اور ہر مسلمان کے ساتھ خیر خواہی کرنے

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

UN chief urges global 'alliance of peace' recognizing inclusion, richness of diversity

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for a global "alliance of peace" In a world where "old evils — anti-Muslim bigotry, antisemitism, persecution of Christians, xenophobia, and racism – are receiving new leases on life", as he highlighted the UN Alliance of Civilizations's efforts to show the way on how to act in solidarity. (Report on Page 8)

President appoints Haji Ghulam Ali as Governor KP

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday approved the appointment of Haji Ghulam Ali as Governor of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa. The president made the appointment on the advice of the prime minister under Article 101 of the

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rabi-us-Sani 28, Thursday, November 24, 2022



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Daily Spokesman Vol: 15, Issue: 230 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Consultation in progress

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of the leaders of coalition parties on Wednesday.



Coalition parties' leaders express confidence in PM

News Desk

in the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

During a meeting held here at the PM House on one-point agenda of constitutional appointments, the leadership of all the coalition parties entrusted the prime minister to take decision on these appointments, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

They said that they would fully support the prime minis-

Global Action

Plan to counter

Islamophobia

ISLAMABAD: Minister of

understanding, and harmony?

She was addressing the

9th Global Forum of the

United Nations Alliance

of Civilizations (UNAOC),

being hosted by Morocco's

ber 22-23. The Minister of

State articulated Pakistan's

perspective and concerns

about the growing prob-

lem of religious intolerance,

discrimination, Islamopho-

bia and violence worldwide.

She particularly drew

attention towards the

state-driven discrimina-

tion, hostility and phobia

directed against Muslims

and Islam, and the ensu-

ing climate of impunity for

such heinous acts. She urged

that given its pervasive and

widely documented impacts,

it was time for the interna-

tional community and the

United Nations to formulate

an action plan to meaning-

fully address the insidious

phenomenon of Islamopho-

bia and anti-Muslim hatred.

city of Fez from Novem-

at UNAOC's

 $9th \, Global$

Forum

Kharfor

On the occasion, Co-chairman tive to take decisions.

The prime minister thanked the coalition parties' leaders for holding a consultation.

He also expressed his gratitude to the coalition parties' leadership for reposing confidence in

According to sources, the coalition partners' leadership fully entrusted the prime minister with full authority to take

ISLAMABAD: The leaders of PPP and former president Asif PML-Q, told the prime minister. coalition parties in the feder- Ali Zardari, in his address, said ter that it was his constitutional decision.

Allah Almighty had bestowed upon him the honour and placed him in such a position, he added.

Amir of Jammiat-e-Ulema Islam (F) Maulana Fazalur Rehman also reiterated support to the prime minister and said that they would own any deci-

sion taken by the prime minister. Co-Chairperson PPP and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto

During the meeting, Chaudhry Awami Party Dr Khalid Magsi support to the prime minister Shujaat Hussain leader of also extended their full support in making decisions.

> prime minister for holding a consultation with them. He said it was the constitutional mandate of the prime minister to take a

Aslam Bhootani announced that the prime minister would take the decision under the constitution and they would fully

Mohsin Dawar and Quami Watan Party Chairman Aftab

Minister for Narcotics Control MQM-P convener Khalid and leader of Jamhoori Watan al government on Wednesday that being a prime minister, it right to make such appointments Maqbool Siddiqui while express- Party Nawabzada Shahzain expressed their full confidence was his constitutional preroga- and they would fully support his ing full confidence thanked the Bugti, on the occasion, expressed that the constitution had given a prerogative to the prime minister and lauded the prime minister for holding a consultation. He said it reflected the democratic

thinking of the prime minister. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, senior PML-N leader and former prime minister, said that it was a matter of pride for them that all the leadership of the coalition parties had expressed complete confidence in the prime minister.

Zardari and leader of Balochistan Ahmed Sherpao also lend full Imran says President will consult him on summary for Army Chief's appointment

👺 Bureau Report

State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar on Wednes-LAHORE: Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) day stressed the importance of continued and robust chairman Imran Khan has said that inter-religious, inter-civiliza-President Dr Arif Alvi will discuss tional and inter-faith dialogue matters relating to summary for as a 'catalyst to promote appointment of Army Chief. peaceful co-existence, mutual

Speaking to a private channel on Wednesday, he said that he is in contact with President Dr Arif Alvi on matters pertaining to summary for appointment of Army Chief. Imran Khan said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held consultation with a fugitive on Army Chief's appointment and he is the chairman of a party and the President will surely talk to him over the summary.

The former PM said, "If someone thinks that he will bring his army chief to unleash violence, then the nation will stand against him, adding that Shehbaz Sharif was fully involved in the Wazirabad attack and Nawaz Sharif would also know but it is now up to Tasnim Haider how the police would present evidence in the court."

Fomer Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supremo Imran Khan on Sunday said that he has no issue with whoever is appointed as the next army chief, and there will be a surprise for everyone on November 26.

Speaking to a delegation of journalists at his home in Zaman Park, the former premier said that "I know their [incumbent government]



plans, but I am planning ahead." He added that efforts are being made to conduct clean and transparent elections as soon as possible: there is no solution to the country's problems except for snap polls.

The PTI chief said that messages have been sent to me through President Arif Alvi, adding that talks will take place only after the date given for early elections.

"The whole world is aware of their [incumbent rulers] corruption stories. Even after using the entire state machinery against me, they could not find anything except the watch, and I am going to court over the watch issue," He said.

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on late Tuesday night said that the Prime Minister Office has received

the summary for the appointment of the next chief of army staff (COAS), Dunya News reported. Khawaja Asif in his latest Tweet

said that summary forwarded

by Ministry of Defense has been received by the Prime Minister s Office. Inshallah, the rest of the steps regarding the appointment of new army chief will be completed soon.

Meanwhile, sources privay to the development said that the six lieutenant generals including Lt. Gen. Asim Munir, Lt. Gen. Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Lt. Gen. Azhar Abbas, Lt. Gen. Nauman Mehmood, Lt. Gen. Faez Hameed and Lt. Gen. Mohammad Amir have been named in the list.

It is pertinent to mention here that Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa and Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff are retiring from the post on November 29.

Earlier, the GHQ had forwarded the summary for the appointment of new Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and Chief of Army Staff (COAS), containing names of 6 senior most Lieutenant Generals to Ministry of Defence.

Marriyum for boosting screen tourism to promote Pakistan's true

image

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and **Broadcasting Marriyum** Aurangzeb on Wednesday underlined the need for boosting screen tourism to showcase the country's true image across the globe through its culture, heritage and tourism.

"In Pakistan, we discuss film industry in a stereotype way but it has been replaced with screen tourism across the world. It (film) has been added in the educational curriculum which does not only use for telling story of a country, but also help showcase its culture, heritage and tourism," she said while addressing the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Fatima Jinnah University Rawalpindi and PTV Films for the Naqash Digital Film Initiative.

The signing of MoU between the representatives of PTV Films and Fatima Jinnah University was witnessed by the information minister, Secretary Information and Broadcasting Shahera Shahid and others officers of the ministry and the

Families of martyrs will never be left alone, says COAS



Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa said on Wednesday while terming army's interference in country's politics as unconstitutional said that a state of confusion was created by creating a fake and false narrative.

Addressing the Defence and Martyrs day ceremony in Rawalipindi. he said that the army has decided not to interfere in political affairs, adding that the interference of Army in politics is unconstitutional.

Gen Bajwa said, "I feel proud to have served as the commander of this great army for six years, adding that the peace in cities and villages is accredited to the sacrifices of its martyrs."

The Army Chief went on to say that the army cannot remain silent if there is external conspiracy in the country.

"I want to forgive the aggressive behavior against me and the army and move forward," he said and added he hopes should learn from the mistakes Qatar.

and move forward. He said: "Today, Pakistan

is suffering from a serious economic crisis and not a single party can solve these problems, adding that democratic culture must be embraced." The Army Chief further

said that wining and losing is part of politics and every party should accept victory and defeat. Pakistan is a blessing of almighty Allah. He also thanked bereaved families of the martyrs for attending the ceremony.

Gen Bajwa said, "Pakistan Army always goes above and beyond in the service of its nation, whether it is an issue of Reko Dig, Karkey rental power, the loss of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) or the exclusion of the country from the grey list,

He said that the Pakistan Army always goes above and beyond in the service of its nation. The Army Chief also maintained that Pakistan's armed forces played a major role in Reko Diq and Karkey lawsuits, flood rescue activithe political parties will also ties, Covid relief operations change their attitudes and we and bringing cheap gas from

Asif Zardari, Chaudhry Shujaat discuss country's political situation



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) co-chairman and former president Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday called on Pakistan Muslim League - Quaid (PML-Q) supremo Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain.

During the meeting in Islamabad, Asif Zardari inquired about the PML-Q chief's health while the current political situation and other issues were discussed in detail. It is pertinent to mention Constitution.

here that the aforementioned meeting has taken place at a time when the summary for the appointment of the Army Chief has been sent by the Ministry of Defense to the Prime Minister's House, and it is expected that a decision over the next army chief's appointment would be taken in the current week.

Earlier, Asif Ali Zardari has said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will appoint the new Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) in line with the law and the

Coalition partners avoid supporting Imran's party in no-trust move: Rana

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education Rana Tanveer Hussain on Wednesday said that coalition partners had adopted constitutional procedure for not supporting Imran's party in no-confidence move tabled in the assembly on April 2022.

Imran Khan had to leave the PM House due to failure in securing a vote of confidence, he said while talking

to a private television channel. The PTI Chairman after losing majority in the assembly

started campaign in the country to create unrest, he stated. Political engineering was made by Khan's party to set stage for raising South Punjab province issue, he added.

Khan's party had posed serious threats to national institutions, he said. Imran Khan adopted Immature behavior to regain powers in the assembly, he added. Imran's party started attacking national institutions to malign election commission of Pakistan, judiciary and security institutions, he stated.

The Spokesman Thursday, November 24, 2022

Fateha

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif offers Fateha for former caretaker Prime Minister Sardar



East Pakistan debacle was a political failure: COAS Bajwa

Staff (COAS) General Qamar Bajwa on Wednesday said that East Pakistan debacle was political failure not a military one and the nation must also remember the martyrs of the 1971 war, ARY News reported on Wednesday.

In his Defence Day speech, his last one as army chief, General Bajwa said during the 1971 war, 34000 Pakistani more than four hundred thou- a limit" sand troops of enemy in East

forget their sacrifices.

"A nation that forgets its martyrs, disappears from the annals of the history," said COAS Bajwa.

view that the army was targetforces with a "false and madeup narrative" and the institution, despite being in capacity to respond to it by all manner, soldiers bravely confronted stayed calm but "patience has

He said that he often

one did the most human rights violations in the world has not COAS. become a "target of criticism by its people".

"I came to the conclusion that General Bajwa was of the it is because of army's involvement in politics. So, in February ed recently by some political last year, the institution decided that it will no longer interfere in politics," said the COAS.

He added that the decision (of not interfering in politics) was also criticised by some unscrupulous elements.

"Everyone has right to criti-

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Pakistan so the nation must not wondered why Indian army, the cism, but the language (used) al Elections, a political governshould be careful," added the

> General Bajwa said that leaving the mistakes of the past behind, the army has decided to move forward and will urge the political forces to do the same in the larger national interest.

"People come and go but Pakistan is there to stay," said army chief.

The COAS lamented what he termed 'intolerance' in the country's political culture and said that after the 2018 Gener- stake, ARY

ment was termed 'selected' by some over a RTS issue while in April, a government which lost the confidence vote termed its successor "imported".

'It is time political parties promote democratic culture in Pakistan, learn to co-exist and keep aside their differences to put Pakistan on the path of progress," said the COAS, adding that personalities and personal interests do not matter when the state's interest is at

China ready to work with Pakistan to implement consensus reached between leadership: Zhao Lijian

BEIJING: China stands ready to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached between leadership of the two countries during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China and act on the outcomes of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) joint committee meeting, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said on Wednesday.

"China stands ready to work together with Pakistan to follow through on the important common understanding reached between our two Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China by APP.



and to act on the outcomes of leaders during Prime Minister response to a question asked

Federal Minister for Planthe CPEC joint committee ning Development and meeting," Zhao Lijian said Special Initiatives Professor during his regular briefing in Ahsan Iqbal recently reviewed progress over CPEC projects after the 11th Joint Coopera-

tion Committee (JCC) held last month and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to China and directed the concerned stakeholders to expedite the implementation of the consensus reached between the leadership of Pakistan and China.

Noting relevant reports, Zhao Lijian remarked that the minister (Ahsan Iqbal) has been an active supporter of progress under CPEC. "We appreciate that."

He said that the Chinese side would accelerate cooperation in the industrial sector, as well as the construction of major projects under CPEC.

"We will expand cooperation between the two countries to new areas and turn CPEC into an exemplary high-quality Belt and Road cooperation project to deliver more benefits to the two people," he added.

During the meeting, the minister directed the officials to expedite the implementation of ML-1 and KCR projects and speed up work on Special Economic Zones for attracting share from the relocation of

Chinese Industry to Pakistan. He also directed the officials to coordinate with the Chinese authorities for the early completion of Gwadar International Airport. APP

UN chief urges global 'alliance of peace' recognizing inclusion, richness of diversity

case跨 Spokesman Report

harassment

Court indicts

Lahore

suspects in tiktoker

LAHORE: A sessions court on Wednesday indicted the accused suspects in the TikToker Ayesha Akram harassment case at Minar-i-Pakistan, ARY

News reported. While hearing the TikToker Ayesha Akram harassment case, the court indicted the accused suspects including Rambo, Asad Azmat, Muhammad Bilal and others.

However, the suspects who were presented before the court denied the indictment. At this, the court summoned witnesses and complainant Ayesha Akram on next hearing.

The case was registered by Lorry Adda police against 400 unidentified people for assaulting the complainant, molesting and stripping her.

UNITED NATIONS :Unit- through recognizing "divered Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for a global "alliance of peace" In a world where "old evils anti-Muslim bigotry, antisemitism, persecution of Christians, xenophobia, and racism – are receiving new leases on life", as

the way on how to act in solidarity. The UN chief was speaking at the opening of the 9th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations (AOC) which aims to improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions.

he highlighted the UN Alliance

of Civilizations's efforts to show

The Forum is taking place in Fez, Morocco.

"The forces of division and hate are finding fertile ground in a landscape marred by injustice and conflicts," said Guterres, calling for the creation of an alliance of peace

sity as richness" and investing in inclusion; and making sure that "all of us - regardless of race, descent, origin, background, gender, religion, or other status - can live lives of dignity and opportunity."

"The Holy Quran teaches us that God created nations and tribes 'so that we might know one another," said UN Secretary-General, urging at this time of peril, to be inspired by the essence of these meanings and "stand together as one human family - rich in diversity, equal in dignity and rights, united in solidarity.

Miguel Angel Moratinos, the AOC High Representative, said that "international conflicts cannot be the sole consequence of religion, culture or civilizations. It must be stated bluntly: there is no clash of civilizations, as prepounded by Amer-



of interests and a clash of ignorance.

For the High Representative, the world is not facing a clash of civilizations, because the world of the 21st century is global and interconnected. Hence, "we are one humanity facing multiple global challenges.

"The recent crises affecting the international community have shown us that there are no borders that can stop viruses and wars, whether they occur in Europe or in any other corner of the world," Moratinos stated, ican political scientist Samuel noting further that, "a region-Huntington, "There is a clash al war, the war in Ukraine has others.

affected the peace and stability of the entire international

"In the face of defending tolerance, let us defend mutual respect. In the face of defending coexistence, let us defend living together: "convivencia" [coexistence].

Indeed, he said: "In the face of defending minorities, let us defend the equal rights of all citizens; In the face of exclusion and separatism, let us defend inclusion and fraternity; In the face of only a dialogue of civilizations, let us engage ourselves in an Alliance of Civilizations,

in a collective commitment." The Forum takes place against the backdrop of an extremely complex global context marked by myriad challenges, ranging from the surge in violent extremism, terrorism, xenophobia, hate speech to racism, discrimination, and radicalism, among

Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi.

Govt launches interestfree installment smartphones scheme

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haq launched an interest-free installment scheme to buy smartphones,

As per details, the smartphone-forall scheme was launched for low-income people who cannot afford to pay a huge sum of the amount at

The initiative was launched by the between GSMA and Pakistani startup QisstPay.

Addressing the launching ceresaid that under the scheme anyone can obtain a Smartphone easily just Telecommunication Union

through CNIC, without any lengthy documentation hassle.

In the first phase smartphones worth 10,000 to Rs. 100,000 will be distributed in 3 to 12-month instalments.

Earlier, the Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Syed Aminul Haque urged Meta, the parent company of Facebook, to establish its office in

In a series of tweets, the Ministry of ter met a high-level delegation from Meta in Romania. Some 186 ministerial delegations have gathered in mony, federal minister Amin Ul Haq Bucharest, Romania for the Ministerial Conference of the International

More than 20 hurt after magnitude-6.1 quake in Turkey

ISTANBUL: A magnitude-6.1 earth- tweeted that 22 people were injured quake struck northwest Turkey during Wednesday's early hours, injuring at least 22 people.

The shallow tremor struck about 170 kilometres (105 miles) east of Istanbul, the country's largest city, where it was strongly felt.

National authorities said the quake was at a magnitude of 5.9 — lower than the 6.1 given by the US Geological Survey — and its epicentre was in Duzce province's Golyaka district, though it also shook other nearby

"We were woken up with a big noise and tremor," Fatma Colak, a resident

of Duzce, told AFP. "We got out of our homes in panic and now we are waiting outside."

Authorities said schools would be closed on Wednesday in Duzce and Sakarva provinces.

— including one who was seriously

hurt after jumping from a building

Initial images showed people

covered in blankets outside their

homes during the early morning.

Some were seen placing blankets on

the floor outside, and lighting fires for

out of panic.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu said in televised comments that, apart from a few ruined barns, there were no reports of heavy damage or building collapses. National disaster agency the AFAD said there were controlled blackouts in the Duzce region, urging Health Minister Fahrettin Koca residents not to panic.

Interior Ministry requests PTI's top brass to postpone public gatherings

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Inte- his stay in the Islamabad Capipublic gatherings in view of threats and prevailing security situation in close to Rawalpindi. the country.

A letter, addressed to PTI Secretary General Asad Umar, states that the interior ministry has been sharing threat alerts generated by credible intelligence sources to the life of Imran Khan by anti-state elements to destabilise the country. The letter also mentioned recent attack on Imran Khan by an armed assailant at Wazirabad.

The letter said that the federal government has already provided police and civil armed forces during general public.

or on Wednesday again requested – tal Territory. However, presentl the PTI leadership to postpone its
Imran Khan is stationed in Lahore and participants of the long march to the life of PTI Chief Imran Khan have travelled to Rawat, which is very

> It is expected that the Punjab Government would be taking all measures for security arrangements not only for the PTI Chief but also for participants of the march as antistate elements like Al-Qaeda, Daesh, TTP and radicalized youth of TLP can take advantage of soft targets like public gatherings to destabilize the country through suicide attacks and improvised explosive devices.

The Interior Ministry has formally conveyed the concerned quarters the a bullet proof vehicle and deployed threat to the life of Imran Khan and

Appointment must be on merit rather on likes, dislikes: Sheikh Rashid

News Desk

League Pakistan (AMLP) leader and former Federal Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid lauded the foresightedness of the institution for incorporating all the names in the summary prepared for Chief of Army Staff's (COAS) appoint-

Taking to Twitter, Rashid maintained that there is no room left for anyone's likes and dislikes. The COAS will be appointed merely on merit. The new COAS will refrain from any kind of political intrusion and will be loval to his institution and constitutional duty.

He further mentioned that the new Chief of Army staff will strive hard to strengthen the deteriorating economy. Unlike Pakistan Muslim and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, who tussled with his own appointed officials.

On late Tuesday night, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said that the Prime Minister Office received the summary for the appointment of the next COAS.

Khawaja Asif in his latest Tweet said that summary forwarded by Ministry of Defense has been of Defence."

received by the Prime Minister's Office. "Inshallah, the rest of the RAWALPINDI: Awami Muslim steps regarding the appointment of new army chief will be completed soon," he wrote.

Meanwhile, sources privy to the development said that the six lieutenant generals including Lt. Gen. Asim Munir, Lt. Gen. Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Lt. Gen. Azhar Abbas, Lt. Gen. Nauman Mehmood, Lt. Gen. Faez Hameed and Lt. Gen. Mohammad Amir have been named in the list.

It is pertinent to mention here that Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa and Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff are retiring from the post on November 29.

Earlier, the GHQ had forwarded the summary for the appointment of new Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and Chief League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo of Army Staff (COAS), containing names of 6 senior most Lieutenant Generals to Ministry of Defence.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in its latest Tweet said, "GHQ has forwarded the summary for selection of Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and Chief of Army Staff (COAS), containing names of 6 senior most Lieutenant Generals to Ministry

36th AGM and Conference of the Pakistan Society of **Development Economists**

👺 Bureau Report

QUETTA: Today was the second day of the 36th AGM & Conference of the Pakistan Society of Development Economists (PSDE). The Conference is being held in Quetta, Balochistan. The Conference is being organized by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) in collaboration with BUITEMS, Quetta. The theme of the Conference is "Charter of Economy: Investment, Productivity, and Employability." The collaborators and sponsors of the Conference include the World Bank Group, CPEC Center of Excellence, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, IFAD, National Poverty Graduation Programme, Engro, PPAF, the Bank of Punjab, PMIC, ILO, Nafees Poly Pack, Saudi-Pak Industrial and Agricultural Investment Company, and the University of Balochistan.

started off with a panel discussion on of Balochistan. This discussion main-"Prospects for Investment Balochistan," the speakers expressed their views on the investment potential in Balochistan. The panel discussion was held at the Main Auditorium of the University of Balochistan. The panellists included Hafeez Jamali (Secretary, the Government of Balochistan's CAMP Office), Fida



Muhammad (County Program Officer, IFAD), Faiz Kakar (Ex-Minister, Govt. of Balochistan), Amjad Siddiqui (Quetta Chamber of Commerce) and Ghulam Farooq Khilji (Business Representative). The session was moderated by Shafiq-ur-The second day of the Conference Rehman (Vice-Chancellor, University ly focused on resources, problems, and investment potential in Balochistan.

The panellists said that in the past, Balochistan was hampered by the security situation due to which the investment climate was hurt. However, for the last 4-5 years, the security situation has improved significantly due to the

efforts of law enforcement agencies. Now Balochistan is ready to welcome investment in different sectors. Balochistan has three major avenues for investment, i.e., industrial zones, SEZs, and Gwadar free zones. Food processing, mining, refining, halal food, and allied industries offer great investment opportunities. In Gwadar free zones, which are spread over 2,200 acres, there are 40 industrial shops. Furthermore, developing a SEZs hub near Karachi is another investment opportunity that the provincial government has announced, offering a very liberal package with the cooperation of

foreign investors. The concessions include special tax concessions in SEZs in terms of waving off excise duty on any material/equipment to set up industrial units in SEZs and Gwadar free zones. Balochistan is a resource-rich part of the country, the panellists added. They argued that investment in human capital is a major element of economic development.

The panellists further said that our youth should try to become entrepreneurs. In Balochistan, universities must invest in improving the skills of their students. They said that funding for an initial startup is a major hindrance in Balochistan. If the population of Balochistan engages in work and business, it will lead to a prosperous Balochistan and Pakistan. Balochistan's people should start small startups, which will enable the setting up of the industry in Balochistan. Furthermore, they said that the University of Balochistan needs to bring foreign experts to teach and impart skills to our students to become good entrepreneurs. According to panellists, organic cotton has the potential to increase the agriculture sector's productivity. They also mentioned cross-border trade and said that Balochistan should facilitate cross-border trade, especially across the federal government to attract local & shared borders.

Panel Discussion Session

Trans-boundary Water Sharing Issues with India and Afghanistan



Pakistan Council of Research in Water resources (PCRWR) in collaboration with Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) has organized a half-day panel discussion on, "Trans-boundary Water Sharing Issues" as part of Grand National Dialogue on November 23, 2022 at PCRWR Headquarters, Islamabad.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman PCRWR highlighted that sustainable water management is the key challenge being confronted by Pakistan due to inadequate water management practices and climate-induced water stress.

Moreover, the situation is further aggravated in form of flooding and prolonged droughts due to the trans-boundary nature of the Indus River which originates from Tibetan plateau and disposes off into Arabian Sea after passing through India and Pakistan.

Brig. Rashid Wali Janjua, Director Research, IPRI shared objectives of the panel discussion and its importance to chalk out policy measurements and strategy for improved cooperation with India and Afghanistan for sustainable water management in Pakistan.

The panel discussion session was moderated by Dr. Rashid Aftab, Director, Riphah Institute of Public Policy, Islamabad.

Key panelists of the discussion were Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Consultant, World Bank, Dr. Azeem Shah, International Researcher and $Chief of \ Party (WMfEP), IWMI-Pakistan, Dr. \ Shakil \ Durani, Former$ Chief Secretary, KP/Sindh/AJK and Ex-Chairman-WAPDA, and Mr. Arshad H. Abbasi, Energy & Power Sector Specialist.

It was deliberated that in the discussion that there is a need for strengthening of our national allied institutions to develop internal technical and legal capacity for better negotiations with India and

The panelists made deliberations on various aspects of transboundary challenges faced by Pakistan and suggested that through improving cooperation within the existing treaty, shared waters could be sustainably managed. A number of water experts, professionals from stakeholder organizations and university students participated in question answer session with the panelists

'Simulation exercises' were conducted in connection with the awareness



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA · District Youth Office of Lower Waziristan / District Administration under the supervision of Pakistan Red Crescent Society and Rescue 1122 with the support of public awareness campaign conducted simulation exercises in Wana.

Additional Assistant Commissioner Wana Dr. Sadiq Ali, District Youth Officer Sardar Ali Wazir, District Sports Officer Noor Ullah and tribal elders participated in this (Simulation Exercises) ceremony in large numbers.

It was intended to create public awareness about Pakistan Red Crescent and Rescue 1122 through simulation exercises

District Youth Officer Sardar Ali Wazir said that the public was to be informed through simulation exercises.

How first aid will be given to the injured during an accident or explosion and how rescue 1122 will be informed about the accident

Sardar Ali further said that organizing such events creates awareness and consciousness among the people and the District Youth Office will organize such events in the future as well,

To create awareness and awareness about Rescue 1122 in the public.

TECNO MOBILE bagged TOP#1 ranking in mobile units sold in Daraz 11:11 sale

News Desk

LAHORE: 2022:TECNO has successfully won the race with mind-blowing numbers in the Daraz 11:11 sale. People loved the products offered by TECNO and appreciated the price deductions given during the promotions. This is why up to 70 per cent of TECNO's stock was sold out during the first 24 hours! This feat demonstrates the trust and faith customers have in TECNO as they grab their favorite devices at the first

chance. TECNO's star models Camon 19 Neo and Camon 18 Premier were selling like hotcakes because of the fantastic deals users were getting on these devices during the 11:11 sale! Overall, it was a very successful promotional event for TECNO since almost all of its models were in high demand, and the stock sold out quickly.

TECNO prides itself in being the most-selling brand in the price category of 30,000 PKR. This budget segment is the most critical in the Pakistani Market, and TECNO once again showed everyone that it manufactured handsets for all segments of



A marvel of engineering for gamers, the POVA NEO was one of the in-demand phones during the exclusive promotions. For power-hungry users, seeing the SPARK 8C with a considerable discount was a joy like none other, and hence it was among the selling phones along with POVA NEO.

Kelvin Zeng, CEO of TECNO Mobiles Pakistan, says, "TECNO has once again performed amazingly well in the Pakistani Market, and that's because we understand the market really well and provide devices that have the best value for money ".

As you would have already guessed, TECNO Mobiles has come second in revenue generation from the Daraz 11:11 sale, and it would not have been possible without our dedicated customer base and the hard work of the Market and that its market share our whole team!

Migratory birds

KARACHI: A view of Siberian birds flying at Sea View in Provincial Capital.



Business community feeling the pinch of economic crunch

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh on Wednesday said inflation is driving people mad while the business community is feeling the pinch of the econom-Inflation is increasing, but wages and

profits are stagnant, which is prompting the masses to change their opinion about the claims of political leaders, he said.

tion which is more than all the regional countries and it has become one of the costliest countries in the world.



Talking to the business community, he said that the reasons behind infla-Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also tion are a hike in the price of oil, gas, served as Chairman PVMA said that and other things in the international Pakistan is facing unprecedented inflamarket, rising shipping costs, erosion in the value of the local currency, misman-

agement, and profiteering. He said that the former government tal but it has not helped as expected.

adopted a policy of growth and shortterm moves was preferred which resulted in an economic crisis.

Currency was devalued to boost exports but it also made imports costly while the IMF also delayed the release of funds which resulted in an economic crisis and now the government had to borrow to repay loans.

Inflation is very high in Pakistan as compared to the majority of the countries, therefore it was not possible to for the government to provide any relief to the masses.

He noted that SBP has imposed some restrictions over the sale and purchase of dollars while will reduce its demand as well as the flight of capi-

Shahrukh Jatoi freed from jail after 10 years

KARACHI: Shahrukh Jatoi — main accused in the high-profile Shahzeb Khan murder case — has been freed from the Malir Jail after 10 years, according to jail authorities.

Last month, the Supreme Court of Pakistan had ordered the acquittal of culprits in the Shahzeb murder

The top court had annulled the Sindh High Court's verdict to uphold the punishment of the accused individuals in the case and ordered their release following reconciliation with the bereaved family. On October 18, the SC had acquitted death the row inmate Jatoi along with other convicts in the case.

LUMS and London School of Economics partner to celebrate 75 years of Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: LUMS recently hosted the 'Pakistan@75' Summit curated by the South Asia Centre of the London School of Economics and Political Science. This collaborative event brought together over two hundred and fifty students, academics, industry professionals, and entrepreneurs to participate in a series of critical conversations around topics ranging from policy and philanthropy to health and the future of Pakistan's economy.

"Debates about Pakistan's legal, economic and developmental challenges and issues are ones the world can learn from," said Professor Alnoor Bhimani, Honorary Dean at the Suleman Dawood School of Business, LUMS and Professor, LSE and

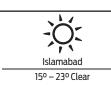


Director, LSE South Asia Centre who formally inaugurated the Summit. Mr. Shahid Hussain, the University's Rector spoke about the critical importance of discussing Pakistan's future while Dr. Arshad Ahmad, Vice Chancellor of LUMS noted: "Pakistan @75 brings prescient topics to modernise Pakistan and build capacity to become a powerhouse on a bold trajectory of a nation-building agenda."

The proceedings commenced with a panel discussion on Decolonising Law for a Modern Pakistan. Dame Maura McGowan, Judge, High Court of England and Wales, explained that decolonisation is "a meaningless exercise unless we have a vision of what it would look like." The panel commenting on the issue included Justice Qazi Faez Isa, Justice, Supreme Court of Pakistan, as well as law advocates Dr. Amber Darr, Ms. Sara Malkani, and Mr. Salman Akram Raja.

A second panel discussing "Can Pakistan Become South Asia's Powerhouse?" included Dr. Ali Cheema, founding member of the Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan and Director of MHRC; Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, Pro Chancellor, LUMS: Ms. Sania Nishtar, Public Health Advocate; Mr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib, Founder, Akhuwat Foundation, and Dr. Mariam Chughtai, Associate Dean, School of Education, LUMS.

Dr. Cheema outlined the developmental challenges and the hard constraints facing Pakistan and suggested several key drivers. Mr. Dawood said "Population and climate



Namaz Timings Maghrib ...5:01 pm .. 6:28 pm

EMERGENCY

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Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222590	
Rawalpindi	9270601-20	
ENOL	IIDV	

ENQUI	RY
Edhi Ambulance	
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489

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CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Chifa International	4603666

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CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	I 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropo	olitan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 92722490331-5022125

Polling forvacant Senate seat on Dec 8

ISLAMABAD: The polling on a Senate seat that fell vacant after the resignation of Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokar of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) wor be held on December 8 in the Sindh Assembly.

According to a report, Khokar quit his Senate membership on the advice of the party's senior leadership on November 10. Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar was elected on PPP ticket on the general seat from Sindh, in March 2018 Senate elections.

As many as five candidates - two belonging to PPP and three to Mutahidda Quomi Movement (MQM) Pakistan have filed their nomination papers.

According to the schedule announced by the ECP, the scrutiny of nomination papers would be held on Friday and Nov 28 has been fixed as the last date for filing appeals against acceptance or rejection of nomination papers.

Pakistan People's party has awarded a ticket to the senior leader from Karachi Waqar Mehdi for the seat. Mehdi was currently working as general secretary of PPP's Sindh chapter. APP

Mushaal blasts Indian govt for illegal detentions of Yasin, Parvez

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organisation Mushaal Hussein Mullick lambasted the fascist Narendra Modi-led government for unlawful of detention of thousands of innocent Kashmiris including senior Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik and human right defender Khurran Parvez, demanding the world to take notice of the alarming upsurge in human rights violations in the occupied valley since August 5, 2019.

Mushaal, wife of incarcerated Hurriyat Leader Yasin Malik, in a statement on Wednesday stated that the Hindutva regime converted the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) into a slaughter house and the world largest open prison.

She said that Kashmiri Human Rights Defender Khurram Parvez had been in the illegal detention of the Indian authorities for his crime to expose the world worst human rights abuses being

committed by the brutal Indian forces in the scenic valley.

Mushaal dismayed at the continued deprivation of liberty of Parvez and said that it was nothing but an act of retaliation against a human rights defender for his tireless work documenting and reporting serious human rights violations, including enforced disappearances and unlawful killings in IIOJK

The chairperson expressed apprehension that Khurram Parvez, who is presently detained at the Rohini Jail in New Delhi, if convicted could face up to 14 years of imprisonment or even the death penalty like Yasin Malik in fake and fabricated cases. Therefore, she urged the world community and human rights activists to force the Indian government to ensure release of Yasin Malik and Parvez languishing in unlawful detentions for their sole crime to raise voice against Indian state terrorism and barba-



was facing serious issues, but even then neither he was provided medical nor legal facilities because the Indian government wanted to silence him come what may because he is the most powerful voice of Kashmir freedom movement at present.

She said that The Terrorist and Mushaal said that Yasin Malik, who Disruptive Activities Act (TADA) court in Mushaal stated that extrajudicial killings

Jammu on Wednesday issued a production warrant for Yasin Malik accused in the concocted case of killing of Indian Air Force official and the next date of hearing

would be on December 22, 2022. Talking about the alarming upsurge in human rights violations in the valley, and fake encounters continued to surface from time to time in IIOJK.

She said that around 663 innocent Kashmiris fell to Indian bullets since August 5, 5 2019 in the scenic valley, besides arresting 17993 people arrested during the same peiord.

Mushaal shared further details that 2278 were injured and 1093 houses were destroyed as well as 125 women were molested by brutal Indian troops.

She said that the occupied valley became the highest militarized zone in the world, which had been under brutal military siege since Indian illegally landed its troops in Srinagar on 27 October

The Chairperson urged the world powers to shun the duplicity and looked into the world worst human right violations in the occupied territory and accelerated efforts to ensure speedy and just resolution of Kashmir dispute as per the UN agreed formula sans any further

Relief Package by City Govt

ISLAMABAD: People are busy in buying vegetables in roadside shop install from city government as people purchasing vegetables and fruits of government fixed retail price in Federal Capital



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Kashmir EU Week ends in Brussels

跨 Sohail Anjum Malik

BRUSSELS: The Kashmir EU Week celebrations at the European headquarters in Brussels came to an end yesterday. During the closing ceremony held at the European Press Club Brussels, the speakers emphasized that the issue of Kashmir should be highlighted more and especially the human rights violations in Occupied Kashmir should be brought before the world.

Chairman of Kashmir Council EU Ali Raza Syed, former Ambassador of European Union Anthony Crasner, European Human Rights Activist Maryan Lucas and Senior Kashmiri leader Sardar Sadique were members of the panel while Mahmood Iqbal and Khalid Joshi were among the other speakers of the closing ceremony moderated by Sheraz Raj, the Belg-Pakistani intellectual.

The speakers demanded the international community, especially the European Union, to European Union, Asad Majeed, put pressure on India to stop visited the exhibition and Euro-



atrocities in Occupied Kashmir and pave the way for a peaceful solution to the Kashmir problem. They said that the people of Occupied Kashmir have been victims of Indian atrocities for above seven decades and so far, there is no relief for them.

Chairman Kashmir Council EU Ali Raza Syed said that although the Kashmir EU Week celebrations have ended. the ongoing exhibition on Kashmir at the European Press Club will continue till Saturday, November 26, 2022. Pakistan's ambassador to Belgium and the

pean photographer Mr. Cédric Gerbehaye was also present, who explained the photographs presented in the exhibition. The photos owned by this European photographer were prepared during his visit to the occupied Kashmir.

The week long events of Kashmir EU Week in Brussels were included a photo exhibition on Kashmir, an international conference at European parliament and several meetings on the Kashmir issue with key European representatives and personalities.

International affairs experts, intellectuals, scholars, students Occupied Kashmir.

and media personalities participated in the concluding ceremony held at the European press club vesterday

The speakers expressed deep concerns over the ongoing Indian atrocities in the Indian illegally Occupied Kashmir and demanded to end these atrocities and give Kashmiris their right to self-determination.

They said that for a fair solution to the Kashmir issue, it is necessary to stop atrocities in Occupied Kashmir, release all political prisoners, end India's state terrorism and take steps to withdraw Indian forces from

Private educational institutions are playing an important role in the promotion of education

Mews Desk

RAWALPINDI: School Council Day was celebrated in all the private educational institutions of District Rawalpindi in the light of the instructions of the Punjab Education Department.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Headquarters Rawalpindi Madam Marzia Saleem in the last DRA meeting issued orders to CEO Education Tariq Mehmood Qazi to celebrate this day in a private educational institution.

In this regard, a dignified ceremony was held at Emblem Higher Secondary School Satellite Town under the chairmanship of Colonel R. Murtaza Ali Shah, head of the institution.

In which teachers and parents participated. The chief guests of the event were CEO Education Dr. Tariq Mehmood Qazi, District Monitoring Officer Rawalpindi Shams ur Rahman, have their own role.

DEO Elementary Yasin Khan Baloch, Deputy DEO Women Rubina Rauf, Member DA Abrar. Ahmed Khan, Deputy DEO Malik Asif, Malik Akhtar Mehmood, Colonel R Fawad Hanif. Kamran Saif Qureshi and Principal Emblem Higher Secondary School Major Zaheer Ahmed also participated.

Colonel R. Murtaza Ali Shah gave a briefing regarding the effectiveness and objectives of the school council and highlighted the responsibilities of parents and teachers in the light of good deeds.

Yasin Khan Baloch said that many problems of private educational institutions can be solved through the platform of school council.

District Monitoring Officer Shams ur Rahman said that in the education system, children, parents and teachers are in a triangular position, all three

Private educational institutions are playing an important role in the promotion of education and these institutions will be given the kind of support required by the district administration.

Qazi Tariq Mehmood thanked the school administration and said that Alhamdulillah, formation of school councils in all private schools of Rawalpindi has been completed.

It is hoped that educational institutions will use this council's platform as a means of institutional development

and delivery of quality education. In the beginning you may face problems in some places but with time

better results will start coming. As soon as the heads of the organization are aware of the effectiveness of this council, the problems will gradu-

Deputy DEO Women's Wing Tehsil Rawalpindi Rubina Rauf said that

she felt very happy to see the Emblem School System.

Certainly, the head of the institution, Colonel R. Murtazi Ali Shah, deserves congratulations for running an exemplary institution and is engaged in inculcating the young generation with the thought of Allama Iqbal.

APSMA Rawalpindi Division President and Member District Registration Authority Abrar Ahmad Khan said that the problems of private educational institutions can be solved to a great extent by the establishment of school council and its positive use.

Minor problems of educational institutions can be solved within the insti-

He thanked all the guests for their arrival. At the end of the ceremony, Colonel R. Murtaza Ali Shah presented commemorative shields to the distinguished guests.

Hashoo Hotels receives Shaukat Khanum corporate excellence award



ISLAMABAD: This October marked the sixth consecutive year since Hashoo Hotels joined hands with Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre for the Breast Cancer Awareness campaign. Keeping the tradition alive, qualified oncologists from Shaukat Khanum Memorial visited all of Hashoo Hotels across Paki- stan to raise awareness and educate the staff, guests, and associates on the importance of early detection and self-examination. To honour the support of the Group, Dr. Faisal Sultan, CEO SKMT awarded the Shaukat Khanum Corporate Excellence Award to Hashoo Hotels for their invaluable support. The award was received by Mr. James Robert Wilson, General Manager, Pearl-Continental Hotel Lahore, during an event in Lahore on November 16, 2022.

FESCO (Faisalabad) is going to benefit from modern technology: CEO, FESCO

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) Engr. Bashir Ahmad has said that convenience would be produced for FESCO consumers by transferring meter reading to modern technology (AMR) in the FESCO region. Major power consumers in the region are being shifted to Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMR) technology, which is yielding positive results. FESCO is working on a project to further expand the modern AMR system, which will be commissioned soon. He expressed these views on the occasion of a briefing given to him regarding AMR meters at MAPCO headquarters. Chief Executive Officer MEPCO Meh Allah Yar was also present on this occasion.

CEO FESCO further said that FESCO (Faisalabad) is going to benefit from modern technology and FESCO consumers will also enjoy its fruit like MEPCO. Director Information Technology (IT) MEPCO Qaiser Abbas Naqvi gave a detailed briefing to CEO FESCO Engr. Bashir Ahmed and his team about AMR technology. Later, CEO MEPCO Engineer Mehrullah Yar Bharwana visited the Data Retrieval Center of M&T Department and AMI Cell of MEPCO Headquarters for practical awareness to CEO FESCO Engr. Bashir Ahmed.

General Manager Customer Services FESCO Itrat Hussain, General Manager Customer Services MEPCO Jam Gul Mohammad Zahid, General Manager Operation MEPCO Nasir Ayaz Garmani, Chief Engineer T&G Khalid Nazir, Project Director Construction Sohail Bashir and other officers were also present on this occasion.

Prof. Sahibzada Sajid ur Rehman hosts luncheon in honor of Dr. Zia ul Qayyum

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: A luncheon was hosted by Chairman of the Seerat-ul-Nabi Chair, Prof. Dr. Sahibzada Sajid ur Rehman on Tuesday,

Prof. Dr. Zia ul Qayyum, who completed his four years as Vice Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU).

Chairman of Seerat-ul-Nabi (PBUH) chair, Prof. Dr. Sahibzada Sajid-ur-Rehman, renowned expert on works of Allama Iqbal, Prof. Fateh Muhammad Malik, Chairman of Council of Islamic Ideology Dr. Qibla Ayaz, former Minister for Religious Affairs Pir Amin ul-Hasnat, General Manager of Pakistan Television Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem, Acting Vice Chancellor Allama Iqbal Open University Professor Dr. Nasir Mehmood, Senior Journalist Sabukh Syed, Abdul Rafi Advocate, well-known jurist Sahibzada Uzair Hashim, experts from the field of law and education, and other eminent personalities attended the luncheon.

Paying tribute to the services of Dr. Zia ul Qayyum, Professor Sahibzada Sajid ur Rehman said that under the leadership of Dr. Zia ul Qayyum, Allama Iqbal Open University had a mentionable progress as the university was in the hands of an excellent administrator and a high level researcher. He said as well as he had a great vision to keep university updated to the prevalent changes and modern day requirements. He added that his tenure was undoubtedly the era of enormous growth of Allama Iqbal Open University. Professor Sahibzada Sajid ur Rehman furthered that Dr. Zia ul Qayyum established Seerat Chair and Allama Iqbal Chair to serve Islam and ideology of Pakistan. He further said that Dr. Zia ul Qayyum is a person who has a special place in his heart for religion and ideology of Pakistan.

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Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan Saleem Zaman Khan.

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World Cup host Qatar leaves pearl diving past far behind

eventy years ago, Saad Ismail Al Jassim used to free dive 40 feet (13 meters) deep into the waters of the Persian Gulf, holding his breath to comb the seabed for oysters in the

hope of finding a cluster of pearls.

Today, an 1,100-foot (335-meter) yacht that serves as a floating hotel for thousands of soccer fans is docked by the shore where divers on wooden boats once left to hunt for pearls — emblematic of the stunning transformation World Cup host nation Qatar has experienced over the past century.

Like its Gulf Arab neighbors, Qatar's main commodity before it began exporting oil and natural gas to the world was pearls, the iridescent precious bead formed when an irritant slips into an oyster's shell.

Al Jassim, now 87, was among the last of the country's professional pearl divers. "Our journey would take three to four months," he said. "We (would) eat, drink, sleep only on the boat."

For centuries, pearls have been used in jewelry and none were considered as fine as the natural ones found in the Gulf, according to author Michael Quinten Morton, who has written eight books on Middle Eastern history, including "Masters of the Pearl: A History of Qatar." At the start of the 20th century, Qatar was at the heart of a booming pearl diving industry.

In the early 1900s, Japanese businessman Kokichi Mikimoto perfected a process to make "cultured" pearls by implanting an irritant into an oyster, which stimulates the secretion process that creates the hard stone in nature. By World War II, artificial pearls had taken over the market.

One-tenth the cost of natural pearls, according to Morton, cultured pearls quickly destroyed Qatar's pearl-diving industry. The sparsely populated British protectorate was one of the poorest in the Arab world. By 1944, only 6,000 workers remained in the Gulf's pearl trade, compared to 60,000 two decades earlier, Mor-

Within decades, another commodity transformed the country: oil. British geologists in 1939 drilled for and discovered oil in the Dukhan field in western Qatar. A decade later, the country began exporting petroleum. In 1971, Qatar both won independence from Britain and discovered a vast offshore natural gas field it shares with Iran. The country started exporting natural gas in 1997.

It would never be the same. What were once barren stretches of dust and sand turned into towers of glass and steel, artificial islands and shopping malls, with some of the world's biggest brands. Today, tourists take in Doha's skyline on dhows, the traditional wooden boats used by pearl divers — a nod to when the kingdom was a collection of poor fishing and herding tribes led by the Al Thani family, the same one ruling Qatar today.

But little else remains from that era.

Al Jassim runs a small pearl shop in Doha's Souq Waqif, a labyrinthine market. A large black and white portrait of him as a bodybuilder hangs on the wall. The natural pearls he began hunting for at 18, and that his father did before him, are rare today.

"Now, nobody is selling the natural pearl," Al Jassim said. "Those who have them are keeping it."

Visitors often ask Al Jassim about his pearling days, prompted perhaps by a sign on the shop entrance that reads "the old pearl diver" below his name. But he shrugs off the change he's seen in Qatar in his life.

"Any country will change over such a long time," Al Jassim said. "Even yours."

Climate Change and Floods in Pakistan

Laiba Shamsher

akistan along with other South-Asian states is struggling against a non-traditional security threat that is climate change. Pakistan has been ranked in the top ten countries most affected by climate change in the past 20 years. The reason behind this include the impact of back-to-back floods since 2010. Climate changeis one of the most unavoidable issues of our time, that is affecting the sea level and causing the intrusion of seawater into the Indus Delta. Thisrising sea level paves way for floods and ruin the productivity of agricultural land.Pakistan has become a major subject to disastrous floods mainly caused in Balochistan, Sindh, and southern Punjab due to highly excessive climate-change. Balochistan and Sindh received rainfall more than five times as compared to the average rainfall recorded. This depicts that climate change is a real existing threat. So, it is not wrong to say that global warming induced by man-made activities also provoked an intensification of

the current situation. Due to this, the concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere is reaching dangerous levels, driving Earth's temperatures higher and amplifying the frequency and intensity of extreme events.

So far, due to this calamitv around 33 million people suffered as their homeland drowned in flood water, making the rural areas uninhabitable and people were forced to immigrate to the federal and surrounding areas. The urban flood has caused more devastation because of poor drainage and improper infrastructure. Due to scarcity of resources, there is less availability of clean water to drink and food to eat for the flood victims. Hence, the country which was still in a recovery phase from Covid-19 is now facing serious health issues due to the flood causing serious medical issues like diarrhea, malaria, dengue fever, and infectious skin diseases. These devastating floods caused the vast amount of standing water, which provides the perfect breeding conditions for Aedes mosquitoes to spread the dengue virus. In addition, majority of people are living out in the open with their fami-

lies with no drinking water, no brought by extreme flooding- ty. Moreover, people on social food and no livelihood. As floods have destroyed and damaged the infrastructure, including thousands of schools, water systems and health facilities. Moreover, the flood-hit areas

The set back of the Covid pandemic and the floods have left the economy reeling and our government pleading for foreign aid.

faced many casualties, massive destruction of property and loss

Agriculture has the potential to play a great role in advancing Pakistan's economy but the floodshave hit agricultural lands hard, making them less fertile to cultivate major crops for the coming year. This means a huge number of cultivators will be late for the sowing season. In addition, the economy of Pakistan has been affected severely by widespread destruction

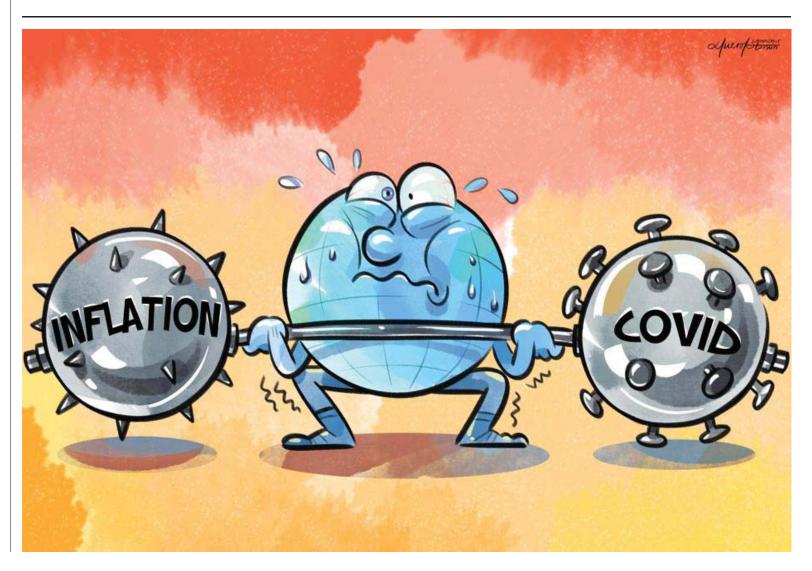
which have negatively impacted crops, slowed down the economic growthand increased inflation. Pakistan's economy is facing many crises and the country will fail to progress unless significant action is taken. The set back of the Covid pandemic and the floods have left the economy reeling and our government pleading for foreign aid. However, this is only a shortterm fix, the government needs to have a serious look at policies that can generate rapid growth. Pakistan is facing the dark days of its history in the episode of the greatest flood of the century.

The damage caused by the catastrophic floods was exacerbated due to the volatile political condition unfolding in the country.While 1/3 of the country was drowning in flood water-political leaders took this disaster as an opportunity to push their narrative while deflecting blame and portraying local governments and political parties as ineffective. The catastrophes like flood or climate change become an opportunity for political leaders to promote their own parties' agendas and narratives rather than a serious threat to traditional or human securi-

media were more focused on directing their anger towards political parties for not responding effectively to the situation.

Last but not the least, people from all over the world expressed sympathies to flood victims and condoled the loss of lives in the tragedy.Pakistan should implement the climate change policy which is divided into two parts. The first step is to seek funds from international organizations and first-world countries to address such environmental threats. The second step is to encourage the private and public sectors to invest by creating economic incentives for improved control and management in wake of such disasters. Furthermore, by educating citizens about what is climate change and how to maintain our ecosystem. The situation in Pakistan has deteriorated significantly due to governmental issues such as the inability of state departments and organizations to develop an effective flood warning plan beforehand.

Writer is Bachelor's student of International Relations at Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi.



Hundreds of Pakistani significantly contribute to make FIFA world cup a success

Andleeb Khan

undreds of Pakistani proud students in Qatar are contributing to the execution of FIFA World month-long hectic event a complete

enthusiastically assisting in engineering, IT, hospitality, and broadcasting for the success of this major event, the Pakistani community in Qatar is also supporting this most-awaited and watched tournament.

Though the Pakistan football team could not make it to an international FIFA event, however, the country always remained in news for producing high-quality footballs for international teams and events in collaboration with Adidas and Forward Sports, a Sialkot-based local sports products producer. Talking to this news agency, a media professional, Maryam Khalid, who works as a commentary assistant for Qatar's broadcasting department, believes that her experience as an intern at the Qatar FIFA event will help her achieve her future objectives.

To a query, Maryam said, "We were trained by professionals, and FIFA staff always remains attached to us to resolve any problem beyond our understanding."

Muhammad Saad, another overseas

Cup 2022 as a volunteer in the Legal Department, said his selection was a great pleasure and an exposure to get involved in such a historic event in the Gulf. "In layman's terms, my role is to monitor

any illegal commercial activity and report

it to the relevant." The opportunity, he said Cup 2022 to make this had provided him the confidence to play a lead role. An intern Abu Bakar Majeed Bin Abdul Along with many students who are Rab, a student of BSc Computer Engi-

neering, said he was assisting the Host Broadcasting Services, a company that has managed some of the most prestigious sporting events around the world including 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and the current 2022 edition of the FIFA World Cup.

Jubilant football lovers from across the this extraordinary event." globe dance to the tune of music at Katara Doha Qatar.

"Being an IT Assistant meant that my work started well before the World Cup started, and it will end a week after the World Cup reaches its pinnacle. Along with my fellow interns and supervisors, initially, we had to set up and distribute more than 750 corporate laptops and more than 2,500 corporate phones to incoming World Cup staff from around the world, while being available to solve any IT-related problems and working with our supervisors to code applications that will make operations for the staff easier," he added.

Abu Bakar said FIFA World Cup 2022 Pakistani, participating in the FIFA World being hosted in Qatar was not only a

moment of utmost pride for the State of Qatar but for the entire Muslim world. "The nation currently holding the greatest

sporting event on the planet in full swing," he remarked. However, he regretted that the Pakistan Football team could not become a part of this tourney and hoped the national team one day would make inroads to FIFA cup as he believed, "The nation has true potential to excel in any

Adnan Khan, a PhD student in Hamad bin Khalifa University said, "Soccer unites people of different cultures and backgrounds. As an expatriate living in Qatar, we all have a responsibility and shared goals of making this world cup memorable for everyone who comes here to witness

Shaukat Chandna in a statement to Qatar Tribune representing the Pakistani community said that every country in the world, not only football-playing ones, was contributing in some form or other to make this the 'best-ever' sporting extravaganza of our times and life. "Pakistan has contributed in a very significant manner by crafting the finest footballs with machines and hands. Smile everyone, enjoy the experience of a lifetime and have fun."

It is pertinent to mention here that an uncountable number of Pakistani interns/ volunteers and residents have unanimously and voluntarily extended their services to the authorities in Qatar "to make the FIFA World Cup 2022 a big success".

Space belongs to humanity, come share it with China

By SHI HAO

t the UN/China space exploration and innovation partnership conference on Monday, the China National Space Administration raised eight issues in the keynote speech delivered by its deputy director Wu Yanhua, which should inspire anybody who has concerns about China's space program.

China made clear, in no ambiguous terms, its basic principles about human space exploration, namely openness, sharing and coop-

eration. It showed China's firm determination to strengthen cooperation, defend the core role of the UN in space matters, and oppose any attempt to divide space exploration participants into camps. These are things the United States, and its Western allies in particu-

lar, need to hear. As a sector that can achieve wonders if backed by adequate funds, astronautics requires everybody's cooperation. However, the West, the US in particular,

has been trying to dominate the field and maintain its hegemony. That is the reason why it has even set up a space force. In contrast, China's sincerity in sharing everything and its open mind is exemplary

as well as laudable. It should be noted that China's sincerity is not limited to mere words but extends to action. Following its rocket launches in 2021, China has timely updated the information on its astronautics white nations in space research and exploration, thus creating more opportunities for countries of the world.

After China's lunar probe brought back samples from the moon's surface, China publicized the detailed management regulations on the moon samples, welcoming interest shown by other countries to ask for a portion of the sample to carry out studies and expand their knowledge of the moon

When the International Space Station retires, China's space station will be the only permanent residence for humankind in space. China has more than once encouraged professionals from around



the world to participate in China's space programs. In a nutshell, when China says it is willing to coop-

erate with the world, it means it. It is progressing speedily in terms of astronautics, but it has never orgotten its friends and will never leave them behind. Space belongs to all humankind, and China is doing a good job as a pioneer.

- SHI HAO, scientist at China aerospace science paper, so as to promote coordination with other and technology corporation. Courtesy China Daily

EU Ambassador handed over mobile food-testing laboratory to Balochistan Food Authority

Bureau Report

cy Dr Riina Kionka handed over keys ceremony held in Quetta, Balochistan. for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress (GRASP) project, funded by the European Union, and implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC). Provincial Minister for Food, Engineer Zmarak Khan, Chief itary (SPS) compliance issues in rela-Secretary Mr Abdul Aziz Uqaili, Secretary Food Mr Ayaz Mandokhel, as well as officials from the Balochistan Food Authority were also in attendance.

Following an assessment of the Food Authorities of Sindh and Balochistan in 2020, GRASP identified the need to provide mobile food testing facilities to both provinces to help support the implementation of food safety standards and overall quality assurance of food items being supplied to markets.

be used to check for food contamination to ensure, in particular processed foods, QUETTA: The European Union are free from undeclared ingredients, Ambassador to Pakistan Her Excellen- are accurately labeled and are compliant with relevant food safety standards to a mobile food-testing laboratory to and rules. Equipped with a suite of testthe Balochistan Food Authority at a ing technology, along with its crew of technicians, the van will provide expert This was done as part of the Growth on the spot scientific expertise to help support both consumer confidence, but also public health.

Through GRASP, officials of the Balochistan Food Authority have also been trained on Sanitary and Phytosantion to requirement for wider market access, including towards potential international exports, in addition to supporting and reviewing regulatoryand operational frameworks of the authority, towards its overall strengthening and operational capacity.

Speaking at the ceremony, her Excellency Dr Riina Kionkasaid, "The European Union is privileged to hand over the first mobile laboratory testing facility to the Balochistan Food Authority. As part of its duties, the van will also This is a milestone to be celebrated and



the starting point of the future commit- to improving food safety not only in ment of the Balochistan Government the Province, but Pakistan as a whole." Khan thanked the European Union's clusters of production.

Provincial Minister Food Mr Zmarak

support in the province, and recognized the investment made through GRASP, which is working closely with the government in not only supporting Balochistan SMEs in horticulture and agriculture, but also enhancing the capacity of government institutions through targeted trainings.

Chief Secretary Balochistan Mr Abdul Aziz Uqaili appreciated the support European Union provided to the province and stressed on the close partnership and continued support to provide a safe and healthy environment for SMEs, especially in rural areas to become competitive with the national and global markets.

GRASP is working for poverty reduction and sustainable, inclusive growth through development of rural small and medium-sized enterprises in select districts of Sindh and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan. The project's outcome aims to enhance the productivity and profitability of SMEs involved in primary production, service provision, and value addition in and around selected

One more reminder from the UN experts about Khurram Parvez

News Desk

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNHCHR) issued a statement on November 22, 2022, "One year in detention: UN experts demand immediate release of Kashmiri activist Khurram Parvez."

Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Chairman, World Forum for Peace & Justice' said that the statement is a significant step towards greater international recognition of the serious abuse and misuse of draconian law, 'Unlawful Activity Prevention Act' (UAPA) which has been a chilling effect on civil society, Defender." employed to silence the human rights activists like Khurram Parvez and journalists who dare to speak out about the human rights violations in Indian occupied Kashmir. The statement takes the veil of secrecy off of India's crimes here that Mary Lawlor, UN against innocent human rights Rapporteur on Human Rights further says, "We are dismayed stated "We call on the Governchampions with the hope that Defender has earlier said on at the continued deprivation of ment of India to end reprisals outrage and anger felt by the ing disturbing reports that is increasingly proving to be and civil society organisa-teur on extrajudicial, summary



renowned UN experts states that "The arrest and detention of Kashmiri human rights defender Khurram Parvez has rights activists and journalists in the region, UN experts warned today, reiterating their unconditional release by the Indian Government."

The joint statement by world today in Kashmir & is at risk of being charged by authorities in #India with terrorism-related crimes. He's not a terrorist, he's a Human Rights

Dr. Fai added that it is clear that the Indian Government is violating the very principles of call for his immediate and human decency and democratic freedom against the promoters and proponents of human It is worth mentioning rights. In Kashmir.

the world powers can share the November 99, that "I'm hear-liberty of Mr. Parvez, in what and intimidation of activists Khurram Parvez was arrested an act of retaliation against a tions, including of those like or arbitrary executions.

tireless work documenting and reporting serious human rights violations, including enforced disappearances and unlawful killings in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir," the experts said on the one-year anniversary of his arrest.

"We reiterate our serious concerns about the amendment of the applicable legislation which allows the designation of any individual as a 'terrorist', bypassing the requirement to establish membership or association with banned groups, and its application as a means of coercion against civil society, the media, and human rights defenders in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir," the experts said.

Dr. Fai said that it is heartening to note that the UN experts have taken the situa-The UN experts statement tion very seriously, when they

human rights defender for his Mr. Parvez who share information and testimony on human rights violations with UN human rights bodies and mechanisms."

Fai hoped that the saner elements within the Indian public square will persuade the Government of India to explore the avenues to solving the root cause of the problem – the unfulfilled promise of self-determination as guaranteed by successive United Nations Security Council resolutions.

The experts: Aua Baldé (Chair-Rapporteur), Gabriella Citroni (Vice-Chair), Grazyna Baranowska, Luciano Hazan, Angkhana Neelapaijit, Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances; Mary Lawlor, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism and Morris Tidball-Binz, Special Rappor

Pakistan Business users to benefit from Availability of SAP Build

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: SAP announced the launch of SAP Build, a powerful new low code offering to unleash the power of business users, launched at SAP TechEd conference in Las Vegas, USA, recently.

SAP Build empowers users of all skill levels to create and augment enterprise applications, automate processes, and design business sites with drag-and-drop simplicity. It brings the best of SAP's low-code offerings together in a unified

development experience. It gives business users full visibility into the dynamic range of their processes as well as real-time insights and easyto-use tools. Users can easily integrate systems; intelligently monitor, analyze, and automate processes; and build applications for the last mile of innovation - all without moving their data into an external system. The solution also includes 500+ pre-built industry and business-process templates to accelerate development.

Commenting at the launch of SAP Build at TechEd, Arnal Dayaratna, Research Vice President Software Development at global market intelligence firm IDC, said: "Given that the demand for contemporary digital solutions is greater than the ability of professional developers to supply them, IDC envisions that business professionals will become increasingly involved in initiatives to create digital solutions to solve pressing

Saquib Ahmad, Managing Director SAP Pakistan, said, "SAP Build will be a transformation partner for Pakistani corporate giants as well. This will enable our customers to extract maximum knowledge from their technology investments, shorten time-to-value for new applications and future-proof their businesses. As Pakistan continues to pursue its rapid digital transformation goals, there is a need for business experts at all levels to become more involved in developing technology solutions. This will ensure that companies' digital goals are fully aligned with their business goals, and that their technology solutions are tailored to suit the needs of their specific company and industry."

11th Global Islamic Microfinance Forum successfully concluded in Dubai - United Arab Emirates

 $Under\,the\,Theme\,of\,Financial\,Inclusion,\,Outreach\,strategies\,\mathfrak{S}\,Innovations$

Spokesman Report

DUBAI: 11thGlobal Islamic Microfinance Forum was successfully concluded at Metropolitan Hotel Dubai, UAE the forum by saying that Islamic under the patronage of AAOI-FI Bahrain. The purpose of that forum was to promote, strengthen and unite the organizations of Islamic microfinance (IsMF) with the theme of financial Inclusion, outreach strategies & innovations. Eminent Speakers and industry professionals from well serving organizations related to Microfinance, Islamic microfinance, micro insurance and NGOs participated in the event. The aim of the forum was to discuss the financial Inclusion, outreach strategies & innovations by gathering stakeholders under one roof. The forum was organized by AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economicsin association with Pakistan Microfinance Network and IMFN-International Islamic Microfinance Network and Wings Media. The event is sponsored by Akhuwat Pakistan, Bank of Punjab, Innovation Biscuits Pakistan. and PPCBL Pakistan. The event supporters include Association of Microfinance Organizations of Tajikistan (AMFOT), Micro Lab Association, Association of Microfinance Institutions in Rwanda (AMIR), Fintech Association of Nigeria, Nigerian Microfinance Platform, Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry, National Association of Microfinance Banks. The event media partners include Financial IT, Islamic Finance, Micro Capital, IFING MEDIA, and WebTV.

AlHuda arranged an impressive lineup of speakers from different countries with the

matter to explore more options for Islamic Microfinance industry. Dr. Amjad Saqib, Founder of Akhuwat Pakistan inaugurated microfinance is the need of the time and this can be used as a weapon for the poverty alleviation. He further explained how Akhuwat model and different products are playing its role to alleviate the poverty in Pakistan. He also appreciated the efforts of AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economics. Dr Amjad Saqib, highlighted the ways of poverty alleviation through qard e hasna in Islamic microfinance through which Akhuwat is providing small loans to more than 5 lac people across Pakistan. The services of Akhuwat, Pakistan is not only limited to Pakistan rather in other countries of the world. The research on Akhuwat Model in different universities of the world is the best example of it. He further added that poverty is a world phenomenon and mostly growing in the Muslim countries. It is recommended that we chalk an international strategy to alleviate poverty from Muslim world through the means which could be near to the Islamic traditions and religious norms and Islamic microfinance is the best solution of that. Addressing to the inaugu-

revealing sessions on the subject

ral session, the Guest of Honors of the Ceremony were Mr. Atty. Ubaida C. Pacasem, CPA Minister-Ministry of Finance, and Budget and Management Member of the Parliament-Bangsamoro Transition Authority, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Philippines, Mr. Atty. Paisalin-Tago, CPA Minister, Minister of



Transportation and Communications, Republic of the Philippines, H.E. Edouard Bizumuremyi, Minister Counsellor, General Consulate of the Republic of Rwanda, UAE, and Mr. Syed Mohsin Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Pakistan Microfinance Network, Pakistansaid: Islamic Microfinance should be utilize as system of poverty alleviation for Muslims and Non- Muslim world, he pursued the participants "There are various challenges among the Muslim World, but if we look at our figures we can see the opportunities therein. Islamic Microfinancing is a catalyst to empower enterprise development and a viable and sustainable vehicle for inclusive economic growth" Addressing to the audience, the

organizer of 11thGlobal Islamic Microfinance Forum, Mr. Muhammad Zubair Mughal,

Chief Executive Officer, AlHuda CIBE said that there is no religion of poverty but it can be alleviated through methods defined in religion and Islamic microfinance is the best example of this. Muslims and non-Muslims can equally take benefit of this micro-financing. He added that in Muslim world, poverty is rapidly increasing to its dangerous level. The main reason of this is the non-availability of such sources which are near to their religious values. He said that recent researches of World Bank and international organizations show that there exist chances of poverty in the non-Muslim world and the only solution is Islamic Microfinance. If Islamic microfinance is over looked in such a way then there are no chances United Nations Organization meets the Millennium development Goal.

"Global Development and Future Potential of Islamic Microfinance", Mr. Pervez NasimChairman & CEO, Ansar Financial & Development Corporation - Canada, discussed about Key Concepts of Islamic Financing and Interest-Free Home Ownership Program, Prof. Dr. Azmi Omar President & Chief Executive Officer, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF), Malaysia, discussed about Research based innovation for Islamic Microfinance Industrv.Mr. Sadagat Ullah KhanSenior Executive Vice President & Head of Sharia Advisory, Audit, Compliance, & Execution, AlHuda CIBE FZ LLE - UAE, discussed about Islamic Shariah Framework of Ijarah and its global applications in IFIs.

The Session on "Islamic Microfinance and Economic By addressing the session on Growth"was addressed by Mufti

Aziz Ur RahmanA Shari'ah Bhd/BankWaqf International, Scholar and Consultant- Dubai UAE, discussed about Shariah Aspects of Islamic Microfinance, Mr. Muhammad Zubair-Managing Director, AlHuda CIBE FZ LLE - U.A.E, discussed about Global Development of Islamic Microfinance and Ustaz Mohd NazriChik Group Chief Financial Inclusion Officer, Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia, discussed about Development of Islamic Social Finance within Professor/Discipline Lead-Banking Industry in Malaysia.

Further, the power table on ic Microfinance" was presented by Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib Founder, Akhuwat, Pakistan, Dr. Pakistan, Mr. Ather Khalil Block-Kamran Shams Chief Executive Abu Bakr Akhuwat, Pakistan, and Mr. Agha Nabeel Khan Chief Executive Officer, Wings Media (Pvt.) Limited, Pakistan.

The emerging field of fintech and financial inclusion was discussed by Mr. Muhammad Ashfaq Ur Rehman Chief Executive Officer, Finmaal, UAE, who discussed about FinTech, the growth of Islamic Microfinance, Mr. Konstantin Vasilev Company Management, Global Bond Data FZE - UAE, who discussed about Sukuk market opportunities and trends Sheikh Muhammad Noman W3DNA/ Mortgage Hub, who discussed about Investment Development for everyone.

The least addressed topic of 'Micro Takaful, Waqaf & Zakat - Supportive Elements for Islamic Microfinance" was discussed by Professor Dr. M. Kabir Hassan, University of New Orleans - USA. on Islamic Finance and Financial Inclusion, Mr. Dato Abu Ubaidah Kemin Founder/President, Waqafa International Sdn. variety of allied topics.

Malaysia, on The Significance of Wagf for Economic Development and Mrs. Fatin Al Zadjali Head-Learning and Development at Bank Dhofar, Oman on Sustainability Business Model for SMEs

The panel discussion on "Development of Islamic Microfinance" was held by Mr. Muhammad Ashfaq-Ur-Rehman Chief Executive Officer, Finmaal, UAE, Dr. Haroon Khan Finance er Accounting and Finance, University of Wollongong, 'Qarz-a-Hasan Model of Islam- Dubai-UAE, Ms. Yusra Ramzan Chughtai Regional Coordinator-West Africa, AlHuda CIBE, chain Lead-MateSol Research Officer, Akhuwat, Pakistan, Mr. Analyst-University of Sharjah, Mr. Khurram Z. Chishti, FRM Group SCO - Habib Bank AG Zurich, UAE, Mr. Conde Sekow Mohamed Rural Credit of Guinea, Guinea. Furthermore, Mr. Corrado

Ferretti President, Association MicroLab - Italy, Dr. Mohammed R. Kroessin, Head of Islamic Microfinance and Dr. Akmal Ataullah, Advisor-Technology & Strategy, XYPHER, UAE participated the session on "Outreach, Challenges & Opportunities" and addressed the topics on Role of European Association of Microfinance in Microfinance Industry, Challenges and view of the future Islamic Microfinance and Inclusion and Impact of Technology in Islamic Microfinance respectively.

The Forum is followed by Two Days "Post Event Workshop on Practical Aspects of Islamic Micro, Agriculture & Rural Finance and Exposure Visit" dated for November 23-24, 2022. This Workshop covered a

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

" Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close		
42,880.31	42,928.63		
Day's High	Day's Low:		
43,040.58	42,790.25		
Index Value	Change		
3,947,157,518	-48.32		
Percentage	Time		
-0.11%	23 Nov, 2022 5:00 pm		
Europe: FTS	SE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change		
IIIdox Valuo	Glialige		
7,465.24	+12.40		
	_		
7,465.24	+12.40		
7,465.24 Percentage +0.17%	+12.40 Time 23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT		
7,465.24 Percentage +0.17%	+12.40 Time 23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT		
7,465.24 Percentage +0.17% USA: Dow Jones	+12.40 Time 23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT Industrial Average		
7,465.24 Percentage +0.17% USA: Dow Jones Index Value	+12.40 Time 23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT Industrial Average Change		
7,465.24 Percentage +0.17% USA: Dow Jones Index Value 34,093.61	+12.40 Time 23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT Industrial Average Change -4.49		

Open Market Forex Rates

Change

+170.95

Time

22 Nov, 3:15 pm

GMT+9

Index Value

28,115.74

Percentage

+0.61%

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	148.8	150.05
Bahrain Dinar	596.55	601.05
Canadian Dollar	166.21	167.56
China Yuan	31.41	31.66
Danish Krone	30.84	31.19
Euro	244	246.5
Hong Kong Dollar	28.73	29.08
Indian Rupee	2.74	2.82
Japanese Yen	1.73	1.79
Kuwaiti Dinar	727.77	732.77
Malaysian Ringgit	48.96	49.41
NewZealand \$	137.68	138.88
Norwegians Krone	21.76	22.06
Omani Riyal	582.49	586.99
Qatari Riyal	61.58	62.08
Saudi Riyal	63.4	64
Singapore Dollar	162.08	163.38
Swedish Korona	20.9	21.2
Swiss Franc	235.26	237.01
Thai Bhat	6.21	6.31
U.A.E Dirham	65.4	66
UK Pound Sterling	281.2	284
US Dollar	228.75	231

EFP recognises foodpanda as a leader in women's empowerment



LAHORE: foodpanda, one of the leading q-commerce and delivery companies in the country, has been recognised by the Employers' Federation of Pakistan (EFP) as one of the 'top 10' organisations in the country facilitating women's empowerment through its

The prestigious recognition comes as a part of EFP's research across 250 organisations that practise and enable women's empowerment. The research aimed to understand the different ways in which companies have introduced inclusive policy reforms to boost female entrepreneurship. The research also assisted in shaping EFP's National Publication on Women Empowerment, with 10 Best Business Case Studies picked from the 250 enterprises, including foodpanda.

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer foodpanda, Muntaqa Peracha commented on the achievement, "It makes us extremely proud to be in a position to empower so many women around the country to create their own opportunities. The women through the foodpanda business are challenging stereotypes and making powerful strides in the business world as exceptional role models and the future is full of promise. We are committed to advancing the agenda of empowering our female stakeholders at all levels by providing sustainable livelihood earning opportunities through our platform."

In collaboration with the International Labour Organisation, EFP launched a campaign on women's empowerment with funding from the Japanese government's PSR/STRIDE Project.

Yasmin Qureshi assures to play role for improving Pakistan-UK trade ties

ISLAMABAD: Yasmin Qureshi, Member, UK Parliament assured that she would play a role to further improve bilateral trade and economic ties between Pakistan and UK. She said that Pakistan has great potential for business and investment, which should be properly projected to attract the attention of foreign investors. She said that a lot of construction projects are going on in Pakistan, which shows its economic potential and added that a stable Pakistan would attract more investment. She said this while addressing the business community during her visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI). Raja Najabat Hussain, Founding Chairman, Jammu & Kashmir Self-Determination Movement also accompanied her on the occasion.

Yasmin Qureshi said that Pakistani entrepreneurs should take advantage of the latest technology and machinery to control the wastage of food and fruits in order to improve their exports. She said that Pakistan's economy has suffered great losses due to being a frontline state against the war on terrorism and added she would continue to play a role in promoting both countries. He said that as a member of between Pakistan and UK.



that the security situation in Pakistan is now much better that is important for the growth of business and economic activities. She said that the UK has cut overseas aid and is now providing aid for capacity building that can be beneficial for Pakistan. She stressed that the business community should play a role for promoting education in youth that would also provide an educated and skilled workforce to the business and industry. She assured that

the business interests of Pakistan in the UK. Speaking at the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry lauded the services of Yasmin Qureshi as MP in UK Parliament. He said that UK's annual imports are over £200 billion and exports over £180 billion, but Pakistan-UK bilateral trade up to the 2nd quarter of 2022 was just around £3.5 billion, and shared useful ideas for further enhancwhich is far less than the actual potential of ing bilateral trade and economic relations

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Britain-Pakistan Trade and Tourism, Yasmin Qureshi should cooperate in promoting collaboration between Pakistan and UK in trade, tourism, investment and other sectors. He said that ICCI would try to form a delegation for the UK and hoped that Yasmin Qureshi would help in connecting it with right partners in the UK. He said that many sectors of Pakistan's economy are offering great opportunities for joint ventures and investment and emphasized that more UK companies including the Pakistani diaspora should be motivated to take benefit of them by doing business in Pakistan.

Faad Waheed Senior Vice President, Muhammad Azhar ul Islam Vice President ICCI, Raja Najabat Hussain, Founding Chairman, Jammu & Kashmir Self-Determination Movement, Khalid Iqbal Malik Group Leader, Zafar Bakhtawari, Zubair Ahmed Malik, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, Mian Shaukat Masud and others also spoke at the occasion

An early decision to reduce political, economic tensions: Mian Zahid Hussain

15 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 Wednesday said the appointment of the new army chief should be a routine matter.

Some elements have made the appointment of new COAS the country's biggest problem which is not in the national interest, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that amid political instability, economic decline, risk of default, business shutdowns and reports of a currency crisis, the issue of appointment is a matter of concern for the business community.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the

endless politicization of this issue is sad. He said that the government should immediately choose a new chief of the armed forces so that at least one problem and climate challenges and the economy would be eliminated, which would reduce is drowning in self-inflicted problems, but illegal.



the political tensions and rumors in the country and it may improve the stability of the economy.

The stability will result in financial aid from friendly countries, loans will be facilitated and those claiming a default-like situation will get a befitting reply.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that currently the country is facing serious economic the claimants of public support are not considering political and economic stability as essential and are playing their game.

The appointment of the Army Chief is a routine procedure, the process of which is clear in the constitution, but never in the past has this appointment been made as controversial as it is being done now.

He said that the government should also stop its endless consultation on this matter and take appropriate decisions so that the propaganda of irresponsible elements can be neutralized.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that in a country with nuclear power, this is a very important position for which the opinion of street boys cannot be given importance.

He paid tribute to General Baiwa and said that he is retiring after being the Army Chief for six years and according to his announcements, the army now wants to be neutral and away from politics, but some people do not accept this.

Some rejected elements are demanding the army for illegitimate help to come to power which is unconstitutional and

Jazz recognized for its Gender Inclusive Workplace at UN **Women Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards**

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Jazz, Pakistan's leading digital operator and a part of the VEON Group, has been conferred with the UN Women Asia-Pacific 2022 WEPs Award for a Gender-Inclusive Workplace. This award recognises organizations that have incorporated the right measures to make themselves the preferred employer for women.

"Inclusivity is a big part of everything we do at Jazz. We have incorporated policies and global best practices to pave the way for gender equality within the organization. This recognition valimove forward in our journey of creating a digitally inclusive ecosystem in Pakistan," said Sabahat Bokhari, Director Diversity and Inclusion at

Jazz is an equal opportunity employer. It's one of the first telecom companies with a high female representation in its executive leadership. Not only does the company promote gender diversity in ts work environment, it also has programs focused entirely on attracting and facilitating the female gender. For example, 'Empower'-Leadership development program in collaboration with a leading business university in Pakistan; 'MOMentum'-phase back program for returning mothers; and 'She's Back Returnship Program' for



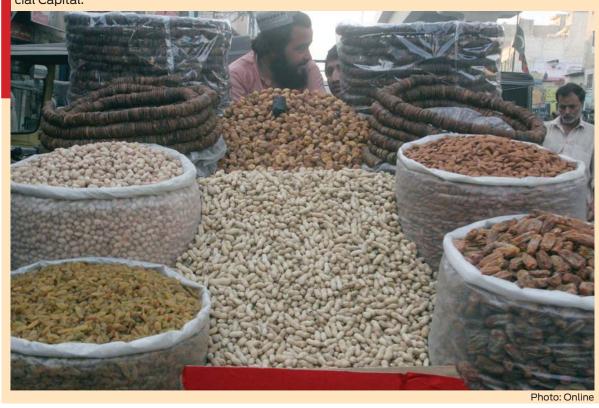
The company is also dedicated to enhancing diversity and women's empowerment in the society and focuses on uplifting women in the society through the power of the internet. Female specific products and services are designed to help address many of the wider gender inequalities by digitally enabling them to access health, financial, and other life-enhancing services.

UN Women launched the Asia-Pacific Women's dates our holistic approach Empowerment Principles towards empowering women (WEPs) Awards in 2020 and renews our vigor as we under WeEmpowerAsia. Launched in 2010 by UN Women and the UN Global Compact, the WEPs are a set of 7 principles that support companies to take a gender-sensitive approach throughout their value chain starting with corporate leadership and looking across the wider value chain from workplace, marketplace and community. To date, more than 7,000 companies have signed the WEPs globally, and in the Asia-Pacific over 1,900 have committed. Jazz was one of the first companies in Pakistan to commit to the WEPs.

As the only regional awards initiative recognizing private sector action for gender equality aligned to the WEPs, the Awards offer a unique opportunity for organizations to showcase their work in a women looking to return to diverse range of areas relevant work following a career break. to women's empowerment.

Dry fruits

KARACHI: A vendor is selling dry fruits on his pushcart alongside a road at Patel Para area in Provincial Capital.



P&G Pakistan renews its pledge with stem connector to mentor 1000 women

Sommerce Reporter

KARACHI: P&G Pakistan today reaffirmed its pledge to mentor 1000 women under Million Women Mentors (MWM), a premier network and an initiative of STEMconnector, dedicated to encouraging girls and women around the world to pursue, persist, and succeed in STEM careers.

This renewed collaboration of P&G Pakistan with MWM program is aimed at encouraging women across Pakistan to pursue career goals and leadership opportunities under the mentorship of senior leaders of P&G. During the pilot, P&G Pakistan exceeded its target to

sional circles to benefit from better projects, access to leadership, advocacy at higher levels, and mutual support.

Adil Farhat, CEO P&G Pakisaid, "This is something close to that with confidence and ambition, something women are when we're young, mentors can we've been told they're destined for. Being a strong advocate of equality, P&G aims to enable women to work confident-

mentor 500 women from profes- program. We are aligned on bias, spark conversations and taking many more of such initiatives in the future that will result in an equitable society for all."

In the recent years, P&G has bagged the title of Champion at stan, appreciating the initiative the OICCI Women Empowerment Awards for two consecumy heart and I strongly believe tive years. With its global initiative #WeSeeEqual, P&G aspires to build a world of equal voice too often discouraged from and equal opportunities regardless of gender. The #WeSeeEqual help reignite that fire and push program demonstrates P&G's women to achieve more than continued commitment to create a more equal world. As one of the world's largest advertisers, P&G and its brands continue to leverage their influential voice in ly and become an equal part of media and advertising to drive the industry through MWM further awareness, tackle gender

motivate change. P&G has also partnered with HOPE and UN Women for women's skill development and girls' education in the country. Moreover, P&G as being a founder member of the US-Pakistan Women's Council's corporate initiative, intent to advance its gender diversity mission while supporting the US-Pakistan Women's Council in

participation in the workforce. "We are very excited to see that after a successful pilot program, P&G is doubling the size of their mentoring program in Pakistan," said Dr. Jo Webber, CEO STEMconnector and Million Women

its attempts to increase women's

OGDCL distributes wheelchairs, rickshaws, school uniforms to **Hindu community**



👺 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) under its CSR program has distributed 20 wheelchairs, five rickshaws and 1021 school uniforms and shoes among Hindu community members in the Tharparkar district of Sindh province.

As a responsible corporate entity, OGDCL distributed the wheelchairs, rickshaws, school uniforms and shoes worth PKR 2.4 million from the company's Ali Sr. CSR Officer OGDCL.

the Pakistan Hindu Council (PHC). These items were distributed to the locals of tehsil Islam Kot, tehsil Mithi and tehsil Chachro of district Tharparkar during this month.

CSR funds at the request of

Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani, MNA and Patron of Pakistan Hindu Council was the Chief Guest of the ceremony, the event was also attended by Paman Lal Rathi, Joint Secretary, Parshotam Das, Haresh Jeramani of PHC and Barkat

KP down Northern in Quaid-e-Azam Trophy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Northern suffered their first defeat of the tournament as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa ended an otherwise disappointing season on a high on the fourth day of the tenth and final round of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2022-23 tournament at the Shoaib Akhtar Stadium, Rawalpindi on Wednesday.

Northern resumed their second innings at 46 for four. The lower-order failed to offer much resistance to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa bowlers as Northern were bowled out for 171 in 73.5 overs to hand over their opponents an innings and 50-run victory.

Faizan Riaz did not come out to bat due to an injury while Wicketkeeper-batter Rohail Nazir who scored 82 in the first innings, fought hard in the second innings as well with 62 off 158 balls (eight fours).

Hasan Raza scored 45 runs. Off-spinner Sajid Khan took five wickets for 50 in 20.5 overs. Mohammad Imran captured three wickets for 47 in 17 overs.

Northern would take on Sindh in the five-day tournament decider at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore from Satur-



top the table while defending champions Khyber Pakhtunkhwa ended at the sixth spot with 78 points.

Scores in brief: Northern 223 all out,

Northern finished with 135 points to 72.2 overs (Rohail Nazir 82, Mubasir Khan 31; Ihsanullah 4-41, Niaz Khan 132.4 overs (Maaz Sadaqat 91, Kamran 3-59) and 171, all out 73.5 overs (Rohail Nazir 62, Hasan Raza 45; Sajid Khan 5-50, Mohammad Imran 3-47).

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 444 all out, Ghulam 81, Mohammad Imran 55 not out, Mohammad Haris 52; Kashif Ali 3-90, Mehran Mumtaz 2-86).

SJAS delegation calls on Governor Sindh

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: My priority to made Karachi a 'Sports City', Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori said that while in a meeting with the delegation of Sports Journalists Association of Sindh (SJAS) at his office the other day.

According to details, a delegation of SJAS under the supervision of Secretary General Pakistan Sports Writers Federation (PSWF) Muhammad Asghar Azeem called on Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori at Governor House.

in any circumstances.

congratulated Secretary General, Senior family.



Tessori said that he always Vice President and Execustand with sports journalists tive Committee members respectively.

Governor Sindh said that Muhammad Asghar Azeem, while selected unopposed ongoing progress. Ubaid Awan, Mahmood secretary of PSWF, Asghar Satti on becoming PSWF's this is an honor for SIAS

Secretary PSWF Muhammad Asghar Azeem thanked Governor Sindh and briefed about PSWF and SJAS'

Riaz, Asif Khan and Shahid Azeem create history and Khan, Secretary Shahid Satti. Senior Vice President Mehmood Riaz, Secrealso present at the occasion. | June 27.

tary Finance Shahid Ansari, PSWF Vice President Ubaid Awan, EC members Kulsoom Jahan, Akbar Ali, Arshad Wahab, Zeeshan SJAS President Asif Hussain, Shehzada Moin, sports organiser Muhammad Naseem and Avaz Munshi

Nabeel breaks India's Guinness World Record

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Syed Nabeel Hasan Rizvi has broken a Guinness World Record for the Longest Number Sequence Memo-

"Nabeel memorized 30 random numbers in just four seconds, and correctly recalled in sequence," Nabeel's coach Sania Alam of Futuristic Learning USA institute told APP.

She informed that Nabeel had broken the record which was previously set in place by an Indian in March 2022 with 28 numbers

"Nabeel has been training his memory skills for many years with me. He has also competed in various international mind sports competitions including World Memory Championships," she said. Sania said Nabeel was the junior UK Memory Champion 2019 and Bronze Medalist of UK Mind Mapping Championship 2019.

Commenting on the big achievement, Nabeel said, "It feels great being able to break the barriers of your own mental capacity and to witness how impeccably fast the brain's processing powers can be when properly trained." The longest number sequence memorized in four seconds was 30, and was achieved by Nabeel in Karachi, Pakistan, or

Robert Lewandowski misses penalty in a 0-0 draw against Mexico on Tuesday

News Desk

DOHA: Robert Lewandowski suffered fresh World Cup misery as the Poland striker's penalty was saved in a 0-0 draw against Mexico on Tuesday.

Lewandowski has never scored at a World Cup and the Barcelona striker had admitted it would be a "huge dream" to

finally get off the mark on the global stage. Instead, the 34-year-old s dream turned into a bit of a nightmare when he won a second-half penalty, only for goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa to keep out his tame effort.

"I didn t score, that sure hurts," Polish media quoted him as saying.

"It s a penalty, a lottery, you can t explain

Lewandowski, Poland s record scorer with 76 goals, has netted 18 times in 19 appearances for Barcelona, the club he joined in the close season after bagging 344 goals in eight trophy-filled years at

Yet the World Cup has proved barren for Lewandowski, with this latest goalless outing coming after he failed to score in Poland s three games when they bowed out in the group stage four years ago. Saudi Arabia s stunning 2-1 win over

Argentina earlier on Tuesday had blown open the race to progress to the last 16 from Group C. But this was a frustrating draw for both

teams, with Lewandowski wasting the best chance of a cagey game and Mexico ruing their failure to turn territorial dominance into goals.

"When Robert misses there is always the question why. He will answer that best. Yesterday he trained and he never missed with his penalties," Poland boss Czeslaw Michniewicz said.

"Other great players have missed penalties. It sapity. I know how much he wanted to score at a World Cup.

"I sympathise with him. He was very

other opportunities for him. We know he will help us a lot in this tournament."

The Stadium 974 — whose structure was partially created from a colourful tapestry of shipping containers - overlooks Doha's port and the area was transformed into a colourful fiesta as greenclad, sombrero-wearing Mexicans partied ahead of evening kick-off.

It was an even more vibrant scene inside the stadium, with the estimated 40,000 capacity almost entirely filled with vociferous, flag-waving fans of "El Tri".

- Lewandowski woe - As the main threat to their teams hopes, Lewandowski was immediately subjected to ear-splitting jeers from the Mexico supporters.

He tried to silence the din with an early header but his effort deflected harmless-

With Poland curiously content to sit back for long periods and Mexico s energy levels almost matching their raucous

emotional about it. I hope there will be fans, it was Gerardo Martino s side who carried the greater threat.

Alexis Vega looped his header inches past the far post from Hector Herrera s

Mexico followed that close shave with another incisive move that ended with Jesus Gallardos shot being palmed away

by Wojciech Szczesny. Isolated by Poland s conservative tactics, Lewandowski mustered just one touch in the Mexico area and completed only three passes in the first half.

Lewandowski couldn t be contained forever and his tenacity earned the 57th-minute penalty when he barged into the Mexico area, forcing a crude challenge from Hector Moreno that was ruled a spot-kick after VAR intervened.

But Lewandowski s World Cup woe wasn t over as the 37-year-old Ochoa plunged to his left to make a fine save, leaving the striker holding his head in

Britcher, Sweeney giving women's doubles luge a try for US



News Desk

DUBAI: Summer Britcher and Emily Sweeney have been USA Luge teammates for years. They've traveled together, they've competed together, they've gone to the Olympics together, they've stood on World Cup podiums together.

Being on a sled together was not part of the plan. Until now. Britcher and Sweeney, the two most experienced women's singles sliders that USA Luge has on its current roster and two of the most accomplished in the national team's history, are going to compete in doubles together at some World Cup events this season — the first steps toward what could be a run to the 2026 Olympics, when two-woman luge will make its debut on winter sport's biggest stage.

They're not giving up on singles. But women's doubles is a relatively new thing in the luge world, and they see enormous potential. The World Cup season for luge starts in Austria on Dec. 3; the World Cup slate for sliding's other two sports, bobsled and skeleton, opens this weekend in Whistler, Canada.

"It's crazy how quickly we became a team," Britcher said. "We've been teammates, but now we're a team. And it's been really exciting to share this experience with somebody, because it's kind of like the coolest second chance ever."

It truly is a second chance, in a lot of ways. Both are highly accomplished on the World Cup circuit. Britcher has more wins than any U.S. women's luge athlete ever with five and has claimed 25 medals overall when factoring in relays. Sweeney who broke her neck and back at the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics — has one win and 10 medals on her resume. Both have a world championships medal.

But neither has medaled yet at an Olympics — Britcher is a three-time Olympian, Sweeney a veteran of the last two. Britcher was strongly considering retirement after the Beijing Olympics in February and spent the months that followed looking for a reason to keep sliding. Sweeney also contemplated her future.

Tunisia held Denmark to a goalless draw in their World Cup opener on Tuesday



DOHA: Tunisia held Denmark to a goalless draw in their World Cup opener on Tuesday, kicking off their Group D camp with a strong performance against one of the pre-tournament

Tunisia have never reached the World Cup knockouts in five previous attempts but Jalel Kadri s side will be encouraged both with a point at Education City Stadium and with how they performed against the fancied Danes.

Since Kadri took charge of the team in January Tunisia have only lost to Brazil and they frustrated Denmark in front of thousands of noisy North Africans.

Christian Eriksen was largely anonymous on his return to major tournament football after nearly dying on the pitch at the European Championship last year, wilting in the face of ferocious defending.

Denmark had come into the match as favourites but Tunisia tore into their more illustrious opponents from kick-off, flying into tackles.

The massed ranks of Tunisians in the stands created a crackling atmosphere and they cheered every tackle and clearance.

The African side nearly took the lead in the 11th minute, with Mohamed Drager's long-range effort clipping off Andreas Christensen and drifting just wide. The Danes began to get a foothold in the game but talisman

Eriksen struggled to shake off the attentions of Tunisia s well-organised backline, and although they got into dangerous positions any attacks were comfortably snuffed out.

The Tunisians came closest to taking the lead in the opening period, Copenhagen-born Anis Ben Slimane straying offside before slotting past Kasper Schmeichel, who then made sure the scores were level at the break with a wonderful stop.

Issam Jebali managed to break through onto Youssef Msakni s smart pass but his dinked finish was brilliantly tipped away by the onrushing Schmeichel.

Tunisia kept up the intensity but it was Denmark who had the two best chances of a tight second half. AFP

Ronaldo to leave Manchester United with 'immediate effect'

LONDON: Cristiano Ronal- ten Hag and working together to do's controversial second spell at Manchester United is to end with "immediate effect", the Premier League giants announced Tuesday.

The Portugal forward set the stage for his Old Trafford exit last week with his outspoken television interview on TalkTV in which he said he felt "betrayed" by the club and had no respect for new manager Erik ten Hag.

"Cristiano Ronaldo is to leave Manchester United by mutual agreement, with immediate effect." said a United statement.

"The club thanks him for his immense contribution across two spells at Old Trafford, scoring 145 goals in 346 appearances, and wishes him and his family well for the future.

"Everyone at Manchester Uniting the team's progress under Erik

deliver success on the pitch."

Ronaldo issued a statement of his own, saying: "Following conversations with Manchester United we have mutually agreed to end our contract early.

"I love Manchester United and I love the fans, that will never ever change. However, it feels like the right time for me to seek a new

"I wish the team every success for the remainder of the season and for the future.

As well as criticising the Old Trafford hierarchy and Ten Hag during his interview the 37-yearold Ronaldo, currently with the Portugal squad at the World Cup in Qatar, was scathing about the club's US owners.

Ronaldo said the Glazer famied remains focused on continu- ly cared far more about the money-making potential of Unit-

ed than results on the pitch.

He even turned on former team-mates Gary Neville and Wayne Rooney, saying "they are not my friends" after recent criticism from the pair. Ronaldo, who recently scored

the 700th goal of a club career embracing several teams, appeared to be angling for a move in the pre-season transfer window after United failed to qualify for the 2022/23 Champions League. But leading English and Euro-

pean clubs opted against moving for a player who, for all his talent, is not the force he once was yet still commands a reported weekly pay packet at United of around £500,000 (\$593,000).

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner has, however, reportedly held talks with Bayern Munich and been linked with an emotional return to Sporting Lisbon, where

he came through the youth ranks. Former Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand said both Ronaldo and the club had

got what they wanted. "Cristiano obviously did that interview with the mindset that he wasn't happy and wanted to get out of the club," Ferdinand, who played alongside Ronaldo at Old Trafford, told the BBC. "He made that very clear.

"I think Erik ten Hag got what he wanted in this situation as well. Both parties are happy and we can move on." As for where Ronaldo would

continue his club career, Ferdinand added: "The next chapter for Cristiano? It depends what his motivation is. "Play in the Champions

League? Money? To continue playing somewhere with a nice climate?'



United, with the club no longer

In 2009 he left a United who were one of the top teams in Europe but the side he rejoined limped to a sixth-place finish in the Premier League despite his 24 goals in all competitions.

Ronaldo made his name in his

Ronaldo has undoubtedly been first spell at Old Trafford, develangered by his reduced status at oping from a prodigiously gifted teenager when he arrived in 2003 at the summit of English football. into one of the best forwards in world football.

He won his first Champions League trophy and first Ballon national goals he is captaining under Alex Ferguson.

d'Or during a trophy-laden spell He left United after six years for

the Champions League four more times. Ronaldo spent three years at Juventus from 2018 before a

club's greatest goalscorer, winning

return to Manchester. But he has been a peripheral figure this season in an improv-

ing side under Ten Hag and was recently disciplined for refusing to come on as a substitute. Ronaldo, who has scored just three goals this season, had

returned to the team in recent weeks and even captained the Red Devils in a 3-1 loss at Aston Villa, though he was not in the squad for United's final match before the World Cup break. With a world-record 117 inter-

Portugal at his fifth World Cup. The Euro 2016 winners open

their campaign in Qatar against Real Madrid, where he became the Ghana on Thursday. (AFP/APP)