



Pakistan regards nuclear safety, security as 'national responsibility'

Speaking in the 193-member Assembly on the annual report of the Vienna-based UN agency, Ambassador Aamir Khan said that Pakistan had developed a comprehensive nuclear safety and security regime based on an extensive legislative and regulatory framework governing the security of nuclear materials, radioactive substances, associated facilities and activities. (Report on Page 5)

A Leading National Daily



Daily The Spokesman

RAWALPINDI

فرمان رسول ﷺ
بجانب ان کثیر نے بیان کیا، انہوں نے کہا کہ مجھے ابو سلمہ بن عبد الرحمن بن عوف نے فرمایا ہے، ان سے عبد اللہ بن عمرو رضی اللہ عنہما نے بیان کیا کہ جب رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کے زمانہ میں سورج گرہن کا واقعہ اعلان کیا گیا کہ نماز ہونے والی ہے۔
(بخاری: حدیث نمبر 1045)
Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



Only int'l sections can make India answerable: Mushaal

Mushaal Mullaik Chairperson Peace and Culture Organisation demanded that UN human rights council (UNHRC) should suspend India's membership to the council, for its failure to address the key human rights concerns expressed by United Nations and the OIC during third Universal Periodic Review (UPR). (Report on Page 2)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rabi-us-Sani 15, Friday, November 11, 2022

www.dailyspokesman.net

@daily_spokesman



Daily Spokesman Vol: 15, Issue: 217 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Army Chief pays farewell visits to Sialkot, Mangla garrisons

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Thursday visited Sialkot and Mangla garrisons as part of his farewell visits to various formations.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the COAS met officers and men at both locations and addressed the troops.

He appreciated the formations for their excellent performance during various operations, training, and natural calamities.

The COAS advised troops to keep serving the nation with the same zeal and commitment no matter what the circumstances.

Earlier, on arrival at Sialkot, the COAS was received by Lieutenant General Muhammad Aamer and Lieutenant General Ayman Bilal Safdar at Mangla garrison. ISPR



PM's tweet amuses cricket lovers

ISLAMABAD: As England reached the final of T20 World Cup, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday posted an interesting tweet, likening the upcoming Sunday's match with other finalist Pakistan as the one to be played between

the teams with a history of beating India by 10 wickets.

"So, this Sunday, it's: 152/0 vs 170/0," he tweeted in brief with reference to the scores of Pakistan and England in T20 World Cups of 2021 and 2022, respectively. APP

JUI-F chief urges observance of 'Thanksgiving Day' tomorrow

Spokesman Report



ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman on Thursday urged the Ulama and Mashaykh to observe 'Thanksgiving Day' on Friday as the government had taken first step towards an interest-free economic system.

the hard efforts of years as "we do not want such a financial system which is against the divine commands".

Fazl who is also the head of Pakistan Democratic Movement said the announcement of withdrawing National and State banks' appeal against the Federal Shariat Court (FSC)'s verdict on the abolition of interest became possible after

He said it was the responsibility of the religious scholars to apprise the people about the destructive impacts of interest (usury) on the society and national economy so that their concept could be cleared about this social evil.

Minister assures Chinese companies of govt's full support to expedite CPEC projects

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Thursday assured full cooperation of the government to the Chinese companies by facilitating in Pakistan to further expedite projects under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

A six-member delegation of Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFC) led by its President Lin Songtian called on the Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal and discussed CPEC projects after the recent visit of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to China.

On the occasion, the Minister said that Pakistan had long-standing historic ties with China and the incumbent government has restarted CPEC under the leadership of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif who recently visited China.

CPAFC is a Chinese national people organization that engages in people to people diplomacy and



the aim of this association is to enhance people's friendship, international cooperation on development.

Speaking to the delegation, the Minister informed the delegation that CPEC has been revived since the new government came into power under the leadership of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif in April this year.

The Minister informed the

delegation that the recent Joint Coordination Committee meeting and visit of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to China was clear indication that both the countries have agreed to revive the CPEC project which remained pending by the previous government of PTI.

The Minister further added that during the recent visit, the Chinese President appreciated

Pakistan's efforts to restore CPEC projects and assured to continue cooperation.

The Minister also highlighted significance of ML-1 and KCR projects which were discussed during the recent visit of the PM to China and both the sides have agreed to start these projects without any further delay.

Similarly, the Minister also highlighted the importance of solar and renewable projects in which both the countries have agreed to start projects.

During the meeting, the Minister informed the delegation about the significance of the Agriculture sector as Pakistan has huge potential in the sector and it can export meat, vegetable to China.

The Minister also highlighted Pakistan's exponential growth and sought cooperation from China as it has expertise in the export sector. The establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) also came under discussion.

IHC dismisses petitions for disqualification of Zardari, Fawad



ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Thursday dismissed petitions for the disqualification of former president Asif Ali Zardari and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry. IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah issued the detailed verdict. "As a judge, I do not claim supremacy over the elected representatives. The high standard of Sadiq and Amin does not exist for any office holder other than the elected representatives," he said in his judgement.

"This measure is not even for the unelected people under whose government half the life of this country has passed," he added. "Disqualification under Article 62 (1) (f) has profound implications. The Parliament can form its own mechanism of self-accountability for the elected representatives," he pointed out.

"Fawad Chaudhry and Asif Ali Zardari are not convicted by any court. Disqualification of both the public representatives has been sought on disputed facts," he stated. "Determining the disputed facts requires investigation. Political opponents of both the representatives will benefit during the investigation," he remarked.

"If both are declared eligible after the investigation, there will be no compensation for them for the damage they suffered," he emphasised. "The courts' involvement in such investigations undermines public confidence in the elected representatives," the ruling said. "The courts getting into these matters also waste the time of the ordinary litigants," it added. INP

Routine affairs of people badly affected due to PTI protest: Interior Minister

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah Khan on Thursday said that routine affairs of citizens had been badly affected by the PTI workers who are blocking the roads under police protection and official protocol.

In a statement, the minister said that businesses of the people and activities of students are affected while patients were unable to reach hospitals. "This situation is not only unbearable but also painful for millions of people," he added.

A handful of PTI workers have been troubling the people for the past four days through the involvement of police nod and are placing chairs on the roads.

The minister said the patience of the people has now been exhausted due to the recent disturbing situation. "We do not want any kind of political conflict but cannot allow such situation. There is a fear that the people will now start holding accountable the riotous and anarchist followers of Imran Khan," he added.

Pakistan wants to further strengthen institutional linkages with GCC, members states: Bilawal

RIYADH: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Thursday said that Pakistan wanted to further strengthen institutional linkages with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and its member states, in line with the Joint Action Plan for Strategic Dialogue between the two sides.

The Foreign Minister, who met with Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, Secretary General of GCC in Riyadh, said that Pakistan would be ready to host the next round of Strategic Dialogue at an early mutually convenient date in Islamabad, a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

Highlighting the importance attached by Pakistan to its relations with the brotherly countries of the Gulf, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that Pakistan sees GCC as an important player in the region that can play a vital role in further expanding



political and economic ties between Pakistan and Gulf states.

The Foreign Minister also reviewed the status of Pakistan's ongoing engagements and cooperation with the GCC and its member states.

He expressed satisfaction on the trajectory of the relationship and underscored the need for continuing this momentum going forward.

Pakistan wants to further strengthen institutional linkages with GCC, members states: Bilawal

The Foreign Minister also highlighted the need for early finalization of the ongoing negotiations on Pakistan-GCC Free Trade Agreements and asked technical teams from both sides to synergize their efforts to achieve this common objective.

The Foreign Minister

and the Secretary General also shared views on regional and global issues including Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), Afghanistan and Yemen.

He briefed the Secretary General on Pakistan's position and assessment on these issues and highlighted that Pakistan and the GCC countries have convergences of interests and positions on all issues of common concern. APP

Mariyum castigates Imran for creating chaos & anarchy

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb on Thursday castigated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for creating chaos, anarchy and polarisation in the country.

"There has been chaos, anarchy and hatred in the country due to Imran Khan who is bent on spreading his fitna to create disorder, mischief and arson," she said in a news statement.

She asked Imran Khan what motives he wanted to achieve by closing down roads. Mariyum said Imran Khan, who once gagged the media and others, was now closing down the roads. She regretted that the schools and hospitals were closed due to Imran Khan.

The minister said the person, who robbed the people of their medicine, now shutting down the roads leading to hospitals.

Imran Khan, who deprived the people of jobs, electricity, gas and bread, was now closing down the roads, she main-



tained. The minister lashed out at Imran Khan for doing politics over floods and called him a "stubborn" and "fascist".

She said Imran Khan should have spent the money, which he was using for arson, on the rehabilitation of flood affectees.

Mariyum said the money that Imran Niazi was spending on setting the country on fire should have been spent on providing food and warm clothes to the flood victims.

Imran Khan should have spent the money, which he was utilising to close schools and hospitals, on building schools and hospitals in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, she added. APP

PTI continues hold protest, block several roads



RAWALPINDI: The workers of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Thursday continued the protest here for the fourth day and blocked several roads including Murree Road and G.T.Road against the assassination attempt on former premier Imran Khan. The PTI supporters are holding protests at several main places including Murree Road opposite Allama Iqbal Park near Shamasabad closing the road from both sides. The G.T.Road Taxila near 'bypass chowk' and Margala Hills' closed for all kinds of vehicular traffic.

Main Peshawar Road and Mall Road are open for traffic. However, the starting point of IJP Road, near Ghosia Ada

towards Rawalpindi and Islamabad is closed for all kind of traffic. Jhelum Road near Swan Bridge towards Kutcheri is closed for traffic but the road is open towards Rawat. Motorway M-1,

Islamabad to Peshawar is open for traffic moving towards Peshawar while M-2, Islamabad to Lahore is closed for traffic moving towards Lahore. Old Airport Road near Gulzar-e-Quaid is open for all kinds of traffic.

The protesters stopped a large number of oil tankers and other heavy traffic on Fateh Jang Road besides blocking G.T.Road in Taxila for three days.

Seminar

PESHAWAR: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with the officials of the Federal Insurance Ombudsman at a seminar on the "effective role of the Federal Insurance Ombudsman in the provision of justice", at Governor House, Thursday.



Photo: PID

President for providing insurance coverage to victims of manmade and natural calamities

PESHAWAR: President Dr. Arif Alvi here on Thursday emphasized the need for launching insurance products at national level and wherever possible by looping in international insurance system for crop and flood insurances to protect the farmers from the losses and safeguard livelihood and property losses of the victims during manmade or natural calamities.

He said that increased confidence of the people on insurance industry and their products would catalyse fast track development and progress of the country.

The president expressed these views while addressing a seminar on "the effective role of FIO in the provision of justice", at the Governor House.

Acting Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Mushtaq Ahmed Ghani, Federal Insurance

Ombudsman (FIO), Dr. Muhammad Khawar Jameel, senior officials of FIO, representatives of insurance companies, and people from different walks of life attended the seminar.

President for providing insurance coverage to victims of manmade and natural calamities

The president called upon the government and the private sector to focus on developing insurance products for crop insurance and insurance of calamity-hit persons with user friendly interface and discuss and propagate its importance for its wider dissemination.

He further said that Pakistan had suffered greatly due to the negative fall outs of climate change and global warming, despite the fact that Pakistan's contribution to global carbon emissions was negligible.

He appreciated the government's efforts to urge the international community to compensate Pakistan for losses sustained by it due to climate change induced super floods.

He also emphasized the need for more effective institutional controls, and user-friendly laws and regulations to enhance transparency and effectiveness of the insurance sector.

The president appreciated the fact that FIO was providing relief to aggrieved insurance policy holders by instrument of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR), to settle the dispute out of court through mediation and mutual agreement for speedier and cost-effective dispensation of justice as compared to formal justice process.

He appreciated that due to the outreach and awareness campaigns launched by FIO,

a significant increase in the number of complaints had been witnessed.

He stated that complaints could be registered with FIO using its helpline number 1082 and its website, besides filing complaints manually or visiting its regional offices.

The president said that he had tasked all federal ombudsmen to highlight their role through effective awareness campaigns and publicize their landmark decisions, which would encourage the affected to approach the ombudsmen in case their rights were compromised.

He called upon the general public to approach the Wafaqi Mohtasib (Federal Ombudsman), Federal Insurance Ombudsman (FIO), Banking Mohtasib, Federal Tax Ombudsman, and Federal Ombudsman for Protection against Harassment at Work-

place, against the maladministration and high-handedness of any department or entities of federal government for the redressing their complaints within 60 days.

FIO Muhammad Khawar Jameel, while addressing the seminar, said that the ombudsman was providing speedy, effective and free-of-cost justice to people within 60 days against the maladministration of insurance companies and was playing its role in making Pakistan's insurance sector fairer and more transparent.

He highlighted that due to the outreach efforts of FIO, the quantum of relief provided to insurance policyholders had risen from Rs 410 million in 2019 to over Rs 2 billion in 2022.

He said that FIO had shifted its focus from prosecution to persuasion and resolution of

Over 2700 healthcare facilities in Saudi Arabia to treat Umrah pilgrims under insurance scheme

ISLAMABAD: Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah has announced that pilgrims and visitors can benefit from more than 2,764 facilities providing health services in various cities and regions of the Kingdom during the current Umrah season, as part of the insurance program for Umrah performers coming from all over the world.

A selection of 151 public and private sector hospitals will provide services to pilgrims and visitors coming to Makkah and Madinah, in addition to 773 health centers and polyclinics, as well as 1,840 medical laboratories and pharmacies all over the Kingdom.

The insurance program aims to enhance the quality of living of Umrah pilgrims and visitors while they are in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah and pray in the Prophet's (PBUH) Mosque.

The program was launched by the Ministry to improve quality of service provided to pilgrims and to enrich their religious and cultural experience within the objectives of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, Saudi Gazette reported.

The insurance policy provides healthcare and travel protection and harnesses all capabilities and efforts to serve pilgrims and fulfill all their requirements from the moment they arrive in the Kingdom and until their departure after performing the rituals.

This comes within the objectives of Vision 2030 to improve the experience of pilgrims by enabling them to perform Umrah utilizing swift solutions and options, and to make it easier for them to perform the rituals in peace and comfort until they return to their country safely.

APP

Khar stresses sustained int'l engagement with Afghan interim government



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar on Thursday in a meeting with Special Representative of the President of Iran on Afghanistan, Hassan Kazemi Ghomi stressed sustained engagement of the international community with the interim Afghan government to ensure wellbeing and prosperity of the Afghan people.

Reaffirming Pakistan's abiding commitment to a peaceful and stable Afghanistan, MoS Khar underscored that deep-rooted fraternal ties underpin the strong bonds of soli-

arity between the two countries, the Foreign Office said in a statement.

As friends and neighbours of Afghanistan, the Minister of State highlighted the critical role of Pakistan and Iran in this regard.

Earlier, the Iranian Special Representative also met his Pakistani counterpart, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Ambassador Mohammad Sadiq. Both sides agreed to further strengthen their cooperation towards advancing the mutually reinforcing goals of regional peace and develop-

ment.

Abu Dhabi companies keen to invest in energy, agriculture sectors

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Abu Dhabi Holding Company and International Holding Company (IHC) have expressed their special interest to invest in energy, agriculture, healthcare and other sectors of Pakistan's economy.

According to press statement issued by finance ministry here on Thursday, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar held meeting with Chief Executive



Officer (CEO) and Managing Director, Abudhabi Holding Company, Mohammed

Al-Suwaidi and CEO and Managing Director International Holding Company, Syed Basar in Abu Dhabi.

According to press statement they discussed investment opportunities available in Pakistan.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Etisalat called Ishaq Dar at the Embassy of Pakistan, Abu Dhabi, the statement added.

The delegation apprised the minister about the ongoing Etisalat operations in Pakistan and their future business plans, it said.

Pakistan-Iran Joint Border Commission agrees on boosting bilateral trade

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-Iran Joint Border Commission has taken important decisions on border security, human smuggling and prevention of drugs, promotion of mutual cooperation for the establishment of peace and order on both sides of the border, provision of facilities to businessmen for an increase in trade activities, exchange of sports and culture and educational delegations and other related issues.

The two countries had issued a joint declaration on Thursday at the end of the 24th annual meeting of the commission about the issues and boosting the bilateral trade.

The Pakistani delegation was led by Chief Secretary Balochistan Abdul Aziz Uqaili while the delegation from Iran was led by Sistan-Balochistan Governor for Law and Order and



Enforcement Ali Raza Marhamati.

The two-day joint border commission meeting has discussed the movement of people at the Pak-Iran border, bilateral trade, drug traffic, and other issues relating to the more than 900 kms border between the two countries.

Delegations between the two coun-

tries have forwarded various proposals about boosting bilateral trade between Pakistan and Iran and the way forward. The two countries always hold the border commission meeting after every quarter.

In the meeting, issues related to border, trade and commerce, security issues, border security, culture and

education and other issues of mutual cooperation were discussed.

Addressing the meeting, Chief Secretary Balochistan Abdul Aziz Uqaili said that Iran and Pakistan have long-standing friendly relations.

The two brotherly Muslim countries have always tried to promote bilateral regional cooperation, he added.

He said that the purpose of the annual meeting is to strengthen the regional trade and other matters of mutual interest between the two countries in an efficient and orderly manner.

He said that it is the desire of both the countries that decisions should be taken keeping the welfare, development and prosperity of their people on both sides of the border.

He expressed his determination that Pakistan and Iran will continue bilateral regional cooperation and other matters of mutual interest.

ECP hears contempt case against Imran Khan, other PTI leaders

ISLAMABAD: The election commission on Thursday heard contempt case against Imran Khan, Asad Umar and Fawad Chaudhry. A four-member panel of the Election Commission of Pakistan headed by ECP member Nisar Durrani heard the case.

Advocate Ali Bukhari appeared on behalf of the PTI and sought the ECP to adjourn the case. "Faisal Chaudhry has been in Lahore and could not reach due to blockade of roads," the counsel said. "Anwar Mansoor has been in Karachi, I am an assistant lawyer and not the advocate in the case," Ali Bukhari further said. "They have in calls asked me to get adjourn-

ment in the case," he said.

"I am filing a written application from Anwar Mansoor for adjournment," the counsel added. "We have to meet the requirement of justice. You have yourself blocked roads and now saying could not come owing to roadblocks," ECP member observed. "The court has restrained the ECP against adverse action but not stopped from proceedings in the case," election commission member further remarked. "Issuing bailable warrants is not an adverse action," he added. The ECP panel adjourned hearing of the case until November 22.

Wide-range protests held against anti-people policies of Indian authorities in IIOJK

SRINAGAR: Wide-range protests were held against anti-people policies of the Indian authorities in parts of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The skilled and un-skilled laborers sat on a sit-in protest near the office of Super Highway in Jammu.

After passing of deadline given by labour union to enroll the local youth in construction of the highway, a number of skilled and unskilled but unemployed workers staged the protest. They were raising slogans in favor of their demands. A union leader Isher Dass Khajuria widely condemned the attitude of the authorities for ignoring the local unemployed youth and giving employment to outsiders. Meanwhile, the Nursing staff of SKIMS appointed under the academic arrangement also staged a protest against the Finance Department for sitting on a file which was submitted to it by the School Education Department that they were made to work without

getting paid. Scores of nurses appeared in the press enclave, Srinagar, holding placards and raising slogans in favour of their demands which included the continuation of their services.

We are working as nursing staff under the academic arrangement in SKIMS. We have been working there for more than 18 months. Firstly, we got the extension of one year and then we were verbally told to work for 6 months more, however, for that, we did not get any approval from the authorities, Mehreen, one of the protesting nurses said. She said that their salaries for those six months were not released either. The Contingent Paid Workers (CPWs) of the Education Department staged a protest against the Finance Department for sitting on a file which was submitted to it by the School Education Department that they were made to work without

AJK Varsity holds 19th Convocation, awards degrees to 12,000 students

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UJK) held its 19th Convocation at the King Abdullah Campus of the university on Thursday and awarded a total of over 1000 degrees to the graduates in various disciplines.

President Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry who is also chancellor of the University was Chief Guest on the occasion and awarded Gold Medals to 49 distinctions holders.

The President conferred degrees to 25 Ph.D., 201 MPhils, and 774 M.A. /MSc, BS, B.Com, and LLB students.

In his address, President Sultan congratulated the students and their proud parents on the highest achievement of their life and encouraged them to move forward in their respective fields.

"This is a day of gratification for the parents of many of you; who invested their time, energy, and hard-earned money in educating you. In many cases,



your parents might have sacrificed their personal happiness and pleasures to make sure that you get the best education that leads to your better future", the President said.

The AJK President advised the student to prepare themselves for playing their role for the freedom and liberty of their brother and sisters living on the other side of the Line of Control and facing barbarism at the hands of occupation troops. He said that the enslaved people of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are looking towards the youth in the

liberated territory for the realization of their supreme struggle for freedom and liberty.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, Vice-Chancellor of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir University, on the occasion presented academic, research, and curricular and extracurricular facets of the past year in the Vice-Chancellor Report. He congratulated the successful graduates and appreciated dedicating efforts of university teachers to producing these young graduates and scholars, who are the pride and source of pleasure

for their parents, the university, and the community.

Highlighting the significance of the event, he said convocation is a landmark in the academic and professional life of a student. It is not only the day of rewards in the form of degrees, distinctions, and honors but is also a day for starting a new journey to contribute to the nation and the coming generations.

Terming the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir as an academic nucleus in the state, which provides education in multidisciplinary academic domains, ranging from Engineering to Medical Sciences – and from Social to Basic and Applied Sciences is currently offering 86 degree programs in 29 disciplines under its four faculties. The student enrolment in the university has gone up to about nine thousand, which is a strong indicator of the services and competitive quality of education provided by it.

Earlier, an impressive academic procession led by Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor was conducted as a part of students' graduation ceremony.

CBD started construction of Boulevard and Kalma Chowk Underpass



Bureau Report

LAHORE: Thursday, November 10, 2022, Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District (CBD Punjab), has started construction of CBD Punjab Boulevard and Kalma Chowk Underpass remodeling. Authority has also issued a road closure advisory for the project.

Executive Director Technical PCBDDA, Mr. Riaz Hussain while talking to the media said "We are constructing two more barrels from the existing underpass. Over 2000+ pile beams will be installed for the construction of CBD Punjab Boulevard. The rig machine is doing excavation up to 70 ft for a sound foundation. In the next phase, we will start cage preparation for retention piles. He further added that with the mutual consent of the City Traffic Police the authority has issued a road closure advisory and has placed diversion signs in the city, to avoid any inconvenience for the daily commuters.

The authority has decided to close Kalma Chowk Underpass for all types of traffic for a month. In the starting phase, there will be a road closure for two weeks from Saint Marry Park to Centre Point. Traffic coming from Ferozepur Road and going towards Centre Point will be diverted through Kalma Chowk Underpass towards Centre Point. The authority has planned that they will close the roads for a specific time period in accordance with the development in the construction work to avoid inconvenience for travelers.

Beaconhouse successfully concludes its 15th School of Tomorrow Conference



PAKISTAN: Beaconhouse, the country's largest network of private educational institutions, has successfully wrapped up the 15th edition of its flagship 'School of Tomorrow' (SOT) conferences, themed at 'Guardians of the Future' today.

The three-day conference brimmed with multiple insightful discussions with over 150 global and local thought leaders in education, healthcare, athletics, social and environmental development. Educationists, senior advisors, diplomats, policymakers, and experts from various fields came together to conclude this three-day event on a high note.

Focused on current and future educational standards, the opening session of the SOT conference featured a live discussion on 'Setting Directions for the World of Tomorrow' and its progress highlighted by CEO of Beaconhouse Group Kasim Kasuri, with the presence of Cynthia Guyer, Dr. John Siraj Blachford, Rashid Rana, and Namira Saleem.

Mr. Sean Covey, President of Franklin Covey Education and author of the acclaimed book 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens', talks to a group of teens about the timeless habits that help teenagers improve their self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, and achieve their goals. Furthermore, the discussion provided guidance for the next generation to not only realise their potential but also become efficient leaders of tomorrow.

A prominent panel discussion titled, 'Setting a Stage for Tomorrow's School', The discussion addressed the changing role of education and the nature of schools over the next 30 years and beyond. A clear consensus pointed towards a rapidly globalising economy for which a new type of worker is required – one that can learn and adapt, keep pace with, and anticipate progress in every field.

Speaking about the conference, Kasim Kasuri, Event Chair and CEO of Beaconhouse, said, "We are absolutely overwhelmed to have conducted our 15th edition of School of Tomorrow after six years in Lahore. The SOT conference was able to create awareness regarding the rights of children and young people while ensuring a safer and brighter tomorrow for their future guardians. The informative and interactive sessions were attended by wide range of students and young people that will help them build a better tomorrow for themselves and for generations to come. We aim to live by our agenda to enable and empower our children today to ensure an inclusive and peaceful tomorrow."

Anti-Encroachment drive

LAHORE: Workers of Anti-Encroachment Squad carrying push carts on their loading van after an anti-encroachment operation at Mall Road, in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

China & Pakistan explore more avenues for mutual benefits in all fields of life. Amb. Lin Songtain

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: China & Pakistan should jointly explore more avenues in social cultural & economic sectors for mutual benefits. This was stated by Amb. Lin Songtain President Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) China, while talking with Deputy Chairman Senate of Pakistan Senator Mirza Muhammad Afridi at later's residence alongwith 6 members high profile delegation. Chinese charge d Affairs Madam Pang Chunxue, Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) Executive Committee Member Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Secretary-General Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani were also present on the occasion.

The visiting Chinese dignitaries Amb. Lin Songtain in appreciate the efforts of PCFA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during past more then 3 decades and we can explore more avenues with mutual understanding can learn from each experience for speed up social pros-



perity and economic development. CPAFFC President Lin Songtain also share his experience during his stay in African Continent as Chinese Ambassador and mentioned that honest efforts with clear vision can bring new heights in our society behavior positivity.

Earlier Deputy Chairman Senate of Pakistan Senator Mirza Muhammad Afridi welcome the visiting CPAFFC delegation headed by its President and accompanied by Chinese Official- ing Amb. Madam Pang Chunxue and

extend thanks on behalf of the people of Pakistan for China assistance during floods and mentioned that we should take the advantage of both China & Pakistan historical and exemplary relationship for further strengthening mutual relationship for coming generations. He mentioned that we should further strengthen people to people and sister city relationship to get benefit from each other experiences. Later on traditional Souvenirs were exchanged and were appreciated from both sides

Two terrorists arrested in CTD operation in Quetta

Raja Furqan Ahmed

QUETTA: Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) arrested two terrorists during an operation in Quetta. According to CTD spokesperson, the CTD conducted an intelligence-based operation on the outskirts of the provincial capital Quetta during which two alleged terrorists were arrested. The spokesperson said that the arrested terrorists have confessed carrying out terrorist activities in Khuzdar and other parts of Balochistan. The CTD personnel also recovered explosive material and arms from the arrested terrorists. The terrorists are part from Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) Terrorist Group. Meanwhile, CTD on Tuesday night arrested four terrorists in separate intelligence-based operations (IBO) in areas of Bashir Chowk and Qamb-rani Road in Quetta, Balochistan. According to a CTD spokesperson, all four terrorists belonged to a banned outfit.

Pakistan urgently needs significant investments in climate resilience

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Climate change-induced disasters could significantly set back Pakistan's development ambitions and its ability to reduce poverty. To foster people-centric climate adaptation and resilience, the country needs fundamental shifts in its development path and policies, requiring substantial investments including international support, according to the World Bank Group's Country Climate and Development Report (CCDR) for Pakistan released today.

This year's climate change-induced heat wave followed by devastating and unprecedented floods have caused more than 1,700 deaths and displaced more than 8 million people.

The destructive effects on infrastructure, assets, crops, and livestock have also been massive, with over 33 million people affected across the country and more than \$30 billion in damages and economic losses.

The report notes that the combined risks of extreme climate-related events, environmental degradation, and air pollution are projected to reduce Pakistan's GDP by at least 18 to 20% by 2050. This will stall progress on economic development and poverty reduction.

"The recent flooding and humanitarian crisis provide a wake-up call for urgent action to prevent further devastation to the people of Pakistan and its economy due to climate change," said Martin Raiser, World Bank Vice

President for South Asia. "Accelerated climate actions can protect the economy from shocks and secure more sustainable and inclusive growth in Pakistan."

The report recommends five priority transitions to adapt to climate change: transform the agri-food system; build resilient and livable cities; accelerate a just transition to sustainable energy and low-carbon transport; strengthen human capital to achieve sustained and equitable development and climate resilience; and align financing policies, incentives, and institutions to support the scale-up of climate actions.

To implement a climate-resilient and low-carbon development pathway, estimates of total investment needs up to 2030 amount to over 10% of the



cumulative GDP for the period. The report recommends accelerating the reforms to expand domestic revenue mobilization, including by raising new municipal and property taxes to finance urban investments. It highlights the importance of improving efficiency and targeting of subsidies for agriculture and energy while protecting the most vulnerable. Yet, even ambitious increases in fiscal resources over the coming

years will not be enough for Pakistan to finance all the needed investments, so significant international support and private investment will be essential.

"If we want to tackle climate change, we need to prioritize investing in adaptation to help prepare Pakistan for future climate-related calamities, which are growing in frequency and intensity," said Hela Cheikhrouhou, IFC Regional Vice President for Middle East, Central Asia, Türkiye, Afghanistan and Pakistan. "With the right policy frameworks, Pakistan has the opportunity to attract private investment to build its resilience, particularly in sectors such as water management, agriculture, urban infrastructure, municipal services, and housing." Pakistan is not a significant contrib-

utor to global warming, but it is on a high-growth trajectory of carbon emissions linked to fossil fuel use. This is also a source of the country's chronic fiscal stress and worsening air pollution. Therefore, climate actions that bring co-benefits to both adaptation and mitigation and contribute to improving development outcomes should have the highest priority.

"Foreign private capital can play an important role in addressing the climate change challenges in Pakistan," said Ethiopia Tafara, MIGA Vice President and Chief Risk, Legal and Administrative Officer. "Sustaining flows of foreign direct investment that support climate mitigation and adaptation will contribute toward financing Pakistan's low-carbon transition."



Islamabad
23° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:09 am
Zohr 11:52 am
Asr 3:30 pm
Maghrib 5:08 pm
Isha 6:34 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
DHQ 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79
Polyclinic 9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

DEPARTMENTS

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

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

Dry weather expected in most parts of country: PMD

ISLAMABAD: Dry weather is expected in most parts of the country. However, rain-wind and thunderstorm is expected in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir.

Temperatures of some major cities recorded on Thursday morning, Islamabad eleven degree centigrade, Lahore sixteen, Karachi twenty-two, Peshawar thirteen, Quetta seven, Gilgit eight, Murree seven and Muzaffarabad nine degree centigrade.

According to Met Office forecast for Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, cloudy weather with chances of rain-wind and thunderstorm is expected in Srinagar, Jammu, Leh, Pulwama, Anantnag, Shopian and Baramulla while cloudy weather with chances of rain-thunderstorm and snow over mountains. Temperature recorded.

Srinagar, Pulwama, Shopian and Baramulla six degree centigrade, Jammu fourteen, Leh minus one and Anantnag five degree centigrade.

Only int'l sections can make India answerable: Mushaal

Urges UNHRC to suspend India's membership for continued HR violations in IIOJK

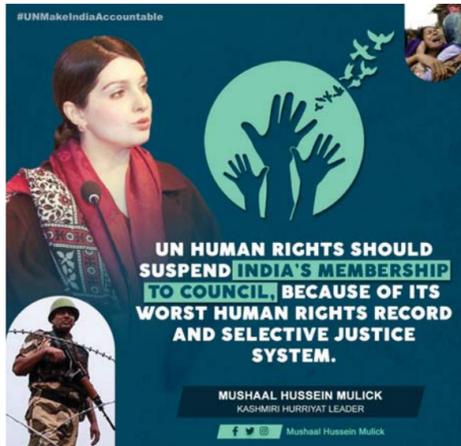
Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Mullick Chairperson Peace and Culture Organisation demanded that UN human rights council (UNHRC) should suspend India's membership to the council, for its failure to address the key human rights concerns expressed by United Nations and the OIC during third Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Mushaal, wife of senior hurriyat leader Yasin Malik, in a statement on Thursday said that only international sections can make India answerable.

Despite strong protests from human rights organizations including the United Nations and the OIC, the Indian Government has failed to address the key human rights concerns expressed during third UPR, she added.

She appreciated over two hundred civil society groups for raising concerns over the worsening situation in IIOJK and the world should take steps to resolve the Kashmir dispute as per the wishes of the people of Kashmir.



Mushaal further said that the Narandra Modi led Indian government crossed all limits of brutalities and fascism; hence the world powers and human rights organizations should have to come forwards to stop the ongoing genocide and ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri people.

She said that the Indian government was violating all international norms, conven-

tions, and obligations in the occupied valley with complete impunity sans any fear from the world powers because of their common commercial interests as Indian being the largest business center.

The hurriyat leader went on to say that India was miss-using anti-terror laws against people of political dissent, human rights defenders and journalist,

demanding the rights watchdogs to join their hands to hold the Indian government accountable and ask the government to address key human rights issues that have been neglected for too long.

Mushaal said that the world powers and UN bodies should press Indian government to reverse 5TH August unlawful action, because it was not only in sheer violation of the spirit of the Geneva conventions but also against UNSC resolutions on Kashmir.

She stated that colonial-era tactics such as criminalizing freedom of expression and opinion, reprisals against human rights defenders and civil society activists were being used as a tool to suppress the voices of dissent in the occupied valley. The Chairperson appealed that the international community should press the fascist Indian government to repeal all draconian laws, release political prisoners, and human rights defenders and give access to the UN special rapporteur and other mandate holders to IIOJK to assess the situation on the ground.

Iqbal Day at ISA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League (N) senator Irfan Siddiqui cutting the cake along with students during Calligraphy and Digital Photographic exhibition on the eve of Iqbal Day at Information Service Academy in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Smog awareness seminar held

ISLAMABAD: Punjab Highway Patrol police held a smog awareness seminar at a private college here on Thursday.

District Superintendent Police (DSP) Malik Muhammad Amin, mobile education unit, teachers and large number of students attended the seminar. While addressing, the DSP said that smog was a combination of smoke and fog which may cause flu, irritation in eyes, and worsen lung diseases.

He advised the participants to avoid going out unnecessarily, wear glasses and mask, keep doors and windows closed, frequently wash hands and face and in case of throat



Iqbal Day Celebrated at Islamabad Boys Scouts Association, Principal Modern Language School Mr Billal Ellahi, and Sec IBSA Shahid Saleem Gorski presenting participation certificate to a Student.

infection gargle with warm water.

Incharge Education unit Rizwan Bhatti educates the students about road safety and traffic rules as well as urged for positive use of social media.

He said that driving under 18-years was prohibited in the law, hence parents should not handover keys of vehicles to their children. He asked the students to abide by the traffic signs, road crossings, traffic signals, line and lane. Use of cell phones while driving was perilous, he added. He said that help line 1124 was active and commuters should use it in case of any mishap on highways. INP

AIOU Inks MoU with PAF

ISLAMABAD: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony was held between Allama Iqbal Open University and Provost Training School, PAF regarding allotment of quota for admissions of Post Graduate Diploma Program in Criminology for PAF officers yesterday.

The ceremony was presided over by Prof. Dr. Nasir Mehmood, Dean Faculty of Education while Air Commodore, Maqsood Akhtar represented the Provost Training School team. According to the agreement, Allama Iqbal Open University will allocate a special quota for Post Graduate Diploma (Criminology) admissions for the students of Provost Training School and also review the criminology courses along with the school management, teachers, officers and experts.

The Provost Training School will enroll officers as per the dedicated slots in PGD Criminology for PAF officers. According to the agreement, exchange of faculty, conducting joint research



activities, publication of research, educational materials along with the exchange of knowledge and sharing of training facilities are included in the agreement.

The documents of the agreement were signed by Raja Umar Younis, Registrar AIOU and Air Commodore Maqsood Akhtar of PAF. Speaking on the occasion, Maqsood Akhtar said that there is a need for theory along with practical in criminology

and policing, and AIOU will fulfill the need.

He said that Allama Iqbal Open University is producing competent professionals in every field and these services of the university are commendable for fulfilling the needs of society. He said that we have students in every institution of the country, now the officers of Pakistan Air Force will also be our students as well.

Chairman, Department of Sociolo-

gy, Dr. Syed Imran Haider highlighted the importance and need of this study.

Meanwhile, a walk was also organized in the university in memory of Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The walk was led by Director Student Affairs, Rana Tariq Javed, Director General Regional Services, Dr. Malik Tauqeer Ahmed Khan, Controller Examinations, Mian Muhammad Riaz and Director Public Relations, Dr. Bakht Rawan. Speaking at the end of the walk, Dr. Bakht Rawan said that Allama Iqbal is not only a poet of the East but also a benefactor of Pakistan.

The dream of a free homeland for Muslims is his great kindness to the Pakistani nation, which we will always remember. Dr. Malik Tauqeer Ahmed Khan said that we are grateful to Iqbal for dreaming of a separate country. Thinking of a separate homeland for Muslims while living in united India, is a great favor to us Pakistanis which we can never forget and will always pay tribute to him on his birthday.

Hamdard Naunehal Assembly session held



Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Ms. Sadia Rashid, President of Hamdard Foundation Pakistan has said that the socio-economic development of any country along with its respect and perception in the global community relies solely upon the cognitive and intellectual capabilities of its young workforce.

She said this in her presidential address at Hamdard Naunehal Assembly session yesterday on the topic: "The way of the hermit, not fortune, is mine; Sell not your soul! In a beggar's rags shine," held at Bait-ul-Hikmah Auditorium, Madinat al-Hikmah to mark the 9th November, birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal. Prominent financial expert Muhammad Arshad was invited as chief guest.

She said Allama Iqbal wanted to see the youth of his nation as hard-working with high thoughts than the youth of other nations. "Almost all of his poetry, his thoughts, golden sayings, and advice were meant to address the young generation. Both Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said and Allama Iqbal see the future of their nation in children. We should deeply study the lives of our forefathers and make the name of our country known throughout the world by understanding the knowledge and wisdom our elders have left for us," she concluded.

Muhammad Arshad, the chief guest of the event, said that Allama Iqbal's poetic philosophy was a doctrine for nation-building and development. "Allah has bestowed every one of us with immense abilities and by exploring and utilizing those abilities, we can realize our dreams into a reality," he said.

He added that today's topic was actually advice, given by Allama Iqbal to his son Javed Iqbal.

Young speakers including Leader of the House Nabihah Jamal, Leader of the Opposition Umar Mubeen Mughal, and others said that Allama Iqbal's idea of Khuddi selfhood requires purposeful action and the strengthening of the self even as it expands the value of human existence by elevating it closer to the divine.

Later, Ms. Sadia Rashid and chief guest distributed gift hampers among the children. Meeting was concluded after students of Hamdard Public School presented Dua-i-Said.

RCCI "2nd Food Fest" to begin today



Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) is going to organize the second edition of Pindi Food Fest (Food Mela) from 11th to 13th November at Ayub Park.

The aim of organizing the food festival is to promote traditional and regional cuisine, introduce new flavors and provide opportunities to entrepreneurs for networking and branding.

Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce President Saqib Rafiq has said that more than fifty stalls of different types of food will be set up in the three-day fair. Women entrepreneurs who are associated with the food business are also being given an opportunity to launch their own brand. "This will also enable them to expand their business networks by interacting with other women entrepreneurs. Another goal of this festival is to encourage and inspire women who have not yet started their businesses to enter into the field of entrepreneurship, he added.

He said that the Rawalpindi Chamber is going to do this event for the second time, last year we got good feedback. He further informed that on the occasion of the food festival, there will also be a musical evening, kid's carnival for the entertainment of families.

Wana, police action against vehicles with black glasses, black glasses of many vehicles were cleaned at Tanai CP.



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: On the instructions of DPO Attiqullah Wazir in tribal district of Lower Waziristan, the police have started taking strong action against vehicles with black glasses,

Sub-Inspector Asmatullah Wazir, Usman Wazir and Shah Mohammad Dottani of Tanai Check Post in Lower Waziristan, along with a heavy police force, took action against black glasses by cleaning the black glasses of several vehicles and forbidding them from installing black glasses in the future, has been warned.

At the same time strict checking of suspicious vehicles was started, the police officers posted at the CheyPost also requested the public's cooperation in this regard.

The police say that we are doing all this for the protection of the people, because our mission is to provide security to the people.

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Saidpur Village: A wide array of religious and cultural heritage

Ghaania Usman

Saidpur Village is a major tourist destination located in Islamabad. It hosts a wide array of religious and cultural heritage. The area was inhabited by Muslims, Hindus, and Sikhs before 1947. The village land was acquired by the Capital Development Authority (CDA) in the late '70s. The major historical buildings on site are a Mandir, a Sikh temple, and a Dharamshala. During 2006-2008, the village went through a major renovation, with the aim of making Saidpur a "Model Tourist Village". It is important to appreciate that this renovation played a major role in developing Saidpur village. It is now a highly popular tourist spot that has received visits from many officials such as the Prime Minister, Army Chief, and various other delegates and foreign diplomats.

In recent years, there is not sufficient attention being given to tourist spots that hold great significance. Sites that hold religious importance for minority groups often suffer from a lack of correct resources or enough funds and recognition from the government. Saidpur Village is one of these sites. The area has not been properly restored for a

while and remains poverty-ridden where locals lack access to jobs.

The natural beauty of Saidpur village serves as a major source of attraction for tourists. The site is situated on the slope of Margalla hills in the midst of a lot of greenery. Due to the rapid increase in the population of the area, this natural beauty is slowly being lost. Large-scale deforestation is being carried out to meet the energy needs of the increasing population. As a result, air pollution has increased and the quality of life has declined. This environmental harm has caused the natural appeal of the area for tourists to be damaged.

The renovation of Saidpur Village in 2006-2008 played a significant role in making it a highly visited tourist destination. However, since then the village has not been through any renovation or restoration. The majority of the population lacks access to basic utilities such as electricity, water, and gas. Such utilities remain restricted to only a percentage of the population. Other infrastructural problems include a lack of furniture to accommodate old or immobilized people.

Pottery shops are a major source of attraction and an integral part of the local culture. Many people used to make earnings through local arts and crafts shops. Some of this pottery

is from pre-partition times and holds great historical importance. These shops have been pushed far away from the tourist attractions. Here, they lack a sufficient amount of space to display pottery items such as mechanical clay trains and fountains. Shop owners need more exposed spaces that are accessible to tourists.

Saidpur Village was a place of fusion of three different cultures. Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs lived together in the area which is reflected in the living styles of the people. Even now, Saidpur Village receives a diverse range of tourists. However, there is a lack of facilities to accommodate Hindu and Sikh tourists, despite the major attractions being specific to their culture. Tour guides do not have enough information on the religious context of these sites. They also do not have access to scriptures that might be relevant to the area. There is a language barrier between the tourists and tour guides.

To deal with these issues, local officials have asked for more government support and management. This is required to bring the cultural, religious, and historical significance of Saidpur Village to the forefront. Through investing in higher advertisements to increase awareness, the site will be able to receive even more tourists than it already

does, thus bringing greater returns.

Furthermore, there is a large bakramandi outside the entrance of the village, situated next to a primary school. This has been constructed illegally without any permits. According to locals, the mandi gives a bad impression of the village to tourists and international delegations. Waste is dumped right next to the entrance of the area which causes a putrid smell to develop. This encroachment problem should be looked into and it must be ensured that the locals who have been residing in this area before the creation of Islamabad are accommodated. Locals recommend the imposition of stronger fines and stricter government enforcement of the law.

Afforestation is required to preserve the natural beauty of the area. Systems for protecting newly planted trees and preventing deforestation are also necessary. To deal with encroachment and the resulting pollution, there should be great government management and stronger fines for those who cut down trees or seize land from surrounding areas of the village.

In regard to infrastructural issues, there is a dire need to ensure the provision of basic utilities. Sewage and sanitation systems need to be improved and developed. Pottery shops

and arts and crafts shops should be maintained and given more open exposed spaces. More funding also needs to be given for the maintenance of the historical sites.

For more religious tolerance and inclusion, the training of local officials is necessary to allow better accommodation for tourists from different religious and cultural backgrounds. Not only should the existing tour guides be properly informed, but individuals who belong to the relevant religions should be appointed as tour guides.

Alongside this, it is required for the government to aid more towards supporting the locals that live in this area. There is a need for ensuring a higher standard of living and stable income for households. The rapidly increasing population is proving to create immense overcrowding.

Next to this, since the youth of this village is very well-educated and literate, the government should look into providing employment for them. Those with arts and crafts or pottery shops should also be looked after to stabilize their income and also to create greater appeal for tourists.

With these measures taken, Saidpur Village will be able to reach its full potential and create great economic growth for our country.

Pakistan using CIIIE platform to expand trade with China, World

Pakistan is using the platform of China International Import Expo (CIIIE) to expand trade with China and the world.

"Using this platform of China International Import Expo, we are working together to expand trade with China and also the world," noted Moin ul Haque, Pakistan's Ambassador to China.

Scheduled from November 5 to 10, the 5th China International Import Expo (CIIIE) provides a platform for companies from around the world to display their products, promote their brands, and find more business partners in the world's second-largest economy. It witnessed an active engagement of Pakistani officials, experts, merchants and so on.

Pakistani media representative attended the first CIIIE back in 2018. As he sees it, the initiative of the import expo launched by China was a new phase of economic opening up. The unique idea of CIIIE also successfully gathered international business delegates and global companies to exhibit their products for an efficient and smooth launch in the 2nd largest economy in the world.

"The significant attendance of international business community and international organization generated a message for the global community, that is, yes China is open and is welcoming all to export their products in world's largest market of consumers," he told CEN.

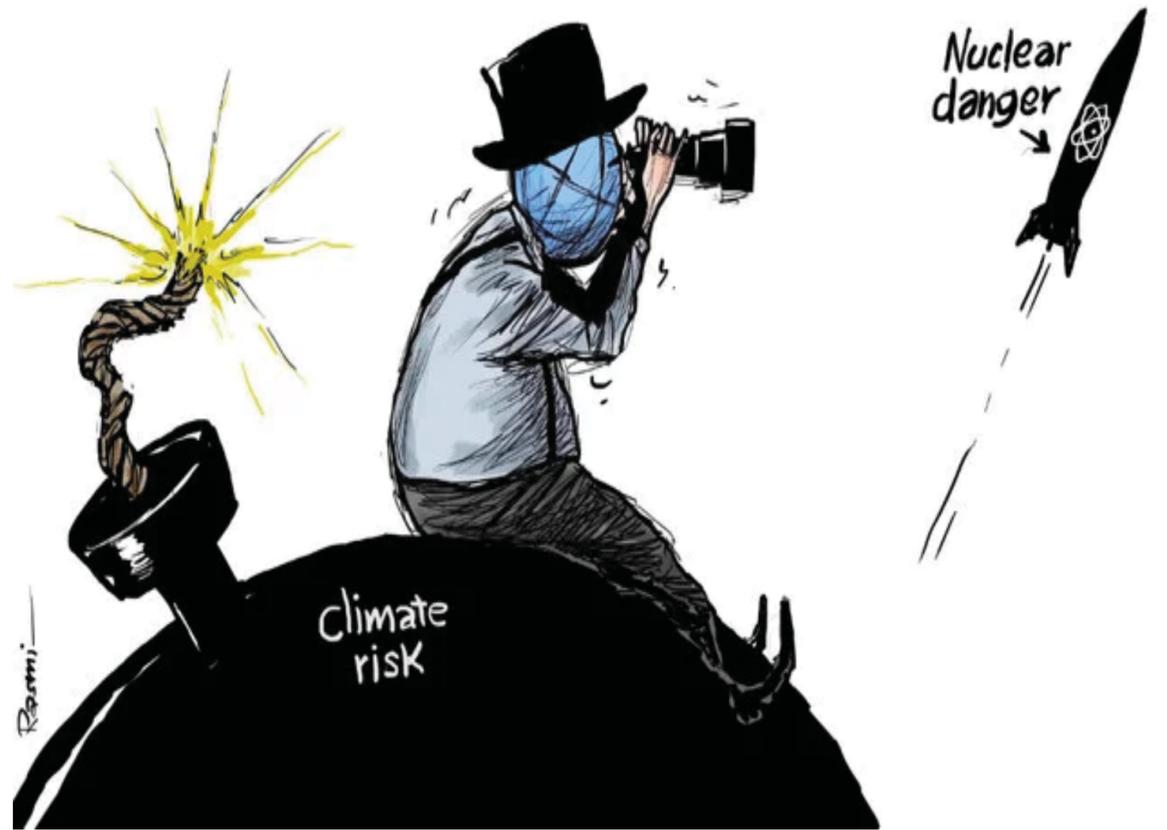
Pakistani traders in sectors of agriculture, leather, biscuit products, confectionery items, seafood, woven fabric, minerals, cutlery and dates, sports goods, dry fruits, garments, furniture, jewellery, and precious stones have been making a good presence in the Chinese market by using the CIIIE platform.

"We also welcome Chinese firms to invest in Pakistan," said Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of Pakistan in China, adding "There is so much to be done, and we are looking forward to it."

Since 2018, CIIIE has been providing consistent advantages to the Pakistani business community to attract and develop trade relationships with the Chinese market.

Courtesy of the booming Sino-Pak trade and investment cooperation coupled with important platforms such as CIIIE, Pakistan's overall export to China has registered steady growth in recent years.

The increasing presence of Pakistani products in the Chinese market "will definitely help the south Asian country narrow trade deficit with China and explore the Chinese market to their advantage," the representative said.



The massacre of Khuhra mosque

Asadullah Mahesar

Makhdoom Abdul Rehman Shaheed was one of the pious and God-loving men of Sindh. He was a renowned spiritual guide as well as a religious scholar of Khuhra town, district Khairpur, Sindh. When his famousness spread among the masses and people of near and far were attracted to his circle, the then ruler of that time, Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhoro, dreaded of overtaking of Makhdoom. But Makhdoom did not have such intention to rebel against the ruler. The Kalhoro family, the native rulers of Sindh, get hold of political power either based on righteousness or in the name of religion. However, they were not the chieftain of such a remarkable clan or tribe. Hence, they had always worried about the growing influence of God-fearing men like Shah Inayat Shaheed and Makhdoom Abdul Rehman who publicly identified the unlawful deeds and exercises of rulers. Thus, Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhoro expected an opportunity to put down the dread of Makhdoom.

Once upon a time, a devotee of Makhdoom made a complaint to his master about a Sayyid of Rohri who used to harass his wife. Makhdoom accepted the request and wrote to the Sayyids of Rohri to avert their man from such cruel deeds to assist the destitute people. Moreover, Makhdoom went to Khudabad, the then capital of

Sindh, at the request of the oppressor and warned Mian Noor Muhammad boldly to control his rambler men. Besides, the Sayyids of Rohri had patronage by the rulers resultantly they did not recant from such immodest deeds.

Therefore, Makhdoom dispatched the

Makhdoom along with his followers gathered in the mosque to pray Zuhur Namaz (mid-day prayer). It was the last prayer of a God-fearing man (Makhdoom) and his all 222 followers, who were present in the mosque, were cruelly martyred there by the force of Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhoro.

devotee and his wife to his hometown along with some trusty men. En route, some wanderer Sayyids assailed Makhdoom's men hence, slaughtering took place on both sides in which one of them a Sayyid perished during this confrontation. Thus, the suffering Sayyids complained to the officialdom of Rohri named Moeen Dahar, who was already opposed to Makhdoom conse-

quently he wrote to Mian Noor Muhammad by enticing against Makhdoom. Likewise, Mian Noor Muhammad had already been looking for such opportunity to compress Makhdoom and his growing influence.

Thus, Mian Noor Muhammad sent a huge army of four thousand along with a butcher to Khuhra to revenge for the killing of a Sayyid of Rohri. Thus, Khuhra town was surrounded by the army led by Dawood, a soldier of Kalhoro. As soon as the people heard that the Kalhoro's army had been encircled to Makhdoom then thousands of disciples assembled before Makhdoom to save their master. But Makhdoom refused to take any assistance from his followers to fight against the state and ordered them back to their homes. Makhdoom accentuated to his devotees that they would not resist the force because they had accepted the martyrdom by heart and soul.

Accordingly, Makhdoom along with his followers gathered in the mosque to pray Zuhur Namaz (mid-day prayer). It was the last prayer of a God-fearing man (Makhdoom) and his all 222 followers, who were present in the mosque, were cruelly martyred there by the force of Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhoro. Thus, a huge mass slaughtering of innocent people who were on the way to Truth had been self-sacrificed in the mosque of Makhdoom of Khuhra in the year 1732.

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How Arab American politicians can best serve their community

Ray Hanania

Even though we saw a slight increase in the number of Arabs and Muslims who ran for and won office in Tuesday's midterm elections in the US, the key to being effective is not in your ethnicity, religion or nationality. That is a fallacy that many Arab and Muslim candidates take with them when they win elections and serve in public office.

What is really needed is for victorious Arab and Muslim candidates to focus on strengthening their voices and agendas by building coalitions through achieving consensus and compromise with elected officials of other ethnic and religious backgrounds, and even with members of the other political party.

A good example of how an Arab American can fail to achieve results on so-called Arab issues is Michigan congresswoman Rep. Rashida Tlaib. Although she is popular, having won reelection for a third term in office this week, she has not been able to usher in laws that help the Palestinian cause, which she often touts as an important issue. What she does very well is being able to address the needs of the general population of her congressional district, which is more white, Hispanic and African American than Arab or Muslim American. She does a great job pushing through policies that help all of the residents of her district.

But she is not very good at effecting policies for the Palestinians and, because she herself is a Palestinian American, that is a priority expectation for many members of the public. As a Muslim who wears her Palestinian identity on her sleeve, can she get laws passed to help the Palestinian people?

The answer is no. Tlaib can partner with a small number of like-minded members of Congress, but she cannot seem to get other legislators, who may disagree with her on bigger political issues, to co-sponsor her bills. Her introduction in May of a bill recognizing the Palestinian Nakba in Congress was effectively dead on arrival because it had only a handful of co-sponsors, with at least 218 supporters needed for it to become law.

This is a handicap for Palestinian, Arab and Muslim elected officials who want to focus on helping their heritage constituency's foundations. What they need to do is identify needs that can be shared with others and build a coalition, such as what African American Cyril Nichols, a state legislator in Illinois, has done.

Democrat Nichols, who was appointed to represent the 32nd Illinois district last year, won election to his seat on Tuesday by a wide margin. His district includes a slice of Chicagoland's large Arab American, mostly Palestinian, population. After taking his seat in the state legislature, he identified a need that Arab Americans have, which is to receive their share of the contracts Illinois awards to businesses.

To help minority businesses, Illinois has created a Minority Business Enterprise program that sets aside 25 percent of the \$46 billion it awards in annual contracts to "designated minorities" who own businesses. Under this scheme, minorities including Blacks, Hispanics, and Asians benefit from contracts worth about \$13.5 billion. Nichols has said he wants to include Arabs in the program for the first time.

• Ray Hanania is an award-winning former Chicago City Hall political reporter and columnist. Courtesy ARABNEWS

Japanese envoy inaugurates water supply projects in Faisalabad

Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan WADA Mitsuhiro on Thursday inaugurated two different projects in Faisalabad which would eventually increase daily water supply to the residents and reduce electricity cost for the purpose.

An inaugural ceremony for Japanese grant aid "The Project for Replacement of Pumping Machinery at Inline Booster Pumping Station and Terminal Reservoir in Faisalabad" and groundbreaking ceremony for Japanese grant aid "The Project for the Improvement of Water Treatment Plant and Water Distribution System in Faisalabad" were held with attendance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office Chief Representative KINOSHITA Yasumitsu, Provincial Minister of Punjab for Mines and Minerals Nazar Latif, Commissioner Faisalabad Division Muhammad Shahid Niaz, and Vice chairman WASA Faisalabad Shahid Javed, said a news release.

The Government of Japan and JICA has supported water supply system development in WASA Faisalabad (WASA-F) since 2004 to strengthen urban water service for sustainability.

"The Project for Replacement of Pumping Machinery at Inline Booster Pumping Station and Terminal Reservoir in Faisalabad" accomplished replacement of inefficient transmission pumps with new efficient ones, construction of pumping station, and rehabilitation of reservoirs using 1.616



billion Japanese Yen.

Through these components, reduction of electricity cost and increase of daily maximum water supply will be achieved.

JICA assisted WASA-F to formulate the Master Plan in 2019, targeting next 20 years of future water supplies, sewerage and drainage in Faisalabad, to become first successful water utility in Pakistan as a role model for other water utilities.

"The Project for the Improvement of Water Treatment Plant and Water Distribution System in Faisalabad" has been formulated as a priority project under the Master Plan, aiming not only to increase the water supply capacity for the currently unserved 50,000

inhabitants, but also to expand the output of the pilot projects in the grant project's target area.

The objective of this project is renewing of the Old Jhal Khanuana Water Treatment Plant and rehabilitation of water transmission and distribution facilities thereby contributing to improvement of water supply system in Faisalabad City under this 4.094 billion Japanese Yen grant aid project. JICA is also planning to assist WASA-F through a new technical cooperation project for improving their management capacity.

Through this continuous assistance, WASA-F is expected to enhance water supply service level, improve customer satisfaction, improve tariff revenue,

and financial condition of WASA-F for future investment leading further to better services. This "Faisalabad model" would become a replicable model for other cities in the future.

At the signing ceremony, Ambassador WADA stated, "Japan will continue to cooperate with Pakistan in the field of water, including the supply of safe water and the improvement of sewage treatment.

With those efforts, I hope that people of Pakistan will remember Japan not only as the country of rising sun but also as the source of clean water."

KINOSHITA Yasumitsu while speaking at the ceremony said "JICA is expecting WASA Faisalabad to take the leading role in sharing tips and lessons learned from our projects to be utilized for reforming water supply management not only in Faisalabad and Punjab province but throughout the country.

I hope this grant aid project will be successful not only as a single project but as a significant milestone for having a positive impact on the improvement of water supply services in Pakistan in the future. JICA will keep contributing to the sustainable development of water supply sector in Pakistan."

Ambassador WADA and KINOSHITA emphasized the importance of water supply services for Pakistan.

The Government of Japan and JICA will continue to assist water supply services conducted by the Government of Punjab and the Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

PM visits to Cardiac Hospital at Bank Road



Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, has directed that the OPD of Cardiac Hospital Muzaffarabad should be made operational within 60 days. "Cardiac surgeons and other professional staff should be appointed immediately on a 24/7 basis, and incinerator should be installed for the disposal of waste material originating from the hospital", the Prime minister said this while visiting the health care facility near Bank Road Muzaffarabad today.

During the inspection the PM said that elevators should be installed in the hospital for the convenience of the patients. The Prime Minister instructed the Public Health Secretary to re-evaluate the allocation of wards in terms of the sensitivity of the cardiac hospital and the convenience of the patients.

"In case of non-availability of professional human resources, professional staff from other provinces should be taken on contract basis", he said. In order to protect patients from noise pollution, he said, the hospital should be made soundproof. He said that proper arrangements should be made to filter the water supplied to the hospital.

The Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir directed that one more cath lab machine should be purchased as a backup and the hospital Electricity backup should also be arranged according to the need. He directed that special arrangements should be made for quality equipment, machinery, furniture and safe disposal of bed linen. The Prime Minister directed that if possible, a counter should be made in an area of the entrance and wheelchair and stretcher facilities should be kept in mind for the patients and their families coming to the hospital.

China, Pakistan sign MOU on TCM cooperation



BEIJING: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on medical cooperation has been signed between a Chinese education group and a Pakistani university, as per a statement by China's Tang International Education Group.

The MoU, which was signed between Tang International Education Group (TIEG) and Pakistan's Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB), aims to boost cooperation in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) between the two countries, Que Haitao, vice director of overseas operation centre at TIEG, told China Economic Net (CEN) in an interview.

Que noted, the cooperation is partly spurred on by the China-Pakistan Health Corridor. "Cooperation on TCM between the two countries has been ongoing for some time," the vice director said. "We would like to push it forward through education collaboration".

Que said the first step is to collaborate with Pakistani universities to build a China-Pakistan medical centre and cultivate TCM talent at technical, undergraduate and graduate levels.

"More will be done to integrate education with the industry, such as formulating academic and industrial standards for TCM," highlighted the vice director, adding that the group has a team of some 20 international experts to work towards this goal.

Such a tie-up may be a supplement to Pakistan's existing medical education.

"Few universities in Pakistan offer courses on traditional medicine such as TCM. Knowledge about traditional medicine may appear in the course of Pharmacy in some Pakistani medical schools," Prof Dr Yang Zhigang, deputy dean of the School of Pharmacy of Lanzhou University, told CEN in a written interview.

Having conducted a field study of medicinal plants in Pakistan's plant-rich province of Gilgit Baltistan in 2017, Dr Yang told CEN in an interview that Pakistan has thousands of varieties of medicinal plants, and that the country has fallen short on both health-related and economic use of medicinal plants, an integral part of traditional herbal medicine.

"Pakistan only has a preliminary study and application of herbal medicine. A lot of valuable herbal plants are wasted during processing," said Que Haitao. "Working together, we can make better use of such resources and explore more." Looking forward, Que said that TCM education and ensued industrial collaboration in Pakistan will hopefully bring affordable medical services to the local people.

Russia says troops leaving strategic Kherson, Ukraine doubts full pullout

KYIV: Moscow ordered troops to withdraw from near the strategic southern Ukrainian city of Kherson in a major setback as a top US general estimated Russia has suffered more than 100,000 killed or wounded since invading its neighbour in February.

Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu on Wednesday announced Russian forces would retreat from the west bank of the Dnipro River near Kherson in what could be a turning point in the war.

Ukraine reacted with caution, noting some Russian forces remained in Kherson and reinforcements were being sent to the region.

"They are moving out but not as much as would be taking place if it was a full pullout or regrouping," Oleksiy Arestovych, adviser to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, said in a video posted online on Wednesday night. Russian forces were destroying bridges as they left and mining roads, Arestovych said. "For the moment, we don't know their intentions—will they engage in fighting with us and will they try to hold the city of Kherson? They are moving very slowly," he said.

Kherson city was the only regional capital Russia captured after the invasion and it has been the focus of a Ukrainian counter-offensive. The city controls the only land route to the Crimea peninsula that Russia annexed in 2014 and the mouth of the Dnipro river that bisects Ukraine.

Russian-installed officials have been evacuating tens of thousands of civilians from Kherson in recent weeks.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday welcomed the announcement of the Russian troop withdrawal in response to a question about prospects of talks between Moscow and Kyiv.

Erdogan has played a vital role as a go-between for Kyiv and Moscow since the start of the conflict, brokering the Black Sea grain deal and assisting in a number of prisoner exchangers — the only diplomatic breakthroughs in the eight-month conflict.

President addresses 9th convocation of AJK university



Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that any aggression or misadventure on the part of India would be paid back in the same coin. While addressing the nineteenth convocation ceremony of the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Muzaffarabad as a special guest here today, the president while referring to Kashmiris' resilience in the face of Indian state terrorism said that the people of the occupied Kashmir were a new history of resistance.

"The morale of the Kashmiri people is high, our struggle will continue till the independence of occupied Kashmir from Indian rule", he said. Highlighting young and educated people's

role in the Kashmiris' freedom struggle, the AJK president said that the educated and well qualified youth in Azad Kashmir can play a vital role in promoting the Kashmir cause at international level. "Kashmiris in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are looking towards the youth of Azad Kashmir, the youth of AJK must use our freedom and liberty to promote their's so that they could be able to achieve their cherished goal of freedom from the Indian occupation", the president said. Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry advised the students to prepare themselves to play their part for the freedom of their brothers and sisters living on the other side of the line-of-control who have been facing brutality at the hands of the Indian occupation forces.

President Azad Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry while congratulating the students and their parents said. He said that it was indeed a memorable day for the students, their parents and teachers because a fresh batch of graduates, after years of struggle and hard work, was now ready to serve the nation. Hailing the parents' role in educating their children, he said, "It is a special day parents who have spent their time, energy and hard earned money to get their children educated". "Surely your parents sacrificed their personal happiness and comfort so that you get an education that could lead you to a better future", the president said.

Meanwhile, the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday in its nineteenth convocation award-

ed certificates to a total of more than a thousand students who graduated from various departments. Gold medals were awarded to 49 students in lieu of their outstanding performance. Moreover, certificates were awarded to more than 25 students for completing doctorate degrees, whereas 200 students who completed MPhil and MA/MSc, BS, BCom and LLB, M.Ed, B.Ed and other degrees from the varsity were awarded certificates.

Overall, 12 thousand male and female students were awarded certificates. On the occasion, Azad Jammu and Kashmir University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, while thanking the president briefed him about the varsity's educational, research, curricular and extra-curricular activities of the last year.

Pakistan regards nuclear safety, security as 'national responsibility': Amb. Aamir Khan

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan told the UN General Assembly Thursday that it considers as a "national responsibility" the safety and security of its nuclear power plants and research reactors, which are under the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

Speaking in the 193-member Assembly on the annual report of the Vienna-based UN agency, Ambassador Aamir Khan said that Pakistan had developed a comprehensive nuclear safety and security regime based on an extensive legislative and regulatory framework governing the security of nuclear materials, radioactive substances, associated facilities and activities.

That regime, he said, was regularly reviewed and updated in light of the IAEA guidance documents and international best practices, noting that the safety and verification aspects of the Agency's mandate remain its important pillars.

As regards the strengthening of the safeguards system, Aamir Khan, who is the deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, stresses the need for a balanced approach between the promotional aspects and safety or security related concerns in all of the Agency's functions.

While sharing the view that



all States should fully comply with their respective safeguards obligations, he said that the Agency's safeguards should not be used to serve partisan political objectives.

"Its verification regime could remain credible only if it is applied on a non-discriminatory basis, as stipulated in the Agency's Statute," the Pakistani envoy said.

Noting that the old consensus on disarmament and non-proliferation has broken down, Ambassador Aamir Khan proposed convening a special session of the UN General Assembly to evolve a new

consensus that responds to the current and emerging realities and offers equal security to all states, large and small.

"This new consensus should eliminate the discrimination and double standards that characterize the present non-proliferation arrangements," he said, adding that it should also evolve an agreed basis for the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under appropriate international safeguards.

In his comments, Aamir Khan also said that harnessing nuclear technology is a priority for Pakistan for the pursuit of the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs).

"We view nuclear energy as a reliable, consistent and carbon-free source of electricity generation," he stressed.

Pakistan's efforts to expand nuclear power generation and to increase its share in the national energy mix are driven by the fact that it is not only an energy-deficient country but also one of the most vulnerable countries to the impact of climate change.

"The recent debilitating effects of climate change—which are being felt strongly by my own country in the wake of the recent unprecedented floods—have heightened vulnerabilities

of other countries and people around the globe," he said.

The ongoing floods in Pakistan showed the urgent need for global action to curb greenhouse gas emissions, Aamir Khan said. One-third of Pakistan remained under water and 33 million people are in tatters, with losses and damages amounting to a tenth of Pakistan's gross domestic product (GDP).

"Such global issues require global solutions, and close and unrestricted cooperation," the Pakistani envoy said.

"In fact," he added, "access to nuclear power is the need of the hour."

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
42,901.27	42,265.36	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
42,959.28	42,265.36	
Index Value	Change	
7,882,925,839	+635.91	
Percentage	Time	
+1.5%	10 Nov, 2022 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,377.98	+81.73	
Percentage	Time	
+1.10%	10 Nov, 3:59 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,436.02	+922.08	
Percentage	Time	
+2.84%	10 Nov, 11:00 am GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,446.10	-270.33	
Percentage	Time	
-0.98%	10 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	144.89	146.14
Bahrain Dinar	589	593.5
Canadian Dollar	165.35	166.7
China Yuan	30.64	30.89
Danish Krone	29.77	30.12
Euro	234	236
Hong Kong Dollar	28.22	28.57
Indian Rupee	2.7	2.78
Japanese Yen	1.48	1.53
Kuwaiti Dinar	717.02	722.02
Malaysian Ringgit	46.65	47.1
New Zealand \$	131.11	132.31
Norwegians Krone	21.6	21.9
Omani Riyal	575.94	580.44
Qatari Riyal	60.85	61.35
Saudi Riyal	62.5	63.1
Singapore Dollar	158.51	159.09
Swedish Korona	20.39	20.69
Swiss Franc	223.61	225.36
Thai Bhat	5.93	6.03
U.A.E Dirham	64.6	65.2
UK Pound Sterling	267	269.5
US Dollar	225.4	225.6

ICCI signs MoU with PWCTA to promote Pakistan-Canada bilateral trade

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and the Pakistan Western Canada Trade Association (PWCTA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work jointly for promoting bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and Canada. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President ICCI and Ms. Bushra Rehman President PWCTA signed the MoU during a ceremony held at ICCI.

Speaking at the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that the bilateral trade between Pakistan and Canada in 2020 was just around US\$ 1.11 billion, which is not reflective of the actual potential of both countries. He stressed that ICCI and PWCTA should work together to develop strong business linkages between the private sectors of both countries in order to improve bilateral trade volume. He said that Canada is a developed country and Pakistan can get many economic benefits by enhancing economic cooperation with it. He said that Pakistan offers great opportunities to Canadian companies in education, IT & telecom, cleantech, energy, oil & gas, agri-food, wood sectors and many other fields. He hoped that



the MoU between ICCI and PWCTA would contribute to strengthening trade ties between the two countries.

Ms. Bushra Rehman, President, Pakistan Western Canada Trade Association said that her Association is advocating the collective voice of the private sector and offers helpful advice and assistance to the Government in its efforts to promote exports, encourage foreign investment and stimulate economic activi-

ties in the country. She said that PWCTA is playing an active role in promoting economic activities and in identifying problems of trade, industry, services, investments, environment that are taken up with the government to safeguard the interests of the private sector. She said that PWCTA would work with ICCI for reduction of transaction costs and simplification of procedures by taking up such issues with their respective governments to facili-

tate trade promotion. She said that the Pakistani business community including women entrepreneurs should participate in trade fairs and exhibitions in Canada to introduce the export potential of their products including textiles products, surgical instruments, footballs etc. She said that the student visa acceptance rate in Canada is 82 percent and Pakistani students should take advantage of this facility to get quality education in Canadian universities.

Faad Waheed, Senior Vice President ICCI said that Pakistan and Canada have good potential to enhance trade in edible products that would be beneficial for both countries.

By signing the MoU, both parties agreed to extend continuous support to each other and exchange information on general economic status, investment opportunities, trade policies and legislative changes of their respective countries in order to strengthen trade, technological and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Khalid Iqbal Malik Group Leader, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, Malik Sohail Hussain, Rizwana Asif President Islamabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sheikh Nadeem, Tariq Khan Jadoon President Rawalpindi Chamber of Small Traders & Industry also spoke at the occasion.

Syngenta Pakistan successfully pilots Drone Spraying Services for local farmers

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Syngenta Pakistan Limited, a leading agriculture innovation and technology company-providing crop protection, biologicals, seeds, crop-enhancement products and digital services to millions of Pakistani farmers, has successfully piloted Drone Spraying Services on approximately 5000 acres of local farmland. This is a first-of-its-kind initiative whereby such precision drone spray services have been provided by a crop protection company in Pakistan.

Drone spraying services are being used globally for application of crop protection products as this technology offers precision, uniformity in spray, effective pest & disease control and speed in farm operations. Extending this service to farmers is in line with Syngenta Pakistan's farmer-centric vision: "One Team, One Dream, Farmer Future" to transform the agricultural practices in the country and to catalyze the progress on making Pakistan's agriculture sector more robust and technology-enabled.

The General Manager of Syngenta



Pakistan-Zeeshan Haseeb Baig stated that "Labor availability and correct technique for spraying are contributors to our low yield in Pakistan. Drone Spray technology helps enable farmers achieve effective pest control and farm level efficiency. Syngenta understands the need to make this service available

to its Growers at their doorstep." Farmers have highly appreciated this initiative. In this regard, Gulam Abbas from Tehsil Athaara Hazari, District Jhang was of the view that "My farm size is 125 acres out of which 50 acres is sugarcane. Every year, my crop gets infested with Pyrrilla and White Fly.

Emirates Group announces record half-year performance for 2022-23

Spokesman Report

KARACHI, 10 NOVEMBER 2022: The Emirates Group today announced its half-year results for its 2022-23 financial year.

The Group is reporting a 2022-23 half-year net profit of AED 4.2 billion (US\$ 1.2 billion), a record half-year performance, and a turnaround of almost AED 10 billion from its AED 5.7 billion (US\$ 1.6 billion) loss for the same period last year.

The Group also reported an EBITDA of AED 15.3 billion (US\$ 4.2 billion), a marked improvement from AED 5.6 billion (US\$ 1.5 billion) during the same period last year, illustrating its strong operating profitability.

Group revenue was

AED 56.3 billion (US\$ 15.3 billion) for the first six months of 2022-23, up 128% from AED 24.7 billion (US\$ 6.7 billion) last year. This was driven by the strong demand for air transport across the world with the further easing and removal of pandemic-related travel restrictions.

The Group closed the 1st half year of 2022-23 with a strong cash position of AED 32.6 billion (US\$ 8.9 billion) on 30 September 2022, compared to AED 25.8 billion (US\$ 7.0 billion), as on 31 March 2022. The Group has been able to tap on its own strong cash reserves to support business needs, including debt payments and pandemic-related commitments.

His Highness (HH)

foodpanda partners with Oware Technologies to enhance supply chain efficiency

Bureau Report

PAKISTAN: Pakistan's largest online food and grocery delivery service provider, foodpanda, has partnered with Oware Technologies—a rising supply chain technology company. As a third-party logistics provider for foodpanda, Oware Technologies will also offer warehousing services for 400 pallets per month, at their KOR-6 facility in Karachi.

The partnership between foodpanda and Oware Technologies has been inaugurated at a time when the challenges of recent years in responsiveness and scalability have become impossible to ignore. Both companies have joined forces with the aim of creating strategies and solutions that can open the gateways to improvement in efficiency, while boosting productivity.

"Through this partnership, foodpanda will be able to operate at one or more locations in our network, unhindered by operationally intense and complex logistics planning. This will enable a faster route to



market for them and at scale", said Oware co-founder Adil Nisar.

Business Unit Head foodpanda for Business, Cally Zehra stated, "In today's increasingly connected world, customer expectations are constantly evolving along with the technologies that shape them. Speed

in service delivery is useful, optimising resources is welcomed, but being accurate in warehousing is vital. Our partnership with Oware is all set to meet the constantly changing market and customer needs, while empowering foodpanda to synchronise its supply and demand."

Agri-tech startup-Jiye Technologies partners with Syngenta to Supercharge the Agri-Value Chain



Business Reporter

LAHORE: Jiye Technologies, Pakistan's leading agri-tech platform signs MOU for an industry first partnership with Agri-innovation giant Syngenta Pakistan, a subsidiary of Syngenta Participations AG, Basel, Switzerland. The partnership is intended to supercharge the agricultural sector by facilitating farmer access to enhanced productivity & profitability.

The strategic alliance is a program integration of Syngenta's & Jiye's combined

vision for a digitally led farming ecosystem, integrated with end-to-end Agri-solutions that enables higher productivity and ensures profitability for farmers.

Speaking at the occasion, Co-founder Jiye Technologies, Ali Amin said that "At Jiye, we're always on a mission to fuel the economic growth of farmers through an approach revolution. We leverage tech, build partnerships & create on-ground networks, enabling access to agri products & services, consequently allowing farmers to maximize profits."

Shell, Careem and Muawin Collaborate for Fuel Management Solutions

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Shell Pakistan Limited collaborates with Careem and Muawin, to provide a dynamic fuel management solution for Careem Captains along with driving awareness on road safety standards.

By utilizing a personalized Shell Fleet Card financed by Muawin, Careem Captains can avail fuel on credit on numerous Shell retail sites across the country, thereby completing more rides and growing their income. This initiative also includes an educational-safety programme

for Careem Captains, to build awareness about road safety and traffic hazards in Pakistan.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Managing Director of Shell Pakistan, Mr Waqar Siddiqui, stated that: "Shell understands the evolving needs of diverse consumer-segments. We have a vision for fueling Pakistan's mobility landscape, to drive sustainable socio-economic growth in the country. Such resourceful collaborations with innovative enterprises like Careem & Muawin will empower frontline service-providers, and promote road-safety in Pakistan, as we remain

committed to adding value to the community at large."

Commenting on the partnership, the Country Head of Careem Pakistan, Mr. Feroz Jaleel, stated: "Captains are at the heart of what we do and an integral part of our operations and the Careem family. This partnership with Shell and Muawin will undoubtedly help Captains in managing their fuel expenses ultimately providing a better experience to customers. Additionally, the work for safety never stops at Careem, hence the educational-safety programme for our Captains will be a great step to further

empower our Captains in their everyday rides. We will continue to come up with more such initiatives to assist our Captains in simplifying and improving their lives."

Speaking at the ceremony, Co-Founder and Chief Strategy Officer Muawin, Hashim Ali, remarked, "Careem and their Captains are doing wonders in a country where public transport options are unable to cater to rising mobility demands. Muawin's mission is to ensure that our Dost (MSMEs), including Ride-Hailing workers, are able to sustain and grow their livelihood. By part-



nering with Shell and Careem, we are truly ecstatic to expand the impact of our fuel-financ-

ing product and ensure easy access to credit for millions of Pakistani's."

P@SHA Demands Ease of Doing Business

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA) has welcomed the unconditional public support extended by the Federal Minister of Information Technology & Telecommunications (MoITT), Syed Amin Ul Haque, for the IT industry. P@SHA strongly supports the solicitation of facilitative measures from relevant public offices to cooperate with the industry to ensure ease of doing business for IT companies.

The Federal Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunications (MoITT) and Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB) have previously strongly advocated to implement conducive policies for the industry and build an organized tech ecosystem in Pakistan. MoITT has made genuine and concerted efforts to garner support for strategic demands for the industry.

However, while MoITT and PSEB have been supportive to the industry, other relevant stakeholders have failed to provide a similar level of support. In an unprecedented move, the federal minister for IT has condemned the public office for the lack of cooperation and support.

According to Zohaib Khan, Chairman P@SHA, "The industry acknowledges the stance of the federal minister for IT regarding the challenges of the IT industry. It is high time that the relevant stakeholders such as the Finance Ministry, FBR, SBP and SECP play their role to facilitate the IT industry. In terms of policy interventions, the industry demands a tax holiday for five years (which was announced till 2025); hassle-free forex retention; 5% cash reward for IT exporters and capacity building through imparting market-driven IT skills for the youth in the broader national interest."

Zohaib Khan added, "While Pakistan grapples with economic crisis, IT & IT-enabled services are the only industry which can potentially stabilize Pakistan's economy. To bridge the current account deficit, the industry offers an increase in IT Exports and the inflow of revenue in the form of investments—both of which are critical to Pakistan's economy."

Bangladesh defeat Pakistan in first U-19 one-day match

MULTAN: Maruf Mridha's player of the match bowling performance of four wickets for 38 runs and half-centuries by openers Chowdhury Mohammad Rizwan and Ashiqur Rahman Shibli handed Bangladesh a comfortable seven-wicket win over Pakistan in the first of three U19 one-day matches played at the Multan Cricket Stadium on Thursday.

Mridha's splendid opening spell reduced Pakistan to three for three after Bangladesh captain Ahrar Amin decided to bowl at the toss. Pakistan, however, managed to score 202, thanks to brilliant fightback from Arafat Minhas and Uzair Mumtaz.

Arafat top-scored with 77-ball 71 not out, smashing seven fours and four sixes, and Uzair scored 57 off 76 in which he hit four fours and two sixes.



Mohammad Tayyab Arif was the only player to put up a notable score in the top

order with 28.

Bangladesh openers Rizwan and Shibli never allowed Pakistan any opportunity of bouncing back with their solid opening stand of 160. Rizwan made 79 off 86 balls, hitting 10 fours and a six, while Shibli made 74 in 112 balls (eight fours).

Pakistan's Ali Raza dismissed both openers, but it was all too late by then as Sharear Sakib (18 not out) and Ahrar (seven not out) took the visitors over the line comfortably with 4.5 overs spare.

Bangladesh defeats Pakistan in first U-19 one-day match

Cricket players in action during ODI cricket match played between Pakistan U-19 team and Bangladesh U-19 team at Multan Cricket Stadium-APP

The second and third one-day matches will be played on 12 and 14 November.

Irish women cricketers attend flag-lowering ceremony at Wagah border

Sports Reporter

LAHORE: The visiting Irish women cricketers visited Pakistan-side of the Wagah border and witnessed iconic flag-lowering (Beating Retreat Ceremony) ceremony here on Thursday.

The Irish cricketers showed keen interest in the blustering parade by the soldiers and admired the perfectly coordinated lowering of the flags of both the countries before the sunset.

During the flag-lowering ceremony, along international border separating Pakistani city Lahore and Amritsar in India, soldiers meet every evening at the border post to engage in a 30-minute display of camaraderie and showmanship. The ceremony, which marks closing of international



gates and lowering of flags of both countries, is being held since 1959.

Colonel Amir Abdullah of the Pakistan Rangers received the visiting Irish

cricketers, Pakistan Women cricketers and officials from the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB). They were also shown round the Pak Rangers post and presented

a souvenir during the visit. Ireland Women Cricket team is currently visiting Pakistan to play an ODI and T20I series against Pakistan Women Cricket team.

Winning laurels for the country is our priority, says Pakistan's medal winners taekwondo athletes

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan's gold medal winners athletes Naqsh Hamdani & Shahzaib Khan, silver medalist Hamza Omar Saeed and teen athlete Saad Asif have said that fetching laurels for the country at the international level with a podium finish has been their top priority as it brings a sense of national pride in them which is a great achievement.

"I am because of my country. That's why I think of my country first when I play at the international level, Naqsh Hamdani said, adding winning a Gold medal for the country in the Asian Taekwondo Championship is a great honour for her and this grand victory has raised her morale and spirit for future outings. "I had worked hard ahead of this event



and my Hard work paid off", she said. "My achievement was made possible due to the hard work of our Head Coach Yusef Karami of Iran, who taught us the latest techniques for the game and took our game to next level", said Naqsh who won a gold medal for the country in -53kg Women's contest by outplaying Zahro Mizzare of Afghanistan in the final.

The gold medal winner Pakistani Athlete in the -54kg contest Shahzaib Khan said that appreciating and celebrating the

medal winners athletes by Govt and private institutions can help encourage the athletes and raise their morale for future contests. "I wish to represent my country at more and more international events", he said.

Hamza Omar Saeed who won the silver medal in the plus 87kg contest said that winning medals for the country at the international level helped to promote the game. Not only the country's image is raised at the international level, but it also brings pride to individ-

ual players, who feel proud to represent their country.

In the 73kg plus category bronze medalist Saad Asif, who is also a student of Army Public Schools, said he wants to dedicate his medal to the Shohada of the Attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar.

He said that playing alongside international players provided him with good experience and exposure. "I have learnt a lot from this event and will continue to work hard to win a gold medal for the country in future", he said.

Karvan-e-Iqbal

Youth Affairs and Sports Department Punjab arranges visit to Javed Manzil and Mazar-e-Iqbal in connection with 145th birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta cuts the ribbon and sends off the 'Karvan-e-Iqbal' to Javed Manzil and Mazar-e-Iqbal at Punjab Stadium

LAHORE: Youth Affairs and Sports Department Punjab has arranged a visit to Javed Manzil and Mazar-e-Iqbal on double decker tourist bus under the title of 'Karvan-e-Iqbal' in connection with 145th birth anniversary of the national poet Allama Iqbal on Wednesday.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta cut the ribbon and sent off the 'Karvan-e-Iqbal' to Javed Manzil and Mazar-e-Iqbal at Punjab Stadium.

Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan, Assistant Director of Punjab Information Technol-

ogy Board (PITB) Ms Hina, Project Director Tourist Bus Ashfaq Ahmed Dogar, PRO SBP Abdul Rauf Roofi and a large number of male and female students of different colleges were also present on this occasion.

On arrival at Javed Manzil, Muneeb Iqbal, the grandson of Allama Iqbal, welcomed Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta and other participants. The Tourism Squad also presented parade on this occasion. Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta and Muneeb Iqbal paid tribute to Allama Iqbal and laid a

wreath of flowers at Javed Manzil.

Speaking at the ceremony, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta said that living nations celebrate the days of their heroes in a grand manner. "Allama Iqbal gave a new hope and encouragement to the nation. The youth are Shaheen of Allama Iqbal".

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta further said that Allama Iqbal spread the awareness about 'Khudi' among the youth of the sub-continent through his revolutionary poetry. "It is right time for our youth to follow Iqbal's philo-

sophy of Khudi. By doing so, our youth can save Pakistan from several prevailing challenges".

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta further said that the visit to Javed Manzil and Mazar-e-Iqbal have been arranged only to make the young generation aware of the thoughts of Allama Iqbal. "Department of Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab has started many programmes to guide the youth of the province".

Muneeb Iqbal, the grandson of Allama Iqbal, speaking on this occasion said that Allama Iqbal had many expectations from the



youth. "The present day youth must understand the philosophy of Allama Iqbal and try to follow it

PM congratulates hockey team on clinching bronze medal in Azlan Shah Cup

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday congratulated the national hockey team on bagging a bronze medal in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022 in Ipoh, Malaysia, and said the nation was proud of their victory.

"I felicitate the Pakistan hockey team on defeating Japan by 5-3 goals in an exciting match and clinching the bronze medal in Sultan Azlan Shah Cup," he said in a tweet.

He said, "Congratulations to the team and the entire nation on the good news from the hockey field."

Pakistan defeated Japan 5-3 to clinch bronze medal in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022 on Wednesday in Ipoh, Malaysia. APP

Mazari wants PFF elections held



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) Ehsan-ur-Rahman Mazari has asked the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) normalization committee to hold the body's elections as early as possible.

The minister met with President Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa and also informed him about the situation.

The football future in Pakistan is on brink, as the normalization committee has failed to hold elections despite course of several months, he told APP.

The minister also urged Al Khalifa to play his role for holding elections of Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) on urgent bases.

He said during the meeting with President AFC in Bahrain he raised the issue of PFF elections as the normalization committee has failed so far in this regard.

Mazari said that PFF elections should be held soon adding that the AFC President has assured to resolve all concerns in this regards.APP

Tayyab Ikram congratulate to Pakistan hockey team

Tahir Amin Malik

ISLAMABAD: The International Hockey Federation newly elected President Tayyab Ikram gave the congratulation to Pakistan hockey team to get the Bronze medal in Azlan Shah Hockey cup at Aipu (Malaysia) He appreciate the Pakistan team young player who performed well in this tournament he also congratulate to Pakistan Hockey team head coach Sagfried Aikman and Manager Saeed Khan and take the pictures with Pakistan team.

T20 WC final at risk of being washed out



SYDNEY: The much-anticipated final of the ICC T20 World Cup involving Pakistan and the winners of tonight's India versus England game is likely to be hampered by weather.

According to an advisory by the Australian Government's Bureau of Meteorology, there are high chances of rain on Sunday. The advisory for Sunday reads "Partly cloudy. Very high (95%) chance of showers. The chance of a thunderstorm, heavy falls possible in the southeast suburbs. Winds north to northeasterly 15 to 20 km/h turning west to northwesterly 15 to 25 km/h during the day."

Three T20 World Cup matches at the iconic MCG were abandoned due to weather, while Ireland clinched an unexpected victory over England after rain prematurely ended their Super 12 contest.

Though the playing conditions of the T20 World Cup knockout matches allow a reserve day, Monday's forecast isn't different from Sunday's. According to ICC playing conditions, every effort will be made to complete the match on the scheduled day.

"Only if the minimum number of overs necessary to constitute a match cannot be bowled on the scheduled day will the match be completed on the reserve day," it says.

However, unlike round matches, in the finals and semi-finals, a minimum of 10 overs are to be bowled to constitute a complete match. If there is no play possible in the final, both finalists will be declared joint winners.