06, at the Arts Council, the play will travel to Lahore to the Al Hamra from November 25-27, and then to Dubai on January 06-08. Na Mukammal will be the first Pakistani production to be staged at the prestigious Alserkal Avenue in Dubai, and the only second production to ever go to Dubai from Pakistan.

Call to improve regulatory environment for strengthening social delivery bodies

ISLAMABAD : Annelotte Walsh, the Director Research, Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society (CAPS), has said that ability of Social Delivery Organization (SDOs) to receive fundings is marred by recent controversies and burdensome regulatory environment in Pakistan, as there exists a lack of trust among donors, non-governmental organizations, and government.

She was speaking at the launch of a report titled: The Doing Good Index 2022: Assessing the health and well-being of Asia's social sector, organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) and Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society (CAPS) here.

She said 75% SDOs find registration and certification process complicated while 28% reported difficul-

ties in recruiting and retaining staff, compared to the Asian average of 55%. She added that 53% SDOs witnessed increase in demand for their services and faced decrease in their fundings.

She further said the study exposes underlying structural conditions preventing the region's social sector from thriving and identifies opportunities for government, companies, philanthropists, and SDOs to tap resources and work together to cope with social and environmental challenges.

She recommended improving regulations and holding accountability of SDOs to mitigate lack of trust among stakeholders. She also suggested improving and simplifying registration process while making it less time consuming.

Dr Sajid Amin, Deputy Executive Director, SDPI said that the report is

data-rich on conduciveness of national environment for philanthropy and presents an in-depth cross-national analysis. He appreciated the role of PCP for providing a thrust to civil society and charity organizations. He said that COVID-19 provided a much-needed impetus to philanthropy and private charity was first to provide relief to most vulnerable segments and was higher and more effective than fiscal stimulus by the government.

Shazia Maqsood, Executive Director, PCP said that the data collected for this report revealed that an enabling environment can be pegged with economic development and prosperity, as we see in the case of Singapore and Taiwan. She said that it was proved during COVID-19 and recent floods that "a quick start of relief efforts is effective through NPOs, and delivery could be seen reaching at grass roots

level". She urged the government to make regulatory procedures swift and flexible so that the NPOs might perform effective and smooth operations.

Ali Kemal, Chief of Federal SDG Support Unit, Ministry of Planning Development and Reforms, stressed the need for rationalizing regulations. He said that Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) had identified out-of-school children; baseline data is available and now implementation is required. He said the key issue in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is coordination among stakeholders.

Naveed Mukhtar, a senior official of Federal Bureau of Revenue, apprised the audience about the conditions which enable NPOs to avail tax incentives and tax exemptions in various operations.

Students' Delegation from Saudi School, Islamabad Visits IIUI



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: A group of 24 Students delegation from Saudi School, Islamabad visited International Islamic University Islamabad on Thursday.

The Students delegation was headed by Mr. Yahya Bajvi. On this occasion the student delegation visited Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Basic Science (SA-CIRBS), Faculty of Basic and Applied Sciences (FBAS), International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI) and labs of Faculty of Engineering and Technology, FET, IIUI. Mr. Zahid Abdul Shahid, translator from Protocol & Public Relations Section accompanied the Saudi students delegation.

The objective of the visit was to inform the students about the available scientific laboratories at university. During the visit of science laboratories Mr. Shoaib Aalam and Mr. Amjad briefed the delegation comprehensively.

Earlier Abdullah Jazi Aldosry, Director (Liaison) at Office of the President, International Islamic University, welcomed the delegation at Administration Block and briefed the students about the ongoing activities at campus and vision of the President.

Mohsin Abbas Haider to Star in Upcoming Web Series 'Sevak - The Confessions'

News Desk

KARACHI: The Past never remains in the past. Its tentacles may be found in the present and Vidly.tv is all set to expose them.

Vidly.tv announces Sevak - The Confessions, an original action thriller web series inspired by true stories which can be streamed via the Vidly.tv app (iOS, Android, Apple TV) and on the web at <https://sevak.vidly.tv>.

Vidly, a global OTT platform, hails the series as an anthology of intrigue and nail-biting suspense. Brought to life by the amazing partnership of writer, Sajjad Gul and director, Anjum Shahzad, the series stars Mohsin Abbas, Hajra Yamin, Nazarul Hassan, Nayyer Ejaz, Adnan Jaffar and Amara Malik.

Sevak follows a journalist on the run with her informant as she investigates treacherous crimes. Caught in a web of deep subterfuge, they move from clue to clue, finding themselves in the midst of real terror events as they unravel.

Three tracks and eight scintillating stories intertwined with murder, mystery and espionage, Sevak is based on the ever-present and often potent forces of evil that lurk in society.

Sevak tears down the imposing walls of a traditional thriller and enters the realm of a biopic action thriller. Screen-stealing performances from its main ensemble will keep viewer shocked. The series takes a bold visual approach, building nerve-wracking tension as the fates of several characters hang in the balance.

This eloquently stylized espionage thriller draws on a strong plot and an uber talented cast to deliver a historical action series the likes of which has never been seen before. It explores and reveals the true antagonists behind past events of deceit, terror and crime, and leaves the audience wanting to know the full story.



Wana: arranged the annual result function at Al-Qadir Public School Tanai



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Lower Waziristan Wana Annual Result Ceremony was organized at Al-Qadir Public School Tanai in Tanai area.

Adam Khan Wazir was the chief guest of the program On this occasion Senior Journalist Noor Ali and VC, Chairman Saif Ur Rehman were also present.

On this occasion, Principal Al-Qadir Public School Tanai Shah Hussain Wazir, local dignitaries and students participated in large numbers.

The chief guest and local dignitaries distributed prizes among the position holders of the school, the first position holder in the school was Haroon father Qasim class 7th and Muneeb father Amanullah class 5th, 2nd posit Zohaib Father Ajab Noor class 5th, Suhail father Pir Mohd 6th class got the third position.

Addressing the annual event, the speakers emphasized on the parents and said that their participation in

the program should be mandatory to encourage the children

The speakers said that innovation in education is inevitable keeping in mind the requirements of the modern era.

The speakers highlighted the head of the school and said that Principal Shah Hussain brought new life to the education sector of a backward area like Tanai by facing very difficult conditions

The speakers said that according to our information, around 130 children are getting education in this private educational institution for a very low fees.

The speakers also said that we pay tribute to the Principal of Al-Qadir Public School Tanai and he really deserves praise and at the same time congratulate him for making agriculture a compulsory subject in the school.

In the background, they have recommended the generalization of education in the area.



Islamabad
23° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:04 am
Zohr 11:51 am
Asr 3:36 pm
Maghrib 5:14 pm
Isha 6:38 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

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
Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

First winter rain with snowfall expected in country from weekend

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) Thursday indicated chances of first winter rain with snowfall in the country from the weekend.

A westerly wave is likely to enter the country on November 4 evening or night and likely to persist November 7.

Under the influence of this weather system, rain-wind/thunderstorm as well as snowfall over the mountains with isolated hail storms are expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla, Buner, Manshera, Abbottabad, Haripur, Malakand, Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan from November 4 to 7 while in Bajaur, Peshawar, Mardan, Charsadda, Swabi, Nowshera, Kurram, Kohat, Waziristan, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sheikhpura, Mianwali, Khushab, Sargodha, Hafizabad, Mandi Bahauddin, Jhang and Faisalabad from November 5 to 7.

President stresses avoiding use of digital media as tool of misinformation, propaganda

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi on Thursday stressed the need for preventing the use of digital platforms as tools of disinformation, misinformation and propaganda and instead using them for the society's good.

Addressing the participants of National Security and War Course (NSWC-23) at the National Defence University (NDU), the president mentioned the misuse of communication technology in many countries with an objective to spread fake information.

The president urged the NSWC-23 participants to keep themselves abreast with latest developments particularly advancement in information technology, artificial intelligence and communications.

President Alvi dilated upon issues concerning national security. He emphasized that "as a nation, we should shield our social and cultural values".



He called upon the course participants to work hard for a peaceful and prosperous Pakistan.

The president lauded NDU for imparting quality training to future leadership in line with future challenges.

Celebrations

ISLAMABAD: Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, Ambassador of Algeria to Pakistan Brahim Romani and others cutting the cake during 68th Anniversary of the National Day of the Peoples Democratic Republic of the Algeria at local hotel in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

The Millennium Education Groups signs MoU with ICCI

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : The Millennium Education Group, Pakistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding MoU with Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) with the objective to promote industry-academia linkages, corporate collaboration, and professional development on last day says a press release.

Both the organizations mutually agreed to enhance cooperation in many areas including offering privileged discounts, arranging internships, orientations on entrepreneurship, trainings and giving practical exposure of theoretical knowledge. The meeting was chaired by President ICCI, Mr. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari and Dr. Faisal Mushtaq, Founder and CEO The Millennium Education Group, Ms. Sabina Zakir, Director Communications, Community and Outreach, and their



team members.

Through this MoU, The Millennium Education Group has offered customized 'privileged' charges for the esteemed employees and members of Islamabad Chambers of Commerce & Industry for all their brands, including Roots Millennium Schools (RMS), Millennium Colleges, Future World Schools & Colleges (FWS&C), The Little Millennium and The Millennium Universal Colleges (TMUC), Pakistan. Moreover, ICCI will collaborate with TME Group

for planning and executing joint events, symposiums, knowledge and research sessions, workshops, and seminars i.e., career and Job Fairs, counselling and mentorship sessions, inspirational talks as well as Internship opportunities for the high achievers of The Millennium Education at ICCI.

Speaking on the occasion, Founder & CEO The Millennium Education (TME) Dr. Faisal Mushtaq TI shared TME's 35 years legacy of academic excellence and holistic learning. He explained his vision that where

he sees TME in the future and how this collaboration will open new doors of opportunities for both the parties. He further elaborated on how The Millennium Education Group has gained recognition for providing quality education at the national as well as international level.

President ICCI, Mr. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari appreciated TME's initiative of Corporate Employee Education Benefit Programme and further added that the collaboration will add value and create opportunities for both the parties.

Dr. Faisal Mushtaq TI and President ICCI Mr. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari signed the MoU at ICCI Headquarters, Islamabad. The Millennium Education Group and ICCI are hopeful that through this MoU both parties will endeavor to strengthen, promote and develop academic, community and corporate engagement and education benefits.

Pakistan will protect every inch of its land, Faisal Anwar Bhatti

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD : Muslim League Qayyum Central Deputy Secretary of Information and Broadcasting Faisal Anwar Bhatti warned the anti-national forces and said that no one should be under the illusion that by putting Pakistan in political or financial difficulties, their evil intentions will be fulfilled. If anyone thinks or plots aggression in the country, we will destroy him brick by brick. The US will not allow the attempt to make India the police station of the region to succeed. Conducting military exercises near Pakistan's border will harm regional peace. Therefore, India and America should immediately postpone the plan of military exercises. Muslim League Qayyum will strongly protest against these exercises, putting its position before the whole world. The world has to find a solution to the Kashmir problem by supporting Pakistan's position on the aggression that India has started in Occupied Kashmir. Pakistan is a peaceful and independent country. We will not allow any conspiracy against our defense institutions to succeed. We are closely monitoring the current high-bid war involving the Pakistan Army, on which we condemn every mafia engaged in colluding with international forces to weaken the Pakistan Army and incite the people.

Pakistan Muslim League Qayyum President Syed Faqir Hussain Bukhari's vision is the vision of Khan Azam Khan Abdul Qayyum Khan. On the current political situation in the country, he said that peaceful sit-ins and protests in the country are the beauty of democracy, but protecting the lives and property of the people is also the responsibility of the current government, including all political parties.

ICT seeks PTI's undertaking during long march, sit-in

ISLAMABAD : The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has asked the Pakistan Tehreek-e- Insaaf (PTI) to submit an undertaking in case of any violation during the long march in federal capital.

As per official documents, the ICT has asked for a signed undertaking from the PTI Chairman Imran Khan Niazi following scheduled PTI's long march.

The ICT administration also asked Pakistan Tehreek Insaaf (PTI) to submit 39 points undertaking signed by its chairman Imran Khan Niazi that they would be liable for any of the violation during the long march/sit-in in Islamabad.

According to undertaking, the permission would be valid for one day (24 hours) from November 4 to 5. It will be the responsibility of organizer (PTI) to ensure dispersal before 12pm on November 5.

The undertaking said that Section 144 is imposed on gathering of persons in Islamabad including Red Zone and the permission granted would be in exception (one time only) near T-Chowk/Rawat on main G.T. Road and is currently vacant.

It further said that every type of gathering apart from this place would be illegal and action will be taken in case of violation.

However, in case of any unfortunate incident the permission would be withdrawn.

The gathering should not disturb or disrupt the fundamental rights of citizens of Islamabad and no roads must be blocked including G.T. road.

Since it is also the responsibility to maintain the balance between the rights of participants (coming for peaceful protest) and the local citizens of Islamabad, only the directed route would be followed.

The ICT Administration has also asked to provide the list of people allowed on stage and has disallowed for any littering or banned substance near the venue. Walk-through gates to be installed at Entry Points should also be done in consultation with ICT Police.

As per the details, access to public or private property should not be obstructed, whereas clear way for fire brigades, ambulances, and other emergency vehicles should be ensured.

The ICT has also restricted for bringing in any infants or children under 18 years at the venue of sit-in. Participants should not enter any restricted area or obstruct any access during sit-in.

It said that Chairman PTI will be responsible for any human injury or health issue caused inside the venue. The ICT Police and Law Enforcement Agencies should not be obstructed to check any vehicle or person, as for the safety of general public.

The ICT has also asked the PTI Chairman to chalk out a parking plan in consultation with the Senior Superintendent of Police (Traffic) as to ensure no blockage on any roads.

If any damage is caused to Public or Private Property, then the organizer (PTI) will be responsible for it. CCTV cameras should also be installed at the venue and the ICT Administration must be taken in loop, they said.

Accord for peace in Ethiopia to usher in new era of prosperity: Envoy

ISLAMABAD : Ethiopian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Jemal Beker Abdula, here on Thursday, said the permanent end to two-year conflict in Tigray region under the peace accord, signed between the Government of Ethiopian and Tigray Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF) 2 November, 2022, would usher in a new era of development and prosperity by ensuring lasting peace in his country.



He told the media that it was a victory for the people of Ethiopia as the two-year conflict in Tigray region had finally come to an end. We are committed to peace and our government will play its part in implementing the agreement

The envoy said all the stakeholders were required to show collective resolve to implement the landmark agreement as it was high time to keep this tragic period behind us for future of Ethiopia which had vast potential to emerge as a modern prosperous nation.

He believed that a political solution was an only way forward to keep Ethiopia harmonious and unified in diversity, adding his government takes pride in making it possible under the leadership of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

Jemal Beker extended gratitude to African Union Commission and the AU High Representative for the Horn of Africa Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria and his team members for achieving the feat.

He also thanked the Government of South Africa and its nation for hosting the peace talks and commitment to achieve this ground breaking success.

He expressed gratitude to the brave members of the Ethiopian National Defense Force and the people for their resilience and courage during the trying times.

Highlighting the objectives of the agreements, the envoy said the parties to the accord had agreed to a "permanent cessation of hostilities" to ensure a conducive environment for laying the foundation of sustainable peace.

He said the accord's salient features also included restoration of the Constitutional order across the country, implementation of political solutions for the political problems, provision of a framework to address matters arising out of the conflict and their accountability, reconciliation and rehabilitation of social bonds, commitment to address the underlying political differences and formulation of a framework for monitoring and verification of its (accord) implementation.

He said the parties to the accord would be bound to respect territorial integrity, sovereignty, human rights, democratic and constitutional norms and above all the unity of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Jemal Beker said unhindered access to the all-in need of humanitarian assistance, the use of humanitarian aid for humanitarian purposes, and respect for the African Charter of Democracy, elections and governance were also among the other provisions of agreement.

AJK varsity taking solid steps for academic-industrial linkages: Dr. Kaleem Abbasi

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi on Thursday inaugurated the Open House and Job Fair at the Electrical Engineering Department (EED) of the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK).

According to the details, the Vice-Chancellor visited the every single project stall setup at the Department by the students of EED Session 2018-22 and interacted with the students and sought further details of their final years' innovative projects.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor highly appreciated the innovative ideas and physical demonstration of these projects by BS students and congratulated the faculty



members for the quality supervision and dedicated mentorship.

He said Electrical Engineering Department of the UAJK is taking solid steps to promote academic-industrial linkages by maintaining the standard criteria of Pakistan Engineer-

ing Council.

Dr. Kaleem Abbasi said that the university has signed several important MoUs with the renowned companies and corporate institutions for mutual beneficial relationship with the industry.

The Vice-Chancellor said presence of Special Communication Organization (SCO), Patrid Hydropower Project, NIC, Roobotika and Zutex and others in the event is evidence of the close relationship of EED with the industry.

The Vice-Chancellor highly appreciated the efforts of Dean Faculty of Engineering in uplifting the Electrical and Software Engineering Departments in line with PEC guidelines.

He expressed profound gratitude to these companies, corporate institutions for offering paid internships, and collaborating and extending other support to the students of EED UAJK.

Dr. Kaleem Abbasi said that engineering is skill based degree and advised the students to take their projects to next level with same zeal and commitment.

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China-Pakistan ironclad ties consolidated

Global Times

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday held talks with visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, and Sharif is one of the world leaders that has visited China right after the conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

China is ready to work with Pakistan to elevate the level of all-round strategic cooperation, speed up efforts to build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, and inject new impetus into their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, Xi said.

After presenting the key outcomes of the 20th CPC National Congress, President Xi underscored that China will continue its fundamental policy of opening-up and provide new opportunities to Pakistan and the rest of the world through continuous development. China will further deepen synergy between its development strategies and those of Pakistan.

Xi pointed out that facing a

highly uncertain world, both sides should stand on the right side of history, keep up their strong cooperation in multilateral mechanisms, and work closely on major international and regional issues so as to uphold true multilateralism, international fairness and justice and the shared interests of developing countries, and inject certainty and positivity into the world.

According to a joint statement issued after the bilateral meeting, the two sides held in-depth exchange of views on the bilateral relations as well as regional situation and international political landscape. The two sides agreed on the importance of China-Pakistan All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership amid the emerging global challenges. The meetings were marked by traditional warmth, mutual strategic trust and commonality of views.

In the meeting, Sharif noted that it is a great honor for him to be among the first foreign leaders to visit China after the successful 20th CPC National Congress, which marked a new milestone. The visit is a testament to the profound, ironclad friendship between Pakistan and China.

Sharif said that over the past decade, under the leadership of

President Xi, China has created a miracle of great development achievements. China has upheld multilateralism, promoted global solidarity and cooperation, and made important contributions to safeguarding world peace and development. In doing so, China has lived up to its responsibility as a major country.

Qian Feng, director of the research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times "Having invited Sharif as one of the first foreign leaders to visit China after the conclusion of the 20th CPC National Congress, not only demonstrates the ever close relationship between the two sides but once again proves that the international community is optimistic about China's development in the future, and is willing to strengthen ties with China."

The two sides will fully utilize the Joint Cooperation Committee of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, advance CPEC with greater efficiency, and make it an exemplar of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, Xi said at the meeting.

China will work with Pakistan to expand cooperation in

the digital economy, e-commerce, photovoltaic and other new-energy technologies, and take solid steps to advance cooperation concerning agriculture, science, technology and people's livelihoods, the Chinese president said.

China will continue to do its best to support Pakistan in stabilizing its financial situation. China supports its provinces with a strong industry in pairing up with Pakistani partners to advance industrial cooperation, and hopes the Pakistani side will provide a sound business environment, Xi noted.

Noting completion of a decade of CPEC's remarkable achievements in 2023, the two sides expressed satisfaction at CPEC's contribution to socio-economic development of the two countries, according to the joint statement.

The two sides also noted that the recent meeting of CPEC Joint Working Group on International Cooperation and Coordination (ICC) had highlighted that CPEC was an open and inclusive platform. Both sides welcomed interested third parties to benefit from investment opportunities in the priority areas of CPEC cooperation such as industry, agriculture, IT,

science and technology, and oil and gas.

Lin Minwang, a professor at the Institute of International Studies of Fudan University, told the Global Times that due to the fact that there is a clear advantage for the development of the CPEC—the high-level mutual trust between China and Pakistan, and such kind of trust toward China from Pakistan is a solid consensus shared by all major political parties and forces.

"With Sharif coming to power earlier this year, the China-Pakistan cooperation on the CPEC has focused more on the massive infrastructure projects, and to improve the livelihoods for the locals with more progress on infrastructure construction," Lin said.

Sharif said Pakistan is ready to work with China to continue promoting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and hopes to have China's strong support in the upgradation of ML-1, the Karachi Circular Railway and other important infrastructure projects. Pakistan will further step up security measures and do all it can to protect the safety of Chinese institutions and personnel.

PRNewsWire/Knowledge Bylanes

President urges varsities to conduct market-oriented research

President Dr Arif Alvi has called upon universities and educational institutions of the country to conduct market-oriented research to provide indigenous solutions to indigenous problems being faced by the different sectors of the economy. He added that research and development would help in bringing innovation to the local industry and enhancing the quality and standards of our products and services, which would help in capturing the local and international markets. The President made these remarks while addressing the 17th Convocation of the COMSATS University Islamabad. The ceremony was attended by the faculty, graduating students, their parents and others. The President urged the universities and educational institutes to introduce new courses, modify existing ones and divert their academic and material resources toward those subjects, disciplines and occupations which were required by the market. This, he added, would provide the graduates with lucrative jobs, besides providing the industry with pertinent, productive and quality Human Resources to improve the quality of their products and services.

The President said that due to the permeation of the internet, knowledge, information training modules and research material were abundantly available to students, however, the importance of teacher-student interaction remained paramount for imparting knowledge. He further said that students should respect their teachers for equipping them with knowledge & skills, and their parents for their upbringing and for providing them with quality and expensive education.

The President appreciated that a large number of female students were graduating, and added that the Government, society, and families should ensure their active participation in the economic mainstream. He added that the state and society had made great investments in female graduates and they should give back to society by sharing their knowledge and wisdom and serving their country. He urged all the stakeholders to ensure the provision of a harassment-free work environment, safe and secure movement in public spaces, enabling working conditions and respect to provide women security and peace of mind to their family members.

The President said the country had suffered dearly in the past due to brain drain and was also suffering now as our highly trained human resources migrated to other countries. He said that the nation had produced these quality human resources despite scarce resources and while they contributed to the progress and development of their host countries, the homeland was deprived of the expertise of these skilled human resources. He urged the need to take all steps to stop the brain drain by providing opportunities and enabling environment so as to enable them to contribute to the progress and development of their country.



Pakistan and China renew focus on CPEC and map out future cooperation plans

Syeda Alina Saeed

While Imran Khan is ushering his staunch supporters through one more "long march" on Islamabad, the PML-N government is focusing on yet another massive undertaking – to revive China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects that had been stalled during the PTI years in the government.

However, the government machinery is completely engaged in rebuilding and rehabilitation of the country with a vision of development.

At an October 27 opening of the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of CPEC, Minister of Planning, Development and Special (M/O PD&SI) Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal noted that CPEC has become an "internationally recognized bilateral undertaking of immense significance."

Despite the delays experienced in the past four years, since its inception in 2013, as per Syed Zaffar Ali Shah Secretary M/O PD&SI enlightened that CPEC has added 6,370MW of power generation capacity and an 880 km-long high-voltage DC transmission line, with a target of 17,000MW planned. CPEC projects have also included development of coal mining in Thar to provide a cheap source of energy, and added 888km of highways to the national roads network, with another 853 km still under construction. Syed Zaffar Ali Shah Secretary M/O PD&SI also added that, the Gwadar port has been launched, and multiple economic and social sector projects were completed in the port area to improve the lives and livelihoods of the people in the coastal area. "It is now time to bring investors to populate the tax-free zone and to undertake projects

for the development of the business district worthy of a bustling port city as well as some high quality tourist resorts as the new Gwadar international airport nears completion next year," said Ahsan Iqbal.

The minister noted that CPEC has encountered some difficulties over the years, including the impact of the increase in international fuel prices.

Looking forward, the Government of Pakistan proposed multiple new projects to be included in the Phase 2 of CPEC, including the post-disaster reconstruction; investment in a new power plant at Gwadar and renewable energy projects; cooperation in the mining and digital technology sectors; technical support for the development of special economic zones, and assistance for the export development. "We would like to learn from the know-how of our Chinese friends to develop export potential of Pakistan from USD30 billion to USD100 billion in the shortest possible time," noted Ahsan Iqbal.

Additionally, the minister noted the pending MOU for cooperation in plant and animal quarantine and phyto-sanitary measures which will help pave the way of export of meat, vegetable and fruit to China. A framework Agreement on Single-Window Cooperation in Inland Trade was proposed to improve bilateral trade, while the addition of Water Resources Management and Climate Change in the CPEC framework was envisioned to enhance Pakistan's resilience to climate events.

No matter how sceptical some of us may be on the role of Chinese investments in Pakistan, it is difficult to argue that CPEC projects have made a marked difference in the economic outlay of the country. The Multan-Sukkur highway has been one of the more obvious improvements under the CPEC that many of us have benefited from. While I cannot speak

for the post-flood state of the highway, before the floods, it cut out hours of travel to Karachi from Islamabad, Lahore, Multan or Faisalabad. Similarly, CPEC investments have been crucial to alleviate electricity shortages in the country. Syed Zaffar Ali Shah Secretary M/O PD&SI stressed on completing the CPEC projects on as soon as possible basis.

Sceptics will lament that many of these projects serve as sources of potential corruption to the ruling party. But where would we be without these new roads, power plants or port facilities? It is up to us to manage these investments responsibly, creating and enforcing the safeguards to protect environment and local communities, as well as making sure that all the country's dues on these investments are paid back in the timely manner.

Syed Zaffar Ali Shah stated that it is the government's job to design and implement large-scale infrastructure projects, but it is the job of the society, through lawful democratic processes, to oversee that the government is doing a good job.

Long marches, no matter how many people they engage or how many days they last, cannot replace the work it takes to grow the country's economy and build the prosperity to its people, not only for some distant imaginable future but for the daily life of the millions of the country's citizens, today and tomorrow, until that future comes.

In the words of Ahsan Iqbal, "CPEC is coming back to the same momentum as it saw in 2013-2018; CPEC is moving forward with new initiatives, and CPEC is getting ready to move from G2G cooperation to business to business cooperation."

Shouldn't that be beneficial to all of us? (Writer is works as Communication Specialist with Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives.)

China Pakistan US: Triangular geostrategic relations, Opportunity for Pakistan

Shahid Hussain Soomro

Pakistan is strategically located near the mouth of the Persian Gulf and shares land borders with Iran, India, and China. It helps maintain stability and gives access to Central Asia. This proves Pakistan's importance to U.S. economic and security objectives in West and South Asia.

Pakistan's location drew Chinese investment. Due to Pakistan's strategic importance, China has invested billions. China has partnered with Pakistan for decades. This is crucial for China's economic growth. It offers access to ports and roadways from the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman to western China, Central Asia, and Afghanistan. CPEC could play a crucial part in China's rise to economic and military supremacy. Pakistan relied on the U.S. for military hardware and aid before the 1990s. In the 1980s, the two countries teamed up to remove Soviet forces from Afghanistan. China sees Pakistan as its Israel; hence CPEC and China's involvement in Pakistan is unstoppable. China contributes roughly half of its military gear, so it cannot afford to cut ties. Pakistan is in a diplomatic quagmire due to deteriorating U.S.-China relations. Pakistan struggles to keep the two nations friendly. Pakistan values both countries.

The Imran Khan regime change claim and Cypher propaganda have harmed US-Pakistan relations. Recent Pakistani delegation visits to the U.S. have helped mend tense ties. Resultantly, the U.S. has restored F-16 maintenance and assistance.

Private sector investment will push countries to pursue economic change, as evidenced by worldwide business-to-business links. Small-

er, more personal levels of government involvement in commercial interactions can spur new ventures more quickly than large bureaucracies.

People are a country's greatest asset. Many Pakistani Fulbright recipients, a vibrant Pakistani-American community, and American enterprises in Pakistan's rapidly growing consumer market indicate future contacts between these groups. Two-thirds of Pakistan's population is under 30, indicating the market's potential.

U.S.-Pakistan relations have a shady past, but there is a chance to start fresh. The U.S. can reestablish a long-lost alliance. Afghanistan needs peace. Peace in Afghanistan and the area requires favourable ground conditions. If the U.S. wants to continue relying on Pakistan to keep the peace, it must invest in more than security.

The strategic needs of both Islamabad and Washington have created a window of opportunity that, if exploited properly, may benefit U.S. regional interests and encourage reform in Pakistan.

Pakistan has to adopt a more proactive and balanced foreign policy. It needs to reassure China and the United States that it is not the same weak country it was 30 years ago. Pakistan is significant for both states; it is essential for China as it has to keep an eye on India and the One Belt, One Road project. While the U.S. needs to preserve U.S. interests, and the U.S. could keep an eye on south Asian affairs.

At this critical juncture, the Pakistani foreign office must convey to the Chinese and American governments how vital Pakistan is to them. They need Pakistan more; instead, Pakistan needs them. Pakistan bargains with both states on logical, rational, regional ground realities.

Writer is PhD Scholar at Area Study Center, AU, Islamabad

The Pakistan-Palestinian forum visited Embassy of the State of Palestine

The Palestinian-Pakistani brotherly relations : Nader Khamis Al-Turk

Diplomatic Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the State of Palestine to Pakistan, Counselor/ Nader Khamis Al-Turk, and the Embassy staff received yesterday at the Embassy headquarters a delegation of leaders and cadres of the Pakistan-Palestinian Forum headed by Maulana Fatihullah Osmani, who organized a solidarity visit with our Palestinian people on the 105th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. The fateful, in the name of the Forum, presented a document of censure and condemnation for the issuance of the Balfour Declaration emphasizing the position of the founder of Pakistan, Qaid Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, that "the policy of the British government towards Palestine is based on injustice, oppression and cruelty, and that if the Palestinian issue is not resolved in a just manner, this will be the beginning of a point Turn to the British Empire, and if Britain decides to crush the public opinion of the Palestinian Arabs through force and coercion, we Muslims of the Indian subcontinent support the Arab position at this stage and stand by them in their just struggle. "And we are fully confident in the success of Arab Muslims in their struggle for their legitimate rights."



The Pakistan-Palestinian Forum affirmed in its document that the hearts of the Pakistani people beat with the Palestinian brothers and that they are proud of their excellence in their affection for Palestine and its people, in purity like dew and strength like Iron steel. The stance of the Pakistani nation will remain same about the political, constitutional and legal rights of the Palestinian nation and these values of Pakistani people transferred to the Palestinian people. The Palestinian

people, emphasizing the integration of the two brotherly people, renewing the covenant of the founders of Pakistan to Palestine.

The Chargé d'Affaires provided a brief and simplified explanation of the history and development of the Palestinian cause since the Sykes-Picot Agreement until today, emphasizing the depth and strength of the Palestinian-Pakistani brotherly relations and the appreciation of the Palestinian people and their leadership, headed by His Excellency

President Mahmoud Abbas, for the continuous support of the Pakistani people, president, government and political parties to the Palestinian cause internationally and regionally. Charge d' Affairs emphasise on the necessity of cooperation between the Forum and the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Pakistan to educate the young Pakistani generations about the Palestinian cause to ensure their firm commitment to the principles of the founder of Pakistan, Leader Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, may God have mercy on him, in support of the Palestinian people's rights to freedom and independence, which formed and still form the foundations and constitution of Pakistan's official and popular support for the Palestinian cause. And work together to deepen and develop bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries. The Chargé d'Affaires presented a symbolic gift in the name of the embassy, which consisted of the Holy Quran and Palestinian folk embroidery, stressing that this embroidery, whose threads and colors overlap to form beautiful decorations that express the unity of the two brotherly Palestinian and Pakistani peoples, and the depth and strength of the historical and continuous relations between them so that God inherits the earth and what is on it.

UNESCO Reaffirms Commitment to 'UN Plan of Action on Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity' on its 10th Anniversary

Tooba Khan

ISLAMABAD: UNESCO under its Multi-Donor Program on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists marked the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (IDEI). The event was held in collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to Pakistan, the Embassy of Sweden, and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Some seventy participants from diverse backgrounds joined the event, observing the need to ensure the freedom of expression and safety of journalists.

This year completes the 10 years of the UN Plan of Action on Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (UNPA). It is the first concerted effort to address attacks and impunity of crimes against journalists



globally. Adopting a holistic approach, it brings together UN bodies, national authorities, media, and civil society organizations together to promote a safer environment for media workers. The anniversary is a milestone to reaffirm, recommit and reposition efforts to advance the UN plan.

Pakistan was amongst the five countries in which the UNPA was piloted. Initiatives were also taken at the

regional level. During the event held today, experts shed light on the efforts that took place during the decade. The recently enacted 'Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Act 2021', states to implement best practices provided for in the UNPA.

The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists recognizes the far-reaching consequences of impunity, especially of crimes against

journalists in limiting fundamental freedoms, especially the freedom of expression. According to the UNESCO observatory, in Pakistan, 14 journalists lost their lives while doing their professional duties in the past two years. Independent research highlights extremely low levels of convictions against the killings of these journalists. This day asks member states to investigate these cases to reduce the impunity against these crimes.

Speaking at the occasion Her Highness Dr Riina Kionka, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Pakistan stated, "The protection of journalists is a concern for us all: a free press is a global public good that we should not take for granted. Putting an end to impunity for crimes against journalists is a must if we want to uphold freedom of expression and media freedom."

President Barrister Sultan urges American investors to invest in AzJK.

Spokesman Report

NEW JERSEY: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry while encouraging the American investors to invest their capital in Azad Kashmir has said that the AJK has immense investment potential especially in the tourism sector. While talking to a delegation of investors led by Nick Tuma the AJK president said, "Azad Kashmir is one of the most beautiful regions in the world that offers massive investment opportunities to foreign investors in different sectors.

"There is vast potential for investors in the hydro, construction sector, industry and other sectors", Barrister Sultan said, adding that the US investors should take advantage of the business-friendly environment and investment opportunities available in Azad Kashmir". He said that the AJK government would provide fool-proof security to investors in Azad Kashmir. "I assure the American investors that they will get ample investment opportunities in Azad Kashmir and the Azad Kashmir government will provide them with all kind support and facilities in this regard", he said.

Schools for more than 2 million children in Pakistan remain inaccessible due to devastating floods – UNICEF

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD/NEW YORK:-- Schools for more than 2 million children in Pakistan remain completely inaccessible after the most severe flooding in the country's history destroyed or damaged nearly 27,000 schools in the country.

"Almost overnight, millions of Pakistan's children lost family members, homes, safety, and their education, under the most traumatic circumstances," said UNICEF's Global Director of Education Robert Jenkins, upon returning from flood-affected areas in Pakistan. "Now, faced with the uncertainty of when they'll be able to return to school, and having already endured some of the world's longest school closures due to the pandemic, they are experiencing yet another threat to their future."

More than two months since the devastating floods engulfed large areas of Pakistan, the tops of school buildings are only just becoming visible in some of the flood-hit areas. It is estimated that it will be weeks, even months before the flood waters completely subside.

In addition to places of learning, schools are critical in providing children with access to healthcare, psychosocial support, and immunization. The longer schools remain closed, the greater the risk of children dropping out altogether; increasing their likelihood of being forced into child labor and child marriage, and exposure to other forms of exploitation and abuse.

Many of the hardest-hit districts were already among the most vulnerable communities in Pakistan. Before the current emergency, one-third of boys and girls in flood-affected areas were already out of school and 50 per cent of children suffered from stunting. These deprivations may be further exacerbated by prolonged school closures.

During the height of the pandemic, schools across Pakistan were fully or partially closed for 64 weeks between March 2020 and March 2022 – some of the world's longest school closures. Less than six months on, the destruction caused by the extreme floods means schoolchildren are once again locked out of learning. Excessive damage to infrastructure, including electricity and internet connectivity, has left remote learning largely inaccessible.

UNICEF has established more than 500 temporary learning centres in the worst-affected districts and supported teachers and children with education supplies. To support children's mental and physical health, UNICEF is training teachers on psychosocial care and health screenings and is preparing for back-to-school and enrolment activities for those schools that have been cleaned and rehabilitated.

"For some children, who had never been enrolled in school before, these learning centres are their very first experience of education. We need to do all that we can to ensure they continue learning when they return to their homes," said Jenkins.

PM seeks EU parliamentarians' urgent attention towards simmering situation in IIOJK.

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan while seeking the European Parliamentary delegation's urgent attention towards the abysmal situation in the Indian occupied Kashmir (IoK) has said that India was involved in serious human rights violations in the Occupied territory.

The PM said this while talking to a delegation of the European Parliamentarians Mr. Herve Juvin and Mrs. Virginie Joron who called on him here today. Senior Minister Khawaja Farooq Ahmed, Finance Minister Abdul Majid Khan, Forest Minister Akmal Sargala, Chief Secretary Muhammad Usman Chachar and others were also present on the occasion.

Referring to the BJP government's designs aimed at changing the region's demography the PM told the visiting delegates that in the aftermath of August 5 2019 India was trying to turn the Muslim majority into a minority in Occupied Kashmir by issuing domicile to millions of non-state residents.

He said that on the one hand Indian troops were engaged in ruthless killing of innocent Kashmiris while on the other people were being harassed, humiliated and tortured day in a day out. He said that Indian troops were using rape as weapon of war. He noted that the silence of the international community on the ongoing atrocities in Occupied Kashmir was regrettable.

To the contrary, the PM said that in Azad Kashmir the process of construction and development has been going on for the past seven decades. He said that India has turned Kashmir into a no-go area for outsiders whereas the liberated territory (Azad Kashmir) was open to all and any one can visit the region at any time. "Kashmiris are a peaceful nation and we want to solve problems peacefully", the PM said.

ATM Advisory Board meeting

Travel and tourism experts discuss reducing waste and environmentally responsible partnerships

Spokesman Report

DUBAI: Travel and tourism industry leaders from across the Middle East support Arabian Travel Market's 2023 theme 'Working towards net zero' with a raft of sustainable initiatives

Travel and tourism experts from across the Middle East examined the challenges and opportunities that sustainable strategies should address, during the latest meeting of the ATM Advisory Board ahead of Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023, which will take place at Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC) from 1-4 May 2023.

The meeting, which took place at InterContinental Dubai – Festival City, saw senior representatives from Amadeus, Colliers International, Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET), Dubai College of Tourism, Emaar Hospitality Group, Etihad Aviation Group, Farnek, Hilton, IGH Hotels and Resorts, the Royal Commission of AlUla, TIME Hotels, and Google join show organiser, RX, for an in-depth discussion about the upcoming edition of ATM.

In line with its theme of 'Working Towards Net Zero', ATM 2023 will see public and private sector experts from around the world gather in Dubai to explore the decarbonisation of global

tourism and hospitality.

Danielle Curtis, Exhibition Director ME, Arabian Travel Market, said: "Next year's show will be the 30th edition of ATM. To mark this significant milestone, our team plans to unveil a dedicated sustainability pledge for the exhibition, which will comprise 30 short- and long-term goals that we aim to achieve on our corporate journey to net zero.

"To bring to life the sustainable theme of ATM 2023, we are working closely with our exhibitors and partners to help catalyse sustainable change within the Middle East's travel and tourism sector," Curtis continued. "The insights offered during our Advisory Board meeting were immensely valuable and will help us to ensure that the show's 30th edition is the most sustainable yet."

ATM Advisory Board members explored a diverse range of ideas to raise awareness of sustainability during the 2023 edition, not only for the show itself but also for all participants. Items on the agenda included minimising printed and plastic waste, working with environmentally responsible partners and more. ATM and its stakeholders will use future meetings to develop and implement a comprehensive suite of



short- and long-term practical measures with the potential to achieve a positive impact on the environment.

According to Sustainable Travel International, tourism-related activities account for approximately 8% of worldwide carbon emissions. The ATM team will continue to work closely with its Advisory Board members in a bid to facilitate the leading role that the Middle East's tourism and

hospitality sector is playing in driving sustainable operations. Together, participants will highlight industry best practice and cutting-edge innovations with the potential to accelerate global decarbonisation.

Commenting on the many benefits offered by responsible tourism, Vasyly Zhygalo, Managing Director ME and Portfolio Director for WTM and IBTM at RX, said: "Sustainable operations clearly have a crucial role

to play in mitigating the environmental impact of the travel sector globally, but – if approached in the right way – they can also offer a range of commercial advantages. Environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards are becoming increasingly important across all industries, with socially conscious investors using these criteria to manage their portfolios. Travel is no exception.

"The experience, expertise and insights offered by our Advisory

Board members will play a vital role in ensuring that ATM 2023 provides a forum in which industry leaders from around the world can showcase innovations, exchange knowledge and help shape a truly sustainable tourism and hospitality sector for future generations," he added.

In addition to representatives from RX, the ATM Advisory Board was attended by Jamel Chandoul, Senior Vice President – Middle East and Africa at Amadeus; Christopher Lund, Chief Executive Officer – MENA at Colliers International; Gregory Fuller, Associate Vice President – Brand and Content at Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET); Yousuf Looth, Executive Director – Tourism Developments and Investments at DET; Jeff Strachan, Director of Dubai College of Tourism; Mark Kirby, Chief Operating Officer – Head of Hospitality at Emaar Hospitality Group; Joerg Oppermann, Vice President of Hub and Midfield Operations at Etihad Aviation Group; Nadia Ibrahim, Head of Net Zero Hospitality at Farnek and Member of the Board of the UN Global Compact; Jochem-Jan Sleifer, President for Middle East, Africa and Turkey at Hilton; James Britchford, Vice President Commercial IMEA at IHG Hotels and Resorts; John

Northen, Executive Director – Head of Hotels and Resorts at the Royal Commission of AlUla; Mohamed Awadalla, Chief Executive Officer of TIME Hotels; and Bilal Kabbani, Sector Lead Branding – Middle East and North Africa at Google.

Having officially initiated its journey to net zero, the ATM 2023 conference programme will explore how innovative sustainable travel trends are likely to evolve, allowing delegates to identify growth strategies within key vertical sectors, while providing a platform for regional experts to explore a sustainable future ahead of COP28, which will take place next year at the Expo City Dubai.

ATM 2023 will also feature a sustainability category at its annual exhibitor awards for the first time. Exhibiting organisations will be recognised based on the extent to which they have considered the environmental impact of their stands, as well as their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint.

ATM 2023 is held in conjunction with Dubai World Trade Centre and its strategic partners include Dubai Tourism as the Destination Partner, Emirates as the Official Airline Partner, IHG Hotels & Resorts as the Official Hotel Partner and Al Rais Travel as the Official DMC Partner.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
42,090.71	41,944.59	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
42,173.46	41,887.51	
Index Value	Change	
4,504,816,200	+ 146.12	
Percentage	Time	
+0.35%	3 Nov, 2022 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,188.63	+44.49	
Percentage	Time	
+0.62%	3 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
32,102.86	-44.90	
Percentage	Time	
-0.14%	3 Nov, 1:14 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,663.39	-15.53	
Percentage	Time	
-0.056%	2 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	141.66	142.91
Bahrain Dinar	587.87	592.37
Canadian Dollar	162.18	163.53
China Yuan	30.32	30.57
Danish Krone	29.31	29.66
Euro	232	234.5
Hong Kong Dollar	28.16	28.51
Indian Rupee	2.67	2.75
Kuwaiti Dinar	713.46	718.46
Malaysian Ringgit	46.66	47.11
New Zealand \$	127.92	129.12
Norwegian Krone	21.19	21.49
Omani Riyal	574.12	578.62
Qatari Riyal	60.54	61.04
Saudi Riyal	62.6	63.2
Singapore Dollar	156.42	157.72
Swedish Korona	19.94	20.24
Swiss Franc	221.2	222.95
Thai Bhat	5.79	5.89
U.A.E Dirham	65	65.6
UK Pound Sterling	268	270.5
US Dollar	225.5	227.75

Huawei built a driverless, zero-carbon 'vehicle-cloud synergy' horizontal transportation solution for Ports

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Huawei and Tianjin Port have jointly collaborated on a driverless, zero-carbon "vehicle-cloud synergy" horizontal transportation solution. Huawei built an intelligent horizontal transport system at the terminal of Section C in the Beijing Port Area of Tianjin Port. The project has achieved Level 4 autonomous driving, enabling 76 Intelligent Guided Vehicles (IGVs) in a fleet to collaborate efficiently. Huawei used cloud-based centralized dispatching to increase port-wide efficiency.

As hubs of global supply chains, ports play a critical role in promoting international trade. Traditional ports rely on humans to operate container cranes working under harsh working environments, are labor intensive and suffer from workforce shortages. These challenges hinder the rapid development of global sea transportation. Therefore, port automation and intelligent reconstruction have emerged as the industry's overarching goals.

Ports worldwide are going through a process of automation driven by the latest technologies like 5G, Cloud, and AI. A typical port deals with vessel arrivals and departures, shore-side operations, horizontal transport, yard operations, manual tractor-trailer transport, and gate opera-



tions. One of the key steps in port digitalization is automating horizontal transport that handles cargo within the port. Currently, conventional horizontal transport faces three major challenges: harsh working environments, safety risks due to driver fatigue, and inefficient manual dispatching.

Huawei's intelligent horizontal transport system has five key advantages. First, it offers global path planning. Huawei has designed a global path planning algorithm based on vehicle kinematics, which ensures that individual vehicles stay on their path. The algorithm enables multiple IGVs to make turns smoothly, whether traveling in one or both directions. This is the key to safe and efficient multi-vehicle cooperation. The solution also features dynamic short

path planning on the cloud, responding to many terminal operations and adjusting tasks in real-time.

The second advantage is its high-precision positioning. Huawei uses BeiDou, 5G, HD maps, and roadside sensing assistance to assure high-precision lane-level positioning. As a result, 90% of quay cranes successfully align on the first try, significantly improving operational efficiency.

Third, Huawei developed the MDC intelligent driving platform. The upgraded Huawei MDC offers automotive-grade assurance, including ultimate computing power and long service life. It also simplifies O&M by providing standardized hardware.

The fourth advantage is core system integration. In addition to core service systems such as TOS, Huawei's intelligent horizontal transport system can quickly interconnect with other peripheral service systems. With Huawei's intelligent charging dispatching algorithm, IGVs are charged at the best possible time, preventing interruptions to fleet services. Using Huawei's intelligent intersection dispatching algorithm, ports can preset intersection traffic policies to ensure proper access by manual tractor-trailers and autonomous trucks.

The fifth advantage is cloud-vehicle decoupling. Huawei decouples the cloud from vehi-

cles through an open ecosystem. As a result, the solution can support a wide range of intelligent driving vehicle models, making it more cost-effective and easier to promote.

In the event of an IGV fault, an operator can remotely take over operations. The service take-over rate for a regular autonomous driving solution is about 5% to 6%. For Huawei's solution, it's less than 0.1%, ensuring safer operations.

IGVs rely on 5G networks. Huawei performs dynamic short-path planning to ensure that IGV paths never cross each other. This prevents collisions even if the network is abruptly disconnected.

Intelligent, horizontal transport must meet three conditions. More than five operation lines must function simultaneously to support large vessels, while the system should be able to also manage large-scale fleets. Furthermore, it must support dispatching in complex port scenarios. Section C terminal in the Beijing Port Area of Tianjin Port is the first smart terminal of its kind to deploy an intelligent horizontal transport system that performs large-scale, normalized operations.

To learn more about the "vehicle-cloud synergy" horizontal transportation solution Huawei built at the Tianjin Port, please click on the following link to view the video:

The Coca-Cola Company brings its global Fuzetea iced-tea brand to Pakistan

LAHORE: The Coca-Cola Company has launched the iced-tea category in Pakistan with its billion-dollar ready-to-drink (RTD) brand, Fuzetea. This launch marks a brand-new addition to the diverse Coca-Cola portfolio in Pakistan and underlines the company's commitment to further investing in the country.

Fuzetea is a unique fusion of tea extracts and fruit flavors which delivers a fresh, indulging, contemporary taste, offering a refreshing alternative within the beverage category. The tea extract in Fuzetea comes from 100% sustainably sourced tea leaves.

Launched in 2012, Fuzetea saw accelerated growth to billion-dollar status in less than three years and is currently available in 89 countries worldwide. Fuzetea will be available in lemon & peach flavors and



will initially be found in Lahore, Islamabad, Faisalabad, and Gujranwala.

At the launch, Fahad Ashraf, Vice President of Coca-Cola Pakistan, said, "Pakistan is a strategically important market for

Coca-Cola and amongst the top markets in the world. In line with our purpose of refreshing the world, we are committed to expand our portfolio for people to enjoy a wider choice of beverages that are available elsewhere in the world."

The launch of Fuzetea in Pakistan is in line with The Coca-Cola Company's goal of evolving into a "total beverage company" by reshaping its growth strategy and operating model in line with changing consumer tastes and buying habits.

Coca-Cola has become an integral part of Pakistan since its operations in the country for over 60 years. The company has also expanded its sustainability initiatives with a focus on relief efforts, water stewardship, women's empowerment, and packaging waste under its World Without Waste vision.

Faysal Bank Launches Donation Payments Feature via WhatsApp



KARACHI: Faysal Bank Limited as part of its digital transformation journey has introduced a new innovative feature of Donation Payments via its WhatsApp banking channel.

Faysal Islami WhatsApp Banking enables its subscribers to make real-time donation payments to over 25 reputable charitable organizations such as SKMT, TCF, SIUT, Indus Hospital, Alamgir Welfare Trust and Pink Ribbon to mention only a few. The launch of the Donations Payments services through WhatsApp banking channel of Faysal Bank could not have come at a more opportune time as October is the month of breast cancer awareness and major donation drives towards this cause. Speaking on the occasion of the launch, Mr. Shaheryar Saeed Khan, Chief Digital Officer, Faysal Bank Limited said, "With the wide-spread use of the Faysal Islami WhatsApp channel, the Bank intends to better serve its diverse customers by introducing more and more innovative features to it"

Present at the occasion Mr. Omer Aftab, Chief Executive Officer, Pink Ribbon said, "The launch of this innovative feature by Faysal Bank Limited will enable us to promote the cause of breast cancer awareness and facilitating quick and easy donation payments by all."

The event was attended by other senior team members of both organizations.

Jazz and UN Women join hands to digitally empower 10,000 Women Micro-Entrepreneurs

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Jazz, Pakistan's leading digital operator and a part of the VEON Group, has signed an agreement with UN Women to introduce digital and financial literacy programs for women-led micro-businesses in underprivileged areas. Under this program, by 2025, 10,000 women micro-entrepreneurs will also be provided free sims, internet data, calls and SMS bundles, and JazzCash Wallets. The idea behind this collaboration is to close the digital gender gap by providing women with skillsets to thrive in the fast-evolving digital economy.

Additionally, Jazz will be offering gender financing and micro-mobility solutions, awareness campaigns, upskill trainings, advocacy, and thought leadership programs to reduce gender-based violence including sexual harassment and declassifying prejudicial gender roles that hinder women's progress. The programs reflect the company's commitment towards United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly SDG 5 - Gender Equality.

While women make up half of the country's population, unfortunately, women's



labour participation in the country rests at only 21 percent. These metrics are the focus of this collaboration and will be tackled through a customised curriculum to train and enable aspiring women entrepreneurs on digital skills and providing access to internet data and technology products to support their business endeavors.

Aamir Ibrahim, CEO, Jazz reiterated the importance of building an inclusive society where women are empowered through digital and financial inclusion, "Our collaboration with UN Women is a testament

towards our commitment to improve the lives and livelihood of women in Pakistan through technology. Providing women with tools and resources to improve their economic capabilities will unlock larger societal benefits, including poverty eradication, reduce the digital gender divide resulting in economic growth."

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Sharmeela Rassool, Country Representative, UN Women Pakistan applauded Jazz's efforts towards building an inclusive digital ecosystem.

Telenor Pakistan and UNICEF partner to strengthen Child Online Protection

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Telenor Pakistan and UNICEF have partnered to scale the Child Online Protection agenda in Pakistan through their joint digital initiative, 'Strengthening Child Online Protection for Children and Young People in Pakistan'. The program promotes safe and responsible internet usage among children, caregivers and educators through awareness and capacity-building efforts.

In addition to promoting safe internet usage, the program will support the government by developing localised policies and regulatory frameworks for the masses on

child safety online. In the next three years, Telenor Pakistan and UNICEF will train 750,000 children, caregivers, and educators through a hybrid training module. They also plan to engage with key stakeholders for creating a suitable legal and policy environment with an evidence-based, consultative, and coordinated approach towards children and young people's protection in the digital world.

At the partnership signing ceremony, Kamal Ahmed, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, Telenor Pakistan, said, "Increased access to digital platforms brings progress to the society but raises safety concerns for children. Digital skills and online safety



is a collective responsibility. Through this partnership with UNICEF, Telenor Pakistan will continue promoting digital inclusion, online safety, and new skillset to help young people navigate a connected world. Our ambition is to build the capac-

Emirates Boarding Pass Unlocks Hundreds of Offers in Dubai this Winter

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Emirates has today announced the return of its popular My Emirates Pass. Starting from 1st November 2022 to 31st March 2023, My Emirates Winter Pass enables customers to get more from their trip with exclusive offers at over 500 locations in the UAE.

Emirates customers flying to or through Dubai can simply show their boarding pass and a valid form of identification to hundreds

of retail, leisure and dining outlets, as well as famous attractions and luxury spas, to enjoy fantastic discounts throughout Dubai and the UAE. To see all My Emirates Pass offers, please visit www.emirates.com/myemiratespass.

In addition, Emirates passengers can also enjoy a complimentary ticket* to Tour Dubai's one hour Creek Sightseeing Cruise, which gives unrivalled panoramic views of Dubai's historic district from a traditional dhow boat.

MMBL's 9-Point Agenda 2.0 delivers Impactful and Sustainable Policy Interventions

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan's largest digital bank, Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited (MMBL), has recently launched the 2nd edition of its 9 Point Agenda for Financial Inclusion, a policy document aimed at fostering digital financial inclusion through meaningful regulatory interventions in nine key areas.

Mobilink Microfinance Bank is part of the VEON group, a global digital operator that provides converged connectivity and online services across seven countries. As part of its digital operator strategy, VEON is transforming people's lives by creating opportunities for greater digital inclusion and driving economic growth across countries that are home to more than 8% of the global population.

The 9 Point Agenda for Financial Inclusion 2.0 highlights key challenges and opportunities across multiple sectors, with diversity & inclusion at the heart of it, and offers a set of high-level policy recommendations to draw focus toward initiating positive change across these sectors. These recommendations include enhanced facilitation of microfinance, SME finance, housing finance, agriculture finance, digital lending, payments, savings, and insurance to help catalyze a sustainable and inclusive economic transformation at the grassroots level to bolster the national economy.

Sardar Mohammad Abubakar, Chief Finance & Digital Officer MMBL, launched the 9 Point Agenda for Financial Inclusion 2.0, digitally.

He expressed high hopes that the initiative would generate constructive discourse around the need to reinforce gender, diversity, and inclusion in the banking and finance sector, besides motivating meaningful efforts and contributions toward the overall cause of financial inclusion.

Commented by the State Bank of Pakistan, MMBL's flagship female empowerment program, Women Inspirational Network (WIN) is also making strides to boost women's participation in the economic sphere.

benefits and some undesirable risks. With one in three internet users today being children, there needs to be a clearer focus on the child protection landscape. More than 30% of young people in 30 countries reported being cyberbullied, with one in five even skipping school.

Zainab Hussain Siddiqui, VP Sustainability Health Safety and Environment, Supply Chain Sustainability and Partnership, Telenor said, "Telenor Group's global partnership with UNICEF plays a key role in realising on our ambition of empowering societies by promoting digital inclusion, increasing connectivity, and building skills for a digital future for children and young people."

Forget the permutations, focus on Afghanistan, says Australia chief selector

MELBOURNE: Australia must put the foot down in pursuit of victory against Afghanistan and not worry about the other external factors which could affect their bid to reach the Twenty20 World Cup semi-finals, chief selector George Bailey said. The reigning champions take on the Afghans in Adelaide on Friday facing elimination from the rain-affected tournament.

They trail New Zealand and England in their group with only two teams advancing to the next stage. "The first port of call is making sure you set your-



self up to win the game and make sure you're playing well enough to do that," Bailey told reporters. "There's a lot that

remains out of your control, I think (we need to go) in flexible, open-minded. "I think we've got a team that's got

talent, that if they have to put the foot down and do something special they've got it in them." New Zealand, England and Australia are level on five points with one round of group matches remaining, with the hosts in third place due to an inferior run rate.

"I don't think you want to get too carried away with anything else other than that at the outset. "No doubt we'll be aware of certain permutations. There's a lot that's out of our control given the fact that England play Sri Lanka after our game anyway." INP

Saad Baig's U19 ready to take on Bangladesh

MULTAN: Pakistan future stars will be in action in the longer format from Friday as Saad Baig's team take on Bangladesh in the solitary four-day match in the City of Saints, Multan. The match is the first in the six-match tour of Bangladesh U19 to Pakistan. The two teams also compete in three 45-over matches and two T20s over the next two weeks at the iconic Multan Cricket Stadium.

The series presents a perfect opportunity to teenage cricketers from both sides to leave a mark by displaying their talent and skill in all three formats in the competitive nature of international cricket.

Bangladesh arrived in Multan on 1 November and has had two-day training. Pakistan reached the city yesterday and had an intense session on the eve of the match following a five-day camp at the National High Performance Centre in Lahore.

Pakistan are led by 17-year-old talented wicket-keeper Saad Baig, who after impressive performances in the 2022-23 U19 domestic season and the Pakistan Junior League was named



captain for all three formats for this series.

Speaking ahead of the four-day contest, Saad said: "It is a great honour for me to lead Pakistan. The mission is to lead by example by making the most of the opportunity at hand.

"Everyone in the team is very excited for this series. Bangladesh are a good side and they are going to test

competitions and recently in the Pakistan Junior League, but it is great to be together as a team."

Looking ahead to lead his team at the iconic Multan Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh captain Ahrar Amin said, "Our team is pretty good and we can put up a good fight against Pakistan. Our preparations for this tour began from Bangladesh and we have had some very good sessions here in Multan in the lead up to this four-day match.

"We are extremely lucky to have been given this opportunity to play in Multan, which is known to be a good Test venue. Our intention from this series is to learn as much as we can. We hope that we do not return home empty hands." Series schedule (all matches at Multan Cricket Stadium): 4-7 November - Four-day match

10 November - First 45-over-per-side match
12 November - Second 45-over-per-side match
14 November - Third 45-over-per-side match
16 November - First T20 match
18 November - Second T20 match

91 CCAs to hold open U13, U16 and U19 trials

Amin Malik

LAHORE: PCB decided to give equal and fair opportunity to the talented cricketers and these players can be brought into the national framework and developed into future stars, the Pakistan Cricket Board announced holding of open trials for the U13, U16 and U19 from 4-6 November in all the 91 City Cricket Associations.

Players who featured in the 2022-23 PCB-organised age-group events are exempted from the open trials. However, they are required to confirm their availability for next season's competitions to their respective coaches.

The trials will be organised in two phases from which the coaches and the selectors will finalise sides for the 2023-24 season's City Cricket Association (96 teams), Divisional (24 teams) and Cricket Associ-



ations (12 teams) tournaments.

The age eligibility criteria for the three age groups is as follows:

- U19: Born on or after 31 August 2004 and before 31 August 2008
- U16: Born on or after 1st September 2007 and before 1st September 2011
- U13: Born on or after 1st September 2010 and before 1st September 2014

The PCB-appointed coaches will shortlist the

players in the first phase after which the junior selection committee and additional scouts will finalise the final sides. The players selected for the final sides after the second phase in all three age groups will undergo age verification process, which will ensure that every player is provided a level playing field, by renowned radiologists.

The players are advised to appear in whites and bring the original and photocopies

of their B-forms and CNICs. The shortlisted players will be required to register themselves at the booths available at every venue. The trials will run from 1000 till 1700.

For the first time, the U16 players will also compete at the Divisional level, and, as such, the selected players will be divided into four divisional teams and the top performers from them will make it to two CA sides. The U19 competitions will be held at all three levels, while the U13 players will compete in the CA tournaments.

The list of the junior selection committee and additional scouts are as follows: Muhammad Wasim (chairperson), Aamir Nazir, Abdur Rehman, Ahmer Saeed, Faisal Iqbal, Javed Hayat, Muhammad Ashraf,

Muhammad Salman, Sanaullah Baloch, Shoaib Khan, Tahir Mehmood, Taimoor Azam and Wajahat Ullah Wasti.

Launches awareness campaign among youth against the 'Addiction of Drugs and Electronic Gadgets'

Amin Malik

LAHORE: Youth Affairs and Sports Department Punjab, on the directions of Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports EhsanBhutta, has launched an awareness campaign among youth against the 'Addiction of Drugs and Electronic Gadgets'.

In this regard, the first awareness workshop was organized at Govt College for Boys Gulberg on Thursday. Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan, Principal Gulberg College, Project Development Specialists, Youth Affairs and Sports Department officers, college professors, Procurement Specialist Zia, Research Associates SadiaPervaiz, Abdul Malik, Office Assistant M Adil, Computer Assistant Hafiz Amir Nazir and a large number of students also attended awareness workshop.

Talking on this occasion, Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan said that talented youth has been a valuable asset of the country and Youth Affairs and Sports Department Punjab is organising awareness workshops to save our youth from the menace of drugs and electronic devices. "We are planning to hold more such awareness workshops in other boys and girls colleges of the province," he added.

Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan further said that top health and IT experts are delivering lectures to highlight the damages of drugs and electronic devices. "We are quite upbeat that we will be able to show right direction to our thousands of young boys and girls through our awareness workshops," he elaborated.

Principal Gulberg College on this occasion expressed his gratitude to Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports EhsanBhutta for organizing much needed awareness workshops to save the future of thousands of young male and female students of the province.

Players report for second phase of training in Lahore*

LAHORE: The men's team players reported at Football House, Lahore, for the second phase of training which is going to commence tomorrow.

The 90 players lot picked up by Pakistan Football Federation technical staff based on their tactics and skills of which 36 players were finalized for the first phase of training.

The 19 players will join the second phase while the rest of the players join them in training.

The players include Saqib Hanif, Abdul Basit, Rao Omer Hayyat, Sohail Khan, Mamoon Musa, Syed Junaid Shah, Zain Ul Abideen Ishaq, Shayek Dost, Mohammad Waheed, Zain Jr, Abdul Qadeer Khan, Sardar Wali, Abdullah Shah, Muhammad Afzal, Adnan Saeed, Umair Ali, Muhammad Waleed Khan, Haseeb Khan, and Alamgir.

Shahzaib, Naqsh move in Int'l Taekwondo C'ship finals

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Shahzaib Khan and Naqsh Hamdani have qualified for the finals of Combaxx 4th Asian Open International Taekwondo Championship (G2) here at Liaquat Gymnasium of Pakistan Sports Complex on Thursday.

In the semifinal of -54kg men, Pakistan's Shahzaib Khan downed Elwalid Mahdy Khalid from Egypt by 2-0 while in -53kg women, Naqsh defeated Fakhra Khalid from Pakistan by 2-0.

Pakistan keep hopes alive by ending South Africa's unbeaten run



SYDNEY: Pakistan kept alive their slim hopes of reaching the T20 World Cup semi-finals with a 33-run victory over South Africa in a rain-shortened Super 12 match on Thursday, bringing the tournament's only unbeaten record to an end in the process.

On the ropes at 43-4 early in their innings, Pakistan rallied behind spectacular half-centuries from Iftikhar Ahmed and Shadab Khan to post 185 for nine and delight the lively crowd of 30,000 roaring them on at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

South Africa would still have fancied their chances but Shaheen Afridi (3-14) claimed two early wickets and Shadab removed Temba Bavuma and Aiden Markram, who had built a promising third-wicket partnership of 49, in quick order.

The skies opened soon afterwards with South Africa on 69-4 after nine overs and an hour later they resumed with a revised target of 142 from five more overs under the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method only to fall well short at 108 for nine.

The Proteas remain in second place behind India in Group 2 despite the loss and will secure one of the two semi-final spots if they beat the Netherlands in their final Super 12 match on Sunday.

To have any chance of progressing, Pakistan must beat Bangladesh in Sunday's second match at Adelaide Oval and hope the Dutch have staged an upset or Zimbabwe manage to stun India in the final group match in Melbourne.

Pakistan's hopes of reaching the last four were already hanging by a thread coming into the match and they looked over when top order batsmen Mohammad Rizwan, Babar Azam and Shan Masood all departed cheaply.

Mohammad Haris, thrown straight into the fray after coming into the squad as an injury replacement for Fakhar Zaman, had, however, showed his team mates the way with a blistering 28 off 11 balls that started with two sixes and a four.

Iftikhar, who hit 51, and Shadab, who clubbed 52 off 22 balls, followed his lead with a partnership of 82 for the sixth wicket to transform the innings, which ended with a rain shower, a few boundaries and a flurry of wickets.

While Pakistan skipper Azam's miserable tournament continued with six runs that left his tally at 14 from four innings, his South African counterpart Bavuma shrugged off the early loss of opening partner Quinton de Kock for a duck.

Bavuma, whose previous three innings at the tournament had earned him 14 runs, hit a dogged 36 before being caught behind off Shadab's first delivery.

Markram was bowled for 20 two balls later and after the rain break seamers Afridi, Mohammad Wasim and Naseem Shah successfully shackled the South Africans while chipping away with regular wickets.

Cricket world shocked as Iftikhar Ahmed hits biggest six of T20 World Cup 2022

SYDNEY: Iftikhar Ahmed has impressed many by hitting the biggest six of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022.

Ahmed proved his mettle as a clean striker in Australian conditions during the 16 over of the match between Pakistan and South Africa.

Bowled by Lungi Ngidi with a short ball, Ahmed showed his true power and hit a six that covered a distance of 106 metres. Not only did he clear the boundary but also registered the biggest hit of the tournament so far.

The batter surpassed South Africa's David Miller, who recorded a six of 104 metres against India on Sunday.

Fans were shocked by his excellent performance and unbelievable shot. Many took to social media to praise the 32-year-old batter.

A social media user said that people had "underestimated" the player, calling him a "genuine middle-order classic batsman".

"You make jokes that he is old he can't hit big, he smashed the biggest six of the tournament." Someone reminded the internet of Ahmed's statement who had said that "hitting sixes in Australia is not a big deal for me".

Quaid-e-Azam Trophy: Six wickets for Abrar as he continues to bamboozle batters

LAHORE: Abrar Ahmed produced his best performance of the season on Thursday, taking six wickets for 61 runs, to put Sindh eight runs ahead of Southern Punjab before they finished with the second innings lead of 80 with eight wickets in hand at the Pindi Cricket Stadium.

The second day of the seventh round belonged to the 24-year-old mystery spinner as Abrar recorded his fifth five-wicket haul in as many matches of the ongoing Quaid-e-Azam Trophy. He further consolidated his position as the leading wicket-taker and now has 38 scalps at 17.66. The next best, Central Punjab's Mohammad Ali, has 24.

Southern Punjab, replying to Sindh's 210, were bowled out for 202 in 59.5 overs as Abrar, once

again, proved too hot to handle. Muhammad Umar and Ghulam Mudassar equally shared the remaining four wickets. The best score in Southern Punjab's innings came from Sharoon Siraj who made 35 off 76.

Sindh were 72 for two in 28 overs when stumps were drawn with Khurram Manzoor batting at 26 and nightwatchman Muhammad Umar on 0. Omair Bin Yousuf (18) and Saud Shakeel (21) were dismissed by Mohammad Ilyas and Salman Ali Agha.

At Abbottabad, Balochistan's Bilawal Iqbal took three more wickets against Northern to record first-class career's 11th five-wicket haul. The 33-year-old right-arm medium fast took five wickets for 49 as Northern

could manage 259 in 85.2 overs.

Balochistan's batters put up solid performances that took their side to 218 for three in 52 overs by the end of the day's play. Haris Sohai stroked a half-century, making 66 not out off 101, and had the company of his captain, Asad Shafiq, who batted at 47 not out off 103, at the other end.

Imran Butt made 44 off 53 and Abdul Wahid Bangalzai scored 38-ball 41.

Northern all-rounder Aamir Jamal, who announced himself at the world stage by defending 15 in the final over of the sixth T20I against England on his international debut, took two wickets for 67.

Brilliant half-centuries by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa captain Khalid Usman and Niaz Khan

in the lower-order lifted Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to 436 after they resumed the day on 267 for five.

Khalid made 53 off 148 (five fours and a six) and Niaz scored 65 off 80 (11 fours). Mohammad Imran, with his 40 off 60 (three fours and four sixes) contributed crucial runs at number 11.

Central Punjab's opener had accumulated 99 runs in 30 overs with Abdullah Shafique scoring 54 not out off 82 (eight fours and a six). He was joined by Abid Ali, the only batter in men's cricket to score a century on Test and ODI debut, on 38 off 98.

Toss uncontested - Southern Punjab opt to bowl against Sindh at Pindi Cricket Stadium

Sindh 210 all out, 69.1 overs (Sarfraz Ahmed 56, Muhammad Umar 39, Fawad Alam 27,



Abrar Ahmed 26, Saud Shakeel 23; Mohammad Abbas 5-50) and 72-2, 28 overs (Khurram Manzoor 26 not out, Saud Shakeel 21)

Southern Punjab 202 all out, 59.5 overs (Sharoon Siraj 35, Salman Ali Agha 231, Moham-

mad Ilyas 25, Azam Khan 24, Hasan Ali 21; Abrar Ahmed 6-61. Muhammad Umar 2-40, Ghulam Mudassar 2-52)

Northern elect to bat against Balochistan at Abbottabad Cricket Stadium

Northern 259 all out, 85.2 overs (Umar Amin 130, Faizan Riaz 31, Bilawal Iqbal 5-49, Akif Javed 2-59)

Balochistan 218-3, 52 overs (Haris Sohil 66 not out, Asad Shafiq 47 not out, Imran Butt 44, Abdul Wahid Bangalzai 41; Aamir Jamal 2-67)

Toss uncontested - Central Punjab opt to bowl against Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at the LCCA Ground

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 436 all out, 126.3 overs (Israrullah 124, Naiz Khan 65, Khalid Usman 53, Waqar Ahmed 47, Kamran Ghulam 45, Mohammad Imran 40, Sahibzada Farhan 25; Usama Mir 3-98, Ahmed Danuyal 3-115, Mohammad Ali 2-66)

Central Punjab 99-0, 30 overs (Abdullah Shafique 54 not out, Abid Ali 38 not out)*