



# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ جو شخص اسلام کے سوا کسی اور دین پر ہونے کی جھوٹی قسم قہر اٹھائے تو وہ وہی سبائی ہو جائے گا جیسا کہ اس نے اپنے لیے کہا ہے اور جو شخص اپنے کو دھاردار چیرے سے نہ کر لے اسے جہنم میں ہی اتھاریا سے عذاب ہوتا ہے گا۔  
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## Azerbaijan to import rice from Pakistan: President Ilham Aliyev

Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev has said that the decision to import rice from Pakistan with tax exemption of five years was the outcome of his meetings with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held in the last couple of months (Details on Page 8.)



## Punjab Assembly will be dissolved on Imran Khan's direction: Moonis Elahi

Former federal minister Moonis Elahi on Saturday cleared the air over dissolving the Punjab Assembly, saying that the provincial assembly will be dissolved on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan's direction

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## Woeing Turkish investors

ISTANBUL, Turkiye: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addressing Turkiye-Pakistan Business Council meeting on Saturday.



Photo: Online

# PM woos Turkish investors with lucrative, incentive driven opportunities

ISTANBUL, TURKIYE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has stressed upon the Turkish companies to invest in Pakistan, as the infinite potential between the two brotherly countries should also be reflected in the bilateral trade and business.

Addressing a Turkiye-Pakistan Business Council meeting organized by Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkiye (DEIK) here Saturday, the prime minister said his government would no longer tolerate any snags and impediments in the way of investment from the foreign investors including the Turkish brothers.

He reassured that his government would fully provide hassle and red tape free environment to Turkish investors.

He informed that during his meeting with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, it was conveyed that more Turkish companies were eager to come to Pakistan.



The prime minister said that it was regrettable that in the past regime, the Turkish companies that had invested in Pakistan were not given their due payments. Similar was the case

with the Turkish airlines operating in Pakistan, he said.

The prime minister said that despite all challenges including Covid-19, Imran said his government successfully revived the country's ailing economy.

"What crime did we commit that our government was toppled through foreign conspiracy," he asked.

However, Imran admitted that he failed to bring powerful under the law. "Because NAB was under the control of establishment and they [NAB] told me that all cases were ready but they were not receiving orders from the top".

"Establishment told me to focus on economy and stop pursuing corruption cases... they did not consider corruption wrong. Those who had power did not consider corruption bad.

"Establishment was not part of conspiracy but they did not stop their [then opposition] conspiracy to come to power".

"There were three shooters"

to convey this message to all, through you that we are brotherly and family and will not tolerate such snags and impediments which hurt our ties," he said, and reassured that his government would remove all the issues and address their genuine issues.

He said to further promote their bilateral trade and business relations, work on "Trade and Goods Agreement" between the two brotherly countries would be expedited.

He said that they had signed a MOU to enhance the bilateral trade volume up to \$5 billion in the next three years.

Turkiye's annual trade stood around \$250 billion dollars and the trade between Pakistan and Turkiye was hovering around one and half billion dollars which had been peanuts while considering the immense potential, he added.

The prime minister stressed that such a scenario did not reflect their exemplary brotherly ties and stressed upon fully exploring the indefinite potential on both sides.

He said they should make efforts and endeavor to double this trade volume in the next three years with strong commitment and sincerity of purpose as 'only hard work and untiring efforts will be keys to a wonderful success story'.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, Minister for Information Maryam Aurangzeb and Special Assistants to the Prime Minister Syed Tariq Fatemi and Syed Fahad Hussain.

From the Turkish side, Turkish Trade Minister Mehmet Mus and President of DEIK Nail Olpak, along with leading business delegations from Turkiye participated in the meeting. APP

## PM highlights gov't efforts to remove obstacles hampering Turkish investment: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday underlined Pakistan government's diligent efforts to ameliorate key obstacles hampering Turkish investment in Pakistan and assured the government's commitment to ensure ease of doing business.

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb, using her twitter handle, said that the PM stated

this while addressing Pak-Turkiye Business Council meeting in Ankara.

She said that Shehbaz Sharif drew attention towards immense untapped business and trade aspects between the two countries. She said the Prime Minister persuaded Turkish business community about Pakistani gov't unflinching support and vowed to herald new era of Trade diplomacy. APP

## Khan's demand for early elections only possible if he returns to assembly: Abbasi

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi Saturday made it clear that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan should demand early elections after returning to assembly and pressure tactics would not be allowed to make system hostage.

The democratic government will complete its term and then elections will be held on time, he said while talking to a private news channel.

He criticized that a person deprived of power was only busy in targeting the national institutions under a well-thought-out agenda and campaign, adding, PTI chief should return to the Parliament as this was the only way if he wanted early elections in the country.

If Khan continues to behave in a similar manner, the country could not move forward as a deadlock between the



government and PTI would persist, he mentioned.

Replying a question, he said Khan's real intentions are violent, adding that the long march was just a pretext, and actually he aimed at creating divisions and destroying the country.

He said that PTI was totally frustrated after the failure of its fascist politics and they were putting the people in trouble and worry as due to the closure of the roads, people were facing extreme hardship and were unable to reach their destinations.

## Imran 'lied' about country's default risk: Ishaq Dar

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday said Imran Khan was "following the agenda to drag the country towards economic chaos along with political chaos".

Talking to a private news channel, the finance minister said that Imran allegedly lied about the country's default risk by stating that the chances were 90%, while the minister added the risk was just 10% as per Bloomberg.

The minister said that the PTI should have retracted from their earlier statements about the default, but the latter "tried to influence the market to damage the country".

"Political leaderships should not compromise national interest for sake of politics," he added.

The minister held that "spreading lies" through social media had been the "doctrine of the necessity" for Imran's politics to survive, adding that Imran Khan should avoid giving "frivolous statements on

the economy".

"Unfortunately, Imran Khan completely made the economy in a tailspin during his four-year rule," the minister said.

The finance minister stated that the PML-N left the country in 2018 with an economy in excellent shape where inflation was 4%, food inflation was 2% and the policy rate was 6.5% while the growth rate was at 6%.

"At that time (2018), Pakistan Stock Market was the fifth-best performer in the world, but Imran's rule broke all records and the economy collapsed within 4 years," he regretted.

To another question, the finance minister said the decision had been made that an interest-free banking system would be implemented in the country.

"All appeals against the Federal Shariat Court's verdict (for interest-free banking system) have been withdrawn in accordance with the decision," he apprised.

## Imran decides to quit all legislative assemblies

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has announced that his party's "Haqueqi Azadi" march will not head towards Islamabad as he does not want to spread chaos and anarchy in the country.

"They [government] cannot afford Islamabad march... they cannot stop millions from entering Islamabad. We could have created Sri Lanka-like situation," he said while addressing the party's gathering in Rawalpindi on Saturday.

But, he added that the party has decided to quit all legislative assemblies in the country in a bid to force the incumbent rulers to announce early elections.

"If riots take place then things will get out of everyone's hands. I tried my best not to take any step which could create chaos in the country," he added.

"Today I am deciding against marching on Islamabad because we don't want to spread anarchy in the country," he announced. "We will not remain part of this corrupt system. We have decided to quit all legislative assemblies."

Imran said he had discussed the matter of stepping down from all legislative with the chief ministers and final decision in this regard will be announced after PTI's parliamentary party meeting.

"Instead of causing harm to our country it is better to leave this corrupt system," he added.

The deposed premier earlier landed in Islamabad for the 'climax' of the Haqueqi Azadi march and arrived in Rawalpindi to address his first public gathering after being injured in a gun attack earlier this month.

"When I was leaving for Rawalpindi from Lahore, everyone advised me against travelling due to wounds in my leg," the former PM said at the start of his address.

Secondly, Imran said his aides also warned him not to address the public rally in Rawalpindi as "three culprits holding top portfolios will attempt again to kill me".

"Many prime ministers come and go but public never came out in such large number like they gathered here for me," he added.

Imran said there would be no difference between animals and humans if people of the country accepted the rulers who came to power through 'NRO'.

"No society can prosper where there is no rule of law."

Imran said overseas Pakistanis are standing with him because they are aware of the importance of the rule of law.

"If Pakistan is in difficult situation today it's not because we are short of resources but due to the absence of rule of law."

Imran said families like Sharifs and Zardaris are responsible for weakening Pakistan's institutions in a bid to protect their "looted wealth".

"I felt ashamed when I had to



ask for loans from other countries when I was prime minister."

Despite all challenges including Covid-19, Imran said his government successfully revived the country's ailing economy.

"What crime did we commit that our government was toppled through foreign conspiracy," he asked.

However, Imran admitted that he failed to bring powerful under the law. "Because NAB was under the control of establishment and they [NAB] told me that all cases were ready but they were not receiving orders from the top".

"Establishment told me to focus on economy and stop pursuing corruption cases... they did not consider corruption wrong. Those who had power did not consider corruption bad.

"Establishment was not part of conspiracy but they did not stop their [then opposition] conspiracy to come to power".

"There were three shooters"

The former premier claimed that three shooters were deployed in Wazirabad for his assassination plot.

"Mozzam was shot dead by third shooter... a third shooter was there to kill the [prime suspect] so that he does not open his mouth," he said while likening attempt on his life to the assassination of late prime minister Liaquat Ali Khan.

"Country is mine, army is mine" 'IK Imran said he criticised institutions including military establishment and judiciary because "I have to live and die here".

"My criticism of institutions is positive. I want to strengthen the defence of the country. This country is mine... army is mine."

"I will fight for the country till the last drop of my blood. I want my country to achieve real freedom. History will bear witness that Imran Khan fought for the country till the last ball."

He said the one who increased

his assets and violated human rights will be judged by history as whether his actions benefited or caused harm to the country.

"Freedom has to be snatched. No one serves it out on plate. My movement for real freedom will continue until we free our people from [slavery]."

Imran said he had announced staging a power show in Islamabad to pile pressure on "imported government" and institutions to hold early elections in the country.

"Without a stable government economy can never be stabilised... we came here to put pressure on government and institutions so that they play their role for elections."

Imran said PML-N chief and former premier Nawaz Sharif was a major hurdle in holding early polls as the former "is taking all decisions sitting in London".

"The real problem is that convict [Nawaz] sitting in London who is running away from elections... it does not make any difference for Sharif and Zardari if country defaults because their billion are stashed abroad."

The PTI chief said the country's economy is sinking fast and inflation is rising. "There is no other way to save economy except holding elections," he maintained.

"Elections are need of the hour to save the country from going further downhill." Reporter/Agencies

## Top three trends on Pakistan Twitter linked to PTI's march

ISLAMABAD: The top three trends on Pakistani Twitter right now are related to the PTI's "Haqueqi Azadi" march. The top trend, "chalo, chalo, Pindi chalo (let's go to Rawalpindi)" had racked

up 320,000 retweets, while "haqueqi azadi long march" has over 22,000. "Youm-i-inqilaab 26 November (day of revolution 26 November)" has been retweeted over 56,000 times. News Desk

# PM thanks to Azerbaijan's President

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday thanked President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev for approving a five-year tax exemption on the import of rice from Pakistan.

"I am thankful to H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan, for approving the

tax exemption on the import of Pakistani rice for five years. Our two brotherly countries will work to promote economic cooperation and connectivity through road, rail and Gwadar Port," the prime minister wrote on Twitter.

The prime minister's tweet came in response to Azeri president's remarks that the decision to import rice from Paki-

stan with a tax exemption of five years was the outcome of his meetings with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held in the last couple of months.

Ilham Aliyev, addressing an international conference at ADA University, Baku, the other day, said during these meetings, they discussed the agenda of their bilateral rela-

tions.

The president of Azerbaijan was responding to questions raised by Executive Director of Center for Global and Strategic Studies of Pakistan Khalid Taimur Akram, as a participant.

The president said he discussed with Prime Minister Shehbaz, the prospects of further intensifying the bilateral economic and trade coop-

eration and the decision over special regulations for rice from Pakistan, was a reflection of that.

"Why should we buy rice from some other place if we have high-quality rice in the brotherly country? So, that decision was clearly based on our brotherly relations," the Azeri media quoted the president as saying.

# Rice import from Pakistan: Outcome of meetings with PM Shehbaz: Azerbaijan President

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev has said that the decision to import rice from Pakistan with tax exemption of five years was the outcome of his meetings with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held in the last couple of months.

Addressing at an international conference "Along the Middle Corridor: Geopolitics, Security and Economy" held at ADA University, Baku, the other day, the president said during these meetings, they discussed the agenda of their bilateral relations.

The president of Azerbaijan was responding to questions raised by Executive Director of Center for Global and Strategic



Studies of Pakistan Khalid Taimur Akram, as a participant.

The president said he discussed with Pakistan's Prime Minister, the pros-

pects of further intensifying the bilateral economic and trade cooperation and the decision over special regulations for rice from Pakistan, was a reflection of that.

He said they had decided to take this step in order to stimulate the growth of mutual trade between the two countries. He had discussed with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif what kind of goods they could provide to each other, he added.

"Why should we buy rice from some other place if we have high quality rice in the brotherly country. So, that decision was clearly based on our brotherly relations," the Azeri media quoted the president as saying.

Rice import from Pakistan; outcome of meetings with PM Shehbaz: Azerbaijan President

Commenting further, the Azerbaijan president said that his country enjoyed excellent relations with Pakistan.

President Aliyev further said, "We are very grateful to Pakistan for continuous support which the country demonstrates with respect to Azerbaijan-Armenia relations. During the times of occupation, during the war, and after liberation of our territories, Pakistan was always with us. And this political and moral support is highly appreciated by the people of Azerbaijan."

He said that he knew that the Gwadar Port of Pakistan was transforming into a big international hub. And to connect it with their infrastructure was not a difficult thing, as they had to properly address the issue of tariffs, legal framework, coordination on regulation and to have a teamwork.

# Punjab police issues VIP security measures for PTI leadership

ISLAMABAD: With former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan surviving an assassination attempt in Wazirabad earlier this month, and continuing to face threats to his life, the Punjab Police on Saturday issued strict security measures for him and other senior party leadership.

The instructions were issued in the wake of a letter sent by Punjab Assembly Deputy Speaker Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi to the police. Issued by Rawalpindi Deputy Inspector General of Police, it said that the 28 measures listed must be followed to ensure security of party leadership.



It advised that the traditional mode of announcing Imran Khan's arrival to the venue and stage shall not be practiced. Further, it advised the march organizers to use bullet proof rostrum and stage for Imran to address the crowd from. Moreover,

it called for wearing a bullet proof vest.

The people on the stage were directed to restrict their movement to a specific area of the stage.

While all those present on the stage would have to be preapproved with a list drawn.

Sufficient distance would be maintained between the public and the stage.

Imran was advised not to exit his bullet proof vehicle at public place. Further, Imran's vehicle must follow its specified route. The advisory said that no private guard or armed

person would be allowed at the venue. Further, those coming to join the main rally will only be allowed to do so after undergoing a thorough search and walk-through gates. The party leadership is ordered to stay in touch with VIP security officers and law enforcement agencies.

A VIP car parking will be separated and reserved, while the list of participants present on the stage must be provided to the management in prior. Besides this, drone cameras and fireworks will be completely banned and workers will not be allowed to climb on the roof of any building. Agencies

*Fawad stresses need of holding elections, lambasts Sanaullah*



LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader and former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry on Saturday stressed the need to hold elections, lambasting Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and other leaders of the incumbent government.

Taking to Twitter, Fawad gave his take on Imran Khan's decision to dissolve the assemblies, saying Imran Khan has confidence in the people, which is why he is going to the elections by dissolving their governments. He lashed out at the Interior Minister and said, "Rana Sanaullah & Company sweating—in the name of elections."

The former federal information minister went on to add that no other way could bring political stability to the country except elections. (Dunya News)

# FBR widens probe into COAS Bajwa family tax record leak

LAHORE: The Federal Board Revenue (FBR) on Saturday included three more income tax officers in the investigation of leaked tax record details of Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa and his family, ARY News reported citing sources.

Sources said that FBR will carry out an investigation from the chief commissioner, commissioner and additional commissioner in connection with the leaked tax record

details of Gen Bajwa and his family.

These three officers will also be removed from their posts as they are equally responsible for the leakage of these tax details, sources added.

The leaked tax details were downloaded from the deputy commissioner Lahore's login and then pictures were captured from the deputy commissioner's computer, sources said.

Furthermore, two deputy

commissioners of the land revenue department and 15 FBR officers have been investigated in the leaked tax record.

The forensic report reveals that the entire plan was hatched from the laptop and mobile phones of these officers, sources added. Two deputy commissioners Atif and Zahoor Ahmed are also arrested by the FBR investigation team.

Earlier, the Federal Board

of Revenue (FBR) said Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa filed his tax returns a month before the due date.

Dr Hamid Atiq, a member of the FBR, said a total of Rs993 million in tax was collected from the Pakistan army.

He said the military is the most active institution in terms of filing tax returns, adding that the trend of submission of tax returns is high in the institution. ARY

# 'Religious ministry to make legislation for reorganization of private Umrah companies'

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Mufti Abdul Shakoor Saturday said that practical steps are being initiated for the systematic reorganization of private Umrah companies through legislation on the same pattern as Hajj companies to ensure all facilities to pilgrims.

"Due to some necessary amendments an act in this regard would be tabled in National Assembly very soon," he said while speaking to the PTV news.

After this amendment all private companies would be bound to work under the religious ministry, he said, adding, the ministry will strictly monitor the activities of operators and will address the complaints of pilgrims, and curb misappropriations in matters about religion.

Minister also stressed that the ministry and tour operators needed to work together to improve pilgrimage services, ensuring the comfort of intending pilgrims.

The legislation is aimed at giving legal cover to Hajj as well

as Umrah and after approval, Umrah operations would also be monitored, he added.

Replying to a question, the minister stressed the importance of a stable neighborhood that the country under the leadership of Shahbaz Sharif was pursuing policies that will strengthen ties with neighboring countries.

He further criticized that PTI chief Imran Khan had "ruined" Pakistan's foreign policy during its tenure and isolated the country on the diplomatic front, adding, a coalition government

was trying to revive bit-by-bit the ties with other countries which were damaged by Imran Khan.

To another question, he said Khan had pushed the country into chaos due to his vindictive nature, political victimization, and poor governance.

The coalition government will never indulge in blame-game against national institutions, he said, adding, maintenance of law and order would be ensured at all costs and no one would be allowed to take the law into his hands.

# By-polls to be held on all seats if PTI quits: ECP

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) said that by-polls would be held on all provincial and national assembly seats if Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) decides to quit all the assemblies, ARY News reported citing ECP sources.

ECP sources have said that by-polls would be held under constitutional procedure if any seats of the provincial or national assembly are vacated. There is no specific law regarding announcing general elections if a certain number of seats are vacated, they added.

All seats vacated during the five-year constitutional tenure of the assemblies are filled via by-polls, they added. By-polls are not held only if the seat is vacated 4 months

or less before the end of the assemblies' tenure. Any seats vacated before that time period are filled by by-polls, the ECP sources said.

Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has announced that his party has decided to quit all the assemblies.

"We will not be part of this country's political system. We have decided to quit all assemblies," former premier said while addressing the party workers and supporters at Rawalpindi Jalsa.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Imran Khan-led party is ruling the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province while they are also in power in Punjab through a coalition with Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q). ARY

# IRSA releases 81,900 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Saturday released 81,900 cusecs of water from various rim stations with an inflow of 50,200 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1512.37 feet and was 114.37 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam were recorded as 23,200 cusecs while outflow was 42,000 cusecs.

The water level in River Jhelum at

Mangla Dam was 1139.85 feet, which was 89.85 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water were recorded at 9,100 cusecs and 22,000 cusecs respectively.

The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu, and Sukkur was recorded at 56,500, 39,700, 28,300, and 13,100 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 11,600 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera, and 2,000 cusecs were released from River Chenab at Marala. APP

# Nine BLA terrorists killed in Kohlu IBO: ISPR

KOHLU: At least nine terrorists, associated with proscribed Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), were killed in an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Balochistan's Kohlu area by the security forces, ARY News reported on Saturday, citing Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

According to military's media, the security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation (IBO) against Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) in Kohlu area of Balochistan.

The security forces undertook a "clearance operation" and managed to eliminate nine terrorists belonging to the proscribed organization after a heavy exchange of fire. Meanwhile, three terrorists were also arrested in injured condition, the ISPR added.

The military's media wing further said that the security forces were chasing the BLA terrorists since the September 30 blast in Kohlu Bazar, which claimed live of two people.

The ISPR added the terrorists were involved in various criminal activities including kidnapping, ransom

and extortion. "Terrorists were also involved in attacks on security forces," it added.

The army's media wing stated that the suspects were targeting engineers working on development projects in Balochistan. "They were preparing attacks in Kohlu, Kahan and Maywand," it concluded.

Earlier on November 18, two terrorists were killed by the security forces during an Intelligence Based Operation (IBO) in the general area Balor of Balochistan's Kohlu.

According to the ISPR, the IBO was initiated to clear a hideout of suspects, linked with firing incidents on security forces and civilians besides planting of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) on M-8 in Hoshab.

During the heavy exchange of fire, both the suspects were killed, while a cache of arms and ammunition including Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were recovered, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement. ISPR

# Will dissolve Punjab Assembly on Imran Khan's direction: Moonis Elahi

LAHORE: Former federal minister Moonis Elahi on Saturday cleared the air over dissolving the Punjab Assembly, saying that the provincial assembly will be dissolved on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan's direction.

To speak on the matter of dissolving the Punjab Assembly Moonis Elahi shared a post on his official Twitter account and said, "We bagged success with the blessing of Allah Almighty on July 27, when Pervaiz Elahi was elected as the Punjab Chief Minister. Since



then we are running the provincial government - on bonus - in order to keep our promises."

"We would break Punjab assembly when Imran Khan asks us to," Moonis said, terming the PTI chief as "the PM." (Dunya News)

# FM Bilawal says Imran's demand from Rawalpindi is to get 'selected' again

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Saturday berated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, saying that his demand from Rawalpindi is to get selected again.

Reacting to the Imran Khan's speech from Rawalpindi's long march, FM Bilawal Bhutto said, "PTI face-saving flop show is anticlimactic. Unable to pull revolution crowds, failed at undermining appointments of new chiefs, frustrated, resorts to resignation drama."



"Imran demand from Rawalpindi is not azadi but to be reelected. How long will KP and Punjab be used as political props?", he added. Agencies

# JICA's Ito Teruyuki calls on Ayaz Sadiq

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Director General of South Asia Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ito Teruyuki held a meeting with Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

They discussed matters of mutual interest, including future possible cooperation to strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

DG (JICA) was accompanied by Yasumitsu Kinoshita, Chief Representative JICA, Tsuyoshi Hara, Senior Representative JICA and Erico Nakamura, Deputy Assistant Director, JICA.

Ayaz welcomed the guests in the Ministry. Secretary and Additional Secretary of Economic Affairs were also present during the meeting.

Ito Teruyuki expressed his sympathy



with the flood victims of Pakistan and said that the Government of Japan was undertaking a technical assistance project for flood control and response.

He further said that JICA was looking forward to attending the Donors Conference on post-flood rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Pakistan.

Moreover, the Japanese side sought cooperation from the Ministry of

Economic Affairs in resolution of issues related to ongoing projects funded by JICA.

The minister thanked Ito for his sympathies for the flood victims and informed him that the Donors Conference on post-flood rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Pakistan was expected to be held in the second week of January 2023.

He further suggested for increased cooperation between the two countries in the fields of Information Technology (IT) and Automobile.

Ayaz assured the Japanese side that the Ministry would extend all possible support in resolution of issues related to JICA funded projects.

The Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs appreciated the Government of Japan for their continued support with the assurance of extending all necessary facilitation for more meaningful cooperation between the two sides in future.

**CAPTION**

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Ito Teruyuki, Director General of South Asia Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) calls on Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Ministry of Economic Affairs in Federal Capital. APP

## Anti Polio campaign has been inaugurated



FAISALABAD: The Deputy Commissioner Imran Hamid Sheikh administered polio drops to children after inaugurated special anti polio campaign.

**Mian Rashid Asghar**

FAISALABAD: The special Anti Polio campaign has been inaugurated here on Saturday. The Deputy Commissioner Imran Hamid Sheikh administered the polio drops to the children under five years age at DC complex and campaign would remain in continuation from 28 November to 4th December. ADCG Faisal Sultan, CEO DHA Dr.Kashif Mehmood Kamboob and other officers were also present on this occasion.

Giving details to Mediapersons, the Deputy Commissioner informed that the targeted campaign would be observed in 130 Union Councils of three tehsil of the district and as many 0.677 million children upto age of five years would administered polio drops for which 2289 polio teams will perform duty. He further informed that special polio campaign would be implemented in 113 union councils of 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 appealed to parents for administering polio drops to their children even guest children also, so that the target of polio free country could be achieved. He said that negligence would not be tolerated at any cost. CEO DHA informed about the arrangements.

## DPO SW Chaired a Special meeting



**Adam Khan Wazir**

WANA: According to details, the DPO South Waziriatan (SW) in Wana held a special meeting with the SHOs of all the police stations, A detailed discussion was held about the polio campaign

DPO Attiqullah Wazir briefed about the measures taken against black glasses and drugs, DPO gave instructions and said that the actions against drug dealers and black glasses should be intensified.

And reports should be submitted on a daily basis any kind of negligence and omission regarding drugs and black glasses will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

A security plan has been formed regarding the upcoming polio campaign, DPO said while issuing strict instructions to all SHOs.

That the polio campaign has to be completed without any interruption, the security of all the teams is our responsibility and the teams will be given complete full-proof security.

The DPO said that the number of personnels will be increased along with all the teams, the constables who are on the smaller ones will touch them.

**Karachi cop killing**

## CTD arrests mastermind from Korangi



**Bureau Report**

KARACHI: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) Karachi on Saturday arrested the mastermind behind the killing of a police constable and a citizen during a robbery incident on October 19. A Karachi cop policeman was killed when an armed robber tried to rob a citizen in the Bara Board area of Karachi last month. According to CTD police, the accused Zahid Channa was arrested from Korangi area of Karachi.

The man was robbed when he was taking money from a bank. Right after the incident, the Shaheen force of Sindh police arrived at the spot but both the police constable and robber got injured in an exchange of fire in Bara Board. Later Constable Nihal Zia-ul-Haq and the robbery victim, Shakeel Ghafoor were declared dead. The mastermind of the robbery Zahid Channa was inside the bank on the day when the robbery incident took place, the CTD in charge Chaudhry Safdar explained.

Revealing the robbery planning, the accused Zahid told police that he informed the other robbers via mobile phone that Shakeel, the robbery victim is taking money from the bank. Moreover, the CTD added that Zahid Channa was earlier arrested for other crimes as well. The accused mastermind was handed over to the police for further investigation.

## Road closed containers

ISLAMABAD: People are facing difficulties during road closed with heavy containers at Islamabad Expressway due to PTI long march public gathering (Jalsa) at Rehmanabad in the city.

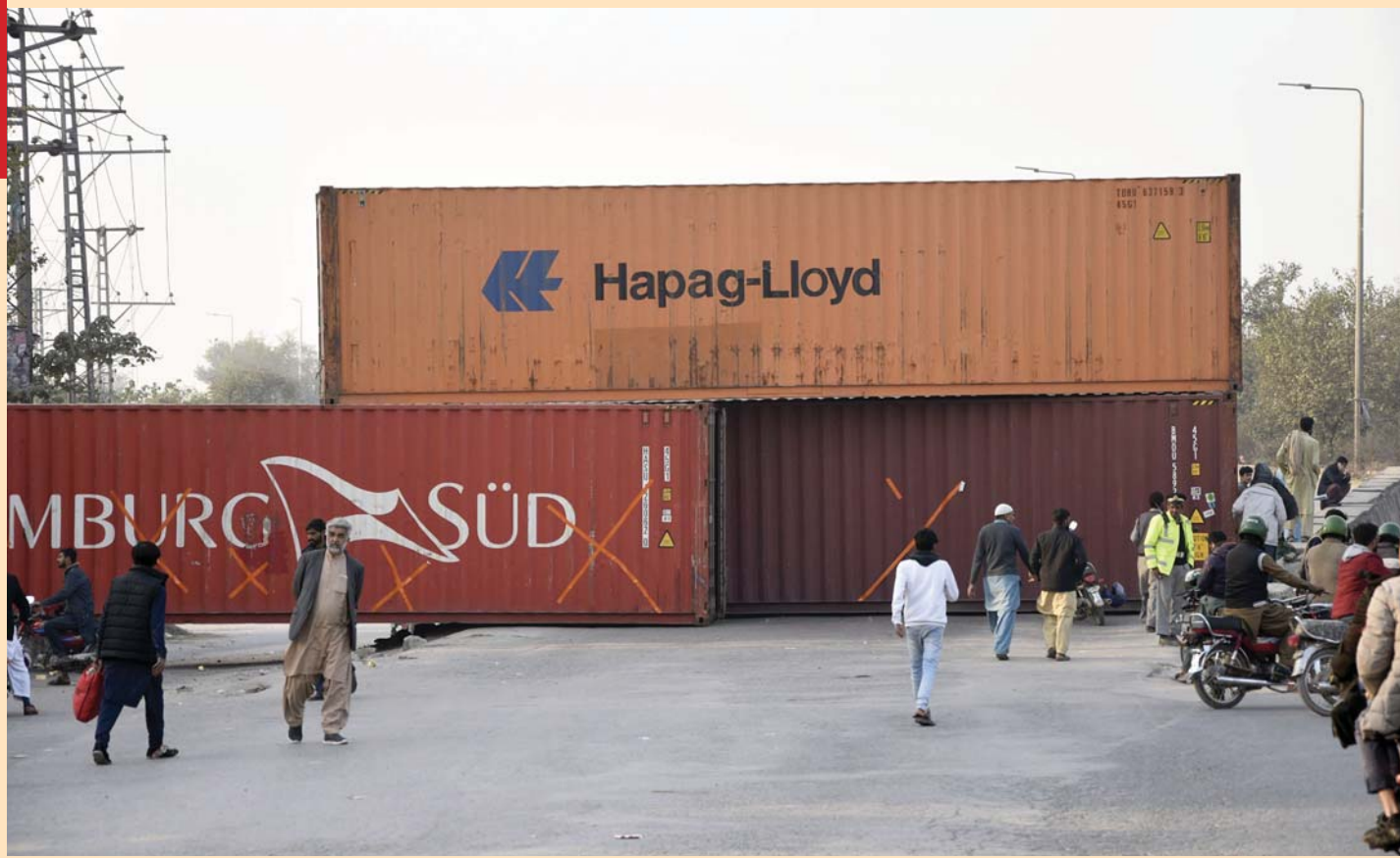


Photo: Online

# Non-profit GCT launches its 160th charitable school in Karachi

**Bureau Report**

KARACHI: The Non-profit Green Crescent Trust (GCT) has launched its 160th charitable school in Sindh as a step forward to achieving its goal of enrolling 100,000 out-of-school children in the province by the year 2025. The new charitable school has been opened in an underprivileged part of the Azizabad area in Karachi.

The new GCT school in Azizabad in the next few years will enroll a total of 720 students from underprivileged families for education up to class 8th. Another GCT school is functional nearby and has been functional for past many years. The location of the two schools shows that the issue of out-of-school children in the midst of Karachi is as grave as in a faraway rural area in Sindh.

A large number of concerned philanthropists, dignitaries from various walks of life, and donors of the GCT attended the launching ceremony. Speaking at the launching ceremony, the GCT CEO, Zahid Saeed, thanked the concerned donors and philanthropists for continuously supporting the drive of this charity to educate underprivileged students in Sindh. He said the generous and uninterrupted support this charity had been receiving from its donors would enable it to achieve the target of increasing the



number of its charitable schools in Sindh to 250 by 2025 for enrolling a total of 100,000 children from needy families.

He said the concerned donors and philanthropists had to come forward and generously support genuine charitable drives in the education sector as they did so during the coronavirus pandemic and as in the recent flood calamity, which had massively damaged the school infrastructure in Sindh. Zahid Saeed informed the audience that the GCT has employed over 1400 qualified teachers to educate around 29,000 students from underprivileged areas of Sindh. 2,000 orphan children are fully supported by GCT.

He praised the noble services of GCT

patron-in-Chief, Sardar Muhammad Yasin Malik, who had been exceptionally supporting genuine charitable causes in the society including the campaign to enroll out-of-school children in the country.

Zahid Saeed mentioned that the GCT is fully open to the idea of launching partnerships with like-minded charities to further its goal of educating every child in the province. Zahid Saeed told the audience that the GCT partnered with the Sindh government also in furthering its drive to educate underprivileged children. For this purpose, GCT has been running 17 schools in partnership with the Sindh Education Foundation, Government of Sindh.

## Activists' disinterest hits PTI rally in DI Khan

**Amjad Ali**

DI KHAN: PTI leader Ali Amin Gandapur has failed to accumulate enough number of marchers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's south districts owing to disinterest of the PTI workers despite spending multi-million of rupees for this purpose. Reportedly, Gandapur has failed to achieve the target set for him to bring enough PTI marchers for Rawalpindi rally from Poreco Dera Division and other areas. He was given a target of 16,000 people but despite all his efforts, he could assemble a paltry 600-700 people along with 60-70 vehicles at Al-Amin House in Dera Ismail Khan till Nov 25.

It has been revealed on Saturday that the PTI workers are disheartened and not so many people have come out of their homes in DI Khan district. The cook who is responsible to supply food for the long march participants has told reporters that he has got food order for 1,200 people only. As per the schedule, the caravan was supposed to depart for Pindi at 10am today but due to non-participation of the PTI workers, the convoy was facing a delay.

# Gynecologists and obstetrician's role is crucial for improving maternal nutrition

**News Desk**

MULTAN: Healthcare professionals especially obstetrician and gynecologists have a unique opportunity to undertake nutritional assessment and counseling of women throughout the life cycle; from early adolescence to older age, said Dr Sher Shah Syed, President-Pakistan National Forum on Women's Health at a seminar organized by Nutrition International, to discuss the "Role of healthcare providers for improving maternal nutrition", during the two-days SOGP Gynaec Scientific Summit 2022 on 25-26 November, 2022.

Dr Syed added that adolescent

preconception, and maternal nutrition represent a major public health issue that affects not only the health of women, but also that of future generations. In Pakistan a substantial number of women of reproductive age or future mothers suffering from triple burden of malnutrition; 14% of them were underweight, 24% are overweight while 42% are anemic.

Highlighting the significance of health and nutrition for women throughout the life cycle Dr Aziz Un Nissa, President; Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Pakistan (SOGP) said ensuring the optimal health and adequate nutrition of women, especially before

and during pregnancy, and during the postpartum period can break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition. Gynecologists are considered the "go to" doctors for women for most of health issues while pregnant women often rely on obstetrician hence their role is crucial for improving women's nutritional status by integrating counseling for dietary diversity, weight management and healthy lifestyle and exercise in their routine practice.

Dr. Shabina Raza, Country Director Nutrition International in her given statement on the occasion stated that, this year, Nutrition International celebrates its 30 years of impact to enhance

nutrition status of people around the globe. Nutrition International is closely allied of federal and provincial governments for more than two decades in Pakistan, to address micronutrient deficiencies especially among women and children. We are now reaching out to healthcare professionals, having direct access and close interaction with women, to mobilize and orient them for their critical role for improving maternal nutrition especially through improved nutrition counselling, thus safeguarding wellbeing of future generations as well.

Sharing salient features of Maternal Nutrition Strategy Pakistan 2022-27,

Dr. Khawaja Masood Ahmed, National Coordinator, National Fortification Alliance, MoNHSR&C said that the strategy was developed to support optimal nutrition, health, and well-being of all women in Pakistan, as well as prevent all forms of malnutrition among vulnerable women. He further added that Healthcare Providers especially Obstetricians have a special role in assuring the health and wellbeing as well as proper nutrition of mothers and they should spend some time on counselling of the Pregnant mothers, their husbands and family members.

Discussing the role gynecologists and obstetricians on nutrition assess-

ment and counseling, Dr. Farhana Shahid, Country Nutrition Advisor for Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) said, antenatal and postnatal are the most crucial period during pregnancy that influence maternal and child health, it is therefore critical that healthcare providers should undertake nutrition assessment and provide information and counseling to women and their family on the types, diversity and amounts of food, exercise and appropriate weight gain, in addition to nutrition supplementation. Gynecologists have critical responsibility to counsel and encourage mothers for early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding.

Islamabad  
15° - 23° Clear

**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**

Fajr .....5:22 am  
Zohr .....11:55 am  
Asr .....3:22 pm  
Maghrib .....5:00 pm  
Isha .....6:28 pm

**EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police) ..... 15  
Bomb Disposal ..... 15  
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad ..... 1122 & 16  
Emergency Ambulance ..... 1122 & Rescue Services ..... 4451122  
Motorway Police ..... 9266044  
Motorway Police ..... 9270601-20

**Women Police Stations**

Islamabad ..... 9222596  
Rawalpindi ..... 9270601-20

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PIA Flight Info ..... 114  
PIA Cargo ..... 9280979  
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Railway Exchange .....9270831-5  
WASA Rawalpindi .....5555489  
CAA ..... 9281092

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MH .....561116  
MH .....561116  
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DHQ .....5556311-4  
RGH .....9290301-7  
Holy Family .....9290322-7  
PIMS .....9261170-79  
Polyclinic .....9218300-09  
Shifa International .....4603666

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CDA ..... 9208301-04  
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RDA ..... 5555864  
TMA ..... 5770886  
Cantonment Board ..... 9270151-3  
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation ..... 9209224  
Potohar Town ..... 9209224  
Rawal Town ..... 5773343

**COMPLAINTS**

Water Tanker Service  
E-7, F-10 & F-11 ..... 9204654  
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 ..... 9203883  
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..... 9266316  
Wapda Islamabad ..... 9217579-80

**All set for local govt polls in AJK on Sunday**

ISLAMABAD: All arrangements have been made to conduct the first phase of



local government elections in Muzaffarabad division of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on Sunday. Due to unavailability of additional security personnel from the federal government, the election commission had decided a week earlier to conduct local government polls in three phases. Polling in Muzaffarabad division will be held on Nov 27 (Sunday). Commissioner Masoodur Rehman at a presser gave details of the arrangements for the upcoming polls.

The commissioner said peace and coordination committees comprising local people and officials had been constituted to maintain harmony during the polling. He said 7,785 polling staff had been deputed at 1,323 polling stations. 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 morning. 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 trial.

He said any violation of code of conduct by any candidate or supporter of candidate could disqualify a candidate even after the election and called the administration and polling staff to strictly implement the code of conduct.

**PM's aide on culture Engr Amir Muqam inaugurates Lok Mela**



ISLAMABAD-Advisor to the Prime Minister for Political, Public affairs and National heritage and Culture Engr Amir Muqam cutting the ribbon during inauguration ceremony of Lok Mela at Lok Virsa in federal capital. Fareena Mazhar, Secretary, National Heritage and Culture and Shahzad Durrani, Executive Director also present on the occasion. Spokesman Photo by Ghulam Farid

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to Prime Minister for National Heritage and Culture Engr Amir Muqam here on Saturday formally inaugurated the 10-day folk festival of Pakistan "Lok Mela" organized by Lok Virsa, National Heritage and Culture Division.

Speaking on the occasion, the adviser stated that Lok Mela provides a much-needed platform to the traditional practitioners including master artisans, folk artistes, folk musicians, and folk dancers from all over the country to participate in the festival and win recognition of their talent at national level.

Artists and artisans are our asset and they contribute immensely to the development of the society, he added.

The adviser further stated that the events like Lok Mela serve to promote national harmony and integration among all federating units through projection of their indigenous culture and folk heritage. The events like Lok Mela are a priority of the present government as these

promote Pakistan's traditional culture and provide healthy entertainment for the people.

Engr Amir Muqam maintained that Pakistan is a peace loving country with a diverse and ancient cultural heritage. Our creative people continue keeping their centuries' old traditions alive with great pride. The work of our artisans and artists is matchless. Our crafts have a separate identity in the entire world. Culture is an effective tool through which true soft image of Pakistan can be projected.

The adviser also thanked all regional and provincial governments and their cultural departments for cooperating with Lok Virsa for organizing this national event. He appreciated the Lok Virsa for donating a part of its earnings from the festival to the Prime Minister's Flood Relief Fund.

The adviser greatly appreciated the efforts of Lok Virsa administration as well as the National Heritage and Culture Division for holding this mega cultural event in a befitting manner.

Fareena Mazhar, Secretary, National

Heritage and Culture on the occasion said the projects like Lok Mela serve to eliminate the menace of extremism in the society.

There is a message of peace, unity, love and brotherhood in the teachings of our great Sufi saints. Festivals contribute to disseminate this message to the humanity. She further added that the major focus of the festival is rural Pakistan. The beneficiaries are rural performers and creative artisans who are certainly a real bearer of our magnificent cultural heritage.

In his welcoming remarks, Shahzad Durrani, Executive Director, Lok Virsa welcomed the participants and shed light on the objectives of the festival. He also thanked provincial cultural departments and other coordinating agencies for their enabling role in holding the festival.

The chief guest later visited festival grounds and met participants from different provinces, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

The festival will continue with all its attractions till 4th December. Daily timings are from 1000 to 2200 hours.

**People in trouble**

RAWALPINDI: People are facing difficulties during road closed with heavy containers at Faizabad Flyover Bridge due to PTI long march public gathering (Jalsa) at Rehmanabad in the city.



Photo: Online

**Qatar makes history by maintaining Islamic values, ethics in FIFA World Cup: Ashrafi**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Saturday said Qatar had made history by maintaining Islamic values and ethics during FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Ashrafi who is also the chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council, in an exclusive talk with APP, said holding Football World Cup in Qatar was a great source of happiness for the entire Arab Islamic world.

He said the arrangements made by Qatar government



to host World Cup was amazing, praiseworthy and valuable. "The way, Qatar maintained its Islamic values in hosting the Football World Cup's grand opening ceremony

will be remembered forever," he added.

He said the elements criticizing Qatar on account of ensuring the implementation on Islamic values and maintaining respective traditions during the FIFA World Cup, were, in fact, afraid of the success of an Arab Islamic country.

He said the Arab Islamic world leadership's presence in the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup had demonstrated great solidarity with Qatar.

Ashrafi said the Arab Islamic world celebrated the great victory of Saudi Arabia

over Argentina in the opening match and in subsequent occasions of joy, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman draped Qatar's flag around his neck and so did Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani by draping Saudi Arabia's flag around his neck.

"It was a pleasing moment for the entire Arab Islamic world," he maintained.

He said Pakistan's government, Ulama, Mashaykh and people fully endorsed and supported the positive initiatives taken by Qatar and rejected the baseless propaganda carried out against it. APP

**Modi regime victimizing journalists for exposing Indian brutalities in IIOJK**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Political experts and analysts have deplored that Narendra Modi-led fascist Indian government was victimizing journalists for exposing Indian brutalities on Kashmiris.

The political experts and analysts, in their statements and interviews in Srinagar, said the Modi regime was using "different intimidating tactics to harass the journalists" and force them to toe its line, Kashmir Media Service reported.

They said IIOJK was the worst place for journalists to work freely, adding that the media persons were abducted, threatened and tortured just for "doing their job".

They said the RSS-backed communal Modi government



was using probe agencies like the notorious National Investigation Agency (NIA) and State Investigation Agency (SIA) to frequently raid the offices and residences of journalists in the occupied territory.

The political experts and analysts highlighted that for the last over a week several media persons were being summoned

to the police stations on a daily basis and harassed in the name of questioning. They said that several Kashmiri journalists including Aasif Sultan and Fahd Shah were facing illegal detention under draconian laws.

"Kashmiri journalists are being booked under draconian laws for speaking the truth and victimization of the media persons in

IIOJK increased manifold since August 5, 2019," they added.

The political experts and analysts pointed out that a number of journalists had been killed, and scores injured by Indian troops since 1989 in IIOJK. "Modi regime is defaming Kashmiri journalists and media organizations for exposing Indian brutalities in IIOJK. India has snatched every right including the right to freedom of the press but it cannot hide its crimes by stifling media in Kashmir," they said.

Curbs on freedom of expression in IIOJK need world's attention, the political experts and analysts said, adding that assault on Kashmiri journalists should be a "wake-up call" for international media organizations.

**Seven-day anti-polio campaign launched in ICT**

ISLAMABAD: The district administration Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) here on Saturday launched seven-days anti-polio campaign in which children below the age of five years will be vaccinated.

Additional Deputy Commissioner East Usman Ashraf along with District Health Officer Zaem Zia and Director Health Services Dr. Iqbal Afridi started the anti-polio campaign by administering polio drops to children under five years of age at CDA Health Centre I-8 Markaz.

Speaking on the occasion, Usman Ashraf said that the campaign would continue till November 28 and polio teams and health workers would administer polio drops house to house.

He said that 408,000 children up to five years of age would be administered anti-polio drops. The teams will also visit public places, markets, bus stands and other places to achieve the target, he told.

He directed the officers to work as a team and take diligent and serious measures to achieve the desired goal. APP

**First-ever Chief Commissioner chess championship organized**

ISLAMABAD: The first-ever Chief Commissioner chess championship was organized on Saturday at Amphitheater F-9 park Islamabad.

The championship was organized by Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration in collaboration with Islamabad Chess Association, where players from all over the country participated.

Chief Commissioner ICT captain (Rtd) Muhammad Usman Younis and Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon attended the prize distribution ceremony.

While speaking on the occasion chief commissioner pledged to organize healthy activities for public. "The administration would hold such events throughout the year to uplift the chess, other indoor and outdoor games to bring forward the talented athletes at national level" he added.

More than 122 players participated in the champions, moreover, the budding juniors and women were given the opportunity to enhance their game by playing with top seed players.

In men's category National Master Liaquat Ali, Rabia Hashmi in women's category and Raja Hatim-ur-Rehman in children's category took first position. While Hanif Qureshi got first in open category, medals, trophies and souvenirs were distributed among the winners.

According to the spokesperson ICT Abdullah Tabassum, "Chief Commissioner hockey and cricket tournaments to be organized soon to encourage sports enthusiasts and athletes to showcase their skills through ICT platform.

He said that under the commissioner's cap a colorful martial arts and football championships were also organized earlier where top athletes across the twin cities participated. News Desk

**Islamabad Police van catches fire in Blue Area**



ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Capital Territory police on-duty van caught fire near the Blue Area of Islamabad. The police personnel saved their lives by jumping out of the burning van. The van was completely burnt when the fire brigade vehicle reached the spot.

**Pakistan is benefactor, only hope of oppressed Kashmiris: GA Gulzar**

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Senior leader of All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC), Ghulam Ahmad Gulzar, has said that Pakistan is the benefactor and only hope of the oppressed people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir who have been facing the worst Indian state terrorism for the last over seven decades.



Ghulam Ahmad Gulzar in a statement issued in Srinagar felicitated the newly appointed Army Chief General Asim Munir, and Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Sahir Shamshad Mirza.

He expressed the hope that new military leadership will not only enhance the defence capabilities of Pakistan but also play a vital role in resolving the Kashmiri dispute in accordance with the Kashmiri's aspirations and relevant UN resolutions.

He said a prosperous and strong Pakistan is in the best interest of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and they always pray for prosperity and stability in the country.

Ghulam Ahmad Gulzar said the Kashmiris are fully aware that Pakistan is facing numerous challenges including Hindutva sponsored terrorism and expressed the confidence that new military leadership will counter all difficulties and threats successfully.

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# Qatar & FIFA World Cup: A complete holiday



**Munaza Kazmi**

The wait is over, 2022 FIFA World Cup is being hosted the Arab world for the first ever time in the history. Starting from November 20 to December 18, 2022, fans are flocking to Doha, Qatar, to witness the clash of footballers. However, if you're going to travel all that way, why not make it a complete New Year family's holiday, let's explore Qatar.

From the rich and mysterious Arabic heritage that offers a glimpse into one of the oldest civilizations, to modern and advance lifestyle where every night is as colorful as rainbows, from the exotic golden dessert that engulf the visitor into its magical Arabian Nights to the deep blue sea which gave you memories of your childhood, Aladdin's flying carpets over deserts and seas.....and many more.

Landing at Al Hamad Inter-

national Airport, the cleanest and cool, you will find yourself at peace. The airport is huge and newly built, providing the passenger all the ease and comfort.

After leaving the airport, I suggest you to breathe and inhale the Arabic air, your every part will feel the misty wind coming from the sea shores, whispering mysterious tales of the desserts.

You are in Arabic World, let's experience luxury! Check into The Ritz-Carlton Sharq Village, 10 minutes' drive from the airport, a beachfront property overlooking Doha Bay. The luxury resort is a perfect retreat since it's a blend of authentic Arabian architecture with the advance level comfort. Spreading along 350 m of coastline, with a 1,400-m<sup>2</sup> infinity pool and extensive wellness center.

Rooms feature an oriental décor, wooden ornaments and canopied beds. Coming with a private balcony overlooking the resort village. The marble bathroom has a deep-soaking bath and a rain shower, which would defiantly sweep away all the jet lag.

The Spa offers an extensive menu of skin therapies and massages. Where you can rest on comfortable loungers in the lantern-lit relaxation area. While the adults are enjoying spa the kids can head towards Ritz Kids

Club. After relaxing, enjoy refreshers and snacks at Al Seef, the poolside bar and cafe, or walk towards Parisa Restaurant with sea views for memorable dining experiences in an elegant, stylish ambiance. Parisa is a feast for all senses, with its elaborate interiors studded with intricate mirror work and hand painted artworks Al Liwan grill where you can treat yourself with a wide range of buffets, from Lebanese to seafood to brunch options.

Arab cannot be pictured without flying hawks in the desert, why not spend the next day in to the arms of golden sands, while watching the mysterious duns, dancing on the rhythms of Duff, befuddled in the intoxicating scents, while tasting the rich and aromatic delicacies.

The Qatari desert offers some of the planet's most surreal and splendid scenery, a land of wide-open beauty, shaped by the steady forces of wind and sun. It's also a place of solitude, where a slow camel ride across time-worn tracks connects remote campsites to settlements that seem to blend into their surroundings.

As we know UAE is world's largest sandy desert, and an integral part of local culture, hence the mother desert opens its hearts with surprising array of activities. Embark on a desert

safari through the golden sand dunes, spending starry nights in traditional tents or dune-bashing through breathtaking scenes.

Let me tell you, Qatari Desert known as Khor Al Adaid, a UNESCO recognized site, that lies south of the city is one of the few places in the world where the sea encroaches into the desert. Enjoy spotting turtles, flamingos, dungongs, Arabian oryx, camels and more.

Moreover, when the night is casting its shadow over, get ready for a family-style feast and entertainment like fire breathers and belly dancers there. The kids can have a separate area complete with toys, games, and an outdoor movie theater.

Filled with art, entertainment and culture, Doha is ecstasy. Explore Doha, starting with a trip to The National Museum of Qatar, and enrich your knowledge of Qatari History. The museum is devoted to bringing to life the unique story of Qatar and its people. It enthusiastically gives voice to the Qatar's rich heritage and culture.

Stop over at Katara Cultural Village, a destination for art, culture and cuisine. Where your eyes witness a perfect blend of Persian and Turkish art at its best The Katara Mosque. Then there's Gold Mosque, whose tiles are made up of pure gold that glints in the sun. Next, discov-

er Amphitheatre, Art galleries, beach activities and many more.

Away from home bring memories of home and the loved ones, so let's dive in to the Souq-Waqif. For centuries it's been a marketplace for the Bedouins, till today it showers its delicacies over the visitors. The spices, herbs, rose petals, incense, textile, handmade crafts and the gold. All the fantastic choices in one place. However, if you are looking for high street and luxury brands, there's a variety of world class shopping malls in the city.

I heard something! O I think it's my stomach calling for FOOD!!

Cuisine of Qatar represents Arabia, but also major tastes of the world can easily locate, with everything from fine dining to family-style restaurant. For lunch stop over to Shay Al Shamooos, this rustic corner Souq Waqif's restaurant serves local dishes. Try Khobizregag with karak tea, a local favorite.

Next you can go to, The Pearl, a Riviera style man-made island developed in an exclusive enclave of Doha. It is the UAE's most glamorous address, covering 400 hectares of reclaimed land and Qatar's first international urban development venture.

Lastly, I would suggest you embark on Doha Cruise and let your soul wander freely on the shores of Doha.



*Rasmi*

## Early diagnosis to save lives from breast cancer

Breast cancer is one of the most common diseases among women and death rates caused by it around the globe are still higher owing to late detection and lack of awareness.

Several studies have revealed that when breast cancer is detected at its earliest stage, the survival rate becomes more than 90 per cent.

Therefore, in order to create awareness about the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) has marked October as the 'Breast Cancer Awareness Month' to help people understand the importance of early diagnosis of the disease for saving millions of lives.

Aiming at providing awareness to women about the disease, government, various medical forums and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) had organized various seminars and awareness walks on 'Breast Cancer Awareness' during the month-long mass sensitization campaign.

Oncologists and health experts, during this month, made special efforts to ensure early detection of breast cancer and spread awareness for eliminating the stigma about the disease.

Every year, around one million women are diagnosed with breast cancer globally. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among females, and the GLOBOCAN report of WHO revealed that there were over 1.38 million women with breast cancer in 2018. However, it was sad to note that the number had reached 2.3 million in 2020, and 685,000 deaths were caused due to it across the globe.

Pakistan, being a developing country, is most thickly populated and the major population is living in remote rural areas. Therefore, in under-developed rural areas, no formal health infrastructure is available as illiteracy is a major cause to diagnose breast cancer. Mostly village folk women have no awareness about personal hygienic conditions, she said.

There are certain methods that can be used to reduce the breast cancer rate, she said, adding that women can reduce the risk of breast cancer by four per cent by breastfeeding their minors for at least 12 months.

Exercise should be focused, which includes walking 6,000 steps a day, consuming vegetables, fruits, avoiding processed meat, regular use of calcium and vitamin D can protect women against breast cancer, she added.

In rural areas, socioeconomic conditions are responsible for poor health of women. To a query, Khan said rural women were becoming more vulnerable to breast cancers every year because it was an inherited disease, which is transmitted from mother to daughter.

The major reason of the increasing number of the disease among women is unavailability of screening centres to diagnose various types of cancer, and every year a large number of women die due to breast cancer and Hepatitis-C.

Dr M Zulqarnain Chaudhry, consultant breast surgeon at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC) said that breast cancer was the most common disease among women worldwide while Pakistan has the highest incidence of the disease in Asia.

One out of nine Pakistani women suffers breast cancer at some stage of her life while thousands of lives are lost to the disease every year, he added.

# Contaminated groundwater becoming injurious for Faisalabadites

**Spokesman Research**

Continuous use of pesticides, outflow of industrial effluent and untreated liquid and solid waste had been contaminating the ground water in the third biggest city of the country posing serious health hazards to citizens.

Known as Manchester of Pakistan and housing nearly five million people, residents of Faisalabad wait for a panacea since years that rescues them from bitter exposure to multiple water borne diseases.

Despite scattered efforts to meet the clean drinking water needs of the citizens, the problem still persists with people exposed to diseases like hepatitis, typhoid, cholera, diarrhea, worm infections, gastroenteritis, dysentery and even cancer.

According to a spokesman of irrigation department, besides other causes, untreated industrial effluent is too dangerous as some industrialist discharge it directly underground through a hole or well.

"By doing this, they apparently save handsome money to be spent on effluent treatment but expose millions of people to ailment," the spokesman said.

No matter that the city witnessed sizeable industrial growth providing employment to hundreds of thousands people across the district. But, it should have not been at the cost of human health.

"Pumping out groundwater extensively in urban area has also affected the quality of subsoil water in some areas to the extent that it cannot be even used for irrigation purposes," the spokesman added.

According to a study conducted by the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) a couple of years back, around 59% groundwater in city area was unsafe for drinking. The samples of surface and groundwater collected from various parts of the city were found contaminated with microbial component besides chloride, fluoride, hardness and TDS. The results showed 36% sodium-bicarbonate, 18% magnesium-bicarbonate, 18% sodium-chloride, 14% calcium-bicarbonate and 9% sodium-sulphate contamination.

The study suggested that the groundwater had both temporary and permanent type of hardness at different sites because 23% samples of Chloride (Cl), 23% samples of Iron (Fe), 23% samples of TDS, 18% samples of Nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>), 14% samples of Hardness, 14% samples of total coliforms, 14% samples of E-coli and 9% samples of Fluoride (F) were found contaminated.

Commenting on this situation, Managing Director Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Jabbar Anwar Chaudhry said his agency was endeavoring utmost to address this problem. "Currently, we are providing portable water to residents from Rakh Branch Canal through sedimentation tanks.



Our second source is river Chenab."

"The WASA supplies 56 Million Gallons Daily (MGD) drinking water to residents through these sources. We have also sunk tube wells with the financial help of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to meet water needs," he said.

Jabbar Anwar said another chain of tube-wells was sunk along Rakh Branch but due to over sucking, water quality degraded and this facility was discontinued.

"We have also drilled 25 tube-wells along Jhang Branch Canal to provide 20 MGD water. As, still there is supply and demand gap, so we are now embarking on another project with the cooperation of French government to meet water needs," he informed.

Expanding on all directions at a population growth rate over two percent, the city managers would be on a tight rope in near future to ensure better health facilities, cleaner environment and other amenities for the residents.

As both the deteriorating air quality and water contamination expose people badly to ailment, renowned health expert, Dr Shuja-ud-Din said contaminated water usage make the people suffer from multiple diseases.

"Contaminated water results in diseases like hepatitis, typhoid, cholera, diarrhea, worm infections, gastroenteritis dysentery and even cancer," he said. "The most common is gastroenteritis that had turned into an epidemic a few years back."

"We have also witnessed rising number of joint pain patients, caused by intake of heavy metal water. Similarly, sink diseases are also rampant due to use of hard and chemical-mixed water," he added.

Dr Shuja said as majority of people was ignorant of bad effects of drinking contaminated water, there was also a dire need of raising awareness among the people to save them from water borne diseases.

Although the recent efforts by the

public and private sectors had improved water quality to some extent yet more efforts were needed to overcome this challenge.

Social activist, Dr Jaffar Hassan Mubarak has proposed to engage experts from NIAB, NIBGE and AARI for extensive plantation along Paharang and Maddoana drains for containing the volume of chemicals and heavy metals in groundwater.

"At least two new drains must be constructed to flow domestic and industrial effluent to Maddoana and Paharang drains," he suggested.

Mentioning to already constructed effluent treatment plant near Chakera with a capacity to treat 180 million gallons' waste water daily, he recommended more treatment plants along Paharang and Maddoana drains to treat waste water making it usable for irrigation.

He urged the government to collect proper aquifer charges from industrial sector and bottled water companies and use this money on establishing treatment plants.

According to WASA statistics, presently 150 water filtration plants are operating in the city but their capacity is quite insufficient to bridge supply and demand gap. Therefore, it is direly needed to start work on Chenab dam as well as use sinking well technique, if admissible to recharge groundwater besides installing more water filtration plants to save people from multiple ailments.

## MWMC devises cleanliness plan for Hazrat Shah Rukn-e-Alam urs

**Asim Tanveer**

Multan Waste Management Company (MWMC) has chalked out a plan for exemplary cleanliness arrangements during the three-day Urs of Hazrat Shah Rukn-e-Alam, scheduled to commence on November 30.

A total of 50 workers will be deployed in three shifts for the best cleanliness arrangements during the Urs.

According to the duty roster of the workers, issued on the instructions of the CEO MWMC Haq Nawaz Chauhan, 20 workers will perform duty in the first and second shifts, while ten workers will be on duty in the third shift.

Workers will also be provided with required machinery, including water bowser and compactors. There will be water sprinkling and lime lining on the roads of Qasim Fort and surrounding roads during the Urs.

Moreover, cleanliness arrangements will also be made at the accommodations of devotees.

The focal person and in-charges have also been nominated for the monitoring of cleanliness arrangements.

## Two exhibitions from Uzbekistan will become the main museum attraction of Paris for the next six months

During the official visit of the President of France Emmanuel Macron, the heads of the two states opened two major exhibitions: "The Splendours of Uzbekistan's Oases. At the Crossroads of Caravan Routes" in the Louvre and "The Road to Samarkand. Miracles of Silk and Gold" at the Arab World Institute.

Both exhibitions are dedicated to Uzbekistan's history and culture. The exhibition in the Louvre covers the 5th-6th centuries BC to the reign of the Timurids, and the Arab World Institute presents exhibits of the 19th - mid-20th centuries, as well as paintings of the Turkistan avant-garde from the collection of Uzbekistan state museums.

**How it all began**  
In October 2018, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid an official visit to France for the first time. As part of the cultural program, an excursion to the Louvre took place. By that time, the idea of holding a large-scale exhibition in this museum dedicated to the rich historical and cultural heritage of Uzbekistan was already taking shape, and the Head of the state warmly supported it.

It should be noted that this was preceded by several very important events.

In 2009, archaeologist and researcher Rocco Rante led an archaeological mission in Bukhara in collaboration with the team of Samarkand Archeology Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. From the Uzbek side, it was headed by Jamal Mirzaakhmedov, and later by Abdisabur Raimkulov. In 2011, Rante invited Henri Loyrette, the former Director of the Louvre, to Uzbekistan. After assessing the available historical material, a decision is made to start planning a possible exhibition, which took on a concrete shape in 2017.

Sometime later, already in Samarkand region of Uzbekistan, a unique Zoroastrian carved panel was discovered during other excavations, which were also carried out jointly with French specialists. The find claimed to be a world-class discovery.

It is assumed that the country palace of the rulers of pre-Islamic times (until the 8th century) was located at the excavation site. A front room was discovered in the citadel, most of which was occupied by a three-tiered podium, where, according to scientists, the ruler sat on the throne, and the panel just adorned the walls of the hall.

Along with these, other unique finds were discovered. It became clear that Uzbekistan would be able to show the world something very valuable from a historical and cultural point of view.

The Art and Culture Development Foundation of Uzbekistan, represented by Executive Director Gayane Umerova, and the Louvre Museum signed a Partnership Agreement, and preparatory work began, which was led by the Deputy Chairperson of the Council of the Foundation Saida Mirziyoyeva.

The exhibition at the Louvre was planned to be held in 2020-2021, but COVID-19 disrupted these plans, and it had to be postponed to 2022. During this period, it became clear that it would be logical to present an excursion not only into the ancient history of Uzbekistan, ending with the 15th century, but also to tell about the following periods up to modern times, which would make this work comprehensive and complete. Based on this, it was decided to hold two exhibitions: one at the Louvre, and the second at the Arab World Institute.

**Four-year journey**  
A special commission was created to prepare both exhibitions. It was led by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which included the Director of the Institute of Art History of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan and project consultant Shokir Pidayev, Director of the Center for Islamic Civilization Shozaim Minovarov, ministers, scientists, archaeologists, as well as directors and curators of museums from which it was planned to borrow exhibits.

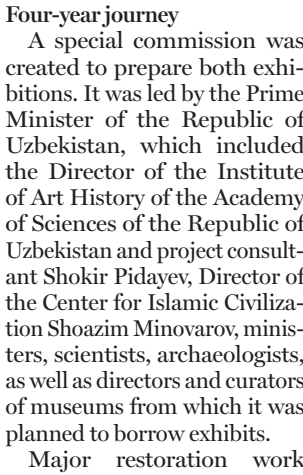
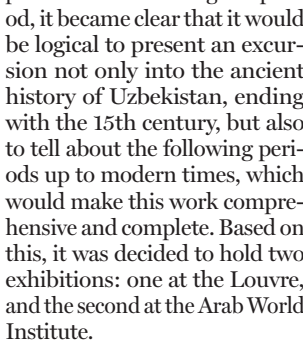
Major restoration work began. More than 70 items have been restored especially for the exhibition since 2018. A team was involved in the project, including more than 40 restorers in paper, wood, metal, sculpture, glass and wall painting from France and Uzbekistan, including Marina Reutova, Kamoliddin Mahkamov, Shukhrat Pulatov, Christine Parisel, Olivier Tavoso, Delphine Lefebvre, Geraldine Frey, Axel Delau, Anne Liege, and others.

Particularly difficult and interesting was the restoration and conservation of the Kattalangar Quran pages of the 8th century. This Quran has tremendous religious significance for Islam

and Muslims and is one of the values that constitute the cultural and historical heritage of all mankind.

The restoration work lasted three years and was made possible largely thanks to the personal support of Saida Mirziyoyeva, who then held the position of Deputy Director of the Agency for Information and Mass Communications. Initially, it was planned to restore only 2 pages, and it was Saida Mirziyoyeva who insisted on restoring all 13 pages.

The National Library of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Navoi, the Art and Culture Development Foundation under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan were involved in the restoration of this unique document.



draw parallels, they can be recognized as an analog of modern piercing.

Among the selected paintings are paintings by Ural Tansikbayev, Victor Ufimtsev, Nadejda Kashina. There are paintings by Alexander Volkov, Alexei Isupov and others. Despite the unique style of writing each of them, all the paintings are inspired and united by one theme – the East and its color. So, having seen, for example, the picture of Nikolai Karakhan "Teahouse near the house under the elms", the viewer can immediately understand how people of that time dressed and how they rested, their way of life, and the surrounding nature.

A very interesting painting by Victor Ufimtsev "Oriental Motif". A native of Siberia, the artist, as he became acquainted with Central Asia, gradually mastered the traditional art of Islam. This work is a free modernist stylization of a Muslim miniature, which reproduces the classic banquet scene. The painting depicts two women at rest, towards which a man with a vessel is moving. It seems that the Western viewer, looking at this canvas, will be able to appreciate how high the respect for women has always been in the East.

In general, it should be noted that the entire collection as a whole, presented by the Savitsky Museum, is designed to reveal all the diversity, originality and charm of oriental culture and Uzbekistan in particular. And it is very symbolic that it will be presented at the Arab World Institute, located in the famous European capital. This once again proves that the West and the East can perfectly coexist and enrich each other.

One of the curators of the exhibition, the head of the French publishing house Assouline Publishing, Yaffa Assouline, and photographer Laziz Hamani, provided great assistance in creating the exposition. For three years they traveled across the region to search and collect materials for publications about Uzbekistan. The exhibition "The Road to Samarkand. Miracles of Silk and Gold" became a living illustration of these books.

Most of the exhibits presented at the exhibition have never left Uzbekistan. But even those who are well acquainted with, for example, chapans, suzani, and other works presented in the country's museums, will see them in a new light and perspective – in 3D, and this is an unprecedented experience.

Another valuable part of the exhibition is that all regions of Uzbekistan are presented at once with their differences, schools, techniques for manufacturing products.

As Gayane Umerova explained, partnership with the Arab World Institute allows to more thoroughly explore the cultural context of Uzbekistan, to emphasize the significance and richness of its national heritage. The Culture Foundation attaches great importance to the exhibition, since one of its important missions is to raise awareness about the history and cultural heritage of Uzbekistan on a global scale. It is expected that the exhibition will be of interest to a wide range of people who are fond of art, handicraft and the history of the region. Certainly, this project, successfully created jointly with the Arab World Institute, will serve to further develop mutual understanding and cooperation between people.

At the opening ceremony of the exhibition, the ballet performance "Lazgi – Dance of Soul and Love" by the German choreographer Raimondo Rebeck was presented. The Khorezmian Lazgi dance is more than 3000 years old. It is included on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of UNESCO.

**On a final note**  
The territory covered by the Silk Road contains traces and treasures of a huge number of civilizations and ethnic groups representing a wide variety of cultures and ways of life. This is a place of intersection of many trade routes, exchange between East and West, nomadic and sedentary ways of life, synthesis of cultures of various civilizations – Iranian, Hellenistic, Turkic, Chinese, Indian, Arab Muslim, Mongolian, and others.

The exhibitions presented by Uzbekistan in Paris will allow millions of people from all over the world to see the artifacts of this great history with their own eyes.



exhibitions will be very effective, because cooperation in a culture very quickly acquaints the country and people with the world. 60 million tourists visit France a year. More than 10 million people visit the Louvre. The fact that Uzbekistan will be represented at such a large-scale exhibition will make the country more recognizable, increase interest in it, its culture and its history. This will serve as a great advertisement for the development of tourism. The better people get to know each other through exhibitions, mutual communication, the stronger mutual trust. And trust opens the door to other cooperation areas.

*Qatar Reviewing London Investments after Transport Ads Ban*

DOHA: Qatar has launched a review of its investments in London after the city's transport authority this week banned the Gulf state's tourism advertisements on the capital's buses, taxis and Underground train system, Saturday's Financial Times reported.

The paper said the move by Transport for London (TfL) was triggered by concerns over the soccer World Cup host's stance on LGBT+ rights and its treatment of migrant workers.

The FT quoted a person involved in the Qatar review as saying TfL, which is chaired by London Mayor Sadiq Khan, contacted Q22, the body overseeing the World Cup and Qatar's tourism authority, this week to inform them of the ban.

The TfL ban "has been interpreted as a message from the mayor's office that Qatari business is not welcome in London," the person was quoted as saying.

Qatar is one of the biggest investors in London through its sovereign wealth fund.

The Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) owns Harrods, the department store, the Shard skyscraper and is co-owner of Canary Wharf. The Gulf state also owns the Savoy and Grosvenor House hotels, a 20% stake in Heathrow Airport and a 14% stake in Sainsbury's, Britain's second biggest supermarket group.

A spokesperson for TfL said that ahead of the World Cup it provided its advertising partners and brands with "further guidance on the advertising which we are likely to consider acceptable to run during the tournament while also ensuring that football fans are not denied the opportunity to support their teams".

"Each advertising campaign continues to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis."

TfL said advertising which promotes travel to Qatar, tourism in Qatar, or portrays Qatar as a desirable destination would not be considered acceptable.

Qatar's government communications office did not immediately respond to an email from Reuters seeking comment. APP

*The bond repayment, which matures on Dec 5: SBP Chief*

**Spokesman Report**



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will repay a \$1 billion international bond on December 2, three days before its due date, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Governor Jameel Ahmad told a briefing on Friday.

There has been growing uncertainty about the ability of Pakistan to meet external financing obligations with the country in the midst of an economic crisis and recovering from devastating floods that killed over 1,700 people.

The bond repayment, which matures on December 5, totals \$1.08 billion, Ahmad told a briefing, according to two analysts who were present.

Ahmad added that funding has been lined up from multilateral and bilateral sources to ensure the repayment would not affect foreign exchange reserves. An immediate inflow of \$500 million was expected next week on Tuesday from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, he said. Pakistan's reserves with the central bank stood at \$7.8 billion as of November 18, barely enough to cover a month's imports.

Ahmad said reserve levels will depend on the continued realisation of expected inflows and rollover of loans from friendly countries, but added he was confident the reserve figure will be "much higher" by the end of the financial year in June 2023.

He told the briefing he expects external financing requirements would be met on time because of inflows from international lenders. He pointed out that, despite payments of \$1.8 billion in November, reserves remained stable.

**ECO Bank to provide €150mln soft loan to Pakistan**

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Trade and Development Bank will provide a soft-term loan worth 150 million Euros to Pakistan.

The financial assistance was announced by the President ECO Trade and Development Bank Yalcin Yuksek, during a high-level meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Istanbul today.

During the meeting, the Bank's president said the soft loan will contribute to flood relief efforts as well as financial support for the import of fuel.

He said overall financial assistance to Pakistan since the inception of the Bank would touch approximately one billion dollars, after disbursement of this committed amount.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif welcomed the prospects of expansion of the Economic Cooperation Organization's (ECO) outreach to the landlocked Central Asian Republics (CARs) for exploring wider economic and trade dividends of the region.



The prime minister further suggested host- ing of ECO members countries' summit includ-

ing the CARs with proper agenda after consensus which would give a push to the economic activities and regional cooperation.

He urged the ECO to further tap potential of Central Asian countries which had a huge population and offering diverse potential for railways and land network connectivity.

PM Shehbaz Sharif said developing countries like Pakistan required foreign investment and the CARs could be connected via Afghanistan, and these linkages would broaden the economic relations among all the regional countries.

He opined that economic priority was on the ECO agenda and further prospects could provide further opportunities to developing countries like Pakistan. He termed the idea as 'a game changer', adding the Gwadar port would serve as a hub for transporting gas to the world.

He opined that railroads and roads connectivity would shape the regional landscape, through a vision of three-way economic cooperation. The countries rich with the natural resources could export their goods through these linkages, he added.

**Shoppers can't find Apple's latest iPhone on Black Friday**

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Many shoppers looking for Apple's latest iPhone models returned empty handed from its stores this Black Friday as the technology company struggles with production snafus in China.

Among them were Sally Gannon and her son Michael, who were visiting an Apple store in Bethesda, where they found no iPhone Pros in stock.

Similarly, Abisha Luitel wanted to get an iPhone 14 Pro for her 21-year old cousin. But the Apple store she visited was out. She purchased an older version, the 12, instead.

The "iPhone shortages are accelerating and were front and center this morning on Black Friday across many retailers, Apple Stores, and online channels," Wedbush analyst Dan Ives wrote in a note.

"We believe many Apple Stores now have iPhone 14 Pro shortages based on model or color or storage of up to 25%-30% below normal



heading into a typical December, which is not a good sign heading into holiday season for Cupertino," he said referring to Apple's headquarters.

Shares of Apple ended down 2.0% after its a source at its supplier Foxconn told Reuters on Friday that iPhone production could be further hit due to worker unrest at the plant.

Apple did not respond to a request for comment on Friday. In a statement on Nov. 7, it said it expected lower iPhone 14 Pro and iPhone 14 Pro Max shipments than

previously anticipated. Foxconn's plant in China makes Apple's premium models including the latest iPhone 14 Pro, a source told Reuters.

The plant, the world's largest Apple iPhone factory has been grappling with strict COVID-19 restrictions that have fueled discontent among workers and disrupted production ahead of Christmas and January's Lunar New Year holiday.

At an Apple store in a Bethesda, Maryland mall,

an employee said there were almost no 14 Pro and Pro Max in stock. Another employee at a store in Raleigh, North Carolina said that iPhone 14s were in low stock, while the iPhone 14 Plus was completely out of stock.

Sally Gannon said that she and her son were now leaning towards ordering the iPhone online. She said an Apple store employee told them that a phone ordered online would be delivered on Dec. 28.

U.S. electronics chain Best Buy warned earlier this week of shortages of high-end iPhones at its stores this holiday season. Wedbush's Ives expects roughly 8 million iPhones will be sold on the Black Friday weekend, down from 10 million a year ago, mainly due to supply challenges.

And if you want to shop online, he said wait times on Apple's website are now up to 40 days for the new iPhone 14 Pro, which will only grow over the coming weeks as more consumers try to find iPhone Pros to purchase as gifts.

**Pakistan Railways slashes cargo train fares**



LAHORE: In a good move, Pakistan Railways has slashed the fares of several cargo trains, ARY News reported.

The decision to slash cargo train fares was taken in a meeting chaired by Federal Railways Minister Saad Rafique in Lahore.

According to PR spokesperson, the fares for all container stock between Lahore and port areas have been slashed on the directions of Saad Rafique.

Earlier in October, the

authorities increased the fares of all classes of trains due to inflation.

According to the notification, the fare of AC sleeper class of Khyber Mail running between Karachi and Peshawar via Lahore had been increased to Rs11,000.

The AC business class fare had been increased to Rs8,000 and the AC standard class fare has been increased to Rs7,000. The fare of the economy class was increased to Rs3,000. APP

**Geezers making**

LAHORE: Workers busy in preparing warm water geezers at their workplace in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

**Textile sector collapsing due to problems**

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Saturday said the textile industry is the backbone of the economy which is collapsing under the weight of the non-availability of raw materials, energy prices, and tax issues.

The exchange rate volatility, non-payment of refunds, and load shedding are also hurting this sector, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that textile is the largest manufacturing sector of the country having an eight percent share in the GDP and a 60 percent share in exports.

Forty percent of urban labour is employed in this sector but now almost half of the factories have been closed due to various issues, he added.

There is a scarcity of cotton for this critical sector as crops on millions of acres

have been washed away, he informed.

Some other reasons for the decline include high inflation, high interest rates, soaring energy prices, and load shedding of both electricity and natural gas in industrial areas, he said.

Mr. Butt said that there is a drop in the demand for clothing and textile products in the US, UK, and Europe amid inflation, energy expenditure, and credit cost and buyers are delaying payments because of the global downturn and reduction in sales due to which exporters are facing a liquidity crisis.

**Ethiopian PM to attend ICCI BOC in Addis Ababa – Jemal Beker Abdula**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: H.E. Jemal Beker Abdula, Ambassador of Ethiopia welcomed the ICCI proposal to organize a Business Opportunities Conference (BOC) in Ethiopia and said that the Prime Minister of Ethiopia would join the event as Chief Guest while he would provide full support to make it successful. He said that his country is a gateway for African countries and Pakistan can enhance its exports with the African region by developing closer cooperation with Ethiopia. He said that Ethiopia has made reforms for ease of doing business and is now a manufacturing hub in Africa, therefore, Pakistani investors should set up manufacturing units in Ethiopia to export their products to the African region. He said that Ethiopian Airline is going to

launch direct flights between Ethiopia and Pakistan, which will help Pakistani entrepreneurs to explore Africa for business and investment. He said that Pakistan and Ethiopia have the potential to increase bilateral trade up to US\$ 300 million. He said this while addressing the business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

The Envoy said that many products of Ethiopia including tea, coffee, meat, metals can enter Pakistani markets. Similarly, Pakistan can export rice, chemicals, food products, sports goods, surgical instruments, medicines, IT products, technology etc. to Ethiopia. He said that both countries can cooperate in intercontinental trade, energy and tourism sectors.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad



Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that the annual imports of Ethiopia are over US\$ 18 billion and

annual exports around US\$ 8 billion, however, the current volume of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Ethi-

opia is just around 21 million, which is not matching with their actual potential. He said that Pakistan and Ethiopia

should encourage regular exchange of trade delegations to explore new areas of trade promotion. He said it is encouraging that Ethiopia intends to start direct flights with Pakistan, which will improve people-to-people and trade ties between the two countries.

Ahsan Bakhtawari said that Pakistan is producing good quality surgical and pharmaceutical products and Ethiopia is importing most of these products. He stressed that Ethiopia should lower the registration cost of foreign pharmaceutical products to enhance exports of these products from Pakistan to its market. He said that Pakistan can also export cement to Ethiopia and to other African countries.

Zafar Bakhtawari, Sheikh Abdul Waheed, Khalid Chaudhry, Raja Imtiaz, Muhammad Saeed Khan and others were also present in the meeting.

# Saudi Arabia's Alshehri denies reports of Rolls Royce gift on Argentina win

RIYADH: Saudi football player Saleh Alshehri has denied news about a Rolls Royce Phantom car being gifted to players of the Saudi Arabian football team after their win against Argentina in their inaugural game of the FIFA world cup in Qatar, ARY News reported.

According to details, Saudi players put all speculation about receiving super luxury Rolls Royce cars for defeating Argentina to rest in a press conference



on Saturday. The news about the KSA Crown Prince gifting Rolls Royce to the team had started circulating over social media after the KSA team beat two-time world champions Argentina.

Saleh added that representing their country is the most significant honour. The green falcons had beaten Argentina by 2-1 in their first game of the FIFA world cup 2022.

The Saudi team will play their second

tournament game against Poland today.

Earlier, news about the crown prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud promising the football players of the national team a Rolls Royce Phantom for their win against Argentina in their Fifa World Cup opener in Qatar had started circulating over social media.

The speculation have been put to rest after Saleh Alshehri's statement. A Sports

# Lewandowski scores first WC goal in Poland's 2-0 win over Saudi Arabia

AR-RAYYAN: Poland's star footballer Robert Lewandowski scored his first-ever World Cup goal in his side's much-needed triumph over the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Group C clash of the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2022.

A late second-half goal marked the first-ever World Cup goal of Lewandowski's prolific football career that led Poland to an emphatic victory over Saudi Arabia, who stunned Argentina in their opening match.

Piotr Zielinski opened the scoring for Poland with an early 23rd-minute strike when he produced sharp work in Saudi Arabia's box off Lewandowski's assist.

Saudi Arabia, however, soon got an opportunity to fire an equalizer when Bartosz Bialek fouled Saleh Alshehri which led to the penalty.

Polish goalkeeper



Wojciech Szczesny, however, cut Saudi Arabia's celebration for an anticipated equalizer as he blocked Salem Al-Dawsari's strike at the brink of the first half.

Lewandowski's Poland then kept on high-pressing the inexperienced Arab side and soon got the reward in the form of a historical goal for their skipper.

Following their first victory, Poland captured the top spot in Group C standings with four points, followed by Saudi Arabia with three.

Lewandowski's men, however, have a major task ahead of them as they take on Lionel Messi's wounded Argentina, who will take on Mexico later today. A Sports

## Five-Day Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2022-23

POINTS SYSTEM		WINNING SQUAD POINTS	
FIRST-CLASS QUAID-E-AZAM TROPHY 2022-23			
DEFEATED WIN	10 POINTS PLUS ALL BONUS POINTS EARNED	2. WINNING THE MATCH AT THE FOLLOW UP ON	10 POINTS
DRAWN GAME	5 POINTS EACH PLUS ALL BONUS POINTS EARNED	3. WIN WITH AN INNINGS LEAD	5 POINTS
TIED GAME	5 POINTS EACH PLUS ALL BONUS POINTS EARNED	4. WIN WITH AN INNINGS LEAD	5 POINTS
ABANDONED GAME	5 POINTS EACH	5. SAVING THE MATCH AFTER FOLLOW UP ON	5 POINTS

BATTING POINTS FOR TEST MATCHES		BOWLING POINTS FOR TEST MATCHES	
100 RUNS	1 POINT	5 WICKETS	1 POINT
200 RUNS	2 POINTS	10 WICKETS	2 POINTS
300 RUNS	3 POINTS	15 WICKETS	3 POINTS
400 RUNS	4 POINTS	20 WICKETS	4 POINTS
500 RUNS	5 POINTS	25 WICKETS	5 POINTS

LAHORE: Asif Mehmood's maiden first-class half-century and Fawad Alam's unbeaten 38 staged a remarkable comeback for Sindh at the close of day one of the five-day Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2022-23 first-class final against Northern at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

Sindh ended the day on 230 for seven in 81.1 overs with Asif and Fawad knitting an unbroken 79-run partnership for the eighth wicket. Test batter Fawad was joined by right-handed batter Asif with the Sindh scorecard reading 151 for the loss of seven wickets.

The pair played throughout the evening session in which 77 runs were added by both batters in 24.1 overs.

Asif, coming to bat at number eight, struck six fours and two sixes during his 89-ball 56 not out. Fawad on the other hand smashed five boundaries during his 115-ball innings.

Earlier, Northern captain Umar Amin won the toss and decided to field first. Northern's fast bowler Musa Khan made the first two breakthroughs dismissing Sindh's captain Khurram Manzoor (16 off 30 balls) and Saim Ayub (29 off 67, four fours) with 62 runs on the board.

After the departure of the opening pair, Saad Khan coming to bat at number three was joined by right-handed batter Omair Bin Yousuf and both took the attack to the Northern bowlers. The pair added 50 runs for the third wicket before Saad was dismissed caught behind off the bowling of Aamir Jamal for 35 after lunch. Left-handed Saad struck four fours and one six during his 63-ball stay at the crease. Omair was next to go getting lbw to off-spinner Mubasir Khan for a 75-ball 36, which included five boundaries.

The afternoon session belonged to Northern bowlers as five Sindh wickets fell after the lunch interval and only 61 runs were added in 28 overs.

For Northern, Mubasir and Test fast bowler Musa bagged two wickets apiece, while Kashif Ali and Aamir scooped a wicket each.

Scores in brief: Sindh 230-7, 81.1 overs (Asif Mehmood 56 not out, Fawad Alam 38 not out, Omair Bin Yousuf 36, Saad Khan 35, Saim Ayub 29; Musa Khan 2-53, Mubasir Khan 2-59)

## National Athletic Championship



LAHORE: Pakistan Wapda and Pak Army got three gold medals each on the 2nd days of National Athletic Championship. On 2nd days Pak Army Qasim Fiaz complete the 20 kilo metre Walk race in one hour 41 minute and 33 second and achieved the gold medal. Nauman Ali (Pak Army) hot 2nd and Pakistan Air Force Aamir Shehzad got 3rd position. In 400 metre hurdle race in women Pakistan Wapda Musarat Shaheen got 1st Juveria Khan 2nd and HEC Rida Tariq hot 3rd position. In One hundred hurdle race Pakistan Wapda Ghazala Ramzan first Urooj Khan got 2nd position. In Men's 110 hurdle race Wapda Muhammad Nawaz got 1st position Tajamal Hussain Pak Army achieved 2nd position in Women's 1500 metre race Pak Army Roheela Farooq got first position and achieved the gold Pakistan Wapda Farhat Bano secured 2nd position. In 800 metre race of Men's Pakistan Army Waqas took first position and achieved the Gold while Ahsan got 2nd position. On the third days of Championship Olympic Gold medalist Nadeem Arshad will be in action in Javelin Through.

## HOLDERS France edge brave Denmark to qualify for FIFA WC knockouts



DOHA: Defending champions France continued their dominating campaign in the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2022 as they edged spirited Denmark 2-1 to make it to the Round of 16 with one group match to spare.

Star footballer Kylian Mbappe netted twice in France's hard-fought victory over Denmark that powered them to become the first side to qualify for the Round of 16.

Mbappe was again the star of an important clash for France as his match-winning 86th-minute goal steered them to claim a second consecutive victory.

Denmark put up a decent fight in the first half as their defence stood up to bar French strikers to fire a breakthrough and the scoreboard remained clean until the first half.

Theo Hernandez high-pressed on Denmark as he charged up the pitch on the left side before feeding it to Mbappe, who carried the ball brilliantly to the edge of the area and the former continued his run to provide an option for a one-two pass that allowed Mbappe to dispatch a tricky shot. A Sports

## No fruit of hard work: Pakistan's workers get merely Rs160 per football

LAHORE: One of Sialkot's 1,000 factories produces more than two-thirds of the world's footballs, including the Adidas Al Rihla—the official ball of the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar—which starts this month.

In Sialkot, there are 60,000 people employed in the soccer ball manufacturing sector, or 8% of the city's total workforce. They often work long hours and hand stitch the panels of the balls.

In Sialkot, hand stitching is used in the production of more than 80% of soccer balls. The longevity and aerodynamic stability of the soccer ball are improved using this laborious technique. The seams are deeper, and the tension is higher than with machine-made stitches.

According to Bloomberg, stitchers earn roughly Rs160 (\$0.75) per ball. Each one takes three hours to complete. A stitcher can earn approximately Rs 9,600 per month by stitching three balls per day. Even in a place with severe poverty, the wages are minimal. Researchers' estimates place Sialkot's living wage at about Rs 20,000 per month.

The bulk of those who sew the balls are women. On a normal day, they might sew two balls, go home to cook for their children, and then return to work in a nearby village in the late afternoon.

At various points during the production process, men typically prepare supplies or perform quality inspections.

## PCB chief warns of skipping World Cup if India avoids travelling to Pakistan for Asia cup

LAHORE: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Ramiz Raja warned that the Men in Green won't travel to India for the 50-over World Cup if they withdraw from the Asia Cup, scheduled to be held in Pakistan in 2023.

Raja makes first public reaction to Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary Jay Shah's statement that the Team Blue won't be travelling to Pakistan for the continental tournament.

Giving an explosive statement, Ramiz Raja said: "If Pakistan doesn't participate in the World Cup scheduled to be held in India next year, who will watch it?"

He categorically stated that Pakistan team will only travel to India if they come to play the Asia Cup next year. "If they don't come then they can play the World Cup without us," Raja told media.

Saying Pakistan will adopt an aggressive approach, he said that the Team Green has showed performance in the recent tournaments. He highlighted that Pakistan cricket team defeated a billion-dollar economy team twice in a year.

## 50th National Games

LAHORE: Player participating in women 1500 meter race competition during 50th National Games at Punjab Stadium in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

# 'Proud' Australia reach first Davis Cup final since 2003

MALAGA: Australia reached their first Davis Cup final since 2003 on Friday when they battled back to beat last year's runners-up Croatia 2-1.

Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson stunned 2021 Wimbledon champions Nikola Pietrangeli and Mate Pavic 6-7 (3/7), 7-5, 6-4 in the decisive doubles to hand Australia a final clash against either Canada or Italy on Sunday.

The victory was reward for the decision by Australia skipper Lleyton Hewitt—who played in the 2003 title-winning team—to pair Thompson with Purcell.

Matthew Ebden, who had partnered Purcell to this year's Wimbledon title, had been scheduled to feature in the deciding rubber before the late switch.

"It's been a long time," said Hewitt. "We're a very proud Davis Cup nation and I'm very proud of these guys. They deserve to be in the final and in with a chance of winning this thing."

Hewitt admitted there had been a "slight injury concern" over Ebden.

"But I had no concerns about the chemistry of these two (Purcell and Thompson)."

After Pietrangeli and Pavic claimed the 53-minute opening set in the tiebreak



to nudge Croatia closer to a fourth Davis Cup final in six years, the Australian pair hit back.

They broke in the 11th game of the second set to level before breaking again in the seventh game of the decider on their way to victory after two hours and 14 minutes.

Earlier, Alex de Minaur beat former US Open champion Marin Cilic 6-2, 6-2 to pull 28-time champions Australia level after Borna Coric had given Croatia the lead in the semi-final with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Thanasi Kokkinakis.

Cilic, ranked 17 in the world, was undone by 23 unforced errors as De Minaur, the world number 24, avenged a loss to the Croatian when the two countries met in last year's tournament.

"Marin is a hell of a competitor, a veteran player of our sport that has accomplished amazing things. I knew what to expect, so I knew it was never going to be easy," said De Minaur.

"I knew I had to bring all the intensity I could, be as solid as I could, and try to be solid but aggressive at the same time."

World number 26 Coric triumphed over 95th-ranked Kokkinakis in 92 minutes on the back of six aces and 18 winners as the two-time champions set their sights on a return to the final having lost to Russia in the 2021 title match.

"This means a lot to me," said Coric, who has resurrected his career in 2022 having not played for 12 months until March this year after undergoing right shoulder surgery.

"I was watching the guys playing Davis Cup when I was injured and doing my rehab. To play for Croatia is an amazing feeling for me."

Canada and Italy meet on Saturday in the second semi-final. AFP