**Barkat Rice Mills** (Pvt) Limited

govt's tactics against PTI march

that the govt had further put Imran's life in danger by not grantin permission for the landing of his helicopter at Parade Ground

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamad-ul-Awwal 1, Saturday, November 26, 2022



Staff Committee.



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### Launching ceremony

ISTANBUL: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan jointly launch PNS Khyber,



# PM urges Pak-Turkish collaboration in alternative energy

Shehbaz Sharif on Friday while citing huge potential in the field of alternate energy in both countries, called for Turkive and Pakistan to join hands for the production of solar, wind and hydel energy to cut the carbon emission and open up new avenues of investment cooperation.

The prime minister, addressing the launching ceremony of the third of the four MILGEM Corvette Ships for the Pakistan Navy, PNS Khayber, at the Istanbul Shipyard, said it was high time the two countries transformed their ties into a strategic partnership as the world was "envious" of the relationship between two brotherly countries.

On his arrival at the venue, the Turkish president welcomed the panied by a high-level delegation.

The prime minister was given the guard of honor as the national anthems of the countries were also played.

Accompanied by Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the prime minister launched the ship which he said manifested deep bilateral engagement in defence cooperation.

The MILGEM project, based on joint collaboration between the two countries, represents a significant milestone in the Pakistan-Türkiye strategic partnership that continues to progress on an upward trajectory.

The PNS Khaybar was launched with a prayer by both leaders for its safe functioning. Both leaders also jointly

ISTANBUL: Prime Minister prime minister who was accomperformed keel laying and steel cutting of the offshore patrol vessels for the Turkish Navy.

> The launching ceremony for the first Corvette for the Pakistan Navy, PNS Babur, was performed in Istanbul in August 2021while the groundbreaking for the Second Ship, PNS Badr, was held at Karachi in May 2022.

The prime minister said that the defence collaboration between Pakistan and Türkiye for the construction of MILGEM class warships was aimed at promoting peace and warding

off aggression. He called for further strengthening of joint defence production capabilities as Pakistan-Türkiye strategic partnership was a source of stability for the entire home" the prime minister recalled the support extended by the people of Pakistan at the time when Turkiye was fighting for freedom.

He said while supporting the Turkish people, our forefathers never knew that Turkive would stand by Pakistan through thick and thin and all international platforms instead, they had done so out of their religious broth-

He appreciated the "visionary leadership" of President Erdogan, the prime minister said he had transformed Turkiye into a modern society. He also spoke highly of the social welfare projects executed by the Turkish government even in far-flung areas besides transforming

Calling Turkiye his "second the agriculture and industrial sectors.

The prime minister also urged the defence experts from both sides to enhance their defense production capacity with a view to strengthening cooperation for

peace in the region. He appreciated the role of President Erdogan in brokering a deal between Russia and Ukraine for wheat export for the benefit of developing countries like Pakistan.

He told the gathering that Pakistan was recently hit by one of the most devastating flood and within no time, Turkiye sent 13 goods trains carrying 72,000 tons of humanitarian goods and 15 Turkish military aircraft carrying food, tent, medicines and medical teams.APP

# Flood victims should be compensated timely, without prejudice: Asif



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Friday said flood victims should be compensated timely and without any prejudice.

Responding to a point of order on the floor of the National Assembly, he made it clear that neither the federal nor the provincial governments were distributing flood

relief goods on the basis of party affiliation.

The minister said if there was any sort of distinction in some areas, it should be sorted out on priority adding that he would bring the matter into the limelight of the federal cabinet to address the grievances of the respective colleague of the house.

He also mentioned that because of the winter season, it would be quite difficult for the flood victims to spend nights under the open sky.

He said it was the responsibility of the government to provide them shelter before the temperature reaches freezing point.

The government also had given a package for farmers, particularly in those areas which were severely affected by the monsoon rains and flash floods. APP

### Federal govt asks Imran to postpone Pindi gathering amid security threats

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Friday asked fulfill their nefarious designs. Chairman Pakistan Tehreekin Rawalpindi due to security threats and reports received from intelligence agencies.

Addressing a press conference here on Friday after chairing the meeting at the Ministry of Interior, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said there was no logic in political gatherings and Imran Khan should leave his stubborn attitude. "I advise Imran Khan to postpone the useless gathering as intelligence agencies have informed the government about the red alert and any terrorist or terrorist organization can exploit the situation and target

the gathering," he added. He said that the life of Imran Khan is at risk as per reports from intelligence agencies as

such political gatherings can be targeted and anti-state elements might attempt to

The minister said that he e-Insaaf (PTI) Imran Khan to has instructed the police to postpone political gathering ensure strict security at all the entry and exit points of PTI's long march venue in Rawalpindi because of a red alert. The stage should be kept bulletproof at every cost and entry to the stage should not only be made safe but the people on the stage should be kept an eye on as well, he maintained.

> "We have issued an advisory from the federal government  $\,$ and informed IGP and Chief Secretary Punjab to ensure strict security measures from all four sides of the venue and no persons should be allowed to enter without checking. Entry at stage should be limited and bulletproof arrangements should not be ignored,"

#### Nawaz Sharif will return to Pakistan, reiterates **Captain** Safdar

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: While talking to the media outside district courts in Lahore, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Capt (retd) Safdar Friday reiterated that Nawaz Sharif would return to Pakistan, "I have desired to wish Nawaz Sharif his birthday on December 25 in Jati Umrah," he said. "Things are getting better in the country. More good days will come," he added. "Every time the country starts to develop, Imran Khan starts conspiring," he deplored. "In 2013, the Chinese president was scheduled to come to Pakistan. But his visit was postponed under a conspiracy,"

he maintained. "Imran Khan is still following the same pattern," he alleged. "The

# Dar, Chinese Ambassador discuss enhancing of Pak-China relations

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Finance Minister and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Nong Rong here on Friday discussed enhancing bilateral relations in economic and financial sectors between both the friendly countries.

According to press statement issued by finance ministry, the discussion was made during the call on meeting of Chinese Ambassador with the minister. Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Finance, Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Finance and other senior officers of Finance Division also attended the meeting.

tions between Pakistan and China people. and highlighted that both countries ties in various economic sectors.

He also highlighted the reperfaced by Pakistan which have large-



On the occasion, Dar shared the ly impacted the infrastructure, agrideep-rooted and brotherly rela- culture, lives and properties of the

minister appreciated have historic and strong bilateral support given by the government of China during these testing times and shared that present governcussions of unprecedented floods ment was taking various measures to ease the life of masses by ensur-

ing fiscal and monetary stability. The Ambassador assured his government's sustained support to Pakistan in hour of need and shared that China stands with people of Pakistan in these hard times. He also thanked Government of Pakistan for giving facilitation to

Chinese projects in Pakistan.

Several injured as fire breaks out at Kandhkot grid station

Correspondent

KANDHKOT: Four workers of an electric companv were burnt following a fire that ignited in the Kandhkot grid station when they tried to put up an electric trolley beside the grid station on Friday. Reportedly, four workers received burn wounds when a fire ignited in the Kandhkot grid station due to short circuit when they were putting up the electric trolley. The fire fighters rushed to the place to douse flames that were reaching the grid station.

The condition of two injured workers out of four was stated to be critical and they were shifted to a hospital in Karachi. Soon after the fire incident in the grid station, the electricity supply to five feeders was

#### US embassy extends congratulations to COAS **General Asim Munir**

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The US Embassy in Islamabad has extended congratulations to newlyappointed Pakistani Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, In a couple of tweets uploaded on Friday, the US embassy said they were committed to working with yakistan's elected leaders and its military leadership. The American mission said:



with Pakistan's elected leaders, its military leadership, and a diverse range of civil society partners to advance shared interests in trade and investment, health, security, climate "We are committed to working change and regional security."

#### **US** embassy extends congratulations to COAS **General Asim Munir**

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The US Embassy in Islamabad has extended congratulations to newlyappointed Pakistani Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of In a couple of tweets upload-

Staff Committee General Sahir

Shamshad Mirza.

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# THE SPOKES MAIN Saturday, November 26, 2022

#### Addressing media

ISTANBUL: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif holds a joint press conference along with Turkish President H.E. Recep Tayyib



# PM suggests Turkiye to join CPEC for regional progress, poverty alleviation

ISTANBUL: Prime Minister ye. This would be a wonder-Shehbaz Sharif on Friday while ful joint cooperation. This will vowing to boost Pak-Turkiye bring prosperity and progress trade and defence cooperation, suggested that Turkiye help alleviate poverty and should join the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to bring about regional prospeople. This will promote perity, alleviate poverty and empower the people through better education and health

The prime minister, addressing a joint press stakeout along with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan here, said Pakistan had been "experiencing and enjoying" the benefits of the CPEC under the Belt and Road Initiative of prime minister started his

to this entire region. This will unemployment. This will certainly empower our poor education and health. This is how we can meet the challenges of today," the prime minister remarked.

He said that he would be "happy" to discuss the matter with the Chinese leadership if Turkiye moved ahead on the  $idea\ of\ joining\ the\ CPEC.$ 

Lauding President Erdogan's warm hospitality, the mutual cooperation. Chinese President Xi Jinping. remarks by conveying condo- at a time when the tensions "I would suggest that let lences over the loss of life in a were escalating in the world and Turkiye did not reflect the this be a cooperation between recent terror incident in Istan- and the international prices of brotherly relations and called China. Pakistan and Turki- bul and prayed for peace of the commodities were skyrocket- for all-out efforts to achieve the

departed souls

He said having sacrificed thousands of lives to terrorism, Pakistan could understand the feeling of the Turkish people and called for joint efforts to wipe out terrorism in all forms and manifestations, not only from Pakistan and Turkiye but the whole world. Referring to the launching

ceremony of the third of the four MILGEM Corvette Ships for the Pakistan Navy, PNS Khaybar, the prime minister said the project was the manifestation of sincerity, purpose and commitment to enhance

The prime minister said

reach of developing countries, so it was important to take the defence cooperation to a higher level for defence of the two brotherly countries.

He said Pakistan and Turkiye's defence cooperation should now meet new challenges and have a much bigger scale in terms of skills, expertise and cooperation.

Shehbaz Sharif said in their meeting the two leaders underscored the effective implementation of the trade and goods agreement the two countries had signed in August this year.

He said the trade volume of \$1 billion between Pakistan

ing and going beyond the target of \$5 billion dollar trade.

In his remarks, Turkish president Erdogan said that both countries were hopeful of further increasing their relations in trade, defence and other sectors.

He said Turkiye fully supported Pakistan's fight against terrorism and thanked Pakistan for supporting Turkive against the terrorist act of the Fatih organisation.

He said 2022 marked the celebration of the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

Expressing grief over the deaths and destruction caused by floods, the Turkish president said, "Our solidarity has been shown to each other during challenging times... Pakistan's joy is our joy and their grief is our grief." APP

### Guard of honour to PM Shehbaz reflects concrete example of Pak-Turkiye partnership: Marriyum



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Friday took to twitter to share some glimpses of the guard of honour accorded to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at the launching

Minister Shehbaz Sharif was accom- Marriyum tweeted.

panied by Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan at the launching ceremony.

"PM Shehbaz accompanied by Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan was accorded guard of honour at the launching ceremony of Milgem Corvette ships, reflecting concrete example of Pakistan-Türkiye partceremony of Milgem Corvette ships. nership which transcends conven-According to the minister, Prime tional ties and diplomatic niceties,"

## Faizabad sealed as govt gears up to deal with PTI's long march

**Staff Reporter** 

ISLAMABAD: The government is gearing up to deal with the long march of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), for Faizabad has been sealed from Murree Road by placing containers on Friday. Accord-

will remain open to travel between Rawalpindi and Islamabad. The Red Zone has also been sealed by placing containers at two locations. The exit and entry points of Nadra Chowk and Express Chowk has been closed. The Red Zone will be open for traffic from Margalla Road and Serena Chowk. ing to Islamabad police, Old Airport Other highways of Islamabad will Road and Shamsabad Double Road also be open for traffic.

### COAS, family tax details leak: probe finds two FBR officers 'guilty'

alleged involvement in the leak of Army chief (COAS) General Qamar login and password. Javed Bajwa, family's income tax details, sources said on Friday. FBR officers is underway under Following the leaking of tax details, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar directed the SAPM on Revenue Mr. Tariq Mehmood Pasha to personally lead an immediate investigation into the violation of tax law and breach of FBR data, affix responsibility and submit a report at the earliest.

According to the initial report, Deputy Commissioner Inland Revenue, Atif Nawaz Waraich and DC Inland Revenue Zahoor Ahmed information, INP

Govt urged to show

fresh elections

ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Fawad

Chaudhry has said that the govern-

be involved in political decisions and

that political parties should devise

a framework themselves. "People

should be recognized as stakeholders

and their decisions should be taken

as the final word by rulers.

seriousness & agree to

ISLAMABAD: Two Federal Board have been removed from their posts of Revenue (FBR) officers have been in the light of the report's findings. removed from their posts over their Sources say the COAS, family's tax details were leaked through their

> Further investigation from the Income Tax Ordinance Section 198 and 2016. It may be noted that Finance Minister, last week, took strong notice of the illegal and unwarranted leakage of tax information of the COAS and his family members. According to the statement released by the Finance Ministry, Ishaq Dar said leaking tax information is a sheer violation as the law ensures the confidentiality of tax

Chaudhry added that it was

important to restore democracy for

request regarding the landing of

former premier Imran Khan's land-

ing at Parade Ground on Novem-

ber 26. In a tweet, she alleged that

the "conspirators" were "threatening

Imran's life". INP

## All set for first phase of LG polls in AJK on Sunday

**Abdul Majeed Tahir** 

MUZAFFARABAD: All arrangements have been finalized to conduct the first phase of local government elections in Muzaffarabad division of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on Sunday. This was said by Commissioner Masood ur Rehman and Deputy Inspector General (DIG) police Irfan Masood Kashfi during a joint presser here on Friday.

The election commission had decided a week earlier to conduct LG polls in three phases due to the unavailability of additional security personnel from the federal government. Polling in Muzaffarabad division is going to be held on November 27 (Sunday) while in Poonch division on December

03 and in Mirpur division on Decem-

The commissioner said the polling staff had been trained and assigned the duties at their respective polling stations in three districts of the division while peace and coordination committees had been constituted at each polling station comprising local people and government officials to maintain harmony during the polling.

He said 7,785 polling staff had been deputed on 1,323 polling stations in all three districts and polling material had been transported safely at the offices of returning and assistant returning officers from where will be handed over to staff on Saturday evening or Sunday



He said the presiding officers had been empowered with magisterial powers to peacefully conduct the polling and implement the code of conduct issued by election commission under election laws and criminal procedure code (Cr.PC) and authorized for a summary trail.

He said any violation of code of

of candidate could disqualify a candidate even after the election and called the administration and polling staff to strictly implement the code of conduct.

The DIG said all security arrangement had been made final with scheme of deployment according to category of the polling stations, besides quick response force at each sector and routine patrolling and policing by the police force.

He said more thousand troops will be deployed at polling stations besides the army would be ready to respond at any untoward situation.

He said the area had been divided into 13 zones and 125 sectors with a SP rank officer as commander at Zone and conduct by any candidate or supporter DSP rank as commander at sector. APP

#### Jamad-ul-Awwal crescent sighted

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Friday announced that the crescent of Jamad-ul-Awwal, 1444 AH has been sighted.

In pursuance of the decision of Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee, the first Jamad-ul-Awwal shall commence from Saturday, November, 26

The Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee's Chairman Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad chaired the Zonal Ruet-e-Hilal Committee's meeting along with other members in Lahore.

Announcing the crescent of Jamad-ul-Awwal, he said the weather condition was clear in most of the areas of the country.

He said due to clear weather condition, the committee received a number of testimonies of crescent sighting from all over the country.

# **Tuberculosis Community Rights** and Gender Advocacy Seminar organized by DOPASI Foundation

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Samina Alvi on Friday said as Pakistan was ranked fifth among the Tuberculosis (TB) high-burden countries, it was necessary for all stakeholders and partners to make the disease an essential element of all primary healthcare and communicable disease control strategies and mechanisms.

The first lady, in her address at the "Tuberculosis Community Rights and Gender Advocacy Seminar", said it was extremely saddening to learn that there were still 600,000 new TB cases emerging every year.

"48,000 lose their lives which means every single day we are losing 131 precious lives. Based on these statistics, Pakistan is ranked fifth among TB high-burden countries accounting for over 60% of the burden in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region," she remarked.



She expressed confidence that Cancer which unfortunately was the Government of Pakistan considered a taboo in Pakistan would ensure its full commitment and determination to affected by Breast Cancer felt bring about a meaningful difference in the fight against TB.

The seminar was organized by DOPASI Foundation in cooperation with End TB Paki-

Samina Alvi told the audience tions with Dopasi Foundation that she has been leading the and the Stop TB Partnership,

guilt in coming forward or never even realized that they had it until it was too late. similar stigma attached to it

a few years back and women "I am aware that TB has a

through my recent interacawareness campaign on Breast Geneva who have supported of TB affected population.

in integrating Breast Cancer Module in the One Impact mobile platform for empowering and engaging affected communities," she added.

The First Lady confirmed that there has been progress, adding, although, slow and steady - efforts channelized towards the cause have resulted in getting closer to achieving TB control targets, which was an encouraging sign for all of them who hold TB prevention and control close to their heart.

"It is, however, extremely saddening to learn that there are still 600,000 new TB cases emerging every year. 48,000 lose their lives which means every single day we are losing 131 precious lives, she remarked, adding, it clearly indicated that there was still space for more to be done in delivering healthcare services to a sizeable proportion

#### Pakistani rupee keeps shedding value against US dollar ISLAMABAD: The rupee kept slumpas compared to the interbank rate.

ment should show some seriousness the country's progress. On the other

now and agree to hold fresh elections hand the PTI leader Shireen Mazari

immediately. In a tweet on Friday, he has criticised the Islamabad adminstressed that institutions should not istration for rejecting the party's

ing against the US dollar as the local unit lost 8 paisa in its value in the interbank trading on Friday. As per the information received by the money market today, the value of US dollar appreciated by 8 paisa, pushing its exchange rate at Rs224. Thursday, the US dollar was closed at Rs223.92 with Pakistani currency depreciated by 0.05%. The local unit is slumping on account of a differential between the US dollar rates in the open market and interbank trading.

The high rate of the USD in the open market is creating a grey market while the exchange companies are facing a dearth of dollars. The USD rate in grey market is higher by Rs20-30 per dollar

Besides this, another factor which is affecting the rupee rate is the speculation that the IMF would subject the release of its next tranche to fresh conditions. Pakistan's official foreign exchange reserves have also fallen by \$134 million to \$7.826 billion by week ended November 18, 2022 as compared with \$7.96 billion a week

The decrease in foreign exchange reserves is attributed to external debt repayment, the statement issued by SBP read. The market is also jittery over the fact that country's foreign exchange reserves have declined to meet only one and a half months cover for import payment. News Desk

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

# Gluco Kahani's memorable Children's Day rhyme teaches the spirit of helping others

KARACHI: This Interna-Freans Gluco has launched a new rhyme, 'QadamBarhaein Hum' in their popular seriesin the children's edutainment cate-Kahani's young fans through which they can learn social, national language Urdu.

ship with Bilal Maqsood and Talisman Animation featuring tional Children's Day, Peek rhymes in our local language with the agenda to give purposeful content to our future generation. Together with Bilal's soulful voice, these rhymes directed gory, called Gluco Kahani. This by Umer Adil, provide quality rhyme comes as a gift to Gluco contentwith invaluable life lessons for children.

moral, and ethical values in their ameaningful and heart touching message in the context of the the power of coming together in Gluco Kahani is a platform difficult times Pakistan is expelaunched under the umbrella riencing - that of catastrophic addition to Gluco Kahani's plat-

of Peek Freans Glucoin partner- floods faced by millions of Pakistanis. 'QadamBarhaein Hum' is a metaphoric depiction of the nation coming together to help their communities. It is the story of a bird, whose nest and fledglings are caught in a heavy storm, but the brave animals of the jungle work together to rescue them successfully.

The heart-touching concept Our latest rhyme relays teaches our children the importance of empathy, kindness, and the face of adversity. This new

form holds a special place in the series because of the message it carries. It resonates with the humanitarian efforts of Pakistanis, from all walks of life, coming forwardin times of

The rhyme 'QadamBarhaein Hum'builds on the eight, previously released rhymes as a medium for parents to help teach their childrenimportant life lessons. It also adheres to the vision of Peek Freans Gluco to nourish the lives of

that children can resonate with, given its messaging.

"Children observe and absorb emotions and messages from their environment. And recently they have witnessed the incredible distress faced by the people of Pakistan. This rhyme, in the simplest of ways, acts as a reminder to us all to show compassion for others when tragedystrikes and teaches the values of empathy, kindness,



and community to our children. Freans Gluco's commitment to wholistically" said GM Marketfuture generations with good This project continues Peek help nourish future generations ing, Aaminah Saeed of EBM.



KARACHI: Activists of Human Rights Council of Pakistan hold a banner during protest on the eve of Youm-e-Hiba Jan, in





RAWALPINDI: Prize Distribution ceremony held at Zohra Human Resource Development Centre (ZHRDC).

A prize distribution ceremony held at Zohra Human Resource Development Centre (ZHRDC) on 23 November 2022 with traditional enthusiasm. The ceremony was organized to acknowledge and appreciate the exceptional and outstanding performance and efforts of  $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1$ teachers, students and administration of the FGEI. Faculty members and winners of Pehchan Pakistan Quiz Show 2022, STEAM activities & Pakistan political map reading competition of FBISE 2022 were awarded for their remarkable performance.

# TMUC Islamabad formalizes Student Council 2022-23

**Spokesman Report** 

izing the student body representa- ing the institution's values. tives and to encourage Millennials to at TMUC, Sector H-11/4 Islamabad, says a press release.

Ambassador of Poland in Pakistan His Excellency Mr. Maciej Pisarski graced this auspicious occasion as the honorable Chief Guest. Proud parents of the elected members were also present at the occasion as the Ambassador student council which they received with immense pride and fervor.

Speaking at the occasion, Execu-

tion Group Ms. Anna Faisal urged the ble youth ambassadors and assume students to remain focused on their their leadership roles to make a revo-ISLAMABAD: The Millennium studies as they deliver on their council lutionary change in TMUC as well as Universal College TMUC, Islam- roles while representing The Millen- Pakistan. He appreciated the students abad formalizes Student Council nium Universal College (TMUC) and while commending the TMUC lead-2022-2023 in an effort to regular- their country responsibly and uphold- ership for providing the students

TMUC Islamabad students vowed become responsible pupil and citizen under oath that they would faithfully execute their duties as members of the Student Council and devote themselves to the serious pursuit of knowledge and truth to become contributing members of the society and humanity at large.

Addressing the Student Council on the occasion, Chief Guest Ambassador of Poland administered the oath after Maciej Pisarski, emphasized on the awarding the council sashes to the importance of leadership and council representing the institution. He also appreciated the brilliant students selected as council representatives, tive Director The Millennium Educa- urged them to become responsi-

with the right academic atmosphere, opportunities, and mentorship.

The Student Council provides support to TMUC students in student-related matters including academic, personal and social affairs. Also the council works in collaboration to provide students with opportunities that enrich their experience through student-led extracurricular activities and volunteering.

TMUC firmly believes in the ideology of nurturing forward-thinking and organized future leaders by equipping them with the best of analytical abilities and interpersonal skills required for facing global challenges.



## Agriculture: Need of the hour

B Dr. Khushbakht Zahid

griculture is believed to be the economic backbone of the AJK. In the current scenario of inflation reduced the purchasing power of rural poor households, problems in agriculture production and marketing in the state have further aggravated the rural livelihood as well as jeopardized state food security. Food security for growing population of AJK is becoming great challenge as cultivated land is limited; the only option left is to increase the productivity of land.

In Azad Kashmir society is predominantly agrarian with 70 percent population living in rural areas and unemployment rate is 10.57%. Although contribution of farm income is low around 20% of household income. As a result, Bukhat Zahid from agriculture departfarmers are losing their interest in farming. Making agriculture a profitable activity it should be sustained and refined in such a way that it becomes profitable and source of income for educated unemployed youth.

In this region where agriculture is backbones of economy with no industrial base there is dire need to focus on agriculture self-sufficiency and sustainability s. In this territory farmers are cause low productivity and less market producing below the optimal level of production with no market orientation. There is a need to identify such problems in this sector so that a comprehensive policy and action plans could be formulated to address these problems for enhancement of productivity and marketing mechanism.

Keeping this objective Dr Khush



ment won and completed project sponsored by research on social transformation and sustainable development ASTA PIDE under planning commission of Pakistan for the year 2022. This study help in devising workable plan to achieve sustainable development goal 2 that is zero hunger. To end hunger, fulfill the nutrition need and food security, this study assesses the factors that participation by conducting an interview from different stakeholders relative to this sector including farmers and by accompanying farm survey from all the districts of AJK.

Econometric analysis was done to interpret the results. The policy recommendations are suggested based on available data analysis, themes, and

suggestions. The study suggested that farmers in this region are 58 percent efficient in production, indicating that sample farmers might achieve the maximum production level by raising their efficiency to 42 percentage point by suitable policy targets.

Marketing position is also not satisfactory. Farmers contribution in market was less, 47 percent of farmers have less than 50 percent market participation and 20 percent did not participate in market. Only remaining 33 percent have market participation greater than 50 percent. The positive impact of inputs on output, indicated that measures to enhance input availability would be beneficial, or the fact that higher traction power increases efficiency may indicate the need for private-public partnerships to boost power availability. Similarly, the positive role of training in increasing market participation may imply that some training programmes are beneficial.

Improve in infrastructure by constructing local markets, roads and storage houses also positively contributed toward market participation. To this purpose, the study demonstrates that farm-level inputs and market accessibility factors have a significant impact on agricultural productivity and market participation. The findings also revealed that, in addition to market accessibility factors, production efficiency-technical efficiencies play a substantial impact in influencing market participation levels, with a positive coefficient of 1.39.

There is a room to increase efficiency level by 42 percent. Following steps are needed to control the effects of farm inputs on production, it should be available to every farmer timely and in good quality and quantity. Socioeconomic factors particularly influenced farm performance. Education and agriculture skills along with training should create awareness and interest so that more educated people are involved in agriculture. Innovative machines should improve the management capabilities of the agricultural community and, thus, enhance technical efficiency and market participation, such as by designing and promoting infrastructure support; road, market, storage and warehouse, and transport facilities.

Create off-farm employment and investment opportunity to help extremely inefficient farmers to start

agro-related enterprises. Increase the size of the farm by bringing more land under cultivation.



Programs that encourage landowners to utilize waste lands should be intro-

Poor monitoring mechanisms was noted. To evaluate the impact of development schemes, advisory support systems, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms can assist in reorganizing schemes to achieve desired goals.

Credit and short-term loan have a significant impact on market participation, using the loan to convert traditional agriculture to modern commercial farming and hence market partic-

Strategies need to be devised to quip farmers with marketing skills and opportunities so that their products can reach the market at a lower cost and in less time.

Higher expected return encourages entrants to the market and greater volume sales for those capable of generating marketable surpluses. Farmers' access to market pricing systems and information is very important for enhancing agricultural sector econom-

ic output.

Agricultural extension should be market oriented. Reorganize the agricultural extension system to meet the challenges of market, because extension agents are the ones who are in close contact with community, they should be well equipped with update information about marketing and provide good training to improve their management skills under the changing environment.

The crops are already under water stress, and a rise in temperature would increase the plants' water demand. As a result, increasing water storage capacity in the region is critical for ensuring agricultural production system sustainability and market participation.

The study's findings also point to the notion that increasing production efficiencies increases market participation. As a result, greater infrastructure and farmer-friendly policies are required to remove input and output market inefficiencies, lowering production costs, and making the sector more competitive.





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

#### **EMERGENCY**

EMENORIA I
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police9270601-20

#### **Women Police Stations**

Islamabad	922259
Rawalpindi	9270601-2
ENQU	IRY

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

#### **HOSPITALS**

5611111
561116
561116
9270907-11
5556311-4
9290301-7
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#### **DCFaisalabad** has expressed deep concern over dog biting case

#### 👺 Bureau Report.

FAISALABAD: The Deputy Commissioner Imran Hamid Sheikh b expressed deep concern over dog bitting case specially to children in different areas and directed the relevant departments to implement Trap Neuter Vaccinated and Release project with high responsibility and presented a detailed progress after 15 days. A meeting was also held in this connection under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner HQ Kashif Raza Awan. Livestock, Metropolitan Corporation, District Health Authority and other relevant departments participated. ADC HQ realized the officers that cases are being reported of dog bitting in some areas so that implementation on TNVR must be taken necessary.

# Book launched and documentary released on Pakistani mountains

#### 👺 Report By Quratual Ain

ISLAMABAD: A book launching and documentary release ceremony held at Islamabad in connection with the International Mountain Day celebrations. Mr. Muhammad Abduhu, the famous writer recently published his book titled "Pakistan Trekking Guide". The author explained about the silent features of the book which includes information about the trekking, passes, lakes, glaciers of Northern Pakistan. The relevant preparation of treks, equipment required, health challenges, local culture and allied information has been included in the book to provide guidance to the tourists visiting mountain areas of Pakistan. Mr. Abu Zafar Sadiq, President, Alpine Club of Pakistan, Mr. Zofran Ellahi, PSAI, Mr. Munwar Iqbal, Hafiz Basharat, Abdul Wahid, Mr.



AkramAwan and Faizi Awan reviewed promotion of trekking. and other mountain lovers reviewed the book. They all appreciated the efforts on Gondogoro Peak highlighting the made by Mr. Muhammad Abduhu for achievement of MasterWise Eliezer was

The documentary "The Confidence"

sion. Mr. Ashir Ch. his son Aliezer and Ms. Hania climbed this peak last year in Autumn. This documentary reflects the high courage and confidence of a child who climbed this peak despite many odds and challenges. It serves as a source of motivation for the children to attract them towards this novel and challenging sport. The documentary was also commented by different mountaineers and trekkers and appreciated the achievements of the child. Abu Zafar Sadiq deemed it a tribute of Women as Hania's achievement is aligned with the theme of International Mountain Day i.e. Women Move Mountains. He observed that summit by Hania without having experience of climbing seems mountain moved by her. The support of Ashir Ch. as father to encourage his son Alizer is also appreciated by the partic-

Aftabur Rehman Rana, Managing Director, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation was the Chief Guest at this occasion. He also appreciated the efforts of Mr. Muhmmad Abduhu for writing the book. He also praised the achievement of Wise Aliezer, Hania and Ashir Ch. The Chief Guest presented shields to Mr. Muhammad Abduhu and Aliezer, hania an Ashir Ch. as a token of appreciation. The books of the author were presented to the mountaineers as a Chief Guest.

The key stakeholders of mountain sports and tourism Alpine Club of Pakistan, its constituents, Punjab Alpine Association, Islamabad Alpine Association; Private School Association, Tour operators and others attended this event. The ceremony ended with the vote of thanks by Abu Zafar Sadiq.

#### Lok Mela in Capital

ISLAMABAD: Girls wearing Chitrali traditional dresses in folk festival during Lok Mela at Lok Vrisa in Federal Capital



## Bestway Cement receives Carbon Neutralization Pioneer Award

#### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Acknowledged for its vision and relentless pursuit of environment excellence, Bestway received the "Carbon Neutralization Pioneer Award" from LONGi Green Energy Technology Co. Ltd., at a prestigious event held in Dubai to recognize organisations at the forefront of renewable energy revolution.

LONGi is the largest solar panels manufacturer in the world, developing solutions for utility scale solar power plants, industries and households.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director of Bestway Cement Limited, Mr. Irfan Sheikh, expressed elation over being the only Company in Pakistan to have been bestowed with such a unique and prestigious honour. He reiterated



towards reliance on green and renewable sources of energy in order to reduce the carbon foot print as well as dependency on at all it production facilities highlighted that Bestway had innovation, energy and envi- follow suit. The Company took ronment conservation in the another giant leap and success-

the Company's commitment cement industry of Pakistan. Bestway was the first to introduce Waste Heat Recovery Power Plant (WHRPP) the national grid. Mr. Sheikh making it a forerunner in adopting this green technolalways been a trailblazer in ogywhile prompting others to

fully installed Off-grid Captive Solar Power Plants dispersed across all its production facilities at Chakwal, Kallar Kahar, Hattar and Farooqia with a total capacity of 62 MWs. This is by far the largest distributed captive solar power generation capacity to date; not just in Pakistan but in the entire region. Moving further, installation of another 52 MWs of solar power capacity at its various plants is well underway and is expected to be fully operational by March 2023, thereby taking the Company's power generation from solar to 114 MWs. Bestwayalready generates 40% of its power requirements through green and renewable sources which is the highest by any industry in Pakistan. With capacity enhancement, that percentage

# Diabetes in Pakistan is increasing at an alarming rate: PANAH

#### **B** Husna Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Diabetes in Pakistan is increasing at an alarming rate. Pakistan has 3rd highest burden of people living with diabetes and the rate in which diabetes is increasing Pakistan is world number 1 country with fastest growth of diabetes. In just two years no. of people living with diabetes has increased from 19.4 million to 33 million. If no urgent policy action taken, number of people living with diabetes will increase to 62 million by 2045. Sugary drinks are major contributors to diabetes. Government shall take immediate policy actions to reduce their consumption. This was stated by health, policy and economic experts and parliamentarians in "Dissemination of International Diabetic Federation Atlas 2021" organized by Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAH) at a local hotel in Islamabad. Event was attended by Parliamentarians, health professionals, government representatives, civil society and media. The event was hosted by PANAH's General Secretary Sanaullah Ghumman. The guests included Professor Dr. Basit Ali, Secretary Gener-



al diabetic association of Pakistan, Dr. Qaiser Sajjad, President, Pakistan medical association, Major. Gen. (R) Masud ur Rehman Kiani, President PANAH, Mr. Munawar Hussain, consultant at Global Health Advocacy Incubator,, Uzma Jadoon, MNA,Dr. Shehzad Ali Khan, VC, health services academy, Col. Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Mirza, Dr. Mazhar Qayyum, Eye specialist, Dr. Baseer Achakzai, Ms. Sarwat Tahira Habib, advisor sales tax and excise FTO, Senator Sardar Shafique civil society representatives, health professionals and media. Dr. Shazia Aslam Soomro was the chief guest of the occasion.

While addressing to conference, Gen. Masud Ur Rehman Kiania said that one of the major cause of recent alarming increase in NCDs in Pakistan is our

unhealthy food choices. If government does not take effective policy actions immediately like imposing heavy taxes on SSBs to reduce their consumption then we will have a severe challenge to our public health. Professor Dr. Abdul Basit, general secretary, diabetic association of Pakistan shared the key finding of IDF Atlas 2021. Mr. Munawar Hussain shared that sugar sweetened beverages are among the major contributors of diabetes. Regular intake of sugary drinks is associated with 30 % higher risk of developing type II diabetes. Dr. Nisar Cheema senior leader and MNA, PML-N said that the findings of IDF Atlas 2021 are eye opening for all of us. He assured that he along with other parliamentarians will raise voice in assembly on increasing taxes on SSBs.

Mr. Sana Ullah Ghumman said that PANAH is engaged at all levels from general public to law and policy makers increase awareness in general public on health harms of sugar sweetened beverages and for laws and policies to reduce the consumption of these unhealthy

He said that beverage industry is misguiding policy makers at every step and creating barriers to the policy process. It is unfortunate that such an important bill submitted by Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination is stalled at cabinet. Earlier the bill was stalled at FBR and PANAH filed a petition in 2020 to ombudsman to revitalize the bill and got success. However, beverage industry is trying to block the bill at every step due to their corporate interest and they don't have any interest with the health of public. He requested Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Health Minister of Pakistan to intervene and build consensus for approval of this life saving health contribution bill at earliest. Senator Sardar Shafique Tareen assured his support to PANAH and will raise his voice in parliament

#### Imran Sheikh chaired the District Polio Eradication Committee meeting

#### Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: The special Anti Polio campaign in 130 Union Councils of three tehsil of the district would be started from 28 November to 4th of December and as many 0.677 million children upto age of five years would be administered by polio drops for which 2289 polio teams will perform their duties.

The Deputy Commissioner Imran Hamid Sheikh chaired the District Polio Eradication Committee meeting and took briefing on the arrangements while CEO District Health Authority Dr. Kashif Mehmood Kamboo gave briefing and said that the special polio campaign would be implemented in 113 Union Councils of the city, 7 of tehsil Saddar and 10 UCs of Jaranwala. The Deputy Commissioner directed to implement on micro plan and asked Assistant Commissioners to monitor the campaign in letter and spirit. He said that all out resources of publicity should be used for the information of parents and no child upto five years age be missed for administering polio drops during this special campaign.

### Governor Sindh, Commissioner Karachi will jointly inaugurate New GCT Hilal School

#### News Desk

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori and Commissioner Karachi, Muhammad Iqbal Memon will jointly grace the occasion of the inauguration ceremony of New GCT Hilal School (160th School) by Green Crescent Trust (GCT) as Chief Guest at 10: 00 am TODAY in an underprivileged area of Azizabad, Karachi.

Host of the event, Sardar Muhammad Yasin Malik, patron in chief GCT, Zahid Saeed, CEO, GCT and others will also speak on the occasion. Presently, GCT has the enrollment of 29,000 deserving students and it is providing School Education services for deprived communities for the past 28 years

#### Commissioner Lahore chaired meeting for CBD Punjab Boulevard



Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Commissioner Lahore Mr. Amir Jan chaired a meeting regarding CBD Punjab Boulevard, Kalma Chowk Underpass Remodeling and other development projects of the Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA). The authority is also known as Central Business District (CBD Punjab).

Deputy Commissioner Lahore, Mr. Muhammad Ali, CEO PCBDDA, Mr. Imran Amin, Assistant Commissioner Model Town Mr. Ibrahim Arbab, Executive Director Commercial PCBDDA Mr. Mohammed Omer, Executive Director Technical PCBDDA Mr. Riaz Hussain, senior officials of City Traffic Police Lahore, WASA Lahore, PHA Lahore, PTCL, Lesco, Metropolitan Corporation Lahore, PSCA Lahore and PCBDDA were present during the meeting. Mr. Riaz Hussain ED Technical of PCBD-DA briefed Commissioner Lahore, about the development progress on Kalma Chowk Underpass Remodeling Project. During the meeting he briefed the attendees that pile beam work from Saint Marry Park to Center Point is near completion and pile beam excavation is also started on Ali Zaib Road, authority has done all the necessary arrangements to ensure public safety and flawless traffic flow.

#### Institute of Islamic Education is a nationwide movement for promotion of the Qur'an

#### News Desk



RAWALPINDI: Professor Abrar Ahmed Khan said that A true and sincere Muslim can become when his outer and inner body is related to the Holy Qur'an and the person of the Holy Prophet.

The grand function of the annual gathering of Quranic remembrance and teaching of Islamia Khayaban Sirsyed Rawalpindi will be held on Sunday, November 27 at 10: 30 am.

The Institute of Islamic Education is a nationwide movement for the promotion of the Qur'an. So far, millions of

people have benefited from the guidance of the source of the Qur'an. These views were expressed by Prof Abrar Ahmad Khan, Allama Hafiz Sheikh Muhammad Qasim, Director of the Institute of Islamic Education, Syed Faisal Nauman Riaz Shah, Syed Nauman Riaz Shah, Sheikh Arif Shail, Allama Bashir Al Qadri, in a joint statement.

Prof Abrar Ahmad Khan said that the mission of the Institute of Islamic Studies is to light the lamps of Quranic thoughts everywhere.

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## **Eco-degradation** endangering biodiversity, food security

cosystem degradation through depletion of natural resources like water, air, soil and habitat is bringing about destructive effects on the environment endangering biodiversity, wildlife and food security.

With the rising population and availability of meagre resources to excel in this domain, the environmental issues continued to aggravate over the years. Massive tree cutting resulting in floods, using agricultural land for housing societies and ill-planned cities and towns have further aggravated

Therefore, the natural resources that provide the basis of "our existence are massively under pressure as we witness the water table going down rapidly and agricultural land shrinking due to unruly construction".

According to recent World Bank findings, climate change-related disasters have affected over 75 million Pakistanis during the last three decades in terms of agriculture and bio-diversity damages incurring estimated losses of over \$ 29 billion (roughly \$ 1 billion per annum).

As Pakistan is a signatory to numerous international agreements and protocols, there was a dire need to focus on this area diligently. Therefore, the present government efficiently pleaded the case of developing nations at the Conference of Parties (CoP-27) held in Egypt this November and sailed through successfully in getting created multi-billion funds to cope with climate change challenges.

"Agriculture and bio-diversity play a critical role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," said Asad Imran, Director Sustainable Agriculture and Food Programme at WWF. "Eco-degradation and climate change are issues of our major concern as Pakistan is among the most vulnerable countries to these phenomena."

He said climate change was also a major threat to our food security as it was seriously affecting agriculture, forests, and fisheries. "Increasing sea level is another threat that may submerge many parts of coastal areas in Sindh province badly affecting Indus delta and highly productive cropping

He said modern agriculture was characterized by input-intensive practices with enhanced usage of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. "This tendency has also badly affected our land's natural fertility and contaminated groundwater."

To avert these damages, Asad Imran pleaded to use organic fertilizers and develop insects' resistant seed varieties. "Ecological degradation may lead us to food insecurity by ducing agricultural productivity."

Likewise, bio-diversity has significant value for humanity at all levels because of its role in ecosystem services. In future, it is expected to cause a major loss of some species and changes in genetic biodiversity.

"It is affecting our lifeline – the water resource- as we see the water table going down and reducing canal water availability for irrigation," Imran said. "It may also alter our agriculture output including the seasonality of crops' quality and productivity, caused by plant diseases and pest attacks."

# **Enrollment of out-of-school** children

#### Fakhar Alam

orking against the time, Asad Khan, hardly a 12-year-old mechanic was busy like a honeybee to repair water geysers, batteries, heaters. and other electric appliances scattered all around him in his small workshop to meet the placed orders in wake of declining mercury levels in Peshawar.

He starts working from early morning till sunset at his maternal uncle's workshop to earn two times bread for his family at Pabbi station Nowshera. The motivated youngster had entered the electronics repairing work three years back to financially support his seven-member family due to poverty.

After three-year of expertise in fixing pipes of electric and gas geysers, Asad was called 'Ustad' (master) by his maternal uncle Sadagat Khan and fellow mechanics. "I had left school at class V to support my poor ailing parents and meet the education's expanses of my two young brothers and as many sisters," Asad told APP while narrating his ordeal of labor.

Earning about Rs500 per day from his shop, Asad also provides home services to make some extra money to assist his poor father in meeting the domestic expenses including electricity and gas bills besides the educational expenses of his siblings.

The young boy has a desire to get a diploma in electrical engineering from an er, the financial position was a hurdle for him to accomplish his dream.

Like Asad Khan, there are thousands of out-of-school children (OSC) in the province due to socioeconomic imbalances lack of coordination between government departments, and absence of unsafe means of schools transportation, especially for girls and early child age marriages.

According to a survey of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) 2021, there were about 22.8 million OSCs in the country including 4.7 million children aged between 5 to 16 years in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The survey revealed that the OSC included 2.9 million girls and one million belonged to merged tribal districts. Similarly, 74.4 percent of girls and 38.5 percent boys are out of school in the province. Besides 77 percent reported OSC in Palas Kolai, 70 percent in Upper Kohistan and 69 percent in Upper Kohistan, there are reports of about 61 percent of such children in Torghar, 55pc in Shangla, 53 percent in Lakki Marwat and 51 percent each in Tank and Batagram districts.

In merged areas, 66 percent of children are out-of-school in North Waziristan, 63 percent in Bajaur, 61 percent in South Waziristan, 51 percent each in Mohmand and Khyber, and 47 percent each in Kurram and Orakazai and bringing them under school net was a big challenge for the provincial government.

Terming the BISP's survey findings as alarming, the PM-N KP spokesperson and member provincial assembly said

institute for employment abroad, howev- that it negates tall claims of PTI government regarding an increase in children's enrolment in schools and uniform education policy. He said the education sector was devolved to provinces under the 18th constitutional amendment and under article 25-A of the constitution, it was the responsibility of the provincial governments to provide free and compulsory

> education to all children up to metric level. Ikhtair Wali said neither promises of uninformed education were fulfilled nor the dual education system was abolished in the province, adding that private schools continued sucking the blood of millions of people with a roaring increase in tuition fee while PTI leadership paid a deaf ear to it.

He said educational monitoring officers had recently staged protest strikes against KP government for taking irrelevant duties from them including dengue emergency survey, price monitoring, COVID SOPs, polio duty supervision, election duties, citizen portal report flood relief and rehabilitation survey having no additional financial packages.

Taking cognizance of the high ratio of OSC in the country including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the BISP has started Education Scholarship programs to motivate parents to enroll their children and discourage dropout rate.

Under the BISP, Rs1500 per three months were being provided to each boy student and Rs2000 to girl at primary level, Rs2500 for boy and Rs3000 for girl at the secondary level and Rs3500 for boy and Rs4000 per girl at higher secondary

Since the inception of the BISP, 9.4 million children were enrolled to date and Rs40 billion were disbursed under BISP's Education Scholarship program.

Syed Shahab Khan, Senior Planning Officer, Education Department said that a Rs3.7 billion project has been planned for education stipends to students of class 1-12 and Rs500 million for school bags and stationary in merged areas.

He said 200 alternate learning pathways centers would be opened for children aged 9-16 for OSC while Rs3 billion would be spent on converting two rooms schools to six rooms besides converting mosques schools into schools.

The construction of 100 new primary schools was proposed for the upcoming fiscal year while 150 middle schools to secondary schools in settled districts would be achieved. He said a Rs. one billion projects was proposed for the establishment of early childhood education program to be executed next fiscal year.

Shahram Khan Tarkai, Minister for Education, told the news agency that a second shift in government schools were started to OSC.

He claimed that 850,000 students were enrolled this year in KP, adding that COVID-19 was the main reason behind the increase of drop-out of students. He said that 50,000 students were also enrolled in 1,443 second shift schools. He said Stars of KP. Rehamatul Alamin and ETEA merit scholarships were launched to increase the student's enrollment.



## Uzbekistan & France agree on the development of high-level comprehensive partnership - II

#### **Spokesman Report**

he result of the joint work was the creation of extensive exhibition space in the Richelieu Hall and the Department of Islamic Art at the Louvre, consisting of five chronological tours: "The Era of the Oasis States and Kingdoms: Diffusion of Cultures on the Silk Road", "The Middle Ages and the Flourishing of Art", "The Spread of Islam, the Renaissance in Culture and Science in Central Asia", "From Avicenna to Genghis Khan", "The Era of Great Empires: The Age of Timurids and Shaibanids".

The exposition, covering more than 1,500 years of the history of Uzbekistan, consists of 138 unique items from 16 museums of the country, including 70 exhibits jointly restored especially for the exhibition. The collection also includes 31 exhibits from major museums in France, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The leaders of Uzbekistan and France, who became the first visitors to the exhibition, accompanied by its curators, got acquainted with historical artifacts from the settlements of Dalverzin-Tepe and Khalchayan, wall paintings from the red hall of Varakhshi, carved panels from Kafar-Kala, pages of the Kattalangar Quran, a double-leaf door from the Mausoleum of Amir Temur, painting with the image of ambassadors from Afrasiab and other exhibits. Detailed information was provided about their creation and discovery, epochs and personalities related to their history.

organization of the exhibition and the special warmly saw off President Shavkat Mirziyoyev

to everyone who contributed to the preparation of this most important event in the cultural life of the two countries.

atmosphere created here, expressed gratitude.

It was emphasized that the exhibition at the Louvre serves to further strengthen long-standing historical ties, friendship and mutual understanding not only between the peoples of France and Uzbekistan, but also between Europe and Central Asia as a whole.

The Institute and the Art and Culture Development Foundation under the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan have jointly organized an exhibition "The Road to Samarkand. Miracles of Silk and Gold", which presents the richest tangible cultural heritage of Uzbekistan of the 19th and 20th centuries.

For the first time in France, from November 23 this year to June 4, 2023, more than 300 exhibits from the 9 largest museums in Uzbekistan will be presented to the general international public.

The exhibition includes collections of textiles, clothing and footwear, hats, jewelry, as well as 24 paintings by the Turkestan and Russian avant-garde from the museums of Nukus, Samarkand, Bukhara and Tashkent. 89 pieces of jewelry were restored as part of the preparations. A tour of the exhibition was held for the Presidents, detailed information about the exhibits was presented.

The French side expressed admiration for the colorfulness and elegance of the products, testifying to the creative genius and skill of our artisan ancestors.

Thereupon, the official visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to France ended. The heads of state, noting the high level of President Emmanuel Macron and his spouse

with his spouse.

The Head of the state met with the CEO of the French Development Agency and the business circles of this country. A meeting was held with the President of the National Assembly of France.

The Presidents of Uzbekistan and France held talks at the Elysee Palace, and together with their spouses got acquainted with largescale exhibitions of Uzbekistan's cultural herit $age\,at\,the\,Louvre\,Museum\,and\,the\,Arab\,World$ 

Following the visit, the heads of state adopted a Joint Statement to develop a high-level comprehensive partnership.

14 agreements aimed at further enhancing relations between Uzbekistan and France, were concluded. Among them is the Strategic Partnership Agreement with the French Development Agency for the implementation of the Cooperation Program for 2023-2025 and the Cooperation Program between Foreign Ministries for 2023-2024.

Declarations on cooperation in cultural and historical heritage, preschool, public and higher education, and the development of public service were also signed.

Documents have been signed in civil aviation, the fight against corruption, the professional development of judges, French language training and other areas.

Bilateral agreements were reached on the implementation of priority projects of trade-economic, investment and financial cooperation worth more than 6 billion euros.

Following the visit, officials of the French Government saw off the distinguished guest at the Paris-Orly Airport. The President of Uzbekistan has departed for Tashkent.

# **Meeting food security** challenge amidst growing population an uphill task

#### **Imran Nazir**

ith a Philippine woman giving birth to eighth billionth baby a few days back, the tally has risen eye brows of many international experts about upcoming phenomena of global food security and inflation. Since dealing with population explosion is already an uphill task world over, changing weather pattern

is further aggravating this challenge with many countries yet to adapt for climatic changes and crops vari-Pakistan is also not an exception with rough estimates showing country's population at around 220

million growing at the rate of nearly two percent and posing serious challenge to meet edible needs of its people. Growing population resulted in shrinking of

ancestral agricultural land share for families, forcing massive population influx to urban areas for employment. This necessitated demand of more residential units and the developers started using fertile land for building housing societies. Moreover, climatic changes and receding irrigation water resource also affected desired output.

The Food Commissioner informed that spending on this sector would generate additional income of approximately Rs 400 billion as compared to the income of same period last year.

As the agriculture sector provides as backbone for our economy, there is dire to invest in research for developing seeds resistant to global warming and climatic changes to push forward the agenda of adaptation.

ment projects would help increase per acre yield of and pest control," he said.

crops and produce climatic and drought resilient seeds of wheat, rice, maize, pulses and oil producing plants," said Chairman Pakistan Agriculture Research Council Dr Ghulam Muhammad Ali.

He said the NARC was assigned to develop new high-yielding and climate tolerant seed verities to enhance per-acre wheat output and it was providing over 200 tons of six high yielding wheat seed varieties to growers. These varieties comprise Pakistan 2003, Borlaug 2016, Zencol 2016, Markaz 2019, NARC Supper and AZRIC Dera.

"National Institute for Genomics and Advanced Biotechnology (NIGAB) has also developed disease, drought and salinity resistant GMOs of wheat, groundnut, potato and tomato," he informed.

He said NIGAB was diligently working on biotechnology and molecular based diagnostic testing of GMOs, identification of unknown olive varieties and adulteration in exportable commodities for quality assurance. "The tissue culture section has replaced infected banana with virus free banana in Sindh province. Now four new varieties of banana are in pipeline."

Project Incharge, Wheat Productivity Enhancement Program in NARC, Dr Sikandar Shaheen informed that they were also providing certified seeds to Punjab Seed Corporation to maximize per-acre crop output. "We are also developing climate smart seeds to meet emerging environmental challenges."

Sikandar informed about providing 350 metric tons wheat seeds under this program, besides conducting 15 training session programs across the country including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir to train 1,500 farmers.

"During coming season, we shall train field extension workers and master trainers to train another "Enhanced investment in research and develop- 2,000 farmers on efficient use of water, fertilizers

# Gen Bajwa inaugurated the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Institute of Cardiology

ISLAMABAD: Upon the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE, and the support and follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Presidential Court, and within the framework of the continuous support of leadership of UAE to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for implementation of the number of humanitarian and development projects, the Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan Army, H.E. General Qamar Javed Bajwa, inaugurated Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Institute of Cardiology, which was established in Quetta city of Baluchistan province, on a construction area of 121,406 square meters, and at the cost of 27.30 million US dollars, financed by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

The opening ceremony of the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Institute of Cardiology attended by Mir Jan Jamali, Governor of Baluchistan, H.E Hamad Obaid Al-Zaabi the Ambassador of UAE in Islamabad and H.E Abdullah AlGhafli Director of UAE-PAK Assistance Programme UAEPAP and number of senior civil and military officials.

At the end of ceremony, the UAE Ambassador, accompanied by the Director of UAE-PAK Assistance Programme, met with a number of patients, doctors and nurses, and



leadership and people of UAE, stressing that the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE stemmed from his keenness to provide support and humanitarian assistance to the people of Balochistan, noting that the development projects that are implemented are evidence of the generosity of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and his interest in helping the needy and the poor and upgrading friendly societies, civilly and humanely.

In a statement on this occasion H.E Abdullah AlGhafli conveyed the greetings of the Programme stressed the impor- were implemented and complet-

tance of the initiatives of His ed, represented by the establish-Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE and the generous support and follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Presidential Court, which aim to contribute to the comprehensive development of the individual and society, support and strengthen the capabilities of the health sector in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and enable it to exercise its effective role in providing best healthcare services to its citizens, as through these initia-Director of UAE-PAK Assistance tives, multiple health projects

ment, equipment and maintenance of a number of hospitals, clinics, health centers and nursing institutes in various Pakistani regions and regions.

The Director explained that the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Institute of Cardiology has special and exceptional importance, as it is the first specialized institute for the treatment of heart diseases in Balochistan province, and the most latest in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, that will serve as a reference center for hospitals and clinics in the nosis and treatment of diseases, cities of Balochistan and neigh-





heart and cancer diagnosis for boring provinces, which quali-by medical and technical cadres specialized treatment services competence.

region with regard to the diag- all residents of the regions and fies it to provide distinguished with expertise and scientific

# Indian forces use women rape as war weapon to punish Kashmiris: Mushaal

跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Malick, wife of jailed Kashmiri Hurrivat Leader Mohammad Yasin Malik, said that Indian occupying forces used rape of women as weapon of war to punish the entire Kashmiri community.

Chairperson Peace and Culture Organization Mushaal Hussein Malick, in her address to a seminar organised by IPRI on International day for the elimination of violence against women, isaid that India has been violating the clauses regulating sexual violence under international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL).

She said that rape and violence used as a weapon of terror constitute a crime against humanity and those responsible should face criminal sanctions.

Mushaal said that the Indian army, police and paramilitary forces involved in sexual violence since 1989 and more than 11,000 women have been raped or gang-raped by Indian occupying forces in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

people in war zones areas are women and children.

She explained that women in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir have horrified titles of half-widow or half mothers and according to Kashmir human right organisation, around 2,500 women have been forced to live as half-widows.

She also cited the report of Kash-



She further said that most vulnerable miri human rights organisations that her husband. revealed that 22,944 women have become widows as a result of the ongoing state terrorism by India since January 1989, as their husbands were killed by Indian forces or police.

> Narrating her own story, Mushaal said that she and her two year old daughter also faced a worst kind of mistreatment in occupied Jammu and Kashmir when she went there to meet molestation for over seven decades.

She said that Indian government patronise rape as a weapon of war and i have witnessed cases of rape in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

She asked the International community and global rights bodies to come forward as women in IIOJK have been enduring egregious human rights abuse, including sexual violence, rape, and

#### Time to vow to end violence against women

**№** News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Violence against women is one of the most prevalent human rights violations across the globe. It is a life-threatening health and protection issue. 32 per cent of women have experienced violence in Pakistan. Half of these women never sought help or told anyone about the violence they had experienced Statistics are not believed to paint a full picture of pain and loss, the stories of survivors do.

Gender-based violence takes many insidious forms in the real world to online platforms including physical, sexual, psychological and digital violence. Any form of violence affects survivors' physical and mental health, may cause anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts or behaviors, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Survivors may lose their sense of individuality, dignity, or self-worth.

One of the most prevalent forms of violence these days is digital violence or virtual abuse of women and girls. Digital violence includes online sexual harassment, cyberbullying and non-consensual use of images and video. Globally, 85 percent of women reported witnessing digital violence, and nearly 40% have experienced it personally. Hate and devaluation of women online cause long-term psychological, emotional and physical distress.

#### White Ribbon Workplace Gender Inclusion Awards for corporate sector launched



跨 Spokesman Report

LAHORE: For the first time in Pakistan, White Ribbon, which is part of global men's movement present in over 50 countries for ending violence against women and girls, has announced the launch of White Ribbon Workplace Gender Inclusion Awards for corporate sector in

Talking to the media, the Founder and President of White Ribbon Mr. Omer Aftab said that these awards will be presented annually to companies which use their position to advocate for gender equality and take steps to advance women's empowerment.



Madam Bushra Rehman President PWCTA Mohammad Ahmed President USPICC Malik Sohail Hussain Secretary General USPICC & PWCTA and Barrister Syed Hasnain Kazmi Counsel Member USPICC called on Mr. Asad Rehman Gilani Secretary Board of Investment.

#### Natasha Noorani Announced as EQUAL Pakistan Ambassador for November

News Desk

KARACHI: A woman adorning many hats but most recently creating waves in the ocean of Pakistani music, Natasha Noorani has been introduced as EQUAL Pakistan's Ambassador for the month of November. Like all ambassadors before her, Natasha was featured on a digital billboard at Times Square, NYC with her track 'Laiyan' also being featured on Spotify to celebrate the occasion.

Natasha Noorani is another musical sensation rapidly rising through the realms of popularity within Pakistan's musical ecosystem. Before her musical career took off, Natasha laid

the founding stone for the premier of Lahore Music Meet which has successfully completed 5 iterations so far. Her solo EP, Munaasib is inspired by R&B, neo-soul and prog-rock while at the same time, soundtracks recorded by her have made it to films like Baaji and Chalay

"It's an immense honour for me to be Spotify's EQUAL Ambassador for Pakistan. It feels like a beautiful celebration of my journey as a musician up till now and I am so excited to showcase more of my music to a larger audience. Spotify is putting in the work to create space, especially digital, that supports more female creators in Pakistan and I'm thrilled to be a part of it," Natasha commented reflecting on her excitement on becoming a part of EQUAL Pakistan's roster of ambassadors.



TOKYO: The Pakistan Mission in Tokyo is continuously engaging with new Japanese companies, who will eventually hire Pakistani semi skilled and skilled manpower. Today Mr. Nishimura Shinichi from MTEC cooperative signed an agreement with Overseas Employment Corporation Pakistan. Ambassador-designate, Raza Bashir Tarar assured full support of the Mission for meaningful manpower related activities between Pakistan and Japan.

# Radio Pakistan interested in further improving its programs: DG

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Chan Xiang, the outgoing Director of Radio FM 98 Dosti Channel called on Director General Radio Pakistan Muhammad Tahir Hassan at his office.

On this occasion, the Director General was given a detailed briefing regarding the current and future cooperation between China Media Group and Radio Pakistan.

The Director General was briefed that there are vast opportunities for cooperation between the two institutions in the future, especially in the field of social media.

Speaking on this occasion, Director General of Radio Pakistan said Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation is interested in further improving its programs and social media platforms by



utilizing the experiences of Chinese media.

The exchange of short duration documentaries was also discussed in detail.

The Director General said with Chinese media in this Radio Pakistan wants to play its role in promoting public relations between the two countries and cooperation

Hu Pingping also attended

 $\operatorname{regard}$  is the need of the hour. The new director of FM 98 the meeting.

Saturday, November 26, 2022

Index	Index Fluctuation	
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close	
42,936.73	42,903.65	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
43,120.54	42,876.24	
Index Value	Change	
4,855,522,964	+33.08	
Percentage	Time	
+0.08%	25 Nov, 2022 5: 00 pm	
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
7,488.74	+22.14	
Percentage	Time	
+0.30%	25 Nov, 4: 29 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average	
Index Value	Change	

=:::::		
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Avera		
Index Value	Change	
34,349.73	+155.67	
Percentage	Time	
+0.46%	25 Nov, 11: 33 an GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Averag		
Index Value Change		

isia i adilidi nikkci diddka Afciago		
Index Value	Change	
28,283.03	-100.06	
Percentage	Time	
-0.35%	25 Nov, 3: 15 pm GMT+9	

#### Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	151.67	152.92
Bahrain Dinar	596.2	600.7
Canadian Dollar	166.97	168.32
China Yuan	31.27	31.52
Danish Krone	31.21	31.56
Euro	246.5	249
Hong Kong Dollar	28.65	29
Indian Rupee	2.74	2.82
Japanese Yen	1.8	1.86
Kuwaiti Dinar	728.6	733.6
Malaysian Ringgit	48.96	49.41
NewZealand \$	140.49	141.69
Norwegians Krone	22.43	22.73
Omani Riyal	582.61	587.11
Qatari Riyal	61.55	62.05
Saudi Riyal	63.5	64.1
Singapore Dollar	162.98	164.28
Swedish Korona	21.34	21.64
Swiss Franc	237.56	239.31
Thai Bhat	6.21	6.31
U.A.E Dirham	65.5	66.1
UK Pound Sterling	287.15	290
US Dollar	228.75	231

## KPK assure FPCCI to Make Charter of Economy a Reality: FPCCI

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has expressed his profound gratitude and optimism that a stan has appointed as the governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He recalled that Governor Haji Ghulam Ali had utilized his tenure as the President of FPCCI for the collective good of the entire business, industry and trade community of Pakistan in a selfless manner.

President FPCCI Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh has requested the former President of FPCCI and now the Governor of KPK to help turn the dream of the Charter of Economy a reality as he is well regarded across party lines; and, has had a long & illustrious career as a force of reconciliation and

nor Haji Ghulam Ali is best choice for the post of governor KPK on the back of his multifaceted, highly accomplished, public-service oriented, administrative and business career. He will prove to be a very well round leader and a father figure to the entire country in general and KPK in

Former president and chairman of FPCCI businessman panel Mian Anjum Nisar, former presidents Mian Nasir Hayat Mago, Zubair Ahmad Malik, senior vice president Muhammad Sulaiman Chawla, former senior vice president Khawaja Shah Zeib Akram, vice presidents Aminullah Baig, Umar Masoodur Rehman, Muhammad Nadeem Qureshi, Chairman Coordination Mirza Abdul Rehman, Former Vice Presidents Qurban Ali, Haji Fazl Elahi, Riaz Khattak, Muhammad Aslam Sheikh, Muhammad Ali Sheikh, Zafar Bakhtawari, Sohail Altaf, Islamabad Chamber President Ahsan Zafar. Bakhtawari, Group Leader of Hazara Division Women's Chamber Firdosa Fazal Durrani, Seema Iqbal of Rawalpindi Women's Chamber and others were also present on the occasion. Congratulating him on becoming the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he wore flower garlands and expressed good wishes by

# ICCI urges African countries to establish direct air links with Pakistan to boost trade and exports

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of foreign diplomats led by Irfan Shaukat, Director (Program), Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan visited Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) for an interaction with the business community. The foreign diplomats, undergoing 28th Junior Diplomatic Course at Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan (FSAP) were representing various countries including Kazakhstan, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Nicaragua, Samoa, Solomon Island, South Sudan, Tanzania, Gambia, Togo, Uganda and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

Addressing the foreign diplomats, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Africa was a huge market and urged that links with Pakistan that would help trade surgical instruments, marble & granite, rice stan's economy.



and exports. He informed the foreign diplo- and others, which can find good markets in mats that Pakistan is exporting many products including textiles, IT & software, pharbriefed them about the business and invest-African countries should establish direct maceuticals, sports goods, leather products, ment opportunities in various sectors of Paki-

Africa, Central Asia and other regions. He

Irfan Shaukat, Director (Program), Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan said that the purpose of bringing foreign diplomats to ICCI is to provide them an opportunity to interact with the business community and understand the business dynamics so that they can play an effective role for economic diplomacy. He said that FSA has trained over 1500 diplomats from 49 countries. He thanked ICCI for giving warm welcome and hospitality to the foreign diplomats. The diplomats showed interest in promoting trade of their respective countries with Pakistan. They asked many questions and got detailed answers from the members of the business community.

Azhar ul Islam Zafar Vice President ICCI, Mian Shaukat Masud, Zafar Bakhtawari, Arshad Janjua and others also spoke at the occasion and shared ideas with diplomats for promoting trade diplomacy.

## General Asim has ability to face challenges: Mian Zahid Hussain

**55** Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Friday said the appointment process of the eleventh Army Chief and Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Chairman was completed on merit and without any major political controversy which is good for the country.

The President of Pakistan did not obstruct the most important appointments contrary to the rumors, for which he deserves compliments, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that after this important announcement, no effort was made by any side to make the matter

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that Pakistan is a nuclear country and a good tradition has been established by appointing the most senior generals to these important



The business community hopes that the ongoing political storm in the country will settle down and all stakeholders will

focus on the Charter of Economy with a mature vision to push the country towards economic stability.

He said that currently the country going through the most difficult situation and a lot needs to be done to rehabilitate the

flood victims and save the sinking economy. The problem of terrorism is resurfacing in the country, for which unity and consensus among all stakeholders is necessary and it is hoped that the new army chief will play his role in this regard.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that General Asim Munir is facing the task of improving the image of the army, rebuilding the country's reputation, and completing CPEC.

The COAS has served as DG of Military Intelligence and Chief of ISI, Corps Commander Gujranwala, and Quartermaster General.

The people and the business community, who are troubled by political instability, economic problems, and inflation, have high expectations from the country's first Hafiz-e-Quran army chief, he said.

# **OGDCL** launches education program for out-of-school



**News Desk** 

LAHORE: As a responsible corporate, the Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) under its CSR Program yesterday launched 'MASHAL-E-ELM Program' for out-ofschool children of village

Chappri in district Attock. In this regard, anMoU Vision-21 Global and education program at the ny was held at OGDCL nity. House, Islamabad.

ED (Services)-OGD-CL Mr. Zia Salahuddin, Manager EC&N (CSR) beside other senior officials of both the companies were present on the occasion.

Under the initiative, quality education will be provided to the children of village Chappri in district Attock through speed literacy program for primary, was signed between middle and matric level.

The duration of the OGDCL to launch the program will be four years including six months Skill cost of PKR 29.816 million. Development Program for The MoU signing ceremo- the students of the commu-

# New Governor

#### **Example 2** Commerce Reporter

former President of the apex body of Paki-

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh said that Gover-

presenting flower bouquets.

# Jazz and Sprite collaborate for a new exciting offer 'Thand Rakh Aur Bann Super'

#### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Jazz, Pakistan's leading digital operator - and a part of VEON Group, has partnered with Sprite, the world's leading refreshing soft drink, a brand of The Coca-Cola Company, to launch their latest joint campaign called, "Thand Rakh Aur Bann Super" nation-

Under this partnership, Sprite and Fanta bottles (500ML, 1L, and 1.5L packaging), will now have a promo code printed at the back of their labels that can be redeemed to avail Jazz Super 4G Data. Customers can immediately get some extra data from Jazz Super 4G as soon as their broadband packages run out by dialing \*145\*code# and they will get their "Thand'

A large segment of Pakistan's population



consists of the youth. This Gen Z segment is known for being very tech-oriented and hyper-connected. To cater to this growing market segment, both industry leaders are constantly developing innovative products and services.

Speaking about the offer, Asif Aziz, Jazz's Chief Commercial Officer, said, "As the country's leading digital operator, Jazz fully understands the importance of uninterrupted internet connectivity. We are

broadband internet more affordable and accessible, and this "Thand Rakh Aur Ban Super" offer is a brilliant new effort in that direction. It will come in handy whenever internet discontinuity issues arise and will prevent customers from going into a stressful frenzy whether in the midst of watching an engrossing show or playing a fierce game online."

Ahmed Wahab Shah, Marketing Director, The Coca-Cola Company said, "At Sprite we have always synced our chords with the power of youth. Our tagline, "Thand Rakh", is also reflective of the youthful energy, especially of Gen Z. As a growing market segment, it is important that we align with their preferences. Staving connected, and celebrating together are two of their key ethos. With this collaboration, we aim to enhance our customers' always brainstorming new ideas to make collective experience."

# IOFS, COMSTECH &PARC holds three days expert meeting



**Sommerce** Reporter

ISLAMABAD: A three days expert meeting on "Climate Resilient Wheat Crop Improvement for food security" with the special session on Afghanistan wheat issue: The breeding of nutritious and climateresilient varieties was held on 23-25 November 2022 at COMSTECH Secretariat, 33-Constitution Avenue, G-5/2, Islamabad.

The event was organized by the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), The OIC Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC).

On the last day of the event on 25th November, 2022, IOFS delegate members from Kazakhstan, Turkiye, Tunsia and Afghanistan visited National Agricultural Research Center (NARC) Islamabad. Dr Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman PARC briefed the delegation about the different on-going research and development activities of PARC. mad Ali paid vote of thanks.

PARC including Dr Imtiaz Hussain, Member Plant Science Division PARC, Dr Shahzad Assad Deputy Director General NARC were also present in the meeting and also participated in the discussion regarding the future collaboration in the field agriculture in general and particularly for the development of climate resilient wheat varieties and resource conservation technologies.

Senior management of

Later on, the delegation also visited the different labs of NARC including, Ecotoxicology lab, Aflatoxin lab, Wheat Speed Breeding Facility (Glass house), Wheat field research trials, National Gene Bank of Pakistan, PGRI, KOPIA Aeroponic Potato Seed production facility and National Institute for Genomics and Advanced Biotechnology (NIGAB) laboratories NARC.

The delegates took keen interest in the on-going agri. Research activities being carried out at NARC. At the end, the Chairman PARC Dr. Ghulam Muham-

## L'Oréal Pakistan Receives the Global **GEEIS-SDGs** Trophy for Gender Equality

**Spokesman Report** 

KARACHI: For its work on ensuring greater gender equality, women empowerment and education, L'Oréal Pakistan, has received the prestigious GEEIS-SDG trophy awarded by the Arborus Endowment Fund for platform, "LPRO Empowering The Salon Community" at the Europa Experience in Paris.

The GEEIS label, launched in 2010 at the European Economic & Social Council in Brussels, assesses and recognizes companies with a proactive approach to gender equality, both at the parent company and within their subsidiaries, which have chosen to use effective management tools for their gender equal-

This trophy focuses on gender equality as the driving force behind the accomplishment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; specifically, the SDG5, which concerns equality between women and men. an education on their own. By

To this end, L'Oréal Pakistan has been awarded for its inno-



vative empowerment project carried out through L'Oréal Pakistan's Professionnel Academy which has played a dynamic role in the evolution of the local salon industry across the last 13 years. Through partnerships with salons using L'Oréal Professionnel products, salon staff benefit from professional training offered by L'Oréal Professionnel hair experts. This program focuses particularly on training and upskilling women who have expressed a desire to become hairstylists but did not have the means to access such

training, L'Oréal Professionnel Pakistan's Academy managed to empower 7,500 women to become financially independent, capable of supporting themselves and their families.

"L'Oréal Pakistan's Professional Products Division Academy is a remarkable initiative which embeds inclusion in the expertise which has been at the very heart of our business since the beginning: hairdressing. The empowerment of women through salon training is part of how we create the beauty that moves the world." said Margaret Johnston-Clarke, Chief Global DE&I Officer, L'Oréal Groupe on the award. Commenting on the achieve-

ment, Qawi Naseer, Country Managing Director L'Oréal Pakistan, said, "L'Oréal Pakistan is delighted to have our work on community and empowerment recognized globally. It is an important accolade that reflects our commitment to provide equal opportunities across our organization and beyond. offering access to education and Through the PPD Academy

women to pursue their dreams and become an integral part of the nation's economy.

At the ceremony in Paris, Cristina Lunghi, General Delegate of Arbrorus, said, "I am very happy to see that these trophies launched in 2019 at the United Nations headquarters in New York continue to enthuse the companies holding the GEEIS label in order to pave the way towards a new project of society that makes equality between women and men the lever for the solution of all the crucial issues that need to be addressed urgently and that are taken up by the UN's SDGs."

GEEIS is a European and international label for gender equality and inclusion. The GEEIS-SDG trophy aims to raise awareness among private and public decision-makers and society in general of the importance of making gender equality the central pillar of any systemic and strategic approach to achieving the sustainable development

# President hails performance of national cricket team during T20 World Cup

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has appreciated the performance of Pakistan's Cricket Team during the recent T20 World Cup and said that despite challenges, the national team showed leadership during the tournament and reached the

The president expressed these views while addressing a ceremony in honour of Pakistan's Cricket Team, which was attended by Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javaid Bajwa, Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board Rameez Raja, legendary cricketers of Pakistan and foreign dignitaries.

Addressing the occasion, the president said that despite constraints and hardships, the team was performing well against international teams



in tournaments, which were President Dr Arif Alvi, COAS, General Qamar Javed Bajwa, in a group photo with Pakiregarded as a billion-dollar stan Cricket Team and PCB management, at Islamabad.

cricket economy.

He said that the way the teammates motivated each other despite losing the game was remarkable. He stated that most of the team players were young and expressed confidence that they would bring many victories in the coming tournaments.

The president said that the whole nation owed its cricketing stars for their outstanding performance. "Cricket is an extremely popular game in Pakistan and a good performance by the team brings colours to the lives of all Pakistanis," he said.

Chairman Pakistan Cricket Board Rameez Raja and Captain of Pakistan's team Baber Azam said that it was the support of the nation that became their strength during such big tournaments. APP

# Northern and Sindh to compete for Quaid-e-Azam Trophy glory

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan's premier first-class tournament Quaid-e-Azam Trophy is set to have a new champion as last season's finalists Northern take on Sindh in the five-day final at the headquarters of Pakistan cricket, Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium from Saturday. Northern have been the finalist twice since the revamp of the domestic system in 2019-20. They would be hoping to make it a case of third time lucky after losing out on the title both in 2019-20 and 2021-22 seasons.

Sindh are appearing in their first final under the revamped system. They will be looking forward to clinch second title in this season, after winning their maiden National T20 Cup, held earlier this year in Multan. The five-day Quaid-e-Azam Trophy final will be streamed live on the Pakistan Cricket Board's YouTube channel and broadcast live on PTV Sports. The toss will take place at 0900, while the first ball will be bowled at 0930. This is also the first final to be staged tic system Karachi's National Stadium et Arena) staged the last three Quaid-e-Azam Trophy finals.

Both sides will be missing some key

Test squad begins preparations for the series against England. Northern's captain Nauman Ali, Sindh captain Saud Shakeel, wicketkeeper-batter Sarfaraz Ahmed and spinners Abrar Ahmed and Zahid Mehmood would all be engaged as members of the Test squad.

Despite the absence of some seasoned at the GSL since under the new domes- and top performers of the ongoing season the final is set to produce rivet-(now known as the National Bank Crick- ing cricket with the teams competing year." for the historic tournament trophy and

Manzoor said, "The players are focused huddin is a mere five runs behind with on the final, they have taken one game at a time in the tournament and are looking forward to playing the same brand of cricket in the final.

"We have played quality cricket throughout the tournament, and we are looking to repeat the same to get positive result in the big game.

"It is a great honour for us that four national assignment. It is an opportunity for other players to step up and grab the opportunities on offer with both hands."

Umar Amin said, "Our team have completely dominated the tournament repeat the same performance to lift the trophy. We have kept things very simple, we will try to keep it that way in the final as well to get positive outcome from the

Top performers: Central Punjab open-

at the headquarters of PCB. Khurram Punjab middle-order batter Usman Sala-862 runs at 66.31 (four hundreds, three

Northern's Mohammad Huraira who topped the batting charts last year (his debut first-class season) can accomplish the feat once again in his young career as he will start the final with 803 runs needing 65 to overtake Abdullah. Huraira averages 61.77 going into the final, his players of our team are currently on run tally includes three centuries and

two fifties. In the absence of Saud, Sindh's pair of Omair Bin Yousuf and Khurram Manzoor would aim to score heavy in the tournament decider. They enter the from the start and we are looking to big match with 604 (average 50.33, three centuries, one fifty) and 602 runs (average 54.73, three centuries, two fifties) to their credit respectively - occupying 11th and 12th spots in the batting charts.

Abrar's outstanding season has earned "I am fond of Mohammad Huraira's him a Test squad spot, the right-arm temperament and thinking when he is mystery spinner bagged 43 wickets in batting. This is a great sign for the team a mere 12 innings (average 21.95, five and for Huraira as well that at this age five-wicket hauls) to top the bowling he is scoring runs and that too since last charts. Northern's all-rounder Muhasi Khan is number two with his off-spin taking 28 wickets in 10 matches at the winners' purse of PKR 10,000,000. er Abdullah Shafique tops the run-get- 31.54 (one five-wicket haul). Northern's Both captains have meanwhile ters chart with a tally of 867 runs at 72.25 seam bowling all-rounder Aamir Jamal performers in the final as Pakistan's expressed their desire to lift the trophy (three centuries, four fifties). Southern is at the third spot with 25 wickets in

## Pakistan team start practice for Test series against England



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan cricket team started their practice session at the Islamabad Club Cricket Ground on Friday to prepare themselves for the three-match Test series against

England are scheduled to arrive in Pakistan on Saturday after their Test camp at the Abu Dhabi Cricket and Sports Hub. This will be England's first visit to Pakistan in 17 years to play a Test

The first Test starts in Rawalpindi on December 1. The series is important for Pakistan to qualify for the finals of the ICC World Test Championship 2022-23.

Pakistan has selected two new players Mohammad Ali and Abrar Ahmed on the basis of their standout performance in the domestic cricket and they are likely to make debuts in the

Meanwhile, Leicestershire leg-spinning allrounder Rehan Ahmed has been officially added to England Men's Test squad for the Pakistan tour. If selected during the three-match Test series, the 18-year-old will become the youngest player to play Test cricket for England Men, surpassing Yorkshire's Brian Close, who represented the three lions at 18 years 149 days against New Zealand in July 1949.NEWS DESK

#### 67th National track championship starting today



**Tahir Amin Malik** 

LAHORE: Under the auspices of Pakistan Cycling Federation a huge 67th National track championship is starting today at Sports Complex Velodrum, Lahore today. The cycling championship will continue till on 28th November. The President Pakistan Cycling Federation Syed Azhar Ali Shah and Moazzam Khan Klair General Secretary said in the press conference Adnan Ahsan and Shehzada Butt were also on this occasion.

Syed Azhar said that we have completed all the arrangements of this huge cycling event and he said that there are 9 teams are taking part in the championship from all the provinces Gilgit Raltistan Islamabad and department team which is included Pakistan Wapda. Azhar further said that over 100 cyclists men's and women's are taking part. He said UCI and Asian Cycling Federation really appreciated the role of cycling in Pakistan.

The General Secretary PCF Moazzam Khan Klair who was also present in the press conference said that we have completed better arrangements this year for holding this cycling championship. He said that in inauguration ceremony the chief guest will be Governor Punjab while in concluding ceremony Chief Guest will be federal minister provincial committee who will distribute the prizes among the successful cyclists. He said that with PCF efforts in international level our role are much appreciated which is great honour for us and i hope with the hold of this championship much talent can be produce which can bright the name of Pakistan in international level.

# FIFA World Cup 2022: Richarlison shines as Brazil see off Serbia

LUSAIL, QATAR: Brazil outclassed Serbia 2-0 in their World Cup opener on Thursday as Richarlison scored two second-half goals, including a spectacular overhead kick, though an ankle injury sustained by Neymar put a damper on their celebrations.

Richarlison has been in fine form when wearing the golden yellow kit of Brazil this year and he opened the scoring with an easy tap-in before doubling the lead with his acrobatic effort. It was his ninth goal for Brazil in

seven games in 2022 as Brazil leapfrogged Switzerland, who beat Cameroon 1-0, to the top of Group G. Serbia are bottom. "As our professor Tite says, you

are smelling goals, and that s what s happening," Richarlison said. "It s a wonderful night, a beautiful

victory and now we have six games to

reach our goal." Tite s decision to go with four forwards-Neymar, Vinicius Jr.,



attacking lineup paid off handsomely as the South Americans dominated the match and made Serbia work hard every time they went forward.

Vinicius used his flair and acceleration to good effect to consistently beat his man while Neymar, playing in a free role, often found pockets of space, but a well-drilled Serbian defence kept Brazil at bay in the first half.

Brazil s best chance of the half, however, came when Neymar tried to catch goalkeeper Vanja Milinkovic-Savic off guard from a corner, whipping in an inswinger that was on target before the Raphinha and Richarlison-in his Torino player punched it clear.

An almost perfect night for Brazil was, however, soured when Neymar came off lineup. in the 80th minute with what looked like an ankle injury after a crunching tackle from Nikola Milenkovic.

It was the same right foot Neymar has had problems with before and the Paris St Germain forward, the world s most expensive player, sat on the bench with his face covered while he received treatment as Brazl saw out the match.

Brazil s team doctor said they would need one or two days before they could evaluate his swollen ankle but Tite said he did not think the 30-year-old would miss the rest of the tournament.

"We are confident that Neymar will continue playing in the World Cup," Tite told reporters.

"I didn t see Neymar was injured. The capacity he has to overcome it tricked even me," he added when asked why Nevmar was not withdrawn earlier.

Serbia had been sweating over the fitness of their all-time top scorer Aleksandar Mitrovic but coach Dragan the night from the Brazilian contingent.

Stojkovic named him in the starting

Unlike Brazil s forward line, however, which threatened from all sides, the Fulham striker found himself isolated up front with little service as skipper and playmaker Dusan Tadic struggled to influence proceedings.

The second half was one-way traffic as Brazil shifted through the gears, Richarlison and Neymar wasting gilt-edged chances inside the box and Alex Sandro and Casemiro sending long-range efforts against the woodwork.

The breakthrough came just after the hour from brilliant work by Neymar to find Vinicius, whose initial shot was saved by Milinkovic-Savic, but Richarlison was in the right place to tap in the rebound for his first World Cup goal.

Serbia had been playing conservatively up to that point and had no choice but to pour forward, which gave Brazil more space and the second goal from Richarlison brought the biggest roar of

#### 18-year-old Ahmed a 'very rare talent', says Ben Stokes

England captain Ben Stokes has said that 18-year-old Rehan Ahmed, who has been called up to England's December Test squad to face Pakistan, is a "very rare talent".

He would become England's youngest-ever men's Test player should he play for his country in Rawalpindi, Multan or Karachi. All-rounder Ahmed has featured in only three first-class matches for Leicestershire, taking nine wickets and making 195 runs across those appearances.

Stokes told Sky Sports: "We see him as one of those very rare talents, to have someone at such a young age be so noticeable with the way he bowls and the way he bats."

But Stokes conceded that Ahmed still has much to learn and needs to be nurtured with the national team.

"We're fully aware he's not the finished project and I think it's important for his inclusion not to be looked into too much. We see this as an opportunity to get someone as talented as Rehan into the squad and nurture him," he added. "Who knows where he could be in two or three years' time.

"I'm excited to have him in the squad, but if we feel we want to chuck him a Test cap, we're in the position to do that."

## Brazil face anxious wait after Neymar injury scare at World Cup

the fitness of Neymar on Friday after their talisman sprained his ankle in the World Cup win over

The forward suffered the injury in a collision with Nikola Milenkovic during the second half of the 2-0 win in Qatar on Thursday in Brazil's opening match.

The 30-year-old Paris Saint-Germain player attempted to continue but was substituted with about 10 minutes to go, shortly after Rich-

arlison put Brazil two goals ahead. Neymar was seen limping heavphotos showed swelling on his right ankle.

He declined to speak to journalists as he left the stadium, but posted a light-hearted message on Twitter, without making reference to his injury.

"Tough game but it was important to win," he said. "Congratulations team, first step taken... six

Team doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said it was too early to jump to

"We need to wait 24 to 48 hours

DOHA: Brazil were sweating on ily after the game in Doha and to have a better assessment," said Lasmar. "We have not scheduled any MRI (scan) and tomorrow we'll

have a new assessment. "We need to wait, we cannot make any premature comments about his evolution."

Coach Tite was optimistic that Neymar would be back to lead Brazil's bid for a record-extending sixth World Cup crown.

Monday, with their final Group G match against Cameroon. "You can be certain that Neymar is going to play in the World Cup,"



Tite said, adding that the attack-They next face Switzerland on er had initially stayed on the pitch after hurting his ankle "because the

team needed him". Brazil struggled to impose themselves in the first half against Serbia

before finding their spark.

Richarlison poked home from close range shortly after the hour mark and then produced an acrobatic finish to double the lead.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas, Mst. parveen Akhtar d/o Shif Muhammad Qureshi allottee of plot No. 906-E Area pindi has appointed deed No. 123/4 dated 13/01/1988 from Sub Registrar Rawalpindi..

Now, General Power Attorney Mr. Tariq Mehmood S/o Ghulam Mustafa wish to transfer to Mst. Shehnaz Kausar w/o Muham-

mad Akseer. If anyone have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement

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entertained. **Deputy Director** Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency (Gulzar-e-Quaid) Sub Region Rawalpindi Ph: 051-5191753

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE** Whereas, Khalid Javed son of

Sheikh Nawab Din allottee of plot No. 37-D Area Development Scheme-I Guiar Khan have appointed General Power Attorney to Mr. Javed Iqbal son of Faiz Alam vide registered deed No. 322/4 dated 10/10/1987 from Sub Registrar Gujar Khan.

Now, General Power Attorney Mr. Javed Iqbal son of Faiz Alam wish to transfer to Mst Shumaila Attig wife of Attig-ur-Rehman.

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**Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town** Planning Agency Rawalpindi Ph: 051-5191753