



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ

ابوہریرہ رضی اللہ عنہ نے بیان کیا کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا جاؤرسے جو نقصان پہنچے اس کا کچھ بدلہ نہیں اور کوئی کا بھی سبب حال ہے اور کان کا بھی سبب تمہارے اور کانکاش سے پانچواں حصہ لیا جائے۔

(صحیح بخاری، حدیث نمبر 1499)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

High time for Pak businessmen to invest in Ethiopia

Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Jemal Beker Abdula has said that it was high time for Pakistani businessmen to invest in Ethiopia, which had lucrative opportunities in different economic sectors. "Our government opened the financial sector some three months ago and now looks forward to the establishment of traditional banks and stock exchange in Ethiopia," the ambassador said. (Report on Page 3)



Messi feeling fit ahead of 'special' last World Cup

Argentina captain Lionel Messi said he was physically ready for the World Cup in Qatar and that it will be a special occasion as his side are one of the favourites in what is likely to be his last appearance in the global tournament. "I feel very good physically, I think I'm in a great moment, both personally and physically and I don't have any problems," Messi told a news conference on Monday. (Report on Page 7)

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Restoration of floods affected

HYDERABAD: Leaders and workers of Restoration of Flood Affected People Committee participate in a long march from Hyderabad to Bhitshah, demanding the restoration of flood affected people from Sindh Government, at Naseem Nagar Chowk Qasimabad.



Photo: Online

Dar orders probe into tax information leakage

News Desk

ISLAMABAD : Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar here Monday directed for immediate investigation into illegal and unwarranted leakage of tax information of the family members of Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Qamar Javed Bajwa.

In view of this serious lapse on the part of to-date unknown functionaries, the finance minister directed the Special Assistant to Prime

Minister (SAPM) on Revenue, Tariq Mehmood Pasha to personally lead the investigation the violation of tax law and breach of FBR data, affix responsibility and submit a report within twenty-four hours, said a press statement issued by finance ministry.

The minister took serious notice of the illegal and unwarranted leakage of tax information of the family members of COAS.

This is clearly violation of the complete confidentiality of tax information that the law provides, he said.

PM to appoint army chief on merit: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah on Monday said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would appoint the new army chief on merit.

The process of appointment of new army chief has been started and the prime minister would keep the merit in view, he said while talking to a private television channel. He alleged that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan was trying to make the appointment of army chief controversial.

He claimed that Imran

Khan was spreading anarchy in the country through long march. The minister said that PTI chairman was making all-out efforts to create rift among the institutions. However, he would not succeed in his 'designs', he added.

To a question, he said the PML-N leaders would have deliberations about the return of party Quaid Nawaz Sharif to Pakistan. He assured that Nawaz Sharif would lead the campaign for winning next general election in Pakistan. APP

PM's letter for appointment of new COAS communicated to GHQ: Defense Minister

ISLAMABAD : Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Monday informed the National Assembly that the Prime Minister's letter for the appointment of new Chief of Army Staff (COAS) has been communicated to the General Headquarters (GHQ) by the defense ministry.

The process of appointment of new COAS will be completed in a couple of days, said the defense minister adding that after the new appointment the chaos will be subsided.

He requested the media to maintain the sanctity of the constitutional procedure of the appointment of the new army chief adding that the government will deal with PTI chief Imran Khan at the completion of the process.

Khawaja Asif said Imran Khan's political tactics to come back in power are damaging the unity of the country and the nation along with the respect and sanctity of the institutions that supported him for four years unconditionally.

The institution after 75 years announced the univocal neutrality and returning to its constitutional role but Imran Khan is mocking or taunting the institute for its decision, said the minister.

He said Imran Khan should be ashamed that he failed to deliver despite the unconditional support of the institution, instead of attacking on them.

The 70 years record of "Tosha Khana" is available many rulers bought gifts from "Tosha Khana" but Imran Khan is the first one



who sold gifts in the market to make money, he added.

"I am surprised to think about the morals and standards of Imran Khan's followers" said the minister adding that Imran Khan was caught red-handed.

He said Imran Khan blamed

the United States of America (USA) for the vote of no-confidence against him but after a few months, he exonerated the USA from the blame.

Secondly, he blamed the Army, Intelligence agencies and establishment for supporting the opposition in a vote of no confidence motion against him but now he also exonerated them which is a blessing that he admitted his ouster by the parliamentarians in a constitutional way.

"Imran Khan had been inviting Army to take control of the country through martial law, but they refused," said the minister.

He said the establishment took over the country four times in the past and directly ruled for thirty-seven years out of which Ayub Khan ruled for eleven years, Yahya

Khan ruled for three years, General Zia ruled for eleven years and General Musharraf ruled for nine years but now the institute has decided to be neutral and play their apolitical role in accordance with the Constitution.

"Let's support them and give them an opportunity to fulfill their pledge and perform their constitutional role," said the minister.

He requested media to refrain from creating unnecessary hype on the appointment of new COAS adding that "It is a routine matter which takes place every three years or in some cases delayed."

"Let's hope and pray that we cross this threshold in the next two-to-three days," said the minister adding that all predictions in media are wrong and baseless. APP

PM, FM condole loss of precious lives in Indonesia earthquake

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday expressed his condolences with Indonesian President Joko Widodo over the loss of lives caused by an earthquake in the country's Java region.

"Saddened by the tragic loss of precious lives in an earthquake that struck Java region of Indonesia," the Prime Minister said in a tweet posted on his social media account.

"We, in Pakistan, offer our heartfelt condolences and most sincere sympathies to H.E. President Joko Widodo, the bereaved families and the brotherly people of Indonesia," Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has also expressed his grief and condolences over the loss of lives caused by the earthquake in Indonesia. APP

Willing to talk if govt shows 'seriousness' over elections: PTI's top brass

News Desk

LAHORE: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) top brass on Monday said that the party's leadership is willing to talk with the government if it has concerns about the elections.

After attending the PTI's meeting, the party vice president and former foreign minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi talked to the media, saying, "I and Asad Umar addressed the meeting over the long march. We staged our march in a peaceful manner. Imran Khan will head to Rawalpindi on November 26."

Urging the PTI's supporters to come out of their houses on November 26 in time - due to the cold temperature, Shah Mahmood talked about the matter of FIR over the assassination attempt on the PTI chief, saying that the FIR was not registered according to the PTI's satisfaction.

On the other side, PTI leader Asad Umar urged his supporters - who believe in actual freedom - to join the long march as he directed [support-



ers] to start reaching Rawalpindi on - the evening - of November 25.

He also talked about the assassination of Arshad Sharif and the torture of Azam Swati, saying that the masses are in anger over the assassination of noted journalist Arshad.

Asad Umar went on to talk about the assassination attempt on PTI chief Imran Khan, saying that efforts were made to assassinate the former premier [Imran] - through planning.

Taking at the coalition government, the PTI leader [Asad Umar] said that the economic situation continues to worsen, while no investment is being done as no one trusts the incumbent government.

Asad Umar emphasized the importance of holding elections, saying, "The one who does not go to the elections will be a 'culprit' in my opinion."

Imran discusses long march with PTI's bigwig

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan on Monday chaired a party meeting to discuss numerous issues.

The meeting was held at the residence of former premier Imran Khan, discussing the contemporary political situation of the country - the long march and other important matters. The PTI's top brass was also present in the meeting.

Will establish strong ties with India, US if elected PM, says Imran Khan

LAHORE :Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan said on Monday that he would try to establish strong ties with neighbouring India, Afghanistan, Iran, China and the US if he is again elected as the prime minister.

In his interview to a British newspaper The Telegraph on Monday, he said that good relations are impossible in India as long as Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) remains in power, but I want better relations with News Delhi.

Khan said that the potential economic benefits that establishing trade between the two arch rivals would bring but said these would never be realised until Delhi changes its stance on the disputed region of Indian-administered Kashmir. Dunya News

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev Elected President

Spokesman Report

ASTANA : Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has won the presidential election in Kazakhstan after receiving 81.31% of the vote. This was announced by the Central Election Commission (CEC) today after the votes were counted. According to the preliminary results, other candidates received votes as follows: Zhiguli Dairabayev - 3.42 %, Karakat Abden - 2.60 %, Meiram Kazhyken - 2.53 %, Nurlan Auesbayev - 2.22 %, Saltanat Tursynbekova - 2.12 %, against all - 5.8 %.

According to the CEC, 8 300 046 citizens cast their ballot, a turnout of 69.44%. Voting took place at 10,101 polling stations



across the country, including 68 polling stations at 53 diplomatic missions of Kazakhstan around the world.

The election was monitored by 641 observers from international organisations and foreign states. Commenting on the election process, foreign observers noted the high organisational level of the election. No violations in the conduct of the election were reported by the observers.

Leopard in Margalla Hills

ISLAMABAD: A view of trail 3 closed due to confirmation of Leopard in Margalla Hills Trail sightings. As evidence of the presence of a leopard was found near Saidpur area of Margalla Hills, a recreational place of the federal capital, on which the Chairman CDA Captain Retd. Mohammad Usman Yunus issued a special directive and said that the safety of life and property of the people should be ensured in all circumstances, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

First lady emphasises promotion of Islamic, Pakistani art at international level

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Samina Alvi on Monday said that along with still life paintings, the promotion of Islamic and Pakistani art at the international level was equally essential.

The first lady, addressing a photo exhibition held here at Pakistan National Council of Arts, urged the youth and emerging artists to benefit from the exhibition which marked the display of artists' works from across the country.

First lady emphasises promotion of Islamic, Pakistani art at international level



She said painting, calligraphy, statue and sculpture making, drawing, dance and music were the modes of expression opted by the artists

to express their emotions.

She said the fine arts allowed humans to better express their emotions and likened the importance of the

fine arts to life itself.

The first lady, who earlier inaugurated the exhibition, said that fine arts helped establish linkages with human history and evolution as it was also a method of promoting nation's cultural traditions. She said the Islamic culture and art were rich with great traditions as the Islamic artifacts had got prominence across the world.

She said in the current era of science and technology, the importance of fine arts could not be overlooked as technology also led to the emergence

of modern forms of art. Many universities, colleges and institutions are playing their role to promote art education, though it needed to be improved further, she added.

Citing the national talent, the first lady said Pakistan's artists were bringing fame to Pakistan. However, collective efforts were a must to promote the artifacts as the artists were rich with talent but lacked resources to promote their works. The exhibitions helped the artists to promote their works at local and international levels. APP

NA speaker elected as chairman for special body on agricultural products

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly (NA) Special Committee on Agricultural Products on Monday unanimously elected the NA Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf as its Chairman.

Thanking the members for reposing confidence in him, the NA speaker said that guided by the recent evolving dynamics within the country and beyond, the agenda of food security and agricultural development had assumed central importance. He expressed the hope that, given the support of the seasoned members of NA, the committee would strive to make better decisions to accelerate Pakistan's agro-economic growth.

The members expressed that the election of the NA



speaker as Chairman of the Special Committee on Agricultural Products would add significant value to the decisions pertaining to agriculture sector.

The members regretted that despite being an agrarian economy, Pakistan relied on imported agricultural products to meet its domestic demand.

The members underlined the need to address long-standing problem of

farmers' access to cheap credit, improved research to enhance productivity and improved mechanisms for profitability of the farmers.

The committee deliberated on the delay in fixing the support prices for wheat and sugarcane and sugarcane crushing season respectively.

The members regretted that given the deadlock regarding permission to export surplus sugar and subsequent delay in initiating sugarcane crushing was causing considerable losses to the poor farmers.

They urged the government to negotiate with the sugar mills owners, verify the available stock and grant them the permission to export the surplus sugar. Doing so would permit them initiate sugarcane

crushing on time and thus relieve the farmers, they added.

The Minister for National Food Security and Research maintained that the without a credible and verifiable evidence of surplus stock, the government could not grant the permission to export sugar.

Citing previous precedents, he said sugar export permission was granted, however, owing to subsequent shortage in the country, expensive sugar imports were undertaken.

The members urged the minister to adopt a flexible approach in negotiating with the sugar mills owners and devise a mechanism to export verified surplus sugar.

He maintained that meeting in this regard had been convened on Thursday.

One of the members maintained that cartelization and monopolization within the sugar industry and their ability to influence state policies for their personal gains was an unaddressed question.

She urged the Ministry of National Food Security and Research to devise mechanisms to encourage other forms of ownership in the sugar industry.

They members stated that early announcement of the support prices, before sowing, signaled better profitability and incentives to cultivate crops.

It was highlighted that so far the federal government had not reached a conclusive decision with regards to support price for wheat.

Pakistan rejects Indian propaganda at 'No Money for Terror' ministerial meeting

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday strongly rejected all references and insinuations by the Indian leadership directed against it at the so-called 'No Money for Terror' ministerial meeting held in New Delhi.

The Foreign Office in a statement said that guided by its incorrigible and incurable desire to malign Pakistan at every available forum, India continued to mislead the world about Pakistan's counter-terrorism credentials by repeatedly leveling false accusations of the country's alleged involvement in the financ-

ing of proscribed terrorist organizations.

"India's hollow rhetoric has fallen flat in the face of Pakistan's successful counter-terrorism measures, which have been accorded due recognition and acknowledgment from the premier international body on counter-terrorism, anti-money laundering, and terror financing, i.e. the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)," it said.

It said, "Our robust and credible AML/CFT actions and satisfactory implementation of FATF Action Plans duly secured Pakistan's successful removal off the Grey List, this October."

Qureshi announces next strategy of PTI long march

News Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Vice-Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi has announced the next strategy of the PTI long march following the decisions taken in a consultative session chaired by Imran Khan, ARY News reported on Monday.

PTI chief Imran Khan chaired a consultative session to finalise the next strategy of the long march after announcing to reach Rawalpindi on November 26 besides discussing the current political situation.

After the session concluded, PTI Vice-Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Secretary-General Asad Umar held a press conference.

Qureshi said that he and

Asad Umar were given the responsibility to lead the PTI long march to Rawat. He said that PTI's Haqqeqi Azadi March remained peaceful.

He said that a gun attack was carried out on the PTI marchers in Wazirabad in which one of the party workers got martyred. He added that the assassination plot of Imran Khan has been exposed now.

Qureshi announced that Imran Khan will personally arrive in Rawalpindi on November 26 to welcome the convoys of the PTI marchers.

He asked the PTI activists to timely reach the venue while those who have accommodation in Rawalpindi should reach Rawalpindi on November 25.

Qureshi criticised that legal

requirements were not met in the case lodged against the assassination attempt on Imran Khan and the FIR was not registered in accordance with the complainant's request.

He said that PTI nominated three persons in the FIR including Shehbaz Sharif and Rana Sanaullah. He added that justice could not be served in the presence of the nominated persons.

Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that Pakistan is facing default risk if early elections are not organised while former finance minister Shaukat Tarini elaborated on the prevailing economic situation of the country.

The PTI vice-chairman said that the current rulers have no roadmap to improve the national economy.

Minister directs IPC, PSB to submit PC-1 of Narowal Sports City on Nov 30



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development and Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Monday directed the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) and Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) to submit PC-1 of the Narowal Sports City on November 30.

The minister made these directions while chairing a meeting to review the progress of Narowal Sports City. The officials of IPC, PSB, NESPAK and P3A Board attended the meeting.

The minister expressed dissatisfaction over the delay and reprimanded the IPC's officials for not executing the projects. "There is no progress despite the lapse of seven months which shows the non-serious attitude of the Ministry," said the minister, adding that it's public money which

must be utilized for the public.

The sports city has 14 stadiums and courts of sports, such as cricket, football, hockey, volleyball, squash, table tennis, lawn tennis, badminton court and other games besides swimming pools which was started by the minister. However, in 2018, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) stopped this project as a result athletes were deprived from this facility.

During the meeting, the Minister also directed the P3A Board to establish a company on December 15, which will help in maintenance of the Sport City while recommending people from different walks of life in the company. The minister observed that CDWP had directed to establish such a company that would be responsible for the management and maintenance of the Sports City. APP

SC adjourns hearing of presidential reference related to Rekodiq accord

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday adjourned the hearing of the presidential reference on the Rekodiq agreement till November 22 (Tuesday).

A five-member larger bench headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Muneeb Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, and Justice Jamaal Khan Mandokhel heard the presidential reference filed in the case. The president — on the advice of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had filed the reference to seek the top court's opinion on the Rekodiq settlement agreement.

During the course of proceedings, amicus curiae Salman Akram Raja said that laws were either federal or provincial, the Minerals Act 1948 was both federal and provincial in nature.

He argued that the proposed

amendment to the Minerals Act, 1948 was against the scheme of the Constitution.

On this, Justice Yahya Afridi said why the Minerals Act of 1948 should not be allowed to remain in its original state. He said that the federal government should review the provisions of the federal nature given in the law and the provincial government to review the provincial provisions.

Salman Akram Raja said that the amendments of the Balochistan Assembly could contain temporary legislation because other than gas, oil and nuclear energy, the legislation for the rest of the minerals should be done by the provinces. He argued that a law could be adopted temporarily.

On this, another amicus curiae Zahid Ibrahim argued that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly had brought a law regarding minerals and mining in 2017.

Zahid Ibrahim said that the

Tokyo University of Foreign Studies staged an Urdu drama 'Ghari Aur Tash'

Spokesman Report

TOKYO: Tokyo University of Foreign Studies staged an Urdu drama, titled "Ghari Aur Tash" on 20th Nov. 2022 at the University campus. The play was based on different works of the renowned Pakistani writer, Saadat Hassan

Manto. Ambassador-designate of Pakistan, Raza Bashir Tarar was the guest of honour.

The Ambassador-designate praised the hard work put in by the faculty and students. He underscored that such cultural endeavours dovetailed with the excellent bilateral ties between Pakistan and Japan.

Shazia Marri terms UN's 'Loss and Damage Fund' as result of Bilawal's efforts

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Program, Shazia Marri on Monday said the United Nations "Loss and Damage" fund for the countries affected by climate disasters is the result of the efforts of Foreign Minister, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

In her message, the federal minister congratulated Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on the acknowledgement of Pakistan's stance at the World Conference on Climate Change.

She said Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has breathed new life into Pakistan's foreign policy.

The dividends of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's successful foreign policy in just a few months had started coming, she said.

She said Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and his department have worked tirelessly to remove Pakistan from the grey list.

"Be it the grey list or the global



conference on climate change, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is being talked about everywhere", she added.

Commenting on the ability of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Shazia Marri said the thinkers of America, Europe and the Middle East of every region seem to be appreciating the foreign policy of Chairman PPP.

She said this is the result of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's efforts that Pakistan has been removed from the UK's list of high-risk countries.

The federal minister said US Secretary of State Antony Blinken also admitted that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has come to America with a comprehensive plan for flood victims.

ICCI and ICSTSI call for promoting ease of doing business to revive the economy

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) leading a delegation visited Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries to congratulate President Sajjad Sarwar and his team. Both Chambers discussed matters of mutual interest and called upon the government to focus on promoting ease of doing business in order to revive the economy.



Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that the small businesses are playing important role in promoting the economic activities and stressed that the government should allot plots to Chambers of Small Traders and Small Industries so that these institutions can play more effective role in promoting small businesses that will facilitate the growth of new

start-ups, enhance exports, generate jobs and help revive the economy. He said that due to the high transaction costs and tough collateral requirements, small businesses are facing great problems in getting loans from banks and emphasized that the government should address this issue to increase their share in the

total private sector credit so that these businesses can play an enhanced role in the economic development of the country. He assured that ICCI would cooperate with ICSTSI in resolving the key issues of small traders and small industries to facilitate their better growth.

Sajjad Sarwar, President, Islam-

abad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries said that close liaison and cooperation between ICCI and ICSTSI will be very helpful in serving the cause of the business community. He said that the economy of Pakistan is passing through a difficult time and stressed that promoting the ease of doing business should be the top priority of the government to improve the economy. He emphasized that CDA should construct parking plazas in markets to address the long standing issues of traders and focus on better development of markets. He said that small traders and small industries are making useful contributions towards the economy and urged that the government should focus on resolving their key issues to facilitate their better growth.

Khalid Iqbal Malik Group Leader, Zafar Bakhtawari, Zubair Ahmed Malik, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, Ajmal Baloch, Khalid Chaudhry and others were in the delegation.

S.M Naveed visited PCJCCI

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: S.M Naveed, Chairman Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA) Govt of Punjab and Former President of Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) visited PCJCCI today for a think tank session. He said that we should unite to improve connectivity and trade among countries in the region. He also shared that Punjab's Special Economic Zones are a hub of key industrial sectors like; textile, agriculture, food processing, automobiles and services sector. Around 10 zones are currently working in Punjab which includes; M3 Industrial City, Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Rahim Yar Khan Industrial Estate, Bhalwal Industrial Estate, JW China Pakistan, Vehari Industrial Estate and others. We are focusing to provide maximum support to all the projects. Pakistan agreed to provide gas, water, electricity and other facilities to factories in industrial parks. We are also providing business enterprises with suitable policy packages to attract potential investors.

Moazzam Ali Ghurki President PCJCCI said that SEZs provides economic connectivity between resource-starving states and resource-rich regions. This kind of regional integration enhances peace, promotes tranquility and ensures economic prosperity for the whole region. S.M Naveed, Chairman SEZs added that Chinese companies are also concerned about growing soya beans in Pakistan. Due to the opening of various industrial zones under CPEC, the volume of trade will expand manifold.

Fang Yulong, Senior Vice President PCJCCI attended the meeting online and shared his views by saying that Pakistan offers a big market for investment in energy, automobile, textile, surgical equipment, infrastructure, engineering, agriculture, minerals and SMEs. Its focus is also on renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, thermal, and biogas. Pakistan welcomes Chinese investment in all the sectors to take advantage of liberal and forward looking investment policy. SEZs will enjoy a 10-year exemption from custom duties and taxes for all capital goods imported into Pakistan for the development, operations and maintenance.

Urwa and Hassan Khan Recreate Mirza Sahiba to The Melodious Voice of Amanat Ali



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: - Phavur Studios released the teaser to their latest song production "Sahiba". Inspired by the Punjabi folklore Mirza Sahiba, the song stars the gorgeous UrwaHocane and handsome Hassan Khan. Even in a few seconds we are mesmerized by the romantic voice of Amanat Ali. The song promises to be true to his genius.

The infamous Mirza Sahiba story is retold by two dynamo women Hira Yousafzai (Director) and Hirra Farooqi (Producer) in a modern language and tells the story from a woman's perspective. The soft and melodious ebb and flow of the film in sync with the song steals our hearts and we cant wait to hear it all. This is the first urdu song to be directed and produced by women and the teaser speaks volumes of their talent. There is no doubt that this catchy song will be a hit, especially since romance is in the air with the wedding season in full swing.

Punjab is home to many inspiring romantic folk stories that tell the tale of pure love, that touches the soul. The teaser opens the window to the world of untainted emotions and selfless dedication. The teaser opens with the beautiful song that plays for the duration as we see glimpses of the blooming of love but by the end, we get a sense of the struggles Mirza and Sahibahave to face. Amanat Ali's melodious voice recalls the old charm romance.

Phavur Studio is a Los Angeles based production house investing in content in Pakistan to bring traditional Pakistani story-telling back to life and introduce it to international audiences.

The song is sure to be the song of the season and the go-to song for all the romantic souls!

Hamdard launched a rendition of its famous ad song 'Meray Bachay, Meray Naunehal'

News Desk

KARACHI: Hamdard Pakistan has launched a rendition of its famous ad song "Meray Bachay, Meray Naunehal" in an auspicious launch ceremony hosted at Hamdard Corporate Head Office yesterday. Ms. Sadia Rashid graced the occasion as chief guest. Among the distinguished guests was Dr. Arshad Saleem (Chief Operating Officer, Hamdard Pakistan), along with the Directors and Deputy Directors of various divisions. A large number of Hamdard workers attended the event.

Deputy Director Shehryar Pasha, while describing the re-composition and rendition of the song and the relationship between 'Naunehal' and Hamdard Pakistan, said that Hamdard Pakistan had five major objectives, one of which was to create awareness among the general masses about the importance of the general health of infants in the country.

Dr. Arshad Saleem highlighted the significance of this latest Hamdard initiative and said that through Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said, the nation had a complete healthcare system in the shape of Hamdard Pakistan. "Allopathy has its own advantages and usefulness but it's a sick-care system in its entirety. We all should benefit from Hamdard Pakistan's healthcare system in order to prevent diseases," he said.

Protest

KARACHI: Activists of industries hold a protest in favor of their demands outside press club in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Those who are trying to postpone LG polls are not sincere to people: PM AJK



Abdul Majeed Tahir

MIRPUR: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan while reiterating his government's commitment regarding the devolution of power to grassroots level has said that the local body elections will be as per the scheduled time.

He expressed these views while speaking as a special guest at a function organized by Central Senior Vice President of PTI Chaudhry Zafar Anwar here on Monday. The function, which was presided over by Minister of Energy and Water Resources Chaudhry Arshad Hussain was attended and addressed by Chaudhry Yasir Sultan, Senior Vice President of PTI Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Zafar Anwar, where as the PTI leaders Chaudhry Javed Iqbal,

Chaudhry Muhammad Arif, Sikandar Baig, Chaudhry Mushtaq and others were present on the occasion.

"The leaders of the opposition parties wanted to hold the LG polls on a non-party basis but PTI leadership decided to hold local elections on party basis in accordance with the vision of the party chairman Imran Khan", the PM said adding that the PTI wanted to transfer the power to the grassroots level.

He said that the elections will not be postponed under any circumstances saying that the polls being held after a long time would change the entire political landscape of the liberated territory.

He said that holding the LG polls was his dream and he would leave no stone unturned to get it fulfilled.

The PM said that he appreciates

every candidate/contestant who believes in holding of LG polls and decentralization/devolution of power.

Regarding the opposition parties' see saving policy on the issue the PM said that their own candidates have now raised the banner of revolt against the party leadership who want to postpone the elections over lame excuses.

"During the past one week, 64 candidates of PPP have returned their tickets to the party leadership and joined the PTI", the PM said adding that the opposition candidates not only expressed their dismay over their party leadership's role but also realized the fact that their party leaders were not interested in devolution of power.

He said that those who were trying to postpone the local elections were not sincere to the people, he added.

FCCI welcomed the newly posted police officers in Faisalabad

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Dr. Khurram Tariq President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) has welcomed the newly posted police officers in Faisalabad and assured them full support from the business community for the restoration of law and order in this region. However, he apprehended that repeated transfers of high police officers may discourage them and deteriorate their overall performance. "Hence the government must fix their minimum stay in the posting and transfer notifications", he said and added that it would provide them an opportunity to conceive, implement and complete the projects initiated by them during their posting. He welcomed Sarfarz Falki who has been appointed new RPO replacing Dr. Moeen Masood. "Similarly, Khalid Mahmood Hamdani has also taken over the charge of CPO in place of Omer Saeed", he said and added that Mr. Asif Siddique has also been posted as new CTO Faisalabad. He hoped that this new trio would pool their energies to improve law & order situation in this industrial and commercial hub of Pakistan.

FWCC will organize a Punjab level Conference and exhibition

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Faisalabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FWCC) will organize a Punjab level Conference and exhibition - 'Punjab Original', next year in collaboration with Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Regional Office Faisalabad for women-led businesses to venture for exports, said Mrs. Rubina Amjad, President FWCCI. She was talking to media after a meeting held with Ms. Fareeha Khan, Director TDAP, Faisalabad Region here today.

Introducing FWCCI she said that FWCCI has 200 members

from different business sectors of the city including Textiles, home textile, fashion garments Packaging Industry, Beauty Parlors, Hosiery, Rice, Furniture, Construction and information technology/Digital marketing.

She appreciated role of TDAP in enhancing trade and exports of Pakistan. She said TDAP Regional Office has the key role to enhance international trade from Faisalabad. She informed that at FWCCI there is full fledged Standing Committee on 'Trade & Export Development/Delegations'. In my Roadmap, I have prioritized to send maximum women entrepreneurs trade delegations abroad

on subsidized rates with the material support of TDAP, she added. In this context, we will also need help of Pakistan trade Missions abroad. She requested to help out FWCCI for participation of FWCCI in foreign Trade Delegations, allocation of stalls to FWCCI on Zero/subsidized rate and 50% rebate on exhibition goods in trade fairs organized by TDAP. She also requested for organizing Single country exhibitions in traditional and non-traditional markets abroad in collaboration with TDAP.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Fareeha Khan, Director TDAP, Faisalabad Region said that trade fairs calendar is finalized for

current year. However, FWCCI might forward its proposal for holding Conference/Exhibition and they will facilitate/recommend to the higher authorities to subsidize the cost. She proposed that FWCCI women entrepreneurs might participate in the forthcoming TEXPO Karachi and WEXNET that will help them to venture for exports. She said that FWCCI women entrepreneurs could book stalls in such EXPOS jointly to share their cost. She also proposed that women entrepreneurs should develop their website properly to upgrade profile of their businesses. She said that TDAP could organize an aware-

ness session to help out for export. Regarding helping out FWCCI women delegations, she said that women business should have capacity to export, She said that TDAP could organize B2B meetings. She said that there is 30



percent participation quota for women in the trade delegations but they must fulfill the requirements in this context.

Mr. Fazal Rao, Deputy Director, Hafiz Kamran, Assistant Director also provided guidance to the meet-

ing participants. The meeting was participated by Ms. Tasghera Tajammal, SVP, Ms. Sobia Aqeel, Chairperson S/C on Trade and Export Development, Ms. Nimra Rahim, Ms. Rabia Saeed and others at the occasion.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:18 am
Zohr 11:53 am
Asr 3:24 pm
Maghrib 5:02 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 5555489
CAA 9281092

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886

AJK LG elections to be held in phases

Abdul Majid Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: The regional chief election commissioner (CEC) Justice Retired Abdul Rashid Sulehria announced to hold local government (LG) elections in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) in phases, ARY News reported on Monday.

AJK CEC Abdul Rashid Sulehria said in a statement that it is impossible to organise LG polls in a single day across the region due to the non-availability of security forces to maintain law and order.

While addressing a press conference, Sulehria said that the AJK LG elections will be held in phases. He said that the region's election commission is receiving maximum assistance from the government.

He said the LG elections will be held in the Muzaffarabad division on November 27, whereas, another phase will be organised on December 3 in Poonch Division and in the Mirpur division, LG elections will be organised on December 8.

High time for Pakistani businessmen to invest in Ethiopia: Envoy

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Jemal Beker Abdula has said that it was high time for Pakistani businessmen to invest in Ethiopia, which had lucrative opportunities in different economic sectors.

"Our government opened the financial sector some three months ago and now looks forward to the establishment of traditional banks and stock exchange in Ethiopia," the ambassador said in a meeting with the JS Bank Founder Jahangir Siddiqui.

Jemal Beker said that the

current government in Ethiopia had opened its economy offering numerous opportunities to investors in diverse sectors such as agriculture, agro-processing, manufacturing, mining, textile, health sector, tourism, and ICT.

"Our government wants to make Ethiopia a manufacturing hub of Africa as we are already producing the cheapest clean energy in the world," he said, adding some 96.4 per cent electricity was being produced from water and Geothermal sources.

He said Ethiopia was exporting clean energy to Kenya, Sudan, and Djibouti, while efforts were



foot to sell it to other countries and ensure regional integration through energy grid.

The ambassador said Ethiopia was geographically located at a very important position, and for Pakistan it would be a gateway to Africa.

"We will start the Ethiopian Airline operations in Karachi by the end of this year or January 2023," he noted. He said the initiative would connect Pakistan with Ethiopia and boost bilateral trade significantly, which currently amounts to 78 million US dollars.

Founder of JS Bank Jahangir Siddiqui expressed keen interest

in business opportunities being offered by Africa and briefed the ambassador about Raast which was Pakistan's first instant payment system.

He assured the ambassador of the representation from his company in the business delegation which would fly to Ethiopia by start of next year.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting with a delegation of Arif Habib Limited, the ambassador said there was a huge demand for construction material and fertilizer in his country.

"It is a big opportunity for Pakistani businessmen who can make

profits by entering the Ethiopian market right now," he maintained.

The ambassador assured them of the state guarantee on their investment and said whatever would be invested in Ethiopia would have a return in terms of profit.

He said Ethiopia was the fastest growing economy and multiple incentives have been announced for the investors by his government.

"We are committed to facilitating the investors in our country, that is why we have established a one-window operation for them," he added.

National day of Oman

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment (BOI) Chaudhry Salik Hussain, former Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, Ambassador of Oman in Pakistan Al Sheikh Dr Mohamed Omar Ahmed Al Marhoon and others cutting the cake during 52th National Day of Oman ceremony at a local hotel in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

NUMS Faculty member highlights ravages of flood at Columbia University Climate Clinic interview

RAWALPINDI: Dr Hina Shan, Assistant Professor Department of Public Health National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS) highlighted the ravages of August deluge on health facilities in the aftermath of the worst floods in Pakistan during her participation in a podcast series broadcasted by COLUMBIA, Mailman School of Public Health, Global Consortium On Climate And Health Education (GCCHE) in its Climate Clinic here on Monday.

She said women and children were especially afflicted with multiple diseases in absence of healthcare facilities in some areas due to widespread devastation across Pakistan. Dr Hina pleaded to world professionals to understand the link between public health and Nature for mustering a collective response to deal with climate change.

An in-depth discussion regarding catastrophic flooding, climate crisis and the impediments from a Public Health perspective in Pakistan was broadcasted by Columbia University.

NUMS joined the GCCHE in October 2022 which is a platform to organize, empower, and amplify the voice of health professionals to convey how climate change is harming our health and how climate solutions will improve it. GCCHE is a global network of health professional institutions and associations to train health professionals in climate and planetary health.

Dr Hina said there was "definitely" a link between the extreme weather and climate change and Pakistan though contributing less than 1 per cent to greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, it was the 8th worst-hit country as a result of climate change. She said U.N Secretary-General Antonio Guterres during his visit to Pakistan said that "it is a question of justice, Pakistan is paying the price of something that was created by others." APP

Pearson – Cornerstone Schools signs an agreement to ensure international education for Pakistani students



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: As part of the initiative to make students in Pakistan potentially capable for joining higher education world institutions of excellence, the two educational giants Pearson Education Limited and Cornerstone School & College Global Campus, Lahore, (CSCG) have joined hands to offer Pearson Edexcel complete suite of qualifications to students from early years till A level at the CSCG campus.

This collaboration was agreed upon after the two sides signed an agreement during a ceremony held in Lahore on Monday.

The agreement was signed by Ms. Kathryn Booth, Director of Pearson Schools Qualifications, Middle East, North Africa, Pakistan & Turkey, and Ms. Wajecha Raouf, Director Cornerstone Schools.

Senior officials of both the organizations, academicians and guest students were also present on the occasion.

As per details, the scope of this collaboration will allow Pearson and the Cornerstone Schools to continue collaborating for Pearson Edexcel exams, supporting resources and professional development courses at the Global Campus, Lahore

The agreement envisages that Pearson will provide at the CSCG campus unmatched data analysis and exam support tools, PD teachers training and resources support.

On the other hand, the CSCG campus will offer to students all suits of Pearson qualifications including Early Years, Int. GCSE and A level exams, support Pearson's qualifications monitoring process, introduce the programs at their all campuses and branches.

In her remarks on the occasion, Wajecha Raouf expressed her full confidence in the academic programs developed capacities of the Pearson and said that our students will be able to get the Pearson Edexcel qualifications to potentially enter the arena of international education in renowned educational institutions.

Kathryn Booth appreciated the leadership of Cornerstone Schools for their ongoing collaboration with Pearson through their valued partnership of seven years. She highlighted the significance of Pearson Edexcel qualifications saying the students at the Cornerstone global campus will get a rich opportunity to equip themselves with critical skills to enable them to succeed in future education and the world of work.

SC orders to release Musharraf's attacker Rana Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday ordered to release former president Pervez Musharraf's attacker Rana Tanveer following the completion of his sentence.

A three-member SC bench headed by Justice Sardar Tariq Masood heard the case. The court rejected the appeals against the release of Federation and Punjab.

During the course of proceedings, Advocate Hashmat Habib, counsel for Rana Tanveer said that his client had completed his sentence, however, he was still not being released.

He said that the term of life imprisonment was 14 years and his client had been in prison for almost 20 years.

After hearing arguments from both sides, the top court rejected the federal and Punjab governments' pleas against Tanveer's release and ordered the jail authorities to set him free.

Drive to register unregistered Afghan refugees extended upto Dec 31: NA told

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Minister for States and Frontier Regions Talha Mahmood on Monday said that the registration DRIVE (Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise) for unregistered Afghan refugees in the country has been extended up to December 31, 2022.

Responding to a question of Shamim Ara Panwar in National Assembly during question hour, Parliamentary Secretary for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Syed Agha Rafiullah said the drive exercise will ensure to compile complete data of registered and unregistered Afghan refugees as well as those, who



have gone back to Afghanistan.

He said as many as 1,282,963 registered Afghan refugees residing in the country have been already verified

under the DRIVE exercise.

He said additionally 136,490 undocumented members of registered families have also been documented whose

confirmation is in process. If they are found eligible under prescribed criteria, the number of registered Afghan refugees would increase further.

Pakistan deeply values its long-standing relations with Africa

Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan deeply values its long-standing relations with Africa that are premised on mutual trust and understanding. The bilateral relations between Kenya and Pakistan remain warm and cordial. The FPCCI is keen to strengthen trade diplomatic relations with Kenya. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI in a meeting with the High Commissioner of Kenya Her Excellency Ms. Nyambura Kamau who visited the FPCCI Capital Office, Islamabad, stated this. The meeting was attended by a large number of business people from different sectors prominently Aminullah Baig, Vice President of FPCCI, Mirza Abdul Rehman, Chairman Coordination of FPCCI, Qurban Ali, Ex-Vice Presidents of FPCCI and members of the trade bodies of FPCCI.

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh gave a brief overview of the activities of FPCCI and its importance not only in Pakistan's economy but also in the international economy. While talking about bilateral trade he said that Pakistan and Kenya have



long-standing trade relations and vast potential for bilateral trade. The trade volume between Pakistan and Kenya stood at US \$ 763 million in 2021 as compared to US \$ 788.8 million in 2017, showing a little bit declining trend, which needs to accelerate as the trade potential between the two countries, is much higher. During 2021, Pakistan's exports to Kenya were

US \$ 250.3 million, imports from Kenya were US \$ 512.8 million, and the trade surplus of US \$ 262.5 million was in favour of Kenya. He further said that the major impediment that was negatively influencing Kenyan tea export to Pakistan was attestation charges have been removed by the Government of Pakistan last year. He further said that the private sector of Pakistan

also seeks the same gesture of the Kenyan government for the promotion of our bilateral trade. He said that rice and tea are two main commodities, which are traditionally being traded between the two countries, but there were many other Pakistani products which can not only be introduced in the Kenyan market but also exports to many other African nations via Kenya.

Leading Business women from RWCCI, Attock WCCI, WCCI, Attock CCI, Chakwal cci, Rawalpindi CCI, Islamabad CCI, Islamabad Small Chamber, Islamabad Small Chamber, Mandi Baha ud Deen CCI, Sawabi Chamber, Federal Chamber (Gilgit, Hunza, Nagar, Marble Association, Sugar, Oil & Ghee Association, Pharmaceutical, Poultry Association, Custom Clearing Agent Association were also present in the meeting.

The High Commissioner of Kenya Ms. Mary Nyambura Kamau said that Kenya is enjoying a longstanding bilateral relationship with Pakistan since its independence in 1963 when Pakistan opened its mission in Nairobi. Through the years we have witnessed good cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade and investment, defence and security among others. She said that in the broad spectrum our good bilateral relations are based upon the ties between our private sector. She further highlighted the various sectors of Kenya for trade and investment.

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The Iranian regime's unsolvable crisis

Dr. Majid Rafizadeh

The Iranian regime has been attempting to downplay the crisis it faces domestically in order to project power and paint a picture of itself ruling via a formidable, sustainable, legitimate and popular government.

For example, Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has called the ongoing nationwide uprising as "scattered riots" designed "by the enemy" and he described the protesters as "thugs, robbers and extortionists." He explained in a recent speech: "These scattered riots are the passive and clumsy design of the enemy against the great and innovative developments and movements of the Iranian nation." He also characterized the protests across the country as a "minor incident," saying: "The constructions, great executive works, effective legislation, big judicial works and important issues in foreign policy should not be sidelined by these minor incidents."

Furthermore, the regime's police and security forces, which are backed and emboldened by the supreme leader, continue to employ full-scale brute force in

order to suppress the protesters.

Nevertheless, it is important to point out that, even though the protests do not appear to be organized under a single leadership, the collective nature and the danger of mass demonstrations to the regime should not be underestimated. History has shown that such collective protests can endanger the hold on power of ruling governments.

The protests are not a "minor incident" or "scattered riots," as Khamenei claims. Even one of the regime's main institutions has acknowledged that an overwhelming majority of the population — nearly 75 percent — is willing to participate in protests. The country's Supreme National Defense University, which focuses on national security, warned government officials about such a danger in a recently published study.

It concluded: "In the course of the social and political developments of the last decade, all kinds of activism have been created and have become new centers for social and cultural communication and ... the creation of political power. All these factors have completely changed aspects of Iranian society and, along with the two protest waves of January 2018 and November 2019,

the suspicion that Iranian society is on the threshold of political collapse has been strengthened."

Indeed, the series of uprisings seen around the country in 2018, 2019 and now in 2022 point to the people's fury and the depth

of the crisis. Chants included "Death to the dictator," "Hard-liners, reformers, game over," and "Our enemy is right here."

Contrary to Khamenei's claim that these uprisings are trivial, not only has the number of protests been rising in the last few years, but their scope and longevity has also risen, as people have become more empowered to stand up to the authorities.

Chants that were at first focused on the economy have long since turned into political slogans, such as "Freedom, freedom, freedom," "From Kurdistan to Tehran, I sacrifice my life for Iran," "We are all Mahsa (Amini), fight and we will fight back," and "Imprisoned teachers must be freed." The other major warning is that Khamenei, who is the main figure of theocracy, has become a permanent fixture in the protesters' slogan, with people chanting "This year is a year of sacrifice. Seyed Ali (Khamenei) will be overthrown," and "Death to Khamenei."

Some Iranian officials and organizations only blame the economy for the protests. For instance, the study by the Supreme National Defense University acknowledged that 67.2 percent of Iranians have experienced a "relative state of

deprivation" at "high levels," while 82.2 percent "insist they have not yet met their needs" and "59.4 percent of people consider the country's situation anomalous and abnormal."

The dire economic situation is indeed a critical factor driving the ongoing protests, but there are other reasons for people's anger toward the theocratic establishment that should not be disregarded. These grievances include people's dissatisfaction with the regime's political repression, restrictive religious laws, human rights violations, hemorrhaging of the nation's resources on proxy and militia groups across the region — such as the Houthis, Hezbollah and Iraqi Shiite militia groups — and the government's reluctance to improve the living standards of its own people.

In a nutshell, the Iranian regime appears to be facing an unsolvable crisis. While the authorities attempt to downplay the protests, the latest uprising and mass demonstrations should be a significant warning to the Iranian leaders and their hold on power.

Dr. Majid Rafizadeh is a Harvard-educated Iranian-American political scientist. Courtesy ARAB NEWS

Earthquake in Indonesia

A powerful earthquake has rattled Indonesia's main island of Java, killing 162 people and injuring hundreds of others — with rescuers searching for survivors trapped under the rubble amid a series of aftershocks.

The epicentre of the 5.6 magnitude earthquake was near the town of Cianjur in mountainous West Java, about 75km (45 miles) southeast of the capital, Jakarta. The region is home to over 2.5 million people.

Many of the dead were public school students who had finished their classes for the day and were taking extra lessons at several Islamic schools when they collapsed. West Java Governor Ridwan Kamil said he announced the new death toll in the remote area.

The toll is expected to rise further, but no estimates were immediately available. The residents of Cianjur live mostly in towns of single and two-storey buildings and in smaller homes in the surrounding countryside.

Kamil said that more than 13,000 people whose homes were heavily damaged were taken to evacuation centres. He said on his Instagram page that 326 others have been injured.

Adam, the spokesman for the local administration in Cianjur town in West Java, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, confirmed the toll to AFP.

Indonesia's national disaster mitigation agency, BNPB, still lists the toll at 62 and rescuers were searching for 25 believed to be trapped under the rubble. Its spokesperson said the search would continue through the night.

Due to miscounting, officials offered wildly fluctuating death tolls after an Indonesian stadium disaster last month.

"So many buildings crumbled and shattered," Kamil told reporters. "There are residents trapped in isolated places ... so we are under the assumption that the number of injured and deaths will rise with time."

Hundreds of buildings were damaged, including an Islamic boarding school, a hospital and other public facilities.

Herman Suherman, a government official from Cianjur, said the town's Sayang hospital had no power after the earthquake, leaving doctors unable to operate on victims.

Footage from Metro TV showed structures in Cianjur reduced almost entirely to rubble as worried residents huddled outside.

The earthquake was felt strongly in the Greater Jakarta area. High-rises in the capital swayed and some were evacuated.

"The quake felt so strong. My colleagues and I decided to get out of our office on the ninth floor using the emergency stairs," said Vidi Primadhania, an employee in south Jakarta.

Muchlis, who was in Cianjur when the quake hit, said he felt "a huge tremor" and the walls and ceiling of his office building were damaged.

"I was very shocked. I worried there will be another quake," Muchlis told Metro TV, adding that people ran out of their houses, some fainting and vomiting because of the strong tremors.

Dwikorita Karnawati, head of the weather and geophysics agency BMKG, advised people to stay outdoors in case of aftershocks.

In the two hours after the quake, 25 aftershocks were recorded, BMKG reported, adding there was a danger of landslides, especially in the event of heavy rain.



Setting the right course for China-US relations

Xinhua

Under global gaze, Chinese President Xi Jinping and his US counterpart, Joe Biden, had on Monday a candid and in-depth exchange of views on a wide range of issues concerning bilateral ties and global priorities in their meeting ahead of the Group of 20 summit in Indonesia's resort island of Bali.

The high-profile talks came at a time when the China-US relationship has arrived at a critical juncture. The past years have seen bilateral relations at a low ebb since the establishment of diplomatic ties: the reality of their interdependence has been ignored; the successful practice of bilateral win-win cooperation misrepresented; and channels of dialogue and communication blocked. For such setbacks Washington should take the blame.

The Bali meeting, the first vis-a-vis sit-down between the two heads of state since Biden assumed the US presidency, has provided an important opportunity for the two sides to jointly steer the deeply-troubled bilateral relationship out of the current predicament.

On the world stage, the two countries have once joined hands to push for the ratification of the Paris climate deal, worked together in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial tsunami, and jointly tackled the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

Today, China and the United States share more, not less, common interests. And their relationship is of even greater significance for the world. Global recovery from the pandemic-induced recession can hardly

be achieved without the synergy between the world's top two economies. Safeguarding a peaceful and healthy planet for future generations also requires joint efforts from the two.

However, as Xi told Biden at Monday's meeting, the current state of China-US relations is not in the fundamental interests of the two countries and peoples, and is not what the international community expects.

China and the United States need to have a sense of responsibility for history, for the world and for the people, explore the right way to get along with each other in the new era, put the relationship on the right course, and bring it back to the track of healthy and stable growth to the benefit of the two countries and the world as a whole, Xi said.

To this end, Washington should join Beijing in moving towards the same direction. For starters, Washington must bear in mind that the one-China principle is non-negotiable. The Taiwan question is at the heart of China's core interests. Washington has promised to follow the one-China policy, yet it has repeatedly and purposely challenged Beijing's first red line. Its dangerous provocations are eroding the bedrock of the political foundation of bilateral ties.

Resolving the Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese and China's internal affair. The US side must match its words with action, stop playing the Taiwan card and making further provocations, and abide by the one-China policy and the three China-US joint communiques.

Besides, the United States must respect China's development path. These days a group of China hawks in the United States have been framing a false narrative of

"democracy versus authoritarianism." They scheme to stir up ideological confrontation between the two countries and hostilities between the two peoples.

There is always competition in the world, but competition should be about learning from each other to become one's better self and make progress together, not about taking others down in a zero-sum game. Thus it is imperative for Washington to recognize and respect differences between the two countries, and do not let such differences become an obstacle to growing China-US relations.

Moreover, Washington should drop its misconceptions about China's development. China-US relations should not be a zero-sum game where one side out-competes or thrives at the expense of the other. Also, China's advancement or American's progress stands to present opportunities, rather than pose challenges, for each other.

Just as Xi urged at the meeting, the two sides should respect each other, coexist in peace, pursue win-win cooperation, and work together to ensure that China-US relations move forward on the right course without losing direction or speed, still less having a collision.

It is also hoped that Washington will honor its commitments with concrete action instead of talking in one way and acting in another, work with Beijing to promptly follow up and implement the important common understandings reached during the meeting, maintain dialogue and communication, manage differences and disagreements, and promote exchanges and cooperation, so as to bring bilateral relations back on the track of healthy and stable growth to the benefit of the two countries and the world as a whole.

China-Philippines relations not defined by maritime dispute

It is to be hoped that the Joe Biden administration is not trying to stir up the embers of the South China Sea disputes, as part of its efforts to assert its presence in Southeast Asia.

After the affirmative messages from Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris last week that the United States does not seek confrontation or conflict with China, it is disappointing that the administration's sincerity should again be called into question.

Harris began a two-day visit to the Philippines on Monday, with Washington seeking to revive and expand the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement, a 2014 pact that allows for the US to have what the Pentagon calls "lily pads" in the country. Rather than permanent and expensive bases, the EDCA allows the US military to store defense equipment and supplies at five Philippine bases and rotate US troops through them. One of these bases is Antonio Bautista Air Base in the island province of Palawan near disputed waters in the South China Sea, which Harris will reportedly visit on Tuesday.

The EDCA stalled under previous Philippine president Rodrigo Duterte as relations between Washington and Manila became frosty, but with his successor President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. taking office in June, the Biden administration is hoping that ties can be quickly thawed thanks to the family legacy. Marcos' father ruled the former US colony for two decades during the Cold War with the support of Washington.

While Harris' on-going trip to the Philippines is widely perceived as being aimed at disrupting the robust bilateral ties that were established between China and the Philippines under the Duterte administration, those bonds were forged on the

premise that both were willing to keep their territorial dispute at bay and look to the larger picture of bilateral cooperation and friendship. That has borne fruitful results for the Philippines, as China's support has catered to the Philippines' development needs over the past six years.

It is hard to imagine that Manila will jeopardize that at the instigation of the US, especially as President Marcos and President Xi Jinping agreed to enhance the friendly ties between the two countries and expand cooperation in areas such as agriculture, infrastructure and energy, including joint exploration of maritime oil and gas resources, when they met in Bangkok on Thursday.

Washington is seeking to meddle in the South China Sea disputes and manipulate the tensions as a means to keep Beijing on the back foot by undermining regional peace, stability and cooperation.

But despite its efforts, the situation in the South China Sea is generally stable. China and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are fully and effectively implementing the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and actively promoting consultations on a Code of Conduct for the waters. ASEAN has become China's leading trade partner, accounting for 15 percent of China's total foreign trade, while China has been ASEAN's largest trading partner for 13 consecutive years.

With Harris offering the Philippines US assistance and projects to help the country deal with climate change and looming energy and food shortages, Manila will no doubt be willing to lend her a receptive ear, but the Biden administration should not interpret that as it choosing to stand on the US' side.

Courtesy China Daily

Children in the DPR Korea



Spokesman Report

Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, cherishing the ennobling view that only when children smile brightly can the whole country be filled with cheerful atmosphere, is making sure that children are provided with the best of things.

He makes sure that modern hospitals, nurseries and kindergartens are established for the children, and poses with them for souvenir photographs.

On International Children's Day and New Year's Day, he first visited orphans to celebrate the holidays with them; feeling still unsatisfied even when he had new houses built for them, he took a measure for supplying fish to all the orphans in the country, calculating in his notebook how much fish would be needed if it was to be supplied to all of them.

At his initiative the Workers' Party of Korea adopted it as a policy to supply the children across the country with dairy and other kinds of nutritious foodstuffs at state expense. Paying close attention even to their school things, satchels and uniforms, he makes sure that the state bears full responsibility for creating all necessary conditions for the children to learn and grow.

He regards the work for the good of the children as the most important of state affairs.

Under his care the children are held in affection as kings and queens of the country.

This is why they call him father.

As a tree on a fertile soil grows tall, the Korean children are growing into pillars of the country, masters of the future, under his warm care.

1. The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un among children
2. Kim Jong Un visiting the Kyongsang Kindergarten in July Juche 101 (2012)
3. Kim Jong Un with children at the People's Open-Air Ice Rink in November Juche 101 (2012)
4. Kim Jong Un with children at a roller-skating ground in November Juche 101 (2012)
5. Kim Jong Un giving on-site guidance at the Okryu Children's Hospital in March Juche 103 (2014)
6. Kim Jong Un visiting the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in May Juche 103 (2014)
7. Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Orphanage to congratulate the children there on International Children's Day in June Juche 103 (2014)
8. Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage on completion of their construction in October Juche 103 (2014)



9. Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage to give New Year blessings to the children there in January Juche 104 (2015)

10. Kim Jong Un looking round the renovated Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in November Juche 104 (2015)

11. Kim Jong Un among children of Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans in February Juche 106 (2017)

12. Kim Jong Un visiting the Paeumui Chollilki Schoolchildren's Palace in May Juche 108 (2019)

13. Kim Jong Un guiding the Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in June Juche 110 (2021)

The meeting discussed the issue of adopting it as a policy of the Party to provide the children across the country with dairy and other kinds of nutritious foodstuffs at state expense.

14. Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage

15. Orphans cutting the tape at the inaugural ceremony of the Wonsan Baby Home and Orphanage

16. The state supplies fresh fruits to orphans on a preferential basis.

17. Dairy products are supplied to children on a regular basis true to the WPK's childcare policy.

18. Dairy products are supplied to children on a regular basis true to the WPK's childcare policy.

19. The Okryu Children's Hospital is a general medical service for children equipped with modern facilities.



20. The Okryu Children's Hospital has additional facilities for giving lessons to the kindergarten, primary and middle school children.

21. Children at a playing hour

22. Children playing in a wading pool



23. Playing paduk (go) game
24. Children celebrating International Children's Day
25. Children visiting the Natural History Museum
26. Children visiting the Central Zoo
27. At a mother tongue lesson
28. Children are encouraged to learn abacus.
29. At a drawing lesson School things are supplied to all kindergarten children in the country.
30. Calligraphy competition of children
31. Children receive new uniforms, satchels and other school things from the state.
32. Children developing their artistic talent at the Kyongsang Kindergarten
33. Children developing their artistic talent at the Kuje Kindergarten in Haeju
34. Central hall in the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace
35. Science hall in the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace
36. Members of the dancing club of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace
37. Little musicians demonstrate their skills at the 16th Moscow Meets Friends International Festival.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
42,761.19	42,730.24	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
42,853.94	42,664.53	
Index Value	Change	
3,493,322,238	+30.95	
Percentage	Time	
+0.07%	21 Nov, 2022 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,376.85	-8.67	
Percentage	Time	
-0.12%	21 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,659.60	-86.09	
Percentage	Time	
+0.26%	21 Nov, 12:08 pm GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,944.79	+45.02	
Percentage	Time	
+0.16%	21 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	149	150.25
Bahrain Dinar	593.39	597.89
Canadian Dollar	166.7	168.05
China Yuan	31.35	31.6
Danish Krone	30.97	31.32
Euro	242	244.5
Hong Kong Dollar	28.53	28.88
Indian Rupee	2.74	2.82
Japanese Yen	1.65	1.7
Kuwaiti Dinar	722.53	727.53
Malaysian Ringgit	49.01	49.46
New Zealand \$	137.26	138.46
Norwegians Krone	21.9	22.2
Omani Riyal	579.45	583.95
Qatari Riyal	61.3	61.8
Saudi Riyal	63	63.6
Singapore Dollar	162.14	163.44
Swedish Korona	20.98	21.28
Swiss Franc	233.68	235.43
Thai Bhat	6.22	6.32
U.A.E Dirham	65	65.6
UK Pound Sterling	278.7	281
US Dollar	228.75	231

Govt providing maximum facilitation, friendly environment to facilitate businesses in country: Dar

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar Monday said the present government was providing maximum facilitation and a friendly environment to facilitate businesses in Pakistan.

He said this in a called on meeting with Chairman/Director Vitol, Christopher Bake along with CEO Hascol Aqeel Khan.

Minister of State for Petroleum Musadik Masood Malik, SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Finance and senior officers attended the meeting, said a press release issued here.

The Chairman Vitol briefed the finance minister about the operational nature of Vitol, business profile and their

contribution in economic development of Pakistan. It was shared that Vitol has long-standing business relations with Pakistan and desires to promote this relationship deeper.

The delegation also gave various proposals for expanding their business activities in Pakistan.

Christopher Bake also apprised the finance minister of certain issues being faced by them.

Ishaq Dar acknowledged and appreciated the contribution of Vitol and added that the present government welcomes foreign direct



investment and provides conducive environment to the foreign investors.

The finance minister also highlighted the economic outlook of the country and shared that with the far-sighted and pragmatic poli-

cies of the present government, the economy of Pakistan was progressing.

Ishaq Dar welcomed their suggestions for expanding their business portfolio in Pakistan and further assured the delegation of full

support and cooperation and said that their issues would be resolved by the government at the earliest.

The delegation thanked the finance minister for his cooperation and support.

Conspiracy to push country into food crisis slated: 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 Monday said some elements are conspiring for a serious food crisis in the country by obstructing the clearance of poultry and livestock feed.

There is a shortage of poultry feed in the country, which can kill a large number of chickens, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that soybean and feed importers have cancelled orders and thousands of poultry farms are feared to be closed and millions of people will be out of jobs.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that immediate action should be taken against the conspirators playing with the country's food security for the sake of personal interests.

The industrialists related to the poultry



sector, Sheikh Zafar Iqbal, Syed Rizwan Jalil, and Sheikh Wali Muhammad, said that soybean seed is being imported regularly since 1992 in its current form, but now suddenly its clearance has been stopped.

Currently, more than 130,000 tons of soybean seeds worth 22 billion rupees are lying in the open at Karachi port, which is

not being cleared due to various pretexts.

The soybean seed is a perishable item that is being ruined at the port which the situation could lead to bankrupting the solvent and feed industry and ruining millions of poultry farms, fish farms, and dairy farms.

He added that the future of three hundred feed mills and domestic and foreign investment worth more than 2500 billion rupees is at stake due to the stubbornness of some elements.

The poultry industry accounts for about fifty percent of the country's meat demand, supplying 3.1 billion kilograms of meat to the public annually while employing more than fifteen million people.

This sector provides protein to the poor and middle class as meat and beef have fallen out of the public's purchasing power.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the government should realize the seriousness of the matter and immediately release the soybean seed from the port so that the problem of food security does not arise in the country.

Visa Brings Innovative Payment Experiences to FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: As the world awaits kick-off of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, Visa (NYSE: V), the Official Payment Technology Partner of FIFA, has readied a payments network that will enable contactless purchases throughout all official venues, including eight stadiums and the FIFA Fan Festival™. With more than one million fans expected to travel to Qatar for the tournament, Visa has installed 5,300 contactless-enabled payment terminals at official FIFA venues, making FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ the most payment-enabled FIFA tournament ever. Visa will also trial new payment innovations to give fans easy access to simple and secure digital ways to pay.

The FIFA World Cup™ provides a global stage for Visa to showcase and test new technologies, enhance the fan experience and leave a lasting impression on the host country. Visa will bring a number of digital payment solutions to Qatar, including several limited pilots to demonstrate how future Visa

payment solutions may come to life:

Pay with Your Face: Marking the first-time it will be used for payments in Qatar, facial recognition technology is a collaboration between Qatar National Bank (QNB) and POP ID and supported by Visa via tokenization. The solution allows customers to authenticate payments using just their face, without a physical card or mobile phone after initial enrollment. It will be piloted at three Flat White Specialty Coffee branches.

Dr. Saeda Jaffar, Senior Vice President and Group Country Manager for GCC at Visa, said: "As FIFA's long-standing partner, Visa wants to give football fans from around the world the best way to pay in Qatar, while experiencing exciting new innovations such as the fusion of art, football and technology at Visa's Masters of Movement venue. With thousands of contactless payment terminals, FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ promises to be the most payment-enabled FIFA tournament ever for the more than one million fans coming to enjoy the magic of football."

ACCA, IFAC release a global guide on public financial management reforms

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : A new joint guide by ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) and the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) released at the World Congress of Accountants (WCOA) aims to boost PFM reforms across the globe by defining for the first time the idea of professionalisation specifically in the context of public sector finance.

The guide also features case studies of good practice from Tanzania, the UK, Cyprus, the Philippines, Pakistan, Malaysia and Wales.

A global guide for professionalisation in public sector finance provides a definition of what professionalisation means in public sector finance, sets out the benefits of professionalisation, and offers a high-level roadmap to support global good practice in professionalisation.

Discussing the global guide ahead of a panel discussion at WCOA, Joseph Owolabi, ACCA president, said: "Professionalisation



brings credibility, trust and confidence in public finances by supplementing the systems and public finance processes with the right skills for accountability, transparency, good governance and external scrutiny. A professionalised workforce within a finance function supplies more than accounting information. It brings wide value to public sector finances – providing improved revenue collection, effective budgetary controls, and the data required to support policy decision making."

Kevin Dancy, IFAC CEO, said: "We are looking to rebalance the focus so that it is not only on the process, but also on the people. The value of the accountancy profession, whether in the public or private sectors, comes from the experience, skills, judgement and ethical behaviour of its people. By increasing the number of professional accountants working in the public sector, we will no doubt add to the credibility and effectiveness of PFM, and reinforce trust in public services and spending."

Alex Metcalfe, ACCA's head of public sector, said: "Political leadership and commitment for professionalisation is the most important factor for sustaining PFM reforms over time. In some countries, there is a lack of recognition that change is needed at all. In other countries, PFM reforms have concentrated on moving from cash-based to accrual-based accounting. But now more effort is urgently required to professionalise public finance staff and provide opportunities for training for professional qualifications."

Meezan Bank and Pakistan Mortgage Refinance Company (PMRC) Join Hands to Promote Islamic Housing Finance

Bureau Report

KARACHI : Meezan Bank, Pakistan's leading Islamic bank and Pakistan Mortgage Refinance Company (PMRC), a Mortgage Liquidity Facility set up by the State Bank of Pakistan, have recently inked a Master Musharakah agreement to support and promote affordable housing finance in the country. Under this agreement, PMRC will provide five years fixed-rate concessional funds to Meezan Bank, which will provide much-needed support across the housing value chain. With the acquisition of funds worth PKR five billion, Meezan Bank aims to ultimately improve access to affordable, Shariah-compliant housing finance in Pakistan through better and more affordable rates.

The signing ceremony took place at Meezan House, Karachi and was attended by Meezan Bank's Founding President & CEO – Mr. Irfan Siddiqui, Deputy CEO – Mr. Arif Islam, Group Head Consumer Finance – Syed Iftikhar ul Haq & Head of Housing Finance – Mr. Masroor Mohsin. PMRC was represented by their Managing Director & CEO – Mr. Mudassar H. Khan, Resident Shariah Board Member – Dr. Mufti Muhammad Yunus Ali, Head of Business – Mr. Muhammad Shahzad Khan & Head Islamic Business – Mr. Hasan Junaid Nasir.



Mr. Irfan Siddiqui – Founding President & CEO, Meezan Bank appreciated the initiative taken by PMRC for bringing innovation in Islamic Finance market by floating funds for facilitation of end customers. "This initiative will support Islamic housing finance in the country despite rising KIBOR by making Shariah-compliant housing finance more affordable for the customers. We are pleased to be joining hands with PMRC as they continue to become an important player in

the development of long-term housing finance in the country along with the comfort of fixed profit rates."

Mudassar H. Khan – Managing Director & CEO, PMRC while speaking at the occasion said, "It is indeed a milestone for both the institutions as we recognize the importance of mutual

coordination between financial institutions for the growth and support of housing sector in the country. We are proud to support the largest Islamic bank in the country and believe that such collaborations will play a key role for promotion and growth of affordable housing in the country."

PSX gains 30.95 points

ISLAMABAD: The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) gained 30.95 points on Monday, depicting a slight positive change of 0.07 percent, closing at 42,761.19 against 42,730.24 points on the previous day.

A total of 132,942,539 shares were traded during the day as compared to 189,283,798 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs4.579 billion against Rs5.060 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 334 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 150 of them recorded gains and 156 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 28 companies remained unchanged.

The three top-trading companies were WorldCall Telecom with 14,125,721 shares at Rs1.41 per share, TRG Pak Ltd with 10,231,131 shares at Rs146.57 per share, and Unity Foods Ltd with 8,730,836 shares at Rs17.13 per share.

Allawasaya Textile witnessed a maximum increase of Rs168.73 per share price, closing at Rs2418.50, whereas the runner-up was Mehmood Textile with a Rs55.00 rise in its per share price to Rs808.00.

Unilever Foods witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs250.00 per share closing at Rs25750.00 followed by Sanofi-Aventis with a Rs44.99 decline to close at Rs1050.00. APP

ICT export remittances jumped by 13.33pc to \$221m in October

ISLAMABAD: The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) export remittances have risen by 13.33 per cent to \$221 million in October this year from \$195 million reported for the same period last year. "ICT export remittances of US\$ 854 million have been reported by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) for the period July to October of FY2022-23, which is an increase of 2.89%. In comparison to US\$ 830 million reported for the same period last year," said a news release.

The net ICT exports of \$721 million have been reported by SBP which is an increase of 14.44 per cent as compared to net exports of \$630 million for the same period in FY2021-22. APP

26th Boys National Age Group Swimming Championship concluded

News Desk

LAHORE : 26th Boys National Age Group Swimming Championship concluded at Punjab International Swimming Complex, Nishtar Park Sports Complex under the auspices of Sports Board Punjab on Sunday evening.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta was the Chief Guest on this occasion. President Pakistan Swimming Federation (PSF) Zoraiz Lashari, Chief Sports Consultant Hafeez Bhatti, Provincial coach Rafi uz Zaman and other officials were also present on this occasion.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta witnessed the exciting competitions and later distributed medals and prizes among the top performers of the championship. The participants also had group photos with Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta.

Talking on this occasion, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta appreciated the performance of young swimmers in their respective age group competitions. "Sports Board Punjab will continue to provide such opportunities to young athletes to express their sports potential," he added.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Ehsan Bhutta further said that the Boys National Age Group Swimming Championship was a suitable platform for budding swimmers to demonstrate their swimming skills. He advised the



top performers to maintain their level of performance and keep on hard working for their future swimming events.

Mikail Azfar Mir (Sindh), who got five Gold Medals and established four New National Records, was adjudged the Best Swimmer in U-12 event.

Syed Azlan Sohail (Sindh) who clinched five Gold Medals and set up as many New National Records was declared the Best Swimmer in U-14 event.

M Ahmad Durrani (Army) who got five Gold Medals and established four New National Records, was adjudged the Best Swimmer in U-16 event.

Results:
In 12 and under age group 100m Backstroke, Gold went to Mikail Azfar Mir

(Sindh), Silver-M Shahzain Siddiqui, (Army), Bronze-M. Rayyan Dhedhi, (Sindh)

In 50m Butterfly, Gold-Dayyan Kashif, (Punjab) New National Record, Silver-M. Humza Bhesan, (Sindh), Bronze-M Rayyan Dhedhi, (Sindh)

In 200m Freestyle, Gold-Mikail Azfar Mir, (Sindh) New National Record, Silver-M. Humza Bhesan, (Sindh), Bronze-Asjad Ali, (Punjab)

In 50m Backstroke, Gold-M Shahzain Siddiqui, (Army), Silver-M. Rayyan Dhedhi, (Sindh), Bronze-M Omar, (Sindh)

In 4x100m Medley Relay, Gold-(Sindh) Team, Silver-(Punjab) Team, Bronze-KPK Team.

In age group 14 and under 100m Freestyle, Gold was won by S M Daniyal, (KPK), Silver-Aryaan Rehman Khawar, (Punjab), Bronze-Yousaf Ahmed Shafi, (Punjab)

In 50m Breaststroke, Gold-M. Bilal Maqbool, (Punjab), Silver-M Affan, (Sindh), Bronze-Shahmir Ali (Sindh)

In 50m Backstroke, Gold-Mohid Sadiq Lone, (Punjab), Silver-S M Daniyal, (KPK), Bronze-Daniyal Alavi, (Sindh)

In 50m Freestyle, Gold-S. M Daniyal, (KPK) New National Record, Silver-Agha Wasay, (Punjab), Bronze-Aryaan Rehman Khawar, (Punjab)

In 4x100m Medley Relay, Gold-(Punjab) Team New National Record, Silver-(Sindh) Team, Bronze-KPK Team

In Age group 16 and under 100m Butterfly, Gold-M Amman Siddiqui, (Army), Silver-Dawood Nawaz, (Punjab), Bronze-Maikail Faisal Ijaz, (Punjab)

In 200m IM, Gold-M Ahmed Durrani, (Army) New National Record, Silver-Subhan Ahmed, Navy, Bronze-Jazim Abbasi, (Sindh)

In 50m Butterfly, Gold-M. Ahmed Durrani, (Army), Silver-Ali Mitha, (Sindh), Bronze-Hamza Asif, (Punjab)

In 100m Breaststroke, Gold-Hamza Asif, (Punjab), Silver-Amman Rehman Khawar, (Punjab), Bronze-Rayyan Maqbool, (Sindh)

In 4x100m Medley Relay, Gold-(Punjab) Team New National Record, Silver-(Sindh), Bronze - (KPK).

Friendly cricket match between IIUI and FERA held



Spokesman Report

LAHORE: A friendly match between International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI XI) and Federal Education Reporters Association (FERA XI) was played here at the ground of the new campus of the university.

IIUI XI won the match. IIUI XI, playing first scored 148 in 8 overs with an impressive batting of Raja Hamid who also grabbed the title of Man of the Match. In reply FERA posted 60 runs on the scorecard. The match was jointly organized by the Department of Protocol and Public relations and Office of the Students Advisor. Member Board of the Governors of IIUI and famous religious Scholar Dr. Aamir Tuaseen was Chief Guest of the match. Students Advisor Dr. Rizwan Aftab, Incharge Protocol and Public Relations were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion as a Chief Guest, Dr. Aamir said that sports are an integral part of the learning process. He said that sports activities have long lasting constructive results in society. He hailed IIUT's management for splendid arrangements of the match.

Nasir Farid said on the occasion that the activity was a source to strengthen the ties between IIUI and FERA. He said the P&PR department shall keep arranging such activities. Mr. Zafar Sipra, President FERA thanked IIUI for arranging a friendly match and appreciated the management for the quality arrangements. He also thanked Directorates of Protocol and Public Relations and Students Affairs for the collaboration. At the end, Winner and Runner up trophies were given by the chief guests to the captains.

Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2022-23

News Desk

KARACHI : Sindh further consolidated their chances of a final's appearance in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2022-23 season by cruising past the 600-run mark in the first innings against Balochistan in their tenth round match at the LCCA Ground, Lahore while Southern Punjab were helped by centuries from Salman Ali Agha and Imran Rafiq on day-two of their tie against Central Punjab at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore on Monday. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on the other hand took a slender first innings lead against table-toppers Northern at the Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi.

At the LCCA Ground, Khurram Manzoor and captain Saud Shakeel resumed the Sindh first innings at 349 for one. The two took the partnership to 279 before the seasoned Khurram was dismissed by left-arm spinner Kashif Bhatti for 174 off 260 balls (24 fours, one six). Saud fell for 181 off 259 balls (19 fours, one six). The left-hander spent 414 minutes at the crease during his outstanding innings. Omair Bin Yousuf who had scored a century in the previous game in Karachi scored 71 off 132 (nine fours, one six).

Fawad Alam (55 not out, 135 balls, four fours) and Saad Khan (57 not out, 113 balls, six fours, one six) had both passed their fifties when stumps were drawn for the day. The two have so far added 103 runs for the fifth-wicket. Sindh finished day-two at 607 for four - 155 overs. A draw will all but guarantee Sindh a place in the five-day tournament final that will be played from 26 November.

Southern Punjab resumed their first innings at 270 for three at the Gaddafi Stadium. Middle-order batter Salman Ali Agha led the way for his side on day-two with an imperious 158 not out off 168 balls (23 fours, one six). Salman added 134 runs for the fourth-wicket with Imran who converted his overnight unbeaten half-century into a 117-run innings. Imran faced 211 balls and hit 17 fours and a six.

Skipper Hasan Ali blazed a quickfire 38 not out off 24 balls (five fours, two sixes) as Southern Punjab declared their innings at an imposing 550 for eight total. Central Punjab openers Imran Dogar (39 not out) and Abid Ali (35 not out) provided their side a confident 70-run start in 20 overs before stumps were drawn for the day.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa resumed their first innings at six for one and reached 241 for five by close of play on day-two. Middle-order batter Kamran Ghulam top-scored with 81 off 128 balls (10 fours and one six). Talented youngster Maaz Khan was unbeaten on 70 (178 balls, eight fours, one six) when stumps were drawn for the day. Opener Israrullah scored 49 runs, Kashif Ali with two for 47 was the most successful Northern bowler. Northern had been dismissed for 223 runs in their first innings on day-one.

Scores in brief:
Sindh won the toss and opted to bat against Balochistan at the LCCA Ground, Lahore

Sindh 607 for 4, 155 overs (Saud Shakeel 181, Khurram Manzoor 174, Omair Bin Yousuf 71, Saad Khan 57 not out, Fawad Alam 55 not out; Kashif Bhatti 2-13)

Toss uncontested - Central Punjab chose to field against Southern Punjab at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

PFF NC meets joint delegation of German, Netherlands & Belgium FAs*

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) Normalization Committee met with a joint delegation of the German, Netherlands, and Belgium Football Associations to discuss the areas of common interest and possible technical support from the advanced and developed European football-playing nations.

Ms. Hike Ullrich General Secretary German Football (DFB), Mr. Van Den Bulck President Royal Belgian Football Association (RBFA) and Mr. Just Spee President Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB) were present in



the meeting held at the European Union Delegation Office in Qatar while the PFF NC delegation included Chairman Haroon Malik flanked by members Shahid Niaz Khokhar and Saud Hashimi. The Pakistani delegation

informed the participants about the people's love and passion for the game, huge fan following of football and international leagues, and the immense talent in the country. The women's football development and education

programmes in Pakistan also came under discussion.

Haroon Malik said: "We can learn a lot from these countries, which are considered to be the football powerhouses. The bilateral activities with these football giants can help us improve our players and their skills and techniques to do well at a higher level."

The participants of the meeting showed deep interest in Pakistan football and ensured the PFF NC of their all-out support for a better future of Pakistan football. "The good ties with the international community will be beneficial for domestic football in the country," he added.

Pakistan to host six-nation West Asia Baseball Cup



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will host six-nation West Asia Baseball Cup early next year wherein six top outfits from the region will be seen in action, Pakistan Federation Baseball (PFB) said on Monday.

"It will be the 15th edition of the Cup. The event will take place in Islamabad from January 26, 2023 to February 2, next year," President of PFB Syed Fakhar Ali Shah told APP.

According to Fakhar the six nations to compete in the event include hosts Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Nepal. He said all-out effort would be made to make the event a real success. He said there was no scarcity of talent in the country but the federation needed funds to promote the game. APP

Messi feeling fit ahead of 'special' last World Cup

AL RAYYAN: Argentina captain Lionel Messi said he was physically ready for the World Cup in Qatar and that it will be a special occasion as his side are one of the favourites in what is likely to be his last appearance in the global tournament.

"I feel very good physically, I think I'm in a great moment, both personally and physically and I don't have any problems," Messi, who did light training away from his team mates on Saturday, told a news conference on Monday.

"I heard that they said I trained differently. It was because I had a knock but there is nothing strange (happening). It was just a precaution."

The 35-year-old, who in Qatar will be playing his fifth World Cup, added that he did not prepare differently for the tournament which for the first time is being played in November and December.

"I didn't do anything special," the forward said.

"I took care of myself and worked as I have done all my career, knowing that this is a special moment, as this is probably my last World Cup, my last chance to achieve this great dream that I have, that we all have."

The seven-time Ballon d'Or winner has enjoyed a trophy-laden career at both club and personal level but has so far failed to deliver a



long awaited World Cup for his country, something many fans around the world would like to see change this time

around. "It's a beautiful thing that many people outside Argentina want us to be champions

and that it's largely because of me," Messi said.

"I'm grateful for the love I've received around the world during my career, and here in Qatar it's another example of that."

"I don't know if we arrive better than at other World Cups. But we've just won (the 2021 Copa America) and that decompresses us a lot."

"It makes us work in a different way, without anxiety about the national team and its results, and enjoying ourselves." Argentina kick off their World Cup campaign with a Group C opener against Saudi Arabia on Tuesday and will then face Mexico and Poland. (Web Desk/Reuters)

Team announce for England series

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The Pakistan 18 members team squad was announced by Chief Selector Muhammad Wasim against upcoming 3 test matches series which will be December's three ICC World Test Championship matches against England. We have put together this squad keeping in mind the player form, playing conditions and the opposition Waseem said in press conference that we are having the chance to Mystery Spinner Abrar Ahmed and fast bowler Muhammad Ali

because both have shown strong first class performances. Mystery spinner Abrar Ahmed and fast bowler Muhammad Ali have been rewarded for their strong first-class performances with maiden Test call-ups as Pakistan announced an 18-player squad for December's three ICC World Test Championship matches against England.

Twenty-four-year-old Abrar is in red-hot form in the ongoing Quaid-e-Azam Trophy. Before the start of the last round on Sunday

(20 November), Abrar had claimed 43 wickets at an average of 21.95. He has recorded five five-wicket hauls in six matches and has played an integral role in turning his side into serious contenders to secure a berth in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy final.

Central Punjab's Mohammad Ali has been the best fast bowler in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy in the last two editions, taking 56 wickets. His 24 wickets, including two five wicket hauls, at 25.54 in six matches are the most for any fast bowler this first-class season. His 32 wickets at 22.78 in eight matches in 2021-22 were also the most for a fast bowler.

Uncapped Mohammad Wasim Jnr and Zahid Mehmood, who were part of the Test side for the three Tests against Australia earlier in the year, are the other two players to return to the side. Answering about the questions of Usman Salahuddin performance who is not included in the test squad he said that either Usman Salahuddin perform well in domestic season however we have selected this team if

any chance we see then we will consider Usman Salahuddin.

Pakistan squad for England Tests: Babar Azam (c) (Central Punjab), Mohammad Rizwan (vc & wk) (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Abdullah Shafique (Central Punjab), Abrar Ahmed (Sindh), Azhar Ali (Central Punjab), Faheem Ashraf (Central Punjab), Harris Rauf (Northern), Imam-ul-Haq (Balochistan), Mohammad Ali (Central Punjab), Mohammad Nawaz (Northern), Mohammad Wasim Jnr (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Naseem Shah (Southern Punjab), Nauman Ali (Northern), Salman Ali Agha (Southern Punjab), Sarfaraz Ahmed (Sindh), Saud Shakeel (Sindh), Shan Masood (Balochistan) and Zahid Mehmood (Sindh)

There are four changes in the squad from Pakistan's last Test assignment, which was in Sri Lanka that resulted in the two-Test series ending 1-1. The four players who are not part of the side are Shaheen Shah Afridi, Hasan Ali, Fawad Alam and Yasir Shah.

Shaheen was unavailable for

selection after he underwent appendicitis surgery on Sunday, which will require three-four weeks' rest following which he will resume his two-week rehabilitation on his right knee.

Fawad managed 33 runs in four innings of three Tests against Australia earlier this year, while he scored 25 runs in his only Test in Sri Lanka. Hasan Ali took five wickets in his last four Tests against Australia and Sri Lanka, while Yasir Shah bagged nine wickets in Sri Lanka but has managed only 14 wickets in seven Quaid-e-Azam Trophy matches to date.

Muhammad Wasim: "I want to congratulate all the players who have been selected for the historic Test series against England. We have selected this 18-man squad keeping in mind the form of the players, the conditions and the opposition."

"This series has provided opportunities to Abrar Ahmed, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Wasim Jnr and Zahid Mehmood. Abrar has been on the radar since his debut first-class season



in 2020-21. He is in outstanding form this season, so it makes sense to make him available to Babar Azam so he can use the confidence and talent of this youngster in the upcoming series.

"Zahid is another bowler who has been in the plans. He has shown improvement over the years and has been part of the successive squads."

"We have boosted our fast bowling stocks with the best available talent. There is no doubt about the skills of Mohammad Wasim Jnr. He moves the new and old ball laterally at high pace,

and are scheduled to be played in Rawalpindi (1-5 December), Multan (9-13 December) and Karachi (17-21 December).

Each of the nine teams play six series - three at home and three away - in 2021-23 cycle. The upcoming series is Pakistan's fifth - their last series will be the two Tests against New Zealand in December 2022 and January 2023. These three Tests will be England's final appearance in the second edition of the World Test Championship.

Player support personnel: Mansoor Rana (manager), Saqlain Mushtaq (head coach), Shahid Aslam (assistant to head coach), Mohammad Yousuf (batting coach), Shaun Tait (bowling coach), Cliffe Deacon (physiotherapist), Drikus Saaiman (strength and conditioning coach), Abdul Majeed (fielding coach), Ahsan Ifikhar Nagi (media manager), Ammar Ahsan (digital content producer), Lt Col (retd) Atif Azad (security manager), Dr Najeeb Soomro (team doctor), Talha Ejaz (analyst) and Malang Ali (masseur).