



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ

ہم سے عبد اللہ بن یوسف تسمی نے بیان کیا کہ ہم سے لیٹ نے بیان کیا کہ ہم سے کثیر بن فرقد نے نافع سے بیان کیا ان سے ابن عمر رضی اللہ عنہما نے کہ نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم غیر گادی میں غر اور زنج کیا کرتے۔ (بخاری: حدیث نمبر 982)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

RAWALPINDI

PM to appoint new army chief in a 'day or two'

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Friday shared that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has completed the consultation process over the appointment of the next army chief and an announcement on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa's successor will be made in a "day or two". (Report on Page 8)



Pakistan pushes for increase in non-permanent members to make UNSC more representative, effective

"The only criteria for Security Council membership set out in the UN Charter is for the election of non-permanent members," Ambassador Munir Akram told delegates when the deadlocked Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) aimed at restructuring the Council resumed on Thursday. (Report on Page 5)

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Women empowerment

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi in a meeting with a delegation of the Women Business Network, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Friday.



Photo: PID

President for creating awareness on initiatives for women empowerment

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi Friday underlined the need for a comprehensive awareness campaign with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders to inform and educate female population of the country regarding steps taken by the government for the empowerment of women and to urge them to fully utilize and profit from these initiatives.

The President made these remarks during a meeting with a delegation of the Women Business Network here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

During the meeting, the President said that multiple products targeting women had been launched, which include opening bank accounts online without requiring women to visit bank branches and fulfilling cumbersome processes, Property Rights acts, which have made it mandatory for giving the inheritance to

the women.

"Females are also being offered loans on easy terms and conditions", he added.

The President said that BISP and Ehsaas programs were extremely effective and were playing a pivotal role in maintaining data of the women population, providing them with financial stipends, helping them to open bank accounts and creating a digital communication network to communicate with the women of Pakistan through digital, SMS and other such services.

He said that although there was a pressing need for taking more steps for empowering women both economically and financially and to encourage women to profit and benefit from the laws, programs and initiatives already in the field of empowerment of women.

The President expressed his deep concerns that although

the banks have been offering preferred loans to women, however, only 2 to 5% of loans were being availed.

He called upon all the women's networks and other relevant organizations in private and government sectors to take decisive action and roll out advocacy and awareness programs to advise the women to fully utilize these loans, which he said will play a pivotal role in their empowerment.

The President said that if Pakistan was to make progress, it needed to ensure that its women population was involved in the active economic stream, was empowered financially and economically and equipped with education and marketable skills through the existing skilled-based institutions and also benefiting from the free of cost training and education and programs offered online.

He said that women parlia-

mentarians, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs and advocacy groups should join hands to develop a comprehensive strategy to reach out to women at the grassroots level and equip them with the information and education for their self-empowerment.

The President said that there was also a need to develop a comprehensive strategy and advocacy campaign to bring women into the formal structure and elevate them to decision-making positions, which would encourage other women to follow suit.

He said that the women and youth bulge of the country were two great assets, which need to be fully equipped and geared to contribute their pivotal role in the progress and development of country.

The President appreciated that women were entering into professional education in reasonable numbers but expressed

his concerns that 50% of these women preferred to stay at home without being economically active after graduation, which was a great loss to the country.

He urged all the advocacy groups, organizations and parents to ensure that all women graduates of professional colleges enter into the economic mainstream and contribute their share in the development of country.

Women Business Network is a global network of business professionals and corporate leaders to uplift women for key leadership positions in the industry and to create cross-border opportunities for their businesses.

It aims to support and connect women's organisations and cross-sector collaborations, supporting women entrepreneurship, women lead businesses and empowering women businesses through international exchange programs.

Finance minister updates President Alvi on economic outlook



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar called on President Dr Arif Alvi here on Friday and discussed the overall economic and financial outlook of the country.

In a meeting held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, the finance minister briefed the president

on various steps taken by the government to provide relief to the general public, particularly the unprivileged population and the flood-affected people.

Various matters concerning finance and economy also came under discussion. APP/PID

Mariyum terms Imran's 'failed long march' 'work from home' (mis)adventure

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb said on Friday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan's failed long march had become "work from home" adventure.

Addressing a press conference, here, she said "Imran Khan is in grief as his failed long march had been changed into work from home".

"Our watches show us the time, Imran Khan's watch has shown him his reality ('auqat'), she said while taking a jibe at the PTI chief.

She lamented that Imran Khan allegedly sold the watch "having image of the Holy Kaaba" for a few "pennies".

She said that today's address of Imran Khan convinced them (the government) that he (Imran Khan) had not been

hit by the bullet but was hit by grief and sorrow due to failed long march, she alleged.

She, however, clarified that revealing the facts regarding Imran Khan did not mean she was mocking the PTI chairman as he was bedridden due to injury.

The minister said that she was responding to a healthy man who was in the habit of speaking lies, levelling allegations and slandering his opponents including Maryam Nawaz.

"Mr. Imran Khan! People are not foolish and unwise to believe your lies and false allegations," she said. The minister said that the people of the country had understood the real meaning and moto behind the "Haqqi Azadi March" as they could not be befooled any more.

Imran's Rawalpindi arrival date can be delayed: Rashid

RAWALPINDI: AML chief Sheikh Rashid has said that PTI chairman Imran Khan's arrival in Rawalpindi may be delayed by a few days. In a

tweet today, he said that Pakistan was surrounded by several speculations but hoped that by November 30 all the important matters will be sorted.

IHC issues notice to ECP in PTI MNA's de-seating matter

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court has issued notice to the Election Commission of Pakistan on the issue of de-seating PTI MNA Shandana Gulzar and notifying MNA Roheela Hamid in her stead.

IHC Justice Mian Gul Hassan Aurangzeb on Friday heard the contempt of court petition filed by Shandana Gul and issued notice to the ECP asking it to submit report within a week. The petitioner's lawyer said that the ECP did not comply with the court order of Nov 15. The judge inquired if the ECP had received the court order.

The ECP lawyer replied in affirmative, saying the commission had received the order on Nov 16. On this, the court while issuing notices to both parties sought reply from them within a week. INP

Pakistani rupee keeps on its downward trail against US dollar

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistani rupee continued its downward trend as Friday's session saw the local unit shedding its value in the interbank trading. The forex dealers said that during morning session, the US dollar was appreciated by 8 paise and trading for Rs222.75. Yesterday, the American currency was settled at Rs222.67 at the close.

The Pakistani rupee seems to be in the free fall mode owing to a

number of factors including opening of outstanding Letter of Credit (LCs) which is raising demand for the US dollar by the importers in the market; the precarious state of Pakistan economy as its benchmark 5-year Credit Default Swap (CDS) reached a historic high of 79.3% giving rise to default fears in the imminent future. Besides this, the swelling central government's debt to Rs49.4 trillion in September 2022 has created uneasiness in the market.

The PKR firmness is also hit by the delay in the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) ninth review of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) which was first scheduled to be held in the last week of October, but then it was rescheduled for Nov 3. But it was deferred again and could not be held till to date.

Planning Commission gears up efforts to implement flood recovery framework

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives has geared up its efforts to implement the Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3 RD) while engaging the donors before presenting it to the donor conference to be held soon.

Secretary Planning Commission Syed Zafar Ali Shah on Friday chaired a consultative meeting with the donors and diplomats representing from the various countries so a comprehensive rehabilitation plan comprising short-term

and long-term could be presented before the donor conference.

Last month, the Planning Commission in collaboration with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Union conducted Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and called for coordinated international support.

The consultative meeting was attended by the representatives of donors and officials of the Planning Commission. Member Infrastruc-

ture Planning gave a detailed briefing to the participants highlighting the short-term and long-term rehabilitation plan in 17 sectors particularly in Infrastructure, education and health.

During the meeting, the secretary Planning Commission informed the participants that the basic objective of this meeting is to expedite the consultative process by engaging the donors before presenting a comprehensive plan in the donor conference. APP/PID

SC adjourns case hearing for one week

ISLAMABAD: Supreme Court (SC) on Friday adjourned the contempt of court case hearing against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for one week. A five-member larger bench headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial heard the case.

The Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah has submitted more evidences in the contempt of court case. The ministry also submitted different video clips of the May 25 PTI long march. PTI Chairman Imran Khan has already submitted his response in the contempt case.

Imran Khan's counsel Babar Awan and Faisal Chaudhry have also submitted the responses. The former premier submitted his reply in the contempt of court case through advocate Salman Akram Raja advocate in which he stated that the SC order of May 25 was "not knowingly violated".

PTI's marchers to camp in Rawat till Imran's call



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Rawalpindi administration has geared up security preparations to welcome the long march of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) which is likely to enter the city today Saturday following the call of party chairman Imran Khan, who has been recuperating in Lahore after a gun attack in Wazirabad left him injured earlier this month. The inner sources revealed that marchers will remain camped at Rawat's T Chowk until Mr Khan announces his plan whether the march will enter Pindi via G.T. Road or take the Expressway to enter the federal capital its original destination.

In Pindi, the preparations to provide shelter and food to the marchers are in full swing and the local administration has installed 80 temporary toilets in the Allama Iqbal Park in Shamsabad while in Taxila, at least 200 bathrooms have been set up for the marchers. On the other hand PTI Chairman Imran Khan told the nation that this was a defining moment for the country. "When a nation stands up and decides not to succumb under oppression they are unstoppable. God has instructed us to stand against oppressors." He said that the nation which tolerated "these thieves" would never be able to progress

Revealing logo

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Defence Production, Muhammad Israr Tareen while revealing logo of IDEAS 2024 at closing ceremony of IDEAS 2022 on Friday.



Photo: Online

Review of counter-terror policy in need amid 'war or talks' scenario with TTP: FM

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Friday said Pakistan would not take a solo flight to recognize the interim government of Afghanistan and stressed reviewing the country's counter-terrorism policy to prevent the resurgence of militancy.

At a press conference held on the six months of the government's foreign policy, he called the need for an "in-camera review" to reform the approach on counterterrorism in a bid to prevent the factors that gave rise to militancy in the past.

Asked if peace in Afghanistan meant countering the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), he said it was important to internally review the policy.

"Never think that the matter of TTP is as black-and-white as either it would

be war or negotiations with them," he said, highlighting that Pakistan in recent years had undergone a successful journey to eliminate terrorism and extremism from its soil.

However, he said, "There is nothing wrong with reexamining the approach on counter-terrorism viz-a-viz developments in the region."

"When we came to power, we decided to engage with Afghan authorities regardless of our differences for greater national interest. We won't take a solo flight on the matter of recognition of the Afghan government," he said.

On closure of Chaman border, he said terrorist attacks on Pakistan's security forces from the Afghan side led to closure of the border and urged the Afghan government to take measures to not let their country's soil used against its neighbour.



He said peace in Afghanistan was crucial for Pakistan and the region, and urged the international community to get engaged with the interim government of Afghanistan to avert a humanitarian crisis.

He also called upon the authorities in Afghanistan to fulfill the pledges, especially related to human rights and women's education.

He mentioned that the nation's whole-hearted support helped ending terrorism from the tribal areas including North Waziristan.

Bilawal said the coalition

government had put in good efforts to restore the foreign policy objectives by holding 'meaningful' high-level diplomatic engagements.

He mentioned that the country's foreign policy was on positive trajectory to help achieve the goals of development by addressing important issues including counterterrorism and security and economic cooperation.

He said the government's focus was to prioritize the national interest and emphasized maintaining a balanced relationship and a positive

outreach with all countries including the United States and China.

He said the relations between Pakistan and the U.S. had been "de-hyphenated".

The foreign minister said persistent implementation of both action plans mainly countering money-laundering and terror-financing would remain high on the government's agenda.

He mentioned that due to GSP Plus, the country's export outlook witnessed an exponential growth of 80 percent in recent times.

The foreign minister said Pakistan was actively pursuing the activities at various international forums including the United Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Confer-

ECC allows TCP to proceed ahead for import of 125,000 MT Urea fertilizers

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) on Friday allowed TCP to proceed ahead with import of 125,000 MT on G2G basis from China for meeting the demand of Urea fertilizer and the import of 35,000 MT on G2G basis through M/s Socar from Azerbaijan.

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar presided over the meeting of the ECC, said a press release issued here.

Federal Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, Federal Minister for Power Khuram Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Industries and Production Syed Murtaza Mahmud, Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Dr. Aisha Ghous Pasha, Minister of State for Petroleum Musadik Masood Malik, SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa, SAPM on Government Effectiveness Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan, Chairman SECP, Federal Secretaries, Chairman FBR and other senior officers attended the meeting.

Ministry of Industries and Production submitted a summary on procurement of 200KMT Urea and

shared that the Ministry has negotiated on various options including import from Chinese firms who have committed to supply the negotiated quantity of Urea fertilizer on the lowest rate.

The ECC further directed TCP to explore feasible options for the import of the remaining quantity of Urea fertilizer to meet the strategic reserves of 200,000 MT.

The ECC considered a summary submitted by Ministry of Energy, Petroleum Division on High Speed Diesel (HSD)/Gas Oil premium. Considering the increasing demand for HSD in the country, the ECC recommended that PSO's weighted average premium (KPC & Spot) may be applied for HSD price computation as per Federal Govt applicable policy guidance and in case of higher HSD premium paid by importing OMCs other than PSO, the differential of premium will be computed in the price.

The ECC also approved the technical supplementary grant of Rs. 115 million in favour of Ministry of Housing and Works. PID

PM to appoint new army chief in a 'day or two': Rana Sanaullah

KARACHI: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Friday shared that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has completed the consultation process over the appointment of the next army chief and an announcement on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa's successor will be made in a "day or two".

Speaking on Geo News programme "Naya Pakistan", Sanaullah said that the name of the next army chief will be announced in a day or two.

The incumbent, Gen Bajwa, will hang up his boots on November 29.

Hinting at finalising the name for the coveted post, the interior minister said, "Just formal announcement is yet to be made."

He maintained that the appointment of the army chief is the prerogative of the prime minister and he would make the final decision soon.

"In my opinion, further delay over the appointment will not be appropriate," he added. (Web Desk)

Pakistan, Lanka vow to continue support, cooperation in defence industry, military training



ISLAMABAD: The third round of Pakistan-Sri Lanka Armed Forces Defence Dialogue (AFDD) was held in Expo Centre Karachi from November 16-17 where both sides agreed to continue to support each other at all regional and international fora.

The Pakistan delegation was led by Secretary Defence, Lt General (R) Hamood uz Zaman Khan, Sri Lanka delegation was headed by Secretary Defence, General (R) Kamal Gunaratne, said a news release issued here Friday. The delegations also agreed that the cooperation in the field of defence industry, military training, and joint exercises high level visits would continue.

During the Dialogue, Pakistan and Sri Lanka reviewed the existing scope of bilateral military relations and expressed satisfaction on the progress achieved under the umbrella of AFDD. Both leader exchanged views on regional security and upcoming challenges.

It was agreed that Pakistan and Sri Lanka would continue to support each other at all regional and international fora. The cooperation in the field of defence industry, military training, joint exercises high level visits will continue. In the end, it was agreed that next meeting of AFDD will be convened in Sri Lanka on mutually agreed dates 2023. APP

Pakistan High Commission Dhaka celebrates Eid Miladun Nabi

DHAKA: High Commission for Pakistan, Dhaka organized an event to mark Milad un Nabi (SAW) last evening. The theme of the event was "Tolerance and the Prophet's Life." The event was attended by guests from all walks of life including academia, Pakistani diaspora and media.

Speakers on the occasion highlighted the various aspects of the life of the Prophet (SAW) particularly his teaching regarding tolerance, mutual cooperation, compassion and social



justice. High Commissioner for Pakistan, Mr. Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, congratulated the

audience on Milad un Nabi and said that the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was the greatest blessing of Allah for the humanity. The message of the Prophet (SAW) encompassed all aspects of human existence. Our respect and affection for the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) demand that we follow his teachings faithfully, he added.

The High Commission's building was beautifully decorated and illuminated to mark this revered occasion.

Special prayers were offered

for the peace and prosperity of Pakistan, the Ummah and the entire world.

On the sidelines of the event, the High Commission also arranged an exhibition of Arabic/Quranic Calligraphy which, inter alia, included artworks by the Chief Calligrapher of the Prophet's Mosque in Madina al-Munawwarah.

The participants evinced keen interest in the exquisite artworks on display and appreciated the High Commission for arranging the exhibition.

IRSA releases 93,300 cusecs water

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Friday released 93,300 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 62,500 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1518.01 feet and was 120.01 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 26,600 cusecs while outflow was 48,000 cusecs. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1145.05 feet, which was 95.05 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet.

The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 13,600 cusecs and 23,000

Rawalpindi security finalised ahead of PTI long march

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab police have finalised a security plan to welcome the long march of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) which is likely to enter the city on Saturday. As per the security plan finalized for Imran Khan after the gun attack in Wazirabad, more than 10,000 policemen will be deployed for security.

Sharpshooters will be deployed at the buildings on the route of the long march convoy, while the march will be monitored through CCTV and drone cameras. At least 15 sections (each consisting of five fully armed commandos, one vehicle, and a driver), of elite force and 122 commandos will also be deployed while more than 1,500 personnel, consisting of 75 reserves of police, will be on standby to deal with any



emergency situation. In the case of Imran Khan's participation in the march, he will be provided with "a box security cover in the style of the security of former prime ministers". Moreover, special security teams will surround the container of former prime minister Imran Khan during long march in Rawalpindi.

Punjab Home Minister Omar

Sarfraz Cheema said Thursday that intelligence reports confirmed serious threats to Imran Khan's life and the government is providing foolproof security to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief. While talking to a private TV channel, Punjab Home Minister Omar Sarfraz Cheema said that intelligence reports were received by the authorities

prior to the gun attack on Imran Khan in Wazirabad. He added that threats to Imran Khan's life have increased and foolproof security is being provided. "Imran Khan will be given maximum security to Imran Khan over the participation in Haqeeqi Azadi March. There were two shooters involved in the Wazirabad gun attack in accordance with the report." INP

ANF seizes over 148 kg drugs in six operations

RAWALPINDI: Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan on Friday seized over 148 kg drugs, arrested four accused, including a foreigner while conducting six counter-narcotics operations throughout the country. According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, ANF North in an operation at Islamabad International Airport recovered 73 heroin-filled capsules from a passenger, resident of Khushab going to Bahrain on flight no GF-771.

In another operation near Islamabad Motorway Sangiani Toll Plaza, ANF recovered 90 kg charras and over 40 kg opium from the possession of an Afghan national. ANF Punjab in an operation at Lahore International Airport, recovered

four cocaine-filled capsules from the possession of a female who came from Nagaria via flight no QR-628.

The spokesman informed that ANF recovered 1.7 kg heroin, seven kg charras, a pistol and a heroin mixing machine from Khanawal. ANF Sindh conducted a raid at a private courier office in Karachi.

Korangi area and recovered four kg of suspected chemical soaked in clothes being sent to Australia.

ANF also seized 10 kg charras from a drug pusher, resident of Quetta from Quetta-Sariab road. Separate cases have been registered at respective ANF Police Stations under CNS Act 1997 while further investigations are under process, he added. INP

Shaheed-e-Pakistan Hakim Mohammed Said Memorial Scholarship program

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Hamdard Foundation Pakistan has provided meritorious scholarships to 224 bright & deserving students from all over the country under Shaheed-e-Pakistan Hakim Mohammed Said Memorial Scholarship program in an auspicious event held yesterday at Naimat Begum Hamdard University Hospital. Ms Sadia Rashid, President Hamdard Foundation Pakistan (HFP) presided over the proceedings. Prof. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan (Vice Chancellor Hamdard University and Prof. Dr. Tamim Akhar (Medical Director NBHUH) graced the occasion as guests of honour. Students who successfully secured scholarships attended the ceremony with their parents in large numbers.

Ms Sadia Rashid in her presidential statement congratulated the students and advised them to value time and follow the footsteps of Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said, who strictly followed this principle. She told



Ms. Sadia Rashid, President Hamdard Foundation Pakistan and Prof. Dr. Shabib ul Hasan, Vice Chancellor Hamdard University are giving away a Cheque & Certificate the student who secure highest numbers in Intermediate Examination in Karachi Board in the Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said Memorial Scholarship 2021 – 2022 .

the young audience that the younger generation must respect the elders because this deed pleases Allah. "We all should go to bed on time and get up early in the morning. With this, you will have plenty of time to study

and also your health will improve. Do not use smartphones excessively," she added.

Prof. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan said Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said had sown a seed of Hamdard Paki-

stan which now had become a tenacious tree. "Hamdard has been serving the nation in the fields of education and health. Hamdard Pakistan serves the people; today's event is proof of this, he said. He expressed his pleasure in getting invited over as a guest of honour at the students' scholarship ceremony.

Later honorable Ms Sadia Rashid along with the guests of honour, distributed cheques to students. As usual this year, more than 10 million rupees of scholarships have been provided to the bright and deserving students hailing from different parts of the country. Students of matriculation received Rs25,000 each, while intermediate students from all over the country received Rs50,000. All of these students have been showing excellent educational performance.

Parents and students in large numbers attended the event and thanked Hamdard Foundation Pakistan, especially Ms Sadia Rashid for her continuous support and encouragement.

BARD Foundation takes the lead to ensure high quality science education

Bureau Report

LAHORE: BARD Foundation is funding Roshni Homes Trust x Sciencefuse programme, which aims to teach high-quality science education in a creative way to children of Roshni Homes first, then across the 'Golden Triangle' (Sialkot, Gujrat and Gujranwala). Sciencefuse is a social enterprise working to improve the quality of science education among 3- to 14-year-old students.

This is an after-school program that not only teaches children about science in a dynamic way but also trains the trainers. The program will focus on the training of RHT educators and will broaden its scope to select 20-25 teachers in Gujranwala through community partnerships with various schools and orphanages.

Talking about the collaboration, Ms. Mehreen Dawood said, "Bard Foundation is delighted to be a vital part of this social enterprise that not only aims to educate the students but also look forward to train the trainers to make students excel in scientific understanding development. We look forward to broaden the horizon of this joint venture with Roshni Homes Trust to instill creativity and ensure advanced science education to students in other cities like Gujrat, Sialkot and Gujranwala. Through this targeted initiative, students will be able to develop critical learning and research skills that will foster their scientific comprehension in practical fields."



Pakistan Coating Association held Annual Dinner



Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Dr Asif Mahmood Jah, Federal Tax Ombudsman Pakistan, has asked Pakistan Coating Association (PCA) to nominate a member to become an advisor in member of the advisory committee of FTO to resolve the sales tax return and custom-related complaints/issues of the coating industry on speedy manner. While addressing the annual dinner of PCA as a chief guest in Karachi yesterday, he proposed the name of Mr. Siraj Uddin, Chairman of PCA, to take this candidate's post.

He offered the fullest cooperation for expanding the business of the coating industry at home and abroad. He urged the PCA to digitalize/e-commerce in the marketing of products to keep pace with the world's digitalization and become more competitive and resilient. He added that FTO has resolved 6000 cases out of 7000 filed by local businessmen and will continue with this spirit after working 29 years in this field.

The annual dinner was addressed by Mr. Siraj Uddin, Chairman of PCA; Mr Moazzam Rasheed, Founder Chairman of PCA; Mr Rehan Allahwala, IT Expert; Muhammad Saleem Farooqui, president of JPSD; Mr Mouhammad Yousuf, Former Senior Vice Chairman PCA, Col (Ret) Liaqat Ali Qamar Secretary General PCA and Mr. Muhammad Badar Haroon Senior Vice Chairman PCA. Mr. Muhammad Hussain Moosani, Vice Chairman, SITE Association of Industry (SAI) also attended the PCA Dinner Event as Guest of Honour, however, he had to leave early due to prior commitment.

A study circle seminar on peace & democracy arranged by KKF and CRPD



By Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: A seminar on peace and democracy was arranged at District Press Club Wana of Lower Waziristan, in which all the political parties and business community apart from lawyers and journalists participated in large numbers.

Mehran Wazir, Executive Director of Khifmat Khalq Foundation (KKF) and Project Director of Center for Regional Policy and Dialogue (CRPD) were also present in the Study Circle Seminar on Peace and Democracy. In the seminar arranged regarding peace and democracy, Anwar Khalvak from ANP, Ayaz Wazir, Amanullah Wazir from PPP, Saifur Rahman Wazir from JI, Tariq Wazir from NDM, Maulana Zeenatullah from PTM. Represented,

IDEAS 2022

KARACHI: Visitors look at an Pakistan's JF-17 Thunder aircraft during International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS) 2022 at the Expo Centre in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

HR Conference and Exhibition (CONNEX) 2022, Karachi

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: A spectacular HR Conference and Exhibition (CONNEX) was convened on 22nd September, 2022 to discuss today's business and HR challenges. In light of the current economic and technological landscape, the theme was aptly kept 'Playoff; the battle for talent.'

Due to the current price war, major brain drain, new workforce generation and widening skills gap, organizations in Pakistan have to compete for talent not only at a local level, but also international one.

The conference featured a diverse speaker lineup, including HR experts, practitioners, and C-level executives who shed light on these challenges and proposed practical solutions to the existing talent acquisition and retention problem.

Abrar Hasan (CEO, National Foods Limited) kicked off the event with his opening keynote, followed closely by Umer Saeed Khan (Lead Trainer, Activ8; Founder, Activ8 Games), Ayal Abbas (CEO, Sofcom), Faisal Qamar (CEO, Decibel), Fahad Zahid (Director Large Enterprise Group, SAP), Sadaf Hafit (CEO, HRSG Outsourcing), Khaqan-Sikander (CEO, Healthx Pakistan), Syed Asim Rashid (Sr. Consultant PSTD; President & CEO CreativeSwan), Dr. Zartash Afzal Uzmi (Co-Founder, Confiz; Associate Professor, LUMS), Muhammad Talha (Head Of HR, Corp. Comm. & Digitalization, HUBCO).

Other prominent speakers included Fathema Zuberi (HR Director, Unilever), Pouruchisty Sidhwa (CHRO, Telenor Bank & Easy Paisa), Arshia Ahmad Saqib (VP Talent & Culture, Engro Corp. Ltd), Amra Mubashir (GM HR, Tapal Tea), Amina Mujib Khan (Integrative Nutri-

tion Health Coach), Shahrukh Masood (Group Director HR & Corp. Comm., Martin Dow), Sarmad Ahmad (MD, Saaya Health), Rizwan Dalia (CPO, K-Electric; Board Member, PSTD), Shakeel Mapara (Director HR, Training & OD, sanofi-aventis), Khubaib Ahmed (CHRO, Service Industries Ltd).

The conference was hosted by the Pakistan Society for Training and Development (PSTD) in collaboration with the Pakistan Society for Human Resource Management (PSHRM). Their Diamond Sponsor was Engro Corp and Platinum sponsors included Healthx, HRSG, Dubai Islamic Bank.

PSTD's purpose is to raise the standard of professionalism and its mission is to build and broaden professional leadership, capacity and capability in Pakistan. Our members are regularly invited for HR Breakfast sessions, Synergy Sessions and Leadership Iconic Series.

Imran Sheikh visit Child Protection and Welfare Bureau

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: The Deputy Commissioner, Imran Hamid Sheikh paid a detailed visit at the Child Protection and Welfare Bureau where he passed certain significant moments with inmate's children.

He quoted the lines of William Wordsworth (A Poet of nature) saying "A Child is a Father of the Man"

He said that, each and every citizen ought to look after the children facing certain deprivations in this society, Children must be sent to education institutions instead they may become beggars in early childhood.

Huawei and Mangla Garrison Housing signed MoU for 'Fully Automated & Smart Homes solution'

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Huawei Technologies Pakistan and MGH Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd Signed a strategic MoU for "1st of its kind fully automated and state of the art Smart Homes & Community" project in Pakistan. This Smart Community project improves the need to facility Automation, secures Wi-Fi 6 based connectivity and supports energy savings with healthy living environment with the help of Huawei's service delivery Partner New Horizon.

MGH Pakistan has initiated a digital transformation project by having the Smart Homes & Community provisions where automation, secure connectivity and energy savings are being considered as first phase to be deployed with help of Huawei as Solution Lead OEM, New Horizon as Service delivery partner, Promag and its Group Compa-

nies Locii Inc. & Infra plan as the Project Managers and Principal Design Consultants for this prestigious project. The design includes the provision of standards of smart community where all parties are agreed to work accordingly.

The community design mentioned a first pilot project in Pakistan where customers would be able to choose from world-class digital experiences which will be provisioned with options for smart dimmable lighting, AC & TV Controls, Motion Sensors, Passive Security, CCTV Cameras, Shading, & Background music, along with Wi-Fi 6 based reliable wireless connectivity to cover whole comfortable living dimensions.

In present time, smart communities compliance with more secure provision along with international standards of living. From traditional to IoT enabled trans-

formation is ongoing and creating massive impact on how homes for the future are being shaped and modeled. Digitalization promises the most sustainable, healthy and comfortable environment where communities are more improved. Digital Transformation is the way forward. Huawei Pakistan along with its smart home automation partner New Horizon are set on a mission to bring Digital Transformation to your homes and promise to deliver you maximum security, safety and comfort along with a sustainable lifestyle.

Mr Awais Shaikh, CEO MGH Pakistan, stated on the occasion that "I believe Smart communities will not only have great uses and applications but also will make housing in Pakistan secure, elegant and automated with string IT infrastructure. We aim to provide a standard of living that can be seen in other successful countries in Europe, US etc"



In the event, Mr Farrukh Aslam Group CEO of Infra Plan, Promag & Locii said while

presenting the preview of P3, a Smart Homes Precinct at MGH Pakistan that "Our mission is to

bring change in the current housing scene in Pakistan by providing fully automated smart home

communities to fulfill the requirement of safe, comfortable and a sustainable lifestyle"

Mr Qaiser Sarwar, COO New Horizon also shared " We are happy and obliged to be selected as service delivery partner to MGH Pakistan for automation and strong Infrastructure building purpose and will deliver as standard qualification as it expected"

Mr Shahzad Rasheed, CTO Huawei Pakistan mentioned that "Huawei have been delivering such technologies since ages and have built an enormous ecosystem that supports smart community to be built with standards being followed internationally. Huawei Pakistan is committed to serve Pakistan's needs upon standards as well"

In this MoU signing event, Huawei CSPO mentioned all of us need to live in a stable and safe network environment.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:16 am
Zohr 11:53 am
Asr 3:25 pm
Maghrib 5:03 pm
Isha 6:29 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 555489
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

RCCI fears 30,000 poultry farms to be closed, due to lack of timely clearance

News Desk

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has cautioned the Government that due to non-availability of soybean meal, there is fear of scarcity of chicken, meat and food security across the country.

RCCI President Saqib Rafiq said in a statement that 130,000 tonnes of soybeans worth 22 billion rupees are lying in the open sky at the port.

Due to the lack of timely clearance, there is a fear that 30,000 poultry farms will be closed, more than 300 feed mills will be directly affected and the investment of about 1200 billion will be stopped in this sector.

He said that the poultry industry accounts for 50% of the meat demand in the country, and more than 1.5 million people are employed in the poultry industry.

Non availability of soybean meal across the country has started to have an impact, increasing the price of chicken, and making it unaffordable for the common man, he said.

Samina Alvi calls for maximum awareness on breast cancer

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Begum Samina Alvi said that one out of nine women in Pakistan is diagnosed with breast cancer and fifty percent of patients of this disease die due to late diagnosis and stressed for creating maximum awareness in women about this issue to reduce its death rate in the country.

She said that many countries have achieved 99 percent recovery rate and 80 percent survival rate of breast cancer patients by creating better awareness in society and we have to work on similar lines to cope with this issue. She said that awareness sessions on breast cancer should be organized throughout the year instead of just in October so that maximum women can be sensitized about the causes and treatment of this disease. She said this while addressing as Chief Guest at an awareness session on breast cancer organized by Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which was



attended by a large number of women from various walks of life.

Begum Samina Alvi said that every woman should spare 5 minutes for health and self-examination. She said that she

has been patronizing this campaign for the last 4 years due to which an increasing number of breast cancer patients are now coming forward for check-ups during the first and the second stage of

this disease. She said that society should support breast cancer patients, which is very important for recovery.

She said that 13 hospitals in Karachi, 8 in Punjab, 5 in KPK are providing free treatment to breast patients and more are needed to make its treatment affordable for low income patients. She thanked the private sector, medical universities, media and others for supporting the awareness campaign on breast cancer. Samina Alvi appreciated ICCI for arranging health awareness sessions besides dealing with day-to-day business issues. She said this huge gathering of ladies in the awareness session indicates the important role of ICCI in eradicating cancer and other diseases.

In his welcome address, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that breast cancer is spreading rapidly in Pakistan due to which 40,000 women die of this disease every year. He urged the government to set up a national cancer

registry to collect data at the national level for better prevention of the disease. He said the basic health units in rural areas lack staff and facilities for this disease and demanded that the government should provide women medical staff and other facilities in rural health units for screening of breast cancer.

He further said that the government in collaboration with private hospitals should launch a national screening campaign for the eradication of the disease across the country. He assured that ICCI would continue to conduct such awareness programs in future to create awareness among more women.

Dr. Faryal Razzaq highlighted the importance of emotional stability, family support and avoiding suppression of emotions to cope with breast cancer issues as emotional trauma is one of the major causes of breast cancer. Amna Salman Butt, a breast cancer survivor shared her experience how to cope with breast cancer disease.

Leopards in village

ISLAMABAD: People gathered at Saidpur village. At least four common Asian Leopards entered Saidpur Village on Thursday evening and attacked a goat, as wildlife officials said the big cats had appeared at a home that encroached on their natural habitat.

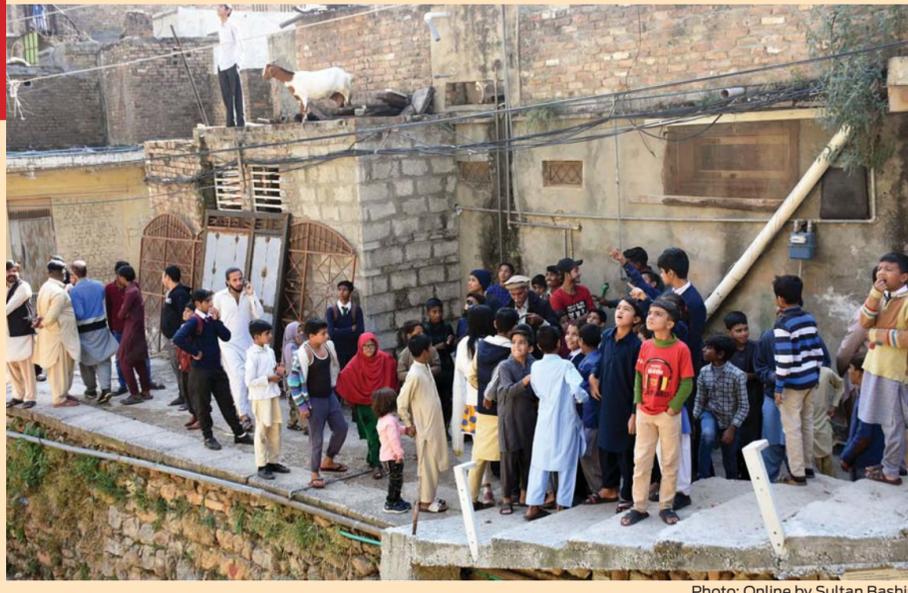


Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Inter University Rugby Championship Held at IIUI



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Inter University Rugby Championship commenced here at the new campus of International Islamic University (IIU) that was attended by as many as 15 teams across the country under the supervision of Higher Education Commission (HEC).

The championship was hosted by the Directorate of Students Affairs (DSA) of IIUI at the H-10- campus that was inaugurated by the Special Assistant to Prime Minister, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, Sardar Saleem Haider.

Names of the participating teams included, University of Lahore, Cholistan University Of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Bahawalpur, University of Management and Technology Lahore, The University of Kotli Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Iqra University Karachi, Minhaj University Lahore, Punjab University, Islamiya University Bahawalpur, LUMS, Superior University, Lahore Garrison University, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), FAST, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore, University of Central Punjab.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Vice President A&F Dr. N.B. Jumani, Students Advisor Dr. Rizwan Aftab, Provost Dr. Abrar Anwer, Organizing secretary and Assistant Director Sports Muhammad Khalid Chaudhary and Assistant Director Jashmid ullah Khan and officials of Pakistan Rugby Union were also present.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Sardar Saleem said that the equilibrium of urbanization is disturbed ultimately the buildings are replacing the grounds that is alarming. He added that Pakistani youth

despite unavailability of the facilities, have showcased their talent and skills. He said the performance of our athletes in recent Olympics proved that if provided proper facilities our youth can conquer all the sports.

On the occasion, Dr. N.B. Jumani encouraged all the teams and appreciated the active participation of Pakistani universities adding that such activities bring the platforms to youth to showcase talent and utilize the energies. He vowed that IIUI would continue to hold such activities in future as well.

Easypaisa gets fresh Equity Commitment from Shareholders to continue its digital first strategy

Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Telenor Microfinance Bank is the first Bank in Pakistan that has successfully rolled out a digital first business model which allows its 11 million monthly active users to utilize its suite of payments, savings, lending and other digital platform services without the need of any physical interaction with the Bank. This has all been possible due to the Bank's clear focus on the future of financial services and some bold strategic choices made during the Covid 19 pandemic.

These comments were made by M. Mudassar Aqil, CEO Telenor Microfinance Bank/ Easypaisa, on the future of financial services and role of technology towards financial inclusion in Pakistan.

Telenor Microfinance Bank is a joint venture between Telenor Group, the world's leading telecom provider and Ant Group, the largest fintech in the world with over 1.3 billion users through its service Alipay and joint ventures in 9 countries across Asia.

CEO, M. Mudassar Aqil further noted that TMB/ Easypaisa is fortunate to have a dream team of investors who not only bring capital, technical expertise and domain knowledge to the table but most importantly believe in the future of Pakistan's potential in digital finance. Their commitment is evident from the USD 290 million Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) already invested in the business, with an additional commitment to invest USD 30 million over the next 12 months to help pursue the Bank's digital first strategy. The first tranche of this investment will be received in November 2022.

Both shareholders remain excited about the potential for growth in the market and have joined hands in the quest to establish the largest digital financial services player to support the joint vision of banking the unbanked with state-of-the-art technology on inclusive principles.

FAO working on 'Living Indus' with the Govt of Pakistan



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Food and Agriculture Organization is working on a project titled 'Living Indus' with the government of Pakistan to protect the Indus Basin from environmental degradation and anthropogenic activities.

This was stated by FAO Representative Florence Rolle while speaking in a program of newly launched English Channel of Radio Pakistan Planet-FM 87.6.

She said Indus Basin has significant importance in people's lives as well as biodiversity of the country, including socio-economic and cultural activities of the people.

The FAO representative said Pakistan is rich in biodiversity and all stakeholders need to play their role for its conservation. She called for concrete steps to preserve water and land resources in the country.

Highlighting the significance of research in the agriculture sector, the FAO representative underscored the need for reforms in the agriculture sector to enhance efficiency and productivity.

About FAO's efforts in flood affected areas of Pakistan, Florence Rolle said the organization is providing Rabi packages to farmers for wheat cultivation, vaccines for livestock and feed for cattle.

Forth CPMI-2022 held at COMSATS University

ISLAMABAD: The fourth China Pakistan Marine Information (CPMI-2022) was held at the COMSATS University Wah campus.

The event was jointly organized by academic and research institutions from China and Pakistan; including COMSATS University Islamabad, FAST, Pakistan Science Foundation, Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Center, National Institute of Oceanography (Pakistan Partners), and Harbin Engineering University, China Association of Science and Technology, Chinese Society of Naval Architecture, and Heilongjiang Science and Technology Association (Chinese Partners), said a news release issued here Friday.

This was the fourth workshop of this series as part of the One Belt One Road initiative under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with this year's theme "Smart Ocean Informatics" with oral and poster presentations.

The worthy Rector CUI, Prof. Dr. Muhammad T. Afzal was the chief guest.

In his opening remarks, Rector CUI Prof. Dr. Muhammad T. Afzal, extended his gratitude for bringing the China Pakistan Marine Information Workshop in COMSATS and organizing it successfully to strengthen the scientific collaboration in the field of marine engineering and sciences.

He mentioned that CUI strongly believed in internationalization and working in emerging technologies and always take lead to bring research and academic programs to benefit Pakistan.

Askari Bank Partners with One Network (Pvt) Limited

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Askari Bank Limited has signed an agreement with One Network (Pvt) Limited, a technology company that provides Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) and M-tag services on Motorways.

This collaboration will enable Askari bank's customers to recharge their M-Tag free of any cost through Askari Bank's Digital Channels including Askari Mobile App, I-Net Banking and ATMs, as well as through Mobile App of One Network.

In addition to the M-Tag recharge services, AKBL will also facilitate One Network through deployment of Bulk Cash Collection Machines at various toll plazas across the country and embark on several other digital initiatives to enhance the travel experience of their mutual customers.



The agreement was signed by Mr. Sheharyar I. Khan, Group Head - Corporate & Investment Banking, Askari Bank and Mr. Asif Siddique, CEO One Network. Senior executives from both the organizations were also present at the occasion of agreement signing ceremony. Commenting on the partnership Mr.

Sheharyar I. Khan said, "Our collaboration with One Network aligns with our vision towards digitization. It will amplify our reach towards potential clients while digitizing their payments infrastructure."

Speaking about the partnership, Mr. Asif Siddique, CEO of One Network

Private Limited said, "We aim to facilitate Pakistani commuters for hassle free and cashless travel experience by digitizing the toll and challan collection on all motorways. With the decentralized motor vehicle registration regime in Pakistan, M-Tag is the only option to identify vehicles electronically & linking it with banks to enable them for online toll tax payments."

Pakistan is moving towards digitalization of toll payments on all motorways in Pakistan. Travelling through M-Tag has hyped this year after the Lahore High Court's ruling earlier in December 2021. One Network has recently upgraded the Lahore-Sheikhupura-Faisalabad (LSF) Dual Carriage-way to M-Tag and is initiating M-Tag based tolling on Multan-Sukkur (M-5) Motorway, PindiBhattian - Multan (M-4) Motorway and Hakla - DI Khan (M-14) Motorway very soon.

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Kashmir dispute: A neglected issue

Muhammad Bashir Khattana

The record of Kashmir issues in the special history of Jammu and Kashmir has been different from the rest of areas the states. During the time of Emperor Akbar, it was earlier known as the Kingdom of Kashmir. At the time of partition of the subcontinent, the formula for deciding the future of Kashmir was clear that the states with Muslim population would go with Pakistan and the Hindu areas would remain under Indian administration.

When Congress and Muslim League expressed their willingness to divide the subcontinent, Kashmiri Muslims expressed their desire to stay with Pakistan. India had started a movement to leave India against the British, in the same way the Muslims of Kashmir had started a movement to leave Kashmir against the Maharaja.

The Tribals arrived, and they snatched defeat from the face of victory. Indians received the accession papers in a suspicious manner and filed a complaint in the United Nations, that Pakistan attacked on India. The UN Security Council set aside this complaint but sent a high level commission to both of

countries, which reached an agreement between Pakistan and India that the decision on Kashmir's accession would be made through referendum in supervision of United Nations. India agreed to this, but several leaders, especially Prime Minister Nehru, repeatedly assured in their statements that the Maharajah's accession was temporary and the final decision shall be made through a United Nations plebiscite. According to the borders, there was no land connection between Kashmir and India, so the Kashmir is separate from India.

For a direct land connection with Kashmir, Pandit Nehru arranged with Viceroy Mountbatten to make changes in the lines of the borders. It is clear from the history, that it was the real cause for the Kashmir conflict. It was the short sightedness of Britain or the deception of India which started by openly rigging the elections on a large scale for the success of the Congress. Rigging was not a new thing in Occupied Kashmir. For the last seven decades, all elections have been rigging to handover the power to a pro Indian party.

This time the patience of the Kashmiri people ran out, but the real purpose of the movement was reveal when four lakh Kashmiris took a protest procession in front of the United Nations office in Srinagar and demand-

ed the right to decide the fate of Kashmir and insisted on the demand for voting. Immediately after the existence of Pakistan, the first war broke out between the two countries over the issue of Kashmir. India deployed its army to maintain its possession on Kashmir. The Kashmiri people are still facing a danger

and supporters of the movement have been called separatists. Most of the leaders left the party and joined Participated in the movement of Pakistan. In this regard, India used the fear and apprehension of Western countries and blamed Islamic fundamentalism. Kashmir is the property of its people. If it had

The blood that is flowing today has turned into a river of blood, maybe this river will change its direction and go towards Delhi. The problem of Kashmir is the result of anti-Islamic strategy. The world power favors India by keeping all the demands of justice and humanity above the threshold. Sympathy towards Muslims is hypocritical.

The Muslims of Kashmir are not oppressed, on the contrary, the Indian government is sympathetic. What are the intentions of Muslim-killing India? Its hypocrisy has always been a part of history. America favors India by ignoring all demands of justice and humanity. Are the Americans also investigate the actions of foreign forces in Occupied Kashmir and look at the reports of Amnesty International and Human Rights Organizations. Can they also listen the voice of children orphaned by foreign forces, widowed and dishonored women, those people who maimed as a result of violence and those who were killed in custody, and the survivors of the disappeared and displaced. The European Parliament should appoint an investigation team for Kashmir and visit Occupied Kashmir to assess the situation in the area, stop the horrible actions, and provide all kinds of moral, political and financial support to the Kashmiri struggles.

The Muslims of Kashmir are not oppressed, on the contrary, the Indian government is sympathetic. What are the intentions of Muslim-killing India? Its hypocrisy has always been a part of history. America favors India by ignoring all demands of justice and humanity. Are the Americans also investigate the actions of foreign forces in Occupied Kashmir and look at the reports of Amnesty International and Human Rights Organizations.

ous enemy in the battlefield and our destination is our destination. In the blood conflict, the youth took up the guns under the pressure, the enemy's battlefield became the land of Kashmir.

The people of Kashmir are favoring to join Pakistan. The insurgency in Pakistan is not created by Pakistan, it is due to historical reasons. In the media, it has been called the only Muslim-majority state

been resolved according to the opinion of the people, these situations would not have happened today. To prolong the riots and conflicts, India imposed one million army.

The foreign army searched thousands of women from house to house. Muslim men, women and children were martyred. The foreign army performed dances of terror and humiliated and disarmed the helpless Muslims in thousands.

Pakistan's fruits, vegetable export to China crosses \$54m in Jan-Sept 2022

Pakistan's fruits and vegetable export to China topped \$54.34 million, witnessing a massive increase in the month of January-September year-on-year, showed data from the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC).

According to GACC, imports of dried leguminous vegetables (commodity code 07139090), amounted to \$6.17 million, with imports totaling more than 4,040 tons in the January-September period, compared with \$3.97 million in the same period last year.

Ahmed Raza, a Pakistani fruits and vegetable exporter, told China Economic Net that in wake of the high demand for fruits and vegetables in the Chinese market, Pakistani traders have an imperial opportunity to increase their exports and grow as a food basket for China.

"Chinese people like Pakistani fruits & vegetables because of their good taste and high quality. If we enhance the techniques used by China to offer high-end products, the export value will increase," he added.

He further said that the flood badly affected many sectors of Pakistan including agriculture. Many crops including rice, sugarcane, fruits and vegetables vanished by the flood but these crops should be replanted as soon as possible to cover the losses and increase exports, he stressed.

"Due to climate changes, when our farmers harvest fresh fruits and vegetables, they encounter difficulties in storage, transportation, and preservation.

Pakistani farmers are very helpless watching the fresh fruits and vegetables gradually deteriorate with the passage of time. To solve this problem China and Pakistan should further enhance cooperation in the fields of vegetable & fruit planting, storage, processing and make it high-end products," he mentioned.

It is to be noted that despite the pandemic of COVID-19 and the flood in Pakistan, bilateral trade between Pakistan and China has increased significantly. Pakistan's exports stood at \$ 2.57 billion in the first nine months (January- September) of FY22, up 2 percent from \$ 2.51 billion in the same period of the previous year, which grew for three consecutive years.



How Lula can ensure Brazil emerges from the shadows

Ilona Szabo

Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's election victory over incumbent Jair Bolsonaro last month sends a powerful message to the rest of the world. Though he won only narrowly, Lula, as he is known, succeeded by building a broad democratic coalition spanning from the far left to the center right.

Facing a deeply divided country, the president-elect is now setting the tone for a four-year term that will begin in January 2023. In his victory speech, he promised to establish a civil, inclusive, conciliatory and green government. And by calling for healing and solidarity, he offered a sharp contrast to his predecessor's divisive rhetoric.

Make no mistake: Lula will face tremendous headwinds in governing the world's fourth-largest democracy. Although his convictions were annulled, many Brazilians are outraged that a man formerly implicated in corruption scandals is returning to the presidency. Lula will also have to deal with a sizable far-right bloc of legislators, daunting economic challenges and a simmering culture war unleashed by Bolsonaro and his militant supporters.

Still, Lula has an opportunity to be a transformational president — and in ways that would exceed what he achieved during his hugely popular first presidency from 2003 to 2010. He will need to offer a blueprint that emphasizes four main priorities.

Equally important, the deforestation must end, especially in the Amazon, where 94 percent of such activities are occurring illegally. Lula's government will have to disrupt the complex illicit economies and

supply chains that have been fueling this destruction. Enforcing forest protections, empowering environmental authorities and indigenous groups, strengthening the rule of law and ensuring that companies deliver full traceability and transparency in their supply chains are all essential.

Second, Lula must promote reconciliation and coexistence at home. As he noted in his victory speech, political polarization has heightened the risk of violence. The new government will need to foster closer partnerships with civil society and the major digital platforms to rein in disinformation and safeguard civic and digital rights.

Brazil's divisions are constantly amplified on social media and messaging services. But solutions are within reach. Brazil's Superior Electoral Tribunal played a critical role during the recent election by working with eight leading social media platforms, fact-checking agencies and civil society organizations to detect and disrupt disinformation. But de-platforming anti-democratic actors and moderating digital harms is not enough. Brazil should absorb lessons from other countries that have reduced online and offline polarization.

For example, encouraging "intergroup contact," such as through citizen assemblies, has been shown to reduce prejudices between constituencies, as have projects built around "superordinate goals" (like the effort to make Brazil a green superpower). Beyond that, Brazilian leaders need to foster a political culture in which citizens focus more on policies than on personalities — for example, by allowing for more open consultations and participatory decision-making.

Third, Lula should strive to reinvigorate global initiatives to address pover-

ty, inequality and food insecurity. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war on Ukraine, many lower and middle-income countries' sustainable development efforts have suffered massive setbacks. And as global financial and monetary conditions have tightened, many countries have been barreling toward punishing debt crises that will hit the most vulnerable communities the hardest.

Under Lula, Brazil should advocate a global agenda to promote not just the UN Sustainable Development Goals but also closer "South-South cooperation" to deliver material benefits for the world's poorest. Brazil has a venerable diplomatic tradition of supporting global cooperation through multilateral institutions and other forums designed to serve developing countries' interests. In a fragmented and divided world, its ability to build consensus and foster partnerships will be more important than ever.

Lastly, Lula should leverage Brazil's international credibility to spur multilateral action against new global risks. Political and diplomatic leadership is needed to reinforce fragile norms barring weapons of mass destruction, to reduce the harms associated with new technologies and to mobilize investments in climate-related mitigation and adaptation efforts, especially in countries that stand to incur the greatest costs from global warming despite being the least responsible for it.

Even though Brazil's new government must attend to its domestic challenges, it can and should lead the charge against these systemic, interconnected global risks. The world needs Brazil's voice, which means that Brazil now needs to emerge from the shadow of the past four years.

The political turmoil of 2014: Causes and consequences

Asadullah Mahesar

It is a tradition of Pakistani politics that whenever the results of general elections announce the defeating parties do not accept the results and they accuse different blames like, rigging and military involvement in the elections. Similarly, the former cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan's political party, Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf accepted the results of the general elections of 2013 and demanded the investigation of four national assembly constituencies. However, the new government of PML-N did not deem to demand of Khan. Consequently, a petition was filed by PTI's worker in the Supreme Court of Pakistan regarding the rigging in the elections, but the petitioner could not provide evidence of rigging resultantly the appeal was dismissed from the Apex Court. Thus, Khan was disappointed by the height's judiciary of the country and the negative behaviour of the Election Commission of Pakistan and finally, he announced the anti-rigging movement on April 22, 2014. In the preliminary phase of this movement, he started the political Jalsas (gatherings) in different cities of Pakistan.

When the Sharif government did not deem to the PTI's demands then they launched the Azadi March from Lahore on 14th August. The March reached Islamabad on the next day where the prominent leaders of PTI addressed the crowd under the heavy rain. On August 17th, Khan addressed the crowd and announced the 'disobedience movement' to do not pay the taxes and utility bills to pressurize the government. On the same day, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, the then federal interior minister, asserted in his press conference that 'the government is willing to listen to each and every constitutional demand of PTI through negotiation'. But later, the PML-N government refused to fulfil the demands. Moreover, it was Nisar Ali Khan who accepted that approximately 60,000-70,000 votes in each constituency

could not be verified.

Consequently, Khan saw that the consecutive dharna did not attract the government to fulfil the demands then he decided to extend the anti-rigging campaign in different cities of the country by having Jalsas (gatherings). The PTI's dharna was the longest sit-in in the political history of Pakistan that was lasting for 126 days consecutively. The dharna was announced to end on the 17th of December 2014 after the brutal attack happened by the terrorists on the Army Public School, Peshawar on the 16th of December. Due to this longest political turmoil, Pakistan faced an economic crisis and almost 6 billion USD lost.

Thereafter a negotiation with the government PTI agreed to investigate the electoral fraud by the Judicial Commission. The Judicial Commission presented its report in which they concluded that no such significant evidence finds out on which basis it can be said that the rigging happened in the 2013 general elections. PTI had accepted the results of the Judicial Commission, but they refused to apologize to the nation by exploiting them for 126 days. Later, Dr Arif Alvi, the current president of Pakistan, tweeted that it was "time to apologise for 35 punchers". Imran Khan interviewed Hamid Mir, a prominent anchor person of Geo News, in which he professed that the issue of 35 punchers was only my "political statement" further he added, the information came to us indirectly by the source bypassing via different channels due to this the misunderstanding took place. Thus, the demonstrations were totally based on political allegations and had no significant evidence that was accused by the protesters. Consequently, they failed to get their primary objects to dethrone the governments. The Pakistani people have always been exploited either in the name of religion or political slogans since independence hence, the new generation should have to consciously analyse their political parties and then follow them.

Writer is M.Phil. Scholar from NIPS, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad and reached on E-mail: aliasad326@gmail.com

Xi calls for high-quality China-Singapore cooperation

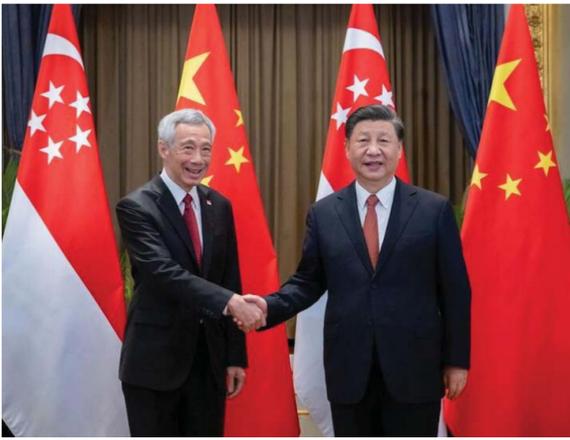
BANGKOK: Chinese President Xi Jinping said here on Thursday that China welcomes Singapore's in-depth participation in building the new development paradigm and is committed to making "high quality" a distinct feature of cooperation between the two countries.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on the sidelines of the 29th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting.

Xi pointed out that facing the once-in-a-century pandemic and changes unseen in a century, China-Singapore relations have maintained a sound momentum. This has not only facilitated the COVID-19 response and economic recovery of the two countries, but also injected positive energy to stability and prosperity of the region.

The China-Singapore relationship is forward-looking, strategic and exemplary, said Xi.

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC)



has made strategic deployment on building a modern socialist country in all respects and promoting Chinese modernization on all fronts. China will work with Singapore for new progress in the all-round cooperative partnership progressing with the times

between the two countries, said Xi. Underscoring China's readiness to develop close high-level exchanges with Singapore, Xi said the two sides need to ensure sound implementation of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor as a landmark project

of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation between China and Singapore, and promote upgrading of cooperation projects in digitalization, green development and other areas.

Efforts need to be made to conclude follow-up negotiations on upgrading the China-Singapore FTA at an early date, enhance the level of trade and investment liberalization, and facilitate people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, he said, adding that both China and Singapore rely on this region for development and their development is well-integrated into and beneficial to this region.

China will work with Singapore to uphold solidarity and cooperation in the region, oppose group politics, resist bloc confrontation, keep to the right direction of economic and regional integration, and firmly reject the attempts to push for "decoupling and severing supply chains," or to build "a small yard with high fences," said Xi, noting that it is hoped that the two sides will work together to pursue the Global Development Initiative (GDI) in this region. Xinhua

LB polls to be held in AJK as per announced schedule on Nov. 27: AJK PM

Abdul Majid Tahir

MIRPUR (AJK): Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan has said that the scheduled November 27 local bodies elections would be held in Azad Jammu Kashmir on time.

"People are happy to see the local body's elections are being held after a break of more than three decades," the PM said adding that he was sure that Pakistan government provide the required security to ensure holding of the polls in free, fair and transparent manner.

During his informal chat at a private ceremony in Rawalpindi on Friday, the PM said that the government was committed to fulfill the commitment it had made with the people of the liberated territory.

The Prime Minister said, "We have taken a clear position that the government will fulfill its responsibilities in this regard".

He said that the decision to hold the polls as per the schedule has generated a lot of optimism amongst the people especially the youth who were actively participating in the election campaigns.

"We have full confidence in the federal institutions that they will cooperate with the government respecting the wishes of the people of the state", he said. APP

UNDP and Islamic Relief partner to support the flood-affected communities in Sindh

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a signing ceremony today, UNDP and Islamic Relief announced a partnership to support the flood-affected communities in Sindh. The partnership will create income opportunities for households affected by the floods and support the construction of community infrastructures.

The devastating floods in Pakistan have affected 33 million people. Recently launched Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) highlights that millions have become homeless, livelihoods are heavily impacted, and critical infrastructure has been wiped out. Estimates of total damages and losses are around \$30 billion.

Floods have particularly impacted the poorest and most vulnerable districts. Poverty rates for many flood-affected districts in Sindh and Balochistan, two of the most impacted provinces, were even higher. Before the floods, households in calamity-hit communities showed an average poverty rate of more than 31 percent, well above the national average of 21.9 percent.

In response, UNDP and Islamic Relief will help communities with cash for work opportunities. An initial target of 10,000 cash-for-work hours will be set, with an increased focus on the inclusion of women. Simultaneously, rehabilitation schemes will also be identified in the selected districts that can be started immediately.

While speaking at the signing ceremony, UNDP Pakistan Resident Representative Knut Ostby highlights, "Aligned with UNDP's Flood Recovery Vision, through this partnership, we aim to revive livelihoods and rehabilitate critical infrastructure in impacted districts of Sindh."

"The scale of devastation has been unprecedented for which no one was prepared. Islamic Relief strongly believes that collaborations and partnerships are vital in this hour of need to reach the most in need before another crisis emerges. Our strong community connections are helping us to reach the most in need," states Mr. Asif Sherazi, Country Director of Islamic Relief Pakistan.

This collaboration is an extension of UNDP and Islamic Relief's global and regional partnership in reaching and building resilience in conflict-affected areas.

At least 21 killed, several others hurt in Gaza Strip fire



GAZA: At least 21 people were killed and several others injured when a fire broke out in a building where residents attended a party in the Gaza Strip, health and civil emergency officials said on Thursday.

It took firefighters more than an hour to get control of the massive flames that burst through the top floor of a four-story residential building in the densely-populated Jabalia refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip.

Ambulances rushed several injured people to local hospitals, and Israel, which together with Egypt maintains a blockade on Gaza, said it would allow in those in need of medical treatment.

Gaza's Interior Ministry said an initial investigation revealed that large amounts of gasoline had been stored at the site, fueling the blaze that quickly engulfed the building.

Witnesses said they could hear screaming but could not help those inside because of the intensity of the fire.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas called it a national tragedy and said there would be a day of mourning.

Hussein Al-Sheikh, secretary-general of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said in a statement that the Palestinian Authority urged Israel to open the Erez crossing with Gaza to transport serious cases in order to treat them outside the enclave if necessary.

News Desk

Palestine embassy hoists flag at half mast

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the State of Palestine, Islamabad Pakistan hoisted the flag at half mast according to the declaration of His Excellency Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, today, Friday, November 18, 2022, a national day of mourning in which flags are flown at all Palestinian official institutions, mourning the lives of the victims of the unfortunate fire incident in a house in Jabalia, Palestinian Refugee Camp in the northern Gaza Strip, which resulted in the death of an entire family consisting of 21 people.



The unfortunate accident was the result of a fire in the family's stock of fuel to operate the electricity generator, which has become a necessity for every home in the Gaza Strip to overcome the crisis of power outages of about 16 hours per day as a result

of materials necessary for the maintenance of electricity transmission and distribution networks.

These humanitarian issues and much of the daily suffering of the Palestinian people cry out to the international community to stand up to its moral and legal responsibilities by taking all legal and political measures to end the Israeli occupation of the lands of the State of Palestine and to stop the racist occupation practices that deprive the Palestinian people of their most basic human needs to live in dignity on the land of their homeland inherited for thousands years.

We ask Allah Almighty to have mercy on the victims

Almost half Ukraine's energy system disabled, PM says

KYIV: A recent wave of Russian missile strikes have crippled almost half of Ukraine's energy system, Ukraine's prime minister has said.

The damage comes as temperatures drop below freezing and the capital Kyiv experiences its first winter snow.

One official in Kyiv warned that the city could face a "complete shutdown" of its power grid.

President Volodymyr Zelensky earlier said that 10 million Ukrainians have been left without power.

Engineers are racing to restore power as Ukraine endures Russian bombardment. "Unfortunately

Russia continues to carry out missile strikes on Ukraine's civilian and critical infrastructure. Almost half of our energy system is disabled," Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal told a news conference on Friday.

Pakistan pushes for increase in non-permanent members to make UNSC more representative, effective

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has made a strong case against creating new permanent seats on the UN Security Council, saying an increase in the number of non-permanent members would make the 15-member body more representative, democratic and effective.

"The only criteria for Security Council membership set out in the UN Charter is for the election of non-permanent members," Ambassador Munir Akram told delegates when the deadlocked Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) aimed at restructuring the Council resumed on Thursday.

The Pakistani envoy also underscored the need for flexibility to achieve the required consensus among all UN member states to overcome the stalemate in the reform negotiations.

"Unfortunately, consensus on Security Council reform has been impeded, from the outset, by the demand of four countries that they be selected as new permanent members in an expanded Security Council," he said, referring to



the relentless campaign by India, Brazil, Germany and Japan, known as the Group of Four, for elevated status.

"Their demand violates the principle of sovereign equality of States; it ignores the reality that permanent membership and the veto are often the cause of the Council's inaction," Ambassador Akram said.

Full-scale negotiations to reform the Security Council began in the General Assembly in February 2009 on five key areas — the categories of membership, the question of veto, regional representation, size of an enlarged Security Council, and working methods of the council and its relationship with the General Assembly.

Progress towards restructuring the Security Council remains blocked as G-4 countries continue pushing for permanent seats in the Council, while the Italy/Pakistan-led Uniting for Consensus (UfC) group firmly opposes any additional permanent members.

As a compromise, UfC has proposed a new category of members — not permanent members — with longer duration in terms and a possibility to get re-elected.

The Security Council is currently composed of five permanent members — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — and 10 non-permanent members elected to two-year terms.

In his remarks, Ambassador Akram drew attention to UfC proposal for a 26-seat Council, with the additional seats being distributed proportionally among the five regions.

Each region could be allocated some longer-term seats with possible re-election, whereas small island developing States should be allocated one floating seat

New Commitments, Research, Youth Take Center Stage at 2022 International Conference on Family Planning

News Desk

PATTAYA, THAILAND: The ICFP closing ceremony highlighted key moments from the 2022 International Conference on Family Planning, recognized participant achievements, and inspired attendees with energy and vision for the future of family planning.

Ten years after the 2012 London Summit on Family Planning, the 2022 International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) celebrated the fact that tens of millions more women today are using a modern method of family planning, and a growing number of governments, corporations, funders and non-governmental organizations are pledging to take

specific actions to expand access to voluntary, rights-based contraception. At the same, the world's largest scientific conference on family planning and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) highlighted the urgency of this moment, particularly as COVID-19 and other global crises continue to divert health-care funding from family planning efforts. "Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, at least half of the world's population could not obtain essential health services, including family planning services," said Jose "Oying" G. Rimón II, senior scientist and director of the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health, and chair of the ICFP International Steering Committee. "Globally,

we are also seeing threats to sexual and reproductive health and rights from conservative political pushback, and inequality is still a considerable factor, with health interventions varying substantially within and across countries."

As the preeminent event for countries, organizations, and individuals to make important family planning announcements, this year's ICFP saw several historic new FP2030 pledges, including a five-year, USD 15 million commitments from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). "USAID has been a pillar of this global family planning partnership since we were created ten years ago. In making this commitment today, USAID

affirms the success that we have seen: that a diverse global partnership, deliberately working together, can accelerate the use of family planning everywhere," said Dr. Samukeliso Dube, executive director of FP2030.

Several awards were bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to the family planning field. In the conference's opening ceremony, the Global Humanitarian Award was given to Daniel and David Zuellig from the Zuellig Family Foundation, a leading provider of innovative healthcare solutions in the Philippines; and Mechai Viravaidya, founder and chair of the Population and Community Development Association (PDA), for his groundbreaking HIV/AIDS prevention activities



and commitment to community-based family planning services. The conference honored five individuals with a Lifetime Achievement Award: Fatimata Sy, former director of the Ouagadougou

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University; Cheikh Seydil Mactar Mbacké, senior fellow at the Center for Research on Applied Economics and Finance at the Université de Thiès in Senegal; and Phil Harvey, founder of PSI and DKT International (Mr. Harvey also co-founded Marie Stopes, which is now MSI Reproductive Choices).

Earlier, Broadway star Jami-la Sabares-Klemm performed her original song to honor those who have passed away since the 2018 ICFP in a Celebration of Life. And, in true ICFP fashion, the conference concluded with an inspirational performance to show us that another world is possible.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
42,730.24	42,819.72	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
42,819.72	42,600.99	
Index Value	Change	
3,941,182,034	-89.48	
Percentage	Time	
-0.21%	18 Nov, 2022 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,385.52	+38.98	
Percentage	Time	
+ 0.53%	18 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,638.21	+91.89	
Percentage	Time	
+0.27%	18 Nov, 2:59 pm GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,899.77	-30.80	
Percentage	Time	
-0.11%	18 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	148.26	149.51
Bahrain Dinar	591.7	596.2
Canadian Dollar	166.66	168.01
China Yuan	31.09	31.34
Danish Krone	30.93	31.28
Euro	244	246.25
Hong Kong Dollar	28.43	28.78
Indian Rupee	2.72	2.8
Japanese Yen	1.6	1.64
Kuwaiti Dinar	722.19	727.19
Malaysian Ringgit	48.87	49.32
New Zealand \$	135.65	136.85
Norwegians Krone	21.9	22.2
Omani Riyal	577.79	582.29
Qatari Riyal	61.12	61.62
Saudi Riyal	62.5	63.1
Singapore Dollar	161.49	162.79
Swedish Korona	20.9	21.2
Swiss Franc	233.19	234.94
Thai Bhat	6.18	6.28
U.A.E Dirham	64.5	65.1
UK Pound Sterling	279	281.5
US Dollar	227.75	229.95

SECP releases Annual Report for FY 2021-22

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has released its annual report for the fiscal year 2021-22. The Report caused under section 25 of the SECP Act 1997 comprises details of Commission activities and financial statements for fiscal year 2021-22.

SECP Chairman Aamir Khan has expressed his satisfaction that the Commission has achieved significant progress in multiple areas including transparent and fair enforcement, promoting ease of doing business, supporting innovation and entrepreneurship, financial inclusion and market development.

Aamir Khan, in his message published in the report, said that in pursuit of developmental reforms "the over-arching enablers were identified as promoting digitalisation, simplifying regulatory structure, reducing cost of compliance and invigorating the exchange of ideas and concepts with market participants and stakeholders".

In FY 2021-22, building on the initiatives of the previous fiscal year of establishment of a dedicated supervision division and a dedicated adjudication division, the SECP has concluded 579 cases through orders imposing penalties amounting to Rs77 million on listed companies and licenced entities on account of violation of relevant laws. Likewise, 85,519 orders were issued to unlisted companies imposing penalties amounting to Rs4,701 million.

This year, while moving further towards a



SECP chairman: Photo by Daily The Spokesman

functional based structure, the SECP has successfully consolidated its licensing activity under a centralized department. The centralization of licensing will bring uniformity, efficiency and transparency into the issuance and renewal of licenses, and related approvals.

Other significant progress includes the issuance of digital mortgage certificates and acknowledgements of annual and other returns; issuance of digital CTCs of the company's statutory returns and digital company profile. To facilitate easy exit, an online portal of Companies' Easy Exit has been launched. Moreover, the process of company incorporation has been centralized at the head office to standardize and facilitate expeditions processing. The SECP, in coordination with SBP, has also launched an exclusive digital portal, which enables banks to certify a company's filings.

In FY 2021-22, numerous reforms were intro-

duced in the capital market to bring efficiency, transparency, depth and ease for the investors. The process for submitting IPO applications by the issuers/companies has been automated. The opening of news accounts by small investors was made very simple through a new category of "Sehl Account", wherein investors can be onboarded through microfinance banks backed by telecom providers.

Further, to simplify investment in mutual funds, Pakistan's first mutual fund digital distribution platform, namely "Emlaak Financials" has been launched by the central Depository Company (CDC).

The pension funds have been allowed to invest in REITs, Private Equities, Venture Capital Funds and ETFs. Moreover, pension funds have also been allowed passive investment strategies in the form of Index sub-fund. In addition, financial institutions including Banks, DFIs, PDs, AMCs etc. have been allowed to act as market makers, thereby increasing secondary debt market liquidity. So far, 16 financial institutions have been registered as market makers.

For the first time, the SECP has awarded a NBFC license to operate as a P2P lending platform on a commercial basis. The P2P operations of NBFC were successfully tested under SECP's regulatory sandbox.

To provide immediate responses and guidance regarding company incorporation, the SECP has launched WhatsApp and Wechat service. Through the service which is the first of its kind



in Pakistan's public sector, the SECP has handled 29,681 queries during FY 2021-22, having a satisfaction ratio exceeding 89%. The SECP also handled 10,204 complaints through its digital complaint dashboard (Service Desk Management System - SDMS), out of which, 9,761 (96%) stand resolved/closed and the remaining are at different stages of being addressed.

SECP Chairman Aamir Khan said, "SECP will continue promoting innovation through closer collaboration with our regulated sectors, academia and incubators."

Repeating blunders of previous regime will have consequences: Mian Zahid Hussain

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Friday said the postponement of the IMF ninth review mission is very dangerous.

The economy does not have the capacity to oppose the IMF, so the agreement made with the international organization should be respected, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the former government did not show seriousness in dealing with the IMF, as a result of which the economy was ruined and the rupee became as worthless as tissue paper, the effects of which will take at least ten years to recover.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the mistakes of the previous government should not be repeated.

Pakistan can get a tranche of \$94 million dollars only after the success of the ninth review of the IMF, but neither the flood damage has been accurately assessed nor



the revenue has been increased as per the deal with the lender, he added.

The business leader said that no specific measures have been taken to increase revenue, reforms in the energy sector are not being made and sales tax on petroleum products is being delayed and which is unacceptable to the IMF.

He said that while the foreign exchange is being saved and the deficit is being reduced by controlling the imports, the government's

income is also being affected, which is not tolerable to the IMF.

The IMF wants the tax revenue to be at least 11% of the GDP which is difficult for the government in the current situation.

Due to these reasons, the IMF's review mission is continuously being postponed since October, which is not good for the economy.

Due to differences with the IMF helping the flood victims are affected and Pakistan is not getting the concessions that it is seeking.

Foreign and local investors are also uneasy while anxiety is increasing in the market which needs to be relieved otherwise the economy will suffer a lot.

Pakistan has to pay one billion dollars on the maturity of Sukuk bonds on December 5. The finance minister is assuring this payment but the investors are unsure about it.

It has become impossible for the government to obtain bonds or loans on a commercial basis in the present scenario while this government has to repay almost thirty-two billion dollars under the head of debt and liabilities.

LONGi unveils its latest technological innovation to help promote solar green energy in Pakistan



Spokesman Reporter

KARACHI: LONGi recently held an event to formally launch its new generation of module products for the promotion of clean solar energy in Pakistan.

The event was attended by a large number of partners and prospective clients of LONGi in Pakistan who were informed about the latest technological developments for maximizing the use of clean solar technology for a very large potential customer base in the country.

In his introductory speech, the Country Manager of the leading clean energy company in Pakistan, Ali Majid, told the audience that LONGi was committed to being the world's leading solar technology company, focusing on customer-driven value creation for full scenario energy transformation.

He said that LONGi had introduced Hi-MO 6, its first module designed exclusively for the global distributed consumer market. Using LONGi's high-efficiency HPBC cell technology, Hi-MO 6 achieves a maximum efficiency of 22.8% in mass production, he said.

Mohammad said the Hi-MO 6 offered superior efficiency, safety, and aesthetics designed to meet the needs of diverse clients.

Also on the occasion, awards were given to recognize the hard work by the best partners of LONGi in Pakistan.

solutions, green energy solutions, and hydrogen equipment.

The company has honed its capabilities to provide green energy and has more recently, also embraced green hydrogen products and solutions to support global zero-carbon development, Majid added.

Osman Mohammad, Product and Solutions Manager of LONGi in Central Asia, unveiled to the audience the latest technological innovation of the company in green energy.

He said that LONGi had introduced Hi-MO 6, its first module designed exclusively for the global distributed consumer market. Using LONGi's high-efficiency HPBC cell technology, Hi-MO 6 achieves a maximum efficiency of 22.8% in mass production, he said.

Mohammad said the Hi-MO 6 offered superior efficiency, safety, and aesthetics designed to meet the needs of diverse clients.

Also on the occasion, awards were given to recognize the hard work by the best partners of LONGi in Pakistan.

Illegal Occupation

KARACHI: A street vendor is selling Coconuts on a road in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Savoyour's holiday season campaign continues to give millions in cashback to its users

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan's first and only cashback app and rewards platform, Savoyour, is offering one of the biggest holiday season sales featuring 11.11, Black Friday, Cyber Monday and 12.12 all throughout what's remaining of 2022, giving away millions in the form cashbacks on more than 500 brands, live on the platform.

The campaign is a testament to Savoyour's commitment of redefining the online shopping experience in Pakistan by offering them cashback and rewards on top of ongoing deals and discounts on all its partner brands. With so much to choose from, the customers who have been spoiled for choice also get to try their luck by spinning the wheel to win exclusive 1x cashback top ups.

Reflecting on the massive success of the

Karandaaz leads the conversation on Climate-Smart Housing in Pakistan

Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Karandaaz Pakistan held a webinar to launch its latest study on the potential of Climate-Smart, Low-Income Housing in Pakistan. Industry leaders and stakeholders came together to deliberate on the housing needs in Pakistan and the impact green initiatives can have in meeting the needs of populations especially vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Between 2000 and 2019, Pakistan was found to rank eighth amongst the top ten countries most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change. This vulnerability became starkly evident Earlier this year, as one-third of the country was flooded as a

result of unprecedented rainfall and glacier melt. As estimated by Karandaaz, over 33 million people were displaced, and one-seventh lost their homes due to the floods of 2022. With an ever-increasing frequency of severe climate-related events, depleting energy resources, and a population growth rate that far outpaces the provision of housing, this webinar was arranged as a platform to bring together a wide set of stakeholders, including architects, urban planners, financiers and funding providers, etc. to discuss Pakistan's housing needs.

Mr. Arif Hasan, one of Pakistan's most reputable architects and urban planners, delivered the keynote address. In his address

Mr. Hasan stated that "The most obvious climate change event in Pakistan has been the recent flooding. The main cause was consistent rain and though we cannot do anything about rain changing its course, lessons can be learned. A key factor that amplified the impact of the floods and contributed to the damage caused, was the fact that flood waters could not be drained out. Roads without culverts in them; canals, headworks, barrages that have not been desilted; and saim naalis that have been clogged with vegetation led to entire villages being wiped out."

Dr Shamsad Akhtar, Chairperson Karandaaz said, "The housing deficit in Pakistan is approximately 12 million homes



and the estimated market size for affordable housing was reported to be USD 165 billion in 2020. This is expected to grow to USD 537 billion by 2050. There is ample opportunity for green builders and government to intervene to develop the climate-smart housing value chain and

encourage further sector activity as it has important ramifications—the economy benefits from reduced carbon emissions, the units are cheaper to build and buy and the recurring and maintenance costs are lower than that of a traditional home.

Waqas ul Hasan, CEO Karandaaz mentioned, "Collaboration is key for making the much-needed disruptive impact in the market and transition towards climate-smartness. The level of collaboration will require proactive engagement of the development agencies, private sector, state government agencies, municipalities (local urban bodies) and academia with each other. Karandaaz is contributing to the climate effort through

a two-tiered approach mobilising climate finance in the SME space and supporting innovative, climate-smart solutions through knowledge building and providing concessional finance".

In her concluding remarks, Ms. Sobiah Becker, Senior Climate Change Advisor of the UK's FCDO stated, "This event deals with a critical yet often overlooked topic; that of affordable climate smart-housing. Residential energy consumption in Pakistan accounts for 40% percent of the total energy consumption of the country."

The webinar also saw presentations from climate-smart, low-cost housing solution providers, namely Modulus Tech, Ansar Management Company,

Base-Bahay Foundation Inc (Philippines) and Balochistan Rural Support Programme. These entities presented their designs for affordable, climate-smart housing. In the aftermath of the recent floods in Balochistan, BRSP shared plans to develop 1000 units in Khuzdar, Quetta, Ziarat and Harnai, using a climate-resilient design suited to its local climate and resources. The webinar also served as a platform to build linkages between, financiers, regulators and developers. The webinar concluded with a presentation on key findings of the research report on climate-smart, low-income housing in Pakistan which is available on the Karandaaz website.

Saad Baig captain's knock helps Pakistan level T20 series

Spokesman Report

MULTAN: Half-centuries by Arafat Minhas and captain Saad Baig and three wickets from Ali Asfand helped Pakistan U19 to a seven-wicket win over Bangladesh U19 in the second T20 match played at the Multan Cricket Stadium on Friday.

The two-match T20 series ended with both teams winning a match each. Meanwhile, the solitary four-day match was drawn, while Bangladesh won the three-match 45-overs series by 2-1.

Chasing 164 to win, Pakistan were in a spot of bother with three wickets down for 46 runs on the board.

Wicketkeeper-batter Saad was joined by Arafat Minhas and the pair added an unbroken 119-run partnership for the fourth wicket to help the home side achieve the target in the 19th over.

Saad top-scored for his side with an unbeaten 79 off 50 balls, smashing eight fours and three sixes. The left-handed batter Saad for his match winning innings was named player of the match, while he was awarded player of the series for scoring 107 runs from



two outings in the T20 series. Arafat returned undefeated on a 37-ball 50, striking four fours and two sixes.

Earlier, after being put into bat, Bangladesh scored 163 for six in 20 overs. Opening batter Jishan Alam top-scored with a 40-ball 73, hitting nine fours and two sixes. Chowdhury Mohammad Rizwan was the other

notable run getter with 29 off 28 balls, which included two fours and one six.

Pakistan's left-arm spinner Ali Asfand bagged three wickets, while Mohammad Ibtisam took two wickets.

Scores in brief:

Pakistan U19 beat Bangladesh U19 by seven wickets
Bangladesh U19 163-6, 20 overs

(Jishan Alam 73; Ali Asfand 3-31, Mohammad Ibtisam 2-34)

Pakistan U19 165-3, 18.2 overs (Saad Baig 79 not out, Arafat Minhas 50 not out)

Player of the match – Saad Baig (Pakistan U19)

Player of the series – Saad Baig (Pakistan U19)

Higer Bus fully prepared for global football feast

SUZHOU, CHINA: Recently, the most heated topic must be the world's top football competition which takes place every four years. To provide convenient and free services for football fans from ten days before the event to five days after the event, Qatar has arranged direct bus lines from five key areas of Doha and the main accommodations of fans to stadiums and express bus services from subway stations to stadiums for fans with tickets.

Notably, these buses mainly come from a Chinese brand Higer Bus. With buses offered, more than 9,000 drivers, 2,000 ground service providers and over 3,000 business personnel from Mowasalat, a national transportation enterprise of Qatar, will provide efficient picking up

of fans.

Higer Bus once provided services for the Asian Games and the AFC Asian Cup in Doha. To better handle the great flow of people and intense traffic of the event, Higer Bus has developed an exclusive service plan and practiced repeatedly to ensure a smooth operation. Meanwhile, the G-BOS smart fleet management platform, a unique system of Higer Bus, is adopted to deal with vehicle maintenance, fault alarms and other vital information to offer accurate services and improve operational efficiency by more than 10%.

Higer Bus has a strong service team that can offer timely responses around the clock to fulfill every need of the event. Team members will stick to their positions at 6:40 am each day. They

work at service stations and parking lots to inspect every vehicle before it is put into operation and after it comes back according to the PDI process of new vehicles to make sure the security and smooth operation of over 6,000 Higer buses in Qatar.

To date, fans have gathered in Qatar from around the globe. Some fans have already enjoyed the express bus services in Doha and traveling from four stadiums in a day has become easy for them. Besides, fans were impressed by the comfort and quietness of their trip when taking buses of Higer Bus. "Buses will be the best choice for traveling during the event. We would like to give Doha and Chinese buses thumbs up," said some fans.

The service staff of Higer Bus said, "It is a great honor

to participate in the first global football event held in the Middle East. We will bring all our energies to bear upon the task, provide comfortable and convenient transportation services for global fans and demonstrate Higer Bus's style and the excellence of a Chinese brand."

The internationally renowned football event is not just for its fans but also for the enterprises devoted to their missions and goals. With excellent quality, safety, comfortableness and great services, Higer Bus shoulders the responsibility again to support top events and shows the world Chinese strengths in manufacturing.

Better Higer, Better Together! Higer Bus fully backs up the global football event./PR Newswire

Rawalpindi to host first Pak-England Test as per schedule: Reports

News Desk

LAHORE: England's first Test in Pakistan after a gap of 17 years will go as per schedule in Rawalpindi despite the potential of political unrest in the city, sources claimed.

Following the potential political unrest in the city, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) earlier considered shifting the first Test of the series between Pakistan and England to Karachi.

The consideration came in light of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) long march that is likely to reach Islamabad in the third week of November.

The PCB, however, feels confident enough to go with the original plan despite the continued risk of political instability in the region.



Consequently, the series, as per the original schedule, will begin in Rawalpindi on December 1 and conclude in

Karachi. The second Test will take place in Multan.

It is pertinent to mention that England's Test squad is

likely to land on November 27 to lock horns with Pakistan in the three-match Test series.

Qatar 2022—a one-off World Cup fantasy

DOHA: FIFA's president promised the World Cup would be like "Disneyland" while rights groups say workers have been through hell, but one thing is certain — there will never be another World Cup like Qatar 2022.

Few countries could have afforded the \$200 billion-plus bill that the tiny but super-wealthy emirate has paid for its spectacular transformation over the past 12 years.

The World Cup has become such an expensive and controversial behemoth that FIFA — still reeling from the votes for Russia 2018 and Qatar 2022 — may struggle to find a single country ready to shoulder the task of hosting.

The tournament is expanding to 48 teams when the circus moves to the United States, Canada and Mexico in 2026.

Qatar has been feeling the heat virtually since the day that its sports-crazy former emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, celebrated securing the tournament at a vote in December 2010.

A FIFA investigation into vote-buying allegations ruled there was no hard evidence to take action. But most of the 22-member committee that backed Qatar were replaced or investigated for corruption.

The tournament had to be moved from its traditional summer spot to the northern hemisphere winter because of Qatar's scorching heat.

But the first World Cup in an Arab nation has come under the most intense fire over Qatar's rights record — ranging from the deaths and wages of migrant workers to women's rights.

Right up to kick-off, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch (HRW) have been demanding that FIFA and Qatar sign up to \$440 million workers' compensation fund.

"The legacy of this World Cup 2022 depends on whether Qatar remedies with FIFA the deaths and other abuses of migrant workers who built the tournament, carries out recent labour reforms, and protects human rights for all in Qatar — not just for visiting fans and footballers," Rothna Begum of HRW told AFP.

Michael Payne, former International Olympic Committee head of marketing, suggested that Qatar would not be in the spotlight to such an extent were it not the host nation.

"If Qatar was not staging the World Cup, would there be any media coverage about human rights issues?" he asked.

Qatar officials say their country has been the target of "racism" and "double standards." They point to the reforms on working conditions and safety that have been hailed as groundbreaking in the Gulf region and are now talking of "legal" action. (Web Desk)

Fakhar Ali Shah appointed Member of World Baseball Softball Confederation

Tahir Amin Malik,

LAHORE: Pakistan Federation Baseball (PFB) President Syed Fakhar Ali Shah has been appointed as Member Development Commission of World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC). WBSC President Riccardo Fraccari has issued a letter appointing Shah as a member of the commission after the approval of the executive board, said a press release. The appointment was a matter of honor for Pakistan and baseball circles. Riccardo Fraccari said Shah's expertise and knowledge of our sport would be a great asset to this commission and I look forward to his contribution to the growth of our organization and success of the game. Chairman of Member Development Commission Angelo Vicini congratulated Shah on the appointment and wished him success. Shah thanked for welcoming him on his appointment and said this position has been awarded for the first time in our region and it was a matter of honor for Pakistan and baseball circles and we will more promote Baseball Soft Ball in region.

Newly-appointed Vice-Chairman, SBP assumes charge of his office



Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The Newly-appointed Vice-Chairman Sports Board Punjab MPA Malik Nadeem Abbas Bara took charge of his office at National Hockey Stadium here on Friday.

MPAs Malik Karamat Ali Khokhar, Malik Zaheer Abbas Khokhar and Malik Sarfraz Hussain Khokhar were also present on this occasion.

Talking on this occasion, Vice-Chairman Sports Board Punjab MPA Malik Nadeem Abbas Bara expressed his determination to take all possible measures and utilize all resources for the promotion of sports culture across the province.

Senegal's Sadio Mane ruled out of Qatar World Cup with leg injury



News Desk

DOHA: Senegal star Sadio Mane has been ruled out of FIFA World Cup 2022 after a knee injury he sustained in a Bayern Munich match last week.

The Bayern forward was diagnosed with an injury to his right fibula after he limped off during a Bundesliga match against Werder Bremen, 13 days before his national team's Qatar campaign.

Mane will miss out on the World Cup since he has not recovered in time before the megaevent, confirmed Senegal's team doctor on Thursday.

"Unfortunately, today's [Thursday] MRI shows us that the improvement is not as favourable as we imagined and unfortunately, we have to withdraw Sadio from the World Cup," said Manuel Afonso in a video posted on the official Senegal Twitter account. He added that surgical intervention was needed.

The former Liverpool forward's phenomenal run this year earned him the runners-up spot in the 2022 Ballon d'Or — bagged by Real Madrid's Karim Benzema.

Mane, 30, was named African Player of the Year as he was voted ahead of ex-teammate Mohamed Salah and Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy.

Senegal will face host Qatar four days after its opening game against the Netherlands. Its final game in Group A is against Ecuador on November 29. The absence of its talisman will be a fatal blow for Senegal, as Mane inspired his national side to the African Cup of Nations title at the start of 2022, scoring the winning penalty in a shoot-out with Egypt.

PCB CEO thanks Ireland women and Bangladesh U19

LAHORE: Pakistan Cricket Board Chief Executive Faisal Hainan has congratulated the Ireland women's and the Bangladesh U19 teams on their successful tours of Lahore and Multan, respectively. These matches took place concurrently.

In Lahore, the Pakistan women won the ODI series 3-0 to secure second place in the ICC Women's Championship table, before Ireland women came back strongly to win the T20I series 2-1. The Bangladesh U19 side held the Pakistan U19 team to a draw in the four-day match, before clinching a hard-fought 45-over-a-side three-match series 2-1. The two-match T20 series ended in a 1-1 draw.

Faisal Hainan said here on Friday: "We were delighted to host Ireland women for the first-time ever and the Bangladesh U19 team on their maiden tour since 2007. I hope they enjoyed our hospitality and our playing facilities, and also experienced our rich

culture, history and passion for this great game. I am hoping to see a few Irish girls return to Pakistan in March 2023 for The Women's League, and I also hope to see talented Bangladesh U19 players progress to the senior side in the near future.

"For our own girls and boys, it has been an invaluable playing experience, as they continue to learn and improve as part of their endeavors to improve their overall skills and performances.

It is the PCB's strategic objective to create playing opportunities for our talented and emerging cricketers, and provide them pathways to enable them to achieve their career objectives and goals as professional cricketers.

"The PCB has always enjoyed an excellent and cordial relationship with Cricket Ireland and Bangladesh Cricket Board, and we have collectively worked very closely towards encouraging and assisting in each other's cricket promotion and development. I remain

confident this relationship will continue to strengthen and we will see many more such tours in the future.

"The Ireland women and Bangladesh U19 tours have been part of an incredibly busy 2022, which started on 27 January with the HBL Pakistan Super League 7. To date, we have planned, organised and delivered 725 matches at home in 20 events, including 696 domestic matches and 29 international fixtures.

These matches are in addition to the 37 international matches our men's and women's teams have played on their tours of Ireland, United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates and Australia.

"As part of Pakistan's diamond jubilee year and celebrations, we had planned 2022 as a mouth-watering bumper year of cricket and I am pleased that we have been able to deliver all these cricketing events



for our fans, followers, cricketers and other stakeholders. This has been a major task and I am extremely thankful to the entire PCB staff for work-

ing flat-out to ensure a high quality and smooth delivery of these many number of domestic and international matches.

"We are now working round-the-clock to host England for December's three-Test series, which will be their first Test matches in Pakistan in 17 years. And before the turn of the year, New Zealand would have played their first Test in Karachi in 20 years.

"I remain confident that through our professional and administrative abilities, and with the continued support of the local governments, security agencies and various other stakeholders, we will fulfil our commitments for the year to our fans and followers, and enhance Pakistan's reputation and credibility as a sports loving people and a wonderful country that welcomes overseas sports teams and visitors with open arms, and delivers high quality events to world-class standards.

"Finally, I again reiterate my thanks to various sectors of the local governments and security agencies for their continued encouragement and support of our endeavors." APP