

# Daily The Spokesman

RAWALPINDI



## Elahi says Gen (ret) Bajwa 'showed path' to PTI

Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi on Sunday revealed that it was former chief of army staff (COAS) General (ret) Qamar Javed Bajwa who asked Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) to side with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) when the no-confidence motion was moved against then-prime minister Imran Khan.



## Imran Khan can dissolve assemblies before December 20: Sheikh Rashid

Awami Muslim League's (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed Sunday predicted that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan could dissolve the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assemblies before December 20. When asked if Khan would take this major step of dissolving assemblies, Rashid said that Khan is habitual of playing on the front foot and will dissolve assemblies by December 20.

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## Criquet Lovers

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Cricket fans enjoying during the fourth day of the first cricket Test match between Pakistan and England at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.



Photo: Online

## PM decries IK's diatribe against parliamentary democracy



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Imran Khan's recent diatribe against parliamentary democracy was the latest in a series of

attacks that flew in the face of how democracy functioned in modern nation-states.

On his Twitter handle, the prime minister said that PTI leader's politics were aimed at making his way to power, even if it meant undermining foundations this country stood on.

## Azam Swati handed over to Balochistan police on five-day remand

QUETTA: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Senator Azam Swati was handed over to the police on 5-day remand in the case of creating chaos, ARY News reported on Sunday.

According to details, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Azam Swati was presented in the court of Duty Magistrate Abdul Sattar Bugti.

The court handed PTI senator over to the police on a 5-day remand in the case.

The PTI leader was arrested for the second time in the same case over a month after he secured post-arrest bail from a court in the capital city.

On Friday, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Senator Azam Swati was arrested by Balochistan police.

PTI senator Azam Swati was taken to Quetta by Balochistan

Police and was kept in Kuchlak jail, Quetta.

Balochistan police had earlier requested to arrest the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Senator Azam Swati.

**Imran demands release of Swati**  
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan demanded the immediate release of Azam Swati

In his series of tweets, Imran Khan condemned the 'vengeful' manner in which the senator is being treated as shocking and condemnable.

"He was moved to PIMS early morning after suffering severe chest pains & breathing issues. While test results were awaited, Quetta police got him discharged & took him away endangering his life." ARY NEWS

# Private Banks should withdraw appeals to annul FSC's judgment against Riba: Ashrafi

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Inter-faith Harmony and the Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Sunday said the private banks should withdraw their appeals to annul the judgment of the Federal Shariat Court (FSC) against the Riba (usury).

He, talking to APP, said the government had taken practical steps by withdrawing appeals of national and state banks from the apex court in a bid to get rid of the interest-based economic system.

Ashrafi, who is also the chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council, assured the government all-out support of Ulama and Mashaykh in the implementation of FSC's decision in letter and spirit.

He proposed all the financial institutions devise a combined strategy to make the country's economic system free of interest which was totally against the divine commands.



He also urged the government to take stern action against the people who were allegedly involved in an interest-based system at the local level.

He said Pakistan, currently, was facing a critical financial crisis and its solution was lying in political stability and improved law and order situation in the country.

He urged all the religious and political parties to unite on one platform and help cope with

burgeoning polarization, extremism, and the new wave of terrorism with collective efforts.

He also appealed the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chief Imran Khan to come to the table-talk to evolve consensus on the 'Charter of Pakistan' as it was the need of the hour and it would help control increasing violence in the society and improve the ailing economy of the country.

He proposed that the way 'Message of Pakistan' was

designed to promote religious harmony in all sections of the society, there should be long-term policies on the country's social, economic, and foreign affairs issues in the shape of 'Charter of Pakistan' and it should be implemented by all the governments to come and national institutions in the larger national interest.

Ashrafi emphasized that Pakistan had to go out of the box in the matter of its foreign policy as there was a paradigm shift in the external affairs of the Islamic and Arab world.

He also thanked the Saudi leadership for extending the term of deposit in the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) from the Saudi Fund for Development.

Expressing gratitude to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz and his Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman, he said the relationship between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia was like two brothers.

He said Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's meetings with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman would yield further cooperation in the shape of Saudi investment in the days to come ahead in the country.

"Similarly, other Islamic countries are also increasing trade and economic cooperation with Pakistan," he said expressing the hope that there would be good news from the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Turkey and Saudi Arabia in the near future.

Ashrafi hinted that there was a big hand of the external forces and anti-state elements behind an organized smear campaign against the national security institutions and armed forces.

"We must counter the concocted propaganda of our arch enemy against our national defense institutions and Pakistan Army with a pragmatic approach instead of becoming part of it," he maintained. APP

## Element who brought Pakistan to verge of collapse have exposed: Murtaza Abbasi



HAVELIAN: Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi here on Sunday said the upcoming era is that of PML-N and the faces of those who brought the country at the brink of destruction have been exposed.

He expressed these views while talking to the media. The minister further said that before the general elections, PML-N was working on its restructuring at the village council level, and respect for the sentiments of the workers in Muslim League-N was the policy of the leadership. APP

## Dialogue offer

# Yousaf Raza Gillani asks Imran Khan to sit 'unconditionally'

Spokesman Report

LODHARAN: Former prime minister and Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Senator Yousaf Raza Gillani criticised Imran Khan on his 'conditional' dialogue offer to Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government amid the ongoing political crisis, ARY News reported on Sunday.

While addressing to media on Sunday, the PPP leader asked Imran Khan to sit 'unconditionally' for holding dialogues with the incumbent government for finding a way out.

"Imran Khan did not accept our demand for elections then how can we accept his demand now?"



The PPP leader accused Khan of carrying out media trials against PPP and PML-N during his government.

Gillani alleged that Khan wants elections because he is afraid to see accountability, whereas, the then opposition of the former PTI government faced jails in baseless cases for 10 years.

While outlining a future political scenario, Gillani predicted that Khan has no guts to take risk of dissolution of the assemblies of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).

He claimed that PPP is very influential in their respective areas. "If Khan dissolves both Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

(KP) assemblies, he can never win elections with a two-thirds majority."

Earlier, The PTI chairman extended a dialogue offer to the PDM government while addressing the PTI's Punjab parliamentary party via video link from his Lahore's Zaman Park residence.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan on Friday offered conditional talks to the PDM government.

The PTI chairman extended a dialogue offer to the government while addressing the PTI's Punjab parliamentary party via video link from his Lahore's Zaman Park residence.

## PML-N leader slams PTI over 'hypocrisy' after ex-COAS retirement

LAHORE: Special Adviser to Prime Minister and PML-N leader Ataullah Tarar has lambasted Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) over 'hypocrisy' after retirement of former Chief of Army Staff (COAS) ret'd Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, ARY News reported on Sunday.

Taking to his official Twitter handle, the PML-N leader noted that the lies and hypocrisy of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership have gone beyond limits as soon as ex-COAS General Bajwa retired.

Ataullah Tarar claimed that PTI Chairman Imran Khan kept asking former army chief to stop the no-confidence motion unconstitutionally, and levelled false allegations when he refused. ARY NEWS

## PTI leads in 2nd phase of AJK LG polls followed by independents

MUZAFFARABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) held the lead by securing 229 local council seats followed by independent candidates securing 199 seats in the second phase of local government (LG) elections in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) held on Saturday.

According to official results announced by the AJK Election Commission on Sunday evening, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz

(PML-N) managed to take the third position by securing 129 seats, while Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) got 104 seats in the Poonch division of AJK.

Jammu Kashmir Peoples' Party (JKPP) got 28 seats, All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference (MC) 22, Tehreek-e-Labaik (TLP) 22, while Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam (JUI) and Jamat-e-Islami (JI) won four seats each in the LG elections.

## Lok Mela

ISLAMABAD: A folk singer of Balochistan performing during last day of Lok Mela at Lok Virsa in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

## President extends greetings on Sindh Culture Day

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday extended greetings as the people from Sindh celebrated their annual cultural day with traditional enthusiasm.

On Twitter, the president said that the land of Sindh was a symbol of peace and love.

He said, "humility and affection for others are the main source of inspiration for us from our Sindh culture."

سنڌ جي ثقافتي ڏهاڙي تي منهنجي طرفان دل جي گهرائين سان واداڻيون۔ سنڌ ڌرتي امن ۽ پرڀم جي علامت آهي۔ سنڌي ثقافت اسان لاءِ انسانيت ۽ محبت جي لازوال علامت ۽ کس آهي۔

سنڌي ثقافت ڏهاڙي جون مبارڪون۔  
— Dr. Arif Alvi (@ArifAlvi)  
December 4, 2022

"My heartiest facilitation on Sindh Culture Day. The land of Sindh is symbol of peace and love. Humility and affection for others are the main source of inspiration for us from our Sindh culture. Happy Sindh Day," the president tweeted in Sindh language.

Sindh Cultural Day is celebrated to highlight the centuries-old rich culture of Sindh. It is celebrated each year in the first week of December on Sunday, not only in Pakistan but also by the diaspora across the world.



## Anti-polio target achieved in high-risk areas of Rawalpindi district

RAWALPINDI: A week-long anti-polio campaign, which began in three tehsils of the district, including Rawalpindi Municipal Corporation and Cantonments areas, concluded successfully.

In charge of the anti-polio drive, Ch Muhammad Hussain told APP that around 3,787 polio teams, 858 area in-charges, and 243 medical officers participated in the campaign.

Besides the door-to-door



administration of polio vaccine, children were also immunized at 320 fixed centres and 182 transit points

in the district.

Hussain informed that as many as 805,393 children under five years of age were administered anti-polio drops during the campaign launched in 163 union councils of the Rawalpindi district.

He added that the drive had been launched in tehsils Rawalpindi, Gujjar Khan, Taxila, Rawalpindi city, and cantonments which were declared high-risk areas.

Hussain said the drive had also created awareness about COVID-19, smog, and anti-dengue preventive measures.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Shoaib Ali directed polio teams to follow up on polio refusal or unattended cases.

He said polio was a national issue, and it was the responsibility of all to play an influential role in making the country polio-free. APP

## FBR decided to auction the immovable properties of big tax evaders and defaulters

ISLAMABAD: Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has decided for the first time in history to seize and auction the business brands of big tax evaders and defaulters as immovable property and to auction the immovable properties of big tax evaders and their brands. A historic initiative has been taken to recover the stolen tax dues by auctioning the trademarks and copyrights of the products, for which the FBR imposed a tax liability of Rs.570 million. For recovery, the frozen assets of the four board of directors and partners named Zakauddin Shaikh, Zunir Ahmad, Khaleda Parveen and Wamiq Zaka and auction of all the trademarks acquired by Bio-Amla and other names of Messers Forvil Cosmetics Pvt.

The process has started and it is going to be the first time in the history of FBR that the assets of the board of directors of the companies involved in alleged tax evasion of crores of rupees are going to be auctioned as well as all the trademarks acquired in the name of their company. The Federal Board of Revenue, under Section 48(i)(e) of the Sales Tax Act, 1990, directed the Director General of Copyrights and Trademarks, Patents and Design Intellectual Property of Pakistan (IPO) to auction trademarks for recovery of tax dues of Rs. 570 million) has written a letter to Chief Commissioner Corporate Tax Office

Lahore, Chief Commissioner Sadia Sadaf Geelani and Commissioner Inland Revenue Enforcement Zone One Corporate Tax Office Inland Revenue Mian Farooq Khaliq, a team consisting of frozen assets for recovery of tax liabilities from tax defaulters.

Along with this, a historic step has been taken to declare the trademark as an asset and auction it after the approval of the Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue and other relevant officers, including all the details have been written and details have been sought about the current status of all other copyrights and trademarks of this company, including Bio Amla, a trademark registered in the name of the tax defaulter Forvil Cosmetics Private Limited and its insolvent board of directors, the letter said.

That is December 2nd 2022 to provide the current status and other relevant details of all other copyrights and trademarks of the company, including the trademark Bio Amla registered in the name of the tax defaulter Forvil Cosmetics Private Limited and its insolvent board of directors to FBR so that these defaulters The process of auctioning the frozen assets and all the trademarks registered in the name of the company and the insolvent board of directors of the company can go ahead, according to the document Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Director General

Copyrights and Trademarks, Patents and Designs.

In the letter written to Intellectual Property of Pakistan (IPO), it was stated that the company is a tax defaulter of Rs. 570 million Ltd. has frozen the registered trademarks in the name of the owners of the company and FBR is making the sale of the rights of the frozen trademarks and brands subject to FBR's NOC, FBR officials say. This is a historic move by FBR which has never been done before. This initiative will discourage tax evaders and increase the tax revenue of FBR. The said officer said that the team of FBR's Corporate Tax Office Lahore has started this historic work.

A formal opinion was taken from the department in which the legal team confirmed that the trademarks or copyrights that constitute financial goodwill fall under the category of movable property. The owners of the business unit of persons named Parveen and Wamiq Zaka are habitual tax evaders and have been accused of tax evasion of crores of rupees before. The investigation of cases of tax evasion of crores of rupees is also going on against Muhammad

Awais, the managing partner of Forvil Cosmetics, which manufactures and sells Bio Amla shampoo and other products, and his company, and the sales tax registration number of this company has also been suspended but they used to suppress matters with collusion while in the department Some people used to leak official information due to which the revenue was being lost, but after the strict action of

FBR and Directorate General Intelligence and Investigation of Inland Revenue, now Corporate Regional Tax Office Lahore has taken strict action and is involved in collusion with tax evaders. The investigation has also been started against the people.

Sources say that it was reported from the certified sources of FBR that the mentioned people involved in tax evasion of crores of rupees are going to sell the trademarks and copyrights of their products and the owner of this company. They are trying to get immigration to another country and these people will go abroad after selling the trademark, so they are not paying the sales tax dues of crores of rupees. However, according to the documents available in this regard,

## Minister lays foundation stone of new building of Dharmyal Police Station

News Desk

RAWALPINDI: Provincial Minister Muhammad Basharat Raja along with City Police Officer (CPO) Syed Shahzad Nadeem Bukhari laid the foundation stone of new building of Dharmyal police station, informed police spokesman on Sunday. SP Security Faisal Salem, police officers, local notables of the area were present on the occasion.

Addressing on the occasion, the provincial minister said that the construction of new police station was a good example of community policing. Dharmyal police station will be useful as it will prevent the citizens from wasting their precious time from traveling long distance, he said and added, the construction of Dharmyal, Chakri, Patriata and Phagwari police stations will provide convenience to the citizens.

The best police team is working in Rawalpindi, he added and said that the government was making every



possible effort to solve the problems of the citizens.

CPO Syed Shahzad Nadeem Bukhari in his address, said that the new police station would help in better policing and better service delivery to the citizens. He said with the construction of the police station building, it will be possible to provide better facilities for the force as well adding that the construction of separate police station will help in controlling crime.

## 45 govt teachers suspended for working in private sector

KARACHI: The Sindh Education Department has suspended at least 45 government teachers, who were allegedly working in private sector, ARY News reported on Sunday.

According to details, Sindh Secretary Education Akbar Leghari has issued notification of the suspension of 45 government teachers across the province.

The notification stated, "The services of employees of School Education & Literacy Department are hereby placed under suspension for allegedly working in private sector."

"During their suspension period they shall draw pay and allowances

as admissible under the law," the notification added.

The suspended teachers included Primary School Teacher (PST), High School Teacher (HST) and Head Master, who belong to Nowsherru Feroze, Badin, Larkana, Hyderabad, Qamber Shahdadkot and other districts.

Meanwhile, the education department has blocked the IDs of more than 100 watchmen and stopped their salaries for not performing their duties.

In a statement, the secretary education said that actions were taken to improve the education system in the province. "The education depart-

## Herzog becomes first Israeli president to visit Bahrain

MANAMA: Israeli President Isaac Herzog visited Bahrain on Sunday on the first trip by an Israeli head of state to the small Gulf kingdom, following the normalisation of relations in 2020.

Herzog, whose role is largely ceremonial, met with King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa and Crown Prince Sheikh Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa.

They discussed issues including regional security and "ways to encourage communication between the representatives of the private sector in the two countries", the official Bahrain News Agency (BNA) said.

In 2020, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Morocco became



the first Arab states in decades to normalise relations with Israel, following negotiations spearheaded by the administration of former US president Donald Trump.

The Jewish state had earlier reached peace treaties with neighbouring Egypt and Jordan.

"I call on more states in our region to join this partnership, strengthening the Middle East," Herzog said Sunday. AFP

# Inspire Pakistan organized December Bazaar

*For Welfare of Afghan Refugees during their temporary stay in Pakistan*

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Inspire Pakistan takes pride in serving refugees by empowering their youth by protecting their right to education and also through provision of protection services in partnership with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Pakistan.

This helps in the progress and development for the welfare of Afghan Refugees during their temporary stay in Pakistan. Inspire Pakistan through support of UNHCR, provided need-based services to Afghan refugees and host communities of Rawalpindi / Islamabad, Punjab and Sindh to benefit from integrated services in health, education, vocational skills, legal support,



protection and recreational activities for social cohesion.

In this regard, UNHCR in collab-

oration with Inspire Pakistan jointly held an End of Year Bazaar showcasing refugee-made products and hosts

businesses supporting refugees and hosts on Sunday, 4th December 2022 at the Marriott Hotel, Islamabad. Diplomats from various embassies, heads of UN agencies, and government officials visited the Bazaar. Purpose of the event was to promote sustainable livelihood opportunities for Afghan refugee women entrepreneurs to enable them to successfully showcase, establish or expand their businesses.

In the End Year bazaar, refugee women were oriented on business modeling, modern business practices, financial literacy, and linkages development. In addition to the bazaar, refugee and host women also displayed their art work, paintings, handmade products including hand-crafts, artificial jewelry etc.

## 'Bano Qabil'

KARACHI: A large numbers of students busy in solving their papers during I.T test admission title "Bano Qabil" organized by Jamat-e-Islami, at Bagh-e-Jinnah in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

# Workshop on OBE, Impactful Research & Rankings in Perspective of IIU's Strategic Plan 2022-2026

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: A workshop titled "Outcome-Based Education, Impactful Research and Rankings in the Perspective of IIU's Strategic Plan 2022-2026" was held here at Quaid e Azam Auditorium, Faisal Masjid Campus, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIU).

It was presided over by Worthy President, IIUI Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi as well as it was also attended by the Vice Presidents, Deans DGs, HoDs, Director QAD, Director ORIC, Director BIC Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, lecturers and other relevant officials.

The activity after the introduction was divided into 4 sessions including: implementation of IIUI strategic plan 2022-26 and departmental/faculty level organograms, status and way forward, brief presentation on the outcome based education and curric-



ulum revision, address of the worthy president and recognition ceremony in the regard of the high achievers of university.

Speaking on the occasion, IIUI President discussed the importance of the university tragic plan, its characteristics, long term based outcomes and dedicated efforts of the team working on the implementation process of the plan. He said we are heading towards the right direction and there is a dire need to put aside the difference and grudges to

win the award of the success of this university. He said the IIUI management believes in transparency and efficacy of talented human resource. He congratulated the high achievers adding that the university shall keep encouraging the officials who contribute into the success and image building of the university. H.E. Dr. Hathal thanked Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for financial support of the university and add that there is further encouraging news as IDB funded collaboration based developments are also going on.

Earlier, Dr. Ahmed Shuja Syed, Vice President Research and Enterprise in the session of the introduction of the activity discussed importance and initiatives of OBE and up skilled faculty. He also shed light on rankings and university performance, meaningful research, impactful collaborations and enterprise.

He also discussed capacity building, innovation and collaborations in the light strategic plan He also updated about the performance of the grant projects that he mentioned have exceeded the number of 40 in previous 2 years.

Director BIC, Engr. Ahsan Mirza highlighted the importance of 6 priority targets set by university in the light of the strategic plan. He discussed role of SPIC, objectives of the organograms and implementation status of the strategic plan. Dr. Amir discussed the topics of curriculum revision and outcome based education.

# Fourth day of the Aalimi Urdu Conference

**Spokesman Report**

KARACHI: In the session on Urdu criticism in the 21st century on the fourth day of the Aalimi Urdu Conference, Dr. Tahseen Faraqi said that criticism is a mysterious process, the mystery of which is difficult to understand, but a good creator can also be a good critic. Creation is a slow process of making a star a sun.

The main thing for criticism is to reach the text, for which it is necessary to have a broad understanding of the creative background. The matter of criticism is not so simple but a very deep and profound matter in which all it is important to consider the relevant issues, unfortunately we have a lot of discussion of post-colonialism in criticism while the existence of the colonial system is still intact, we should go a little further and cover the contemporary situation.

Dr. Ruf Parekh said that the truth is the same, there can be



no alternative truth, there has always been a war between the West and the East, in the twenty-first century we are talking about the basics of criticism, while in India solid work has been done on it. The session was moderated by Iqbal Khurshed in which Nasir Abbas Nayyar said that in the 21st century, more and more theoretical criticism has been done targeting plagiarism from the literature that has been written in the West.

Hatred of the West increased

after 9/11 and Islamophobia, however pure intellectuals express honest opinions about everything, in the twentieth century Modernism and traditionalism was made the subject of criticism, after 1970 this trend started to change, in the 21st century, criticism discusses the philosophy of literature, that is, seeing literature as philosophy, Shams-ur-Rahman Farooqi in his book of stories laid.

The foundation for it, which is completely different from the

criticism of the twentieth century, on the subject of criticism on Urdu fiction, Qasim Yaqoob said that the way of looking at literature has changed during the last decades, a specific style has been adopted in the Urdu fictional criticism of the twenty-first century. When the critic looks at the story, instead of going inside it, They remains outside it and does not reach its origin. There has been very little discussion on new novels in Pakistan, while there has been a lot of work on it outside, interestingly, novelists themselves came into the field and started the interpretation of fiction themselves, the critical need of fiction criticism today is to cover what happened after 2000 and what was written on it, Najma Usman said regarding the feminist criticism in the 21st century that in order to evaluate the Urdu criticism in the current century, We need to go to what happened during the last century.

Critical theories have to be

put forward, a lot of work has been done on feminist criticism in Pakistan and India, while not so much work has been done on it in Europe and America, Fehmida Riaz and Dr. Fatima Hassan have presented many dimensions of feminist perspective in their book and other writers also worked on it a lot. Regarding the criticism of Urdu Ghazal in the twenty-first century, Zia-ul-Hasan said that it is suspected that there is no criticism of Ghazal, although the history of criticism of Ghazal is equal to the history of Urdu criticism. Yes, ghazal has been criticized for 125 years, our general mood has become that we consider only ghazal as poetry and other genres of poetry are ignored, the most important book of criticism on Ghazal in the 21st century has been written by Dr. Shamim Hanafi, which continues to descend into the reader's existence and reveals the aspects of Ghazal and its foundations.

## Ombudsman Punjab mediates to arrange Rs.15 million plus relief for complainants

**News Desk**

LAHORE: Thanks to the effective mediation of the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab over a complaint of Shamim Akhtar, the board of intermediate & secondary education Multan has paid a total of Rs.1,08,69,729 to widows/family members of 17 deceased employees along with the creation of an OSD post in favor of the applicant.

The spokesman of the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab stated this in a statement issued on Sunday.

The spokesman said that the ombudsman office has also interacted to resolve the five-year-old family pension issue of Ruqiyah Bano, a Bahawalpur-based widow, to arrange a financial benefit of six lakh, 49 thousand and 725 rupees. Alongside, the 14-year-pending issue of Yasmin Bibi has also been resolved after the involvement of the ombudsman office and the police department paid 13 lakh, 76 thousand and 699 rupees as family pension to both the sisters, the spokesman reported.

In a similar development, the district education authority Toba Tek Singh has recompensed five and a half lakh rupees to Hafiz Muhammad Saeed as payment for the repair of its offices after he approached the ombudsman office for settlement of a six-year-old issue, the spokesman added.

As a result of the processing of complainants' applications by the regional offices, the agriculture department has given a laser-levelling unit to Basharat Ali of Nankana Sahib while a widow namely Nazran Bibi of Sargodha has received three lakh rupees as financial assistance after a long delay of ten years.

Similarly, the school education department (south Punjab) has recruited the daughter of its deceased employee, namely Sobia Malik, under Rule 17-A of the Punjab Civil Servants (Appointment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 1974 after the involvement of the ombudsman office and also paid her arrears of 14 lakh, 41 thousand and 713 rupees, the spokesman noted.

In another development, the ombudsman office has helped Muhammad Umar Farooq of Faisalabad by ensuring that the excise department gave relief of 91 thousand and 25 rupees by correctly assessing the property tax of the house of the plaintiff, concluded the spokesman.

The complainants have thanked the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab for protecting their legal rights.

## Disabled Day was celebrated



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Disabled Day was celebrated by local district administration, Waziristan Disabled Foundation and Pakistan Red Crescent Society at DC Compound Tank South Waziristan

In addition to the disabled, people belonging to different schools of thought participated in large numbers.

Waziristan Handicapped Foundation President Mumtaz, Noor Wali, Khalil, Chairman Javed, PA to MNA Akhtar Gul and Secretary Pakistan Red crescent society Red Crescent South Waziristan Salman Mando Khel and others spoke on the occasion.

Addressing the event, the speakers shed light on the problems faced by the disabled in detail and demanded that registration procedures for the disabled should be made easier, a joint forum should be formed.

Marking of disabled persons, concession in public transport fare, separate office of social welfare, construction of rehabilitation complex and quota should be increased in employment.

## Three-day capital signature Food Festival to begin on Dec 9

ISLAMABAD, DEC 04 (APP): A three-day Capital Signature Food Festival will begin at F-9 Park on December 9, having stalls of delicious homemade food, traditional meals, and tasty food items from renowned restaurants.

Talking to APP, the organizer of the event Maham Naeem said that event was scheduled to be held from 2 December to 4 December but due to the long march of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, the new dates of the events have been issued.

She said the dazzling event will have around eighty food stalls among which sixty percent of stalls would have homemade delicious food items. "After tasting the home-cooked food consumers place the orders online and that is a promotion for the new businesses", she added. APP

## Police 'Darbar' held in District Police Office Tank



Adam Khan Wazir

TANK: Each of you is a watchman and each one will be asked about his responsibility, we have been given this sacred duty of protecting the life and property and honor and dignity of the people of the state of Pakistan by God, Should be proud.

These views were expressed by Regional Police Officer Dera Division Muhammad Saleem Marwat at the Police "Darbar" in District Police Office Tank.

Police personnel including District Police Officer Tank Waqar Khan, SP Investigation Dera Shabir Khan, SDPOs, SHOs attended the police Darbar.

Addressing the Darbar, RPO Dera said that I pay tribute to the Tank police who are performing their duties by standing on the front line against anti-social elements within their limited resources.

He emphasized on the participants and said that our main aim is to serve the public and keep our doors open for the oppressed Cylans.

If any victim comes to the police station due to trouble or suffering, write his request in his own hand and

immediately register the case, eliminate the traditional police station culture and create a positive change in the narrators.

Your life is very important to the state, he warned strictly to ensure the use of duty jacket and helmet while on duty and use of smart phone is strictly prohibited.

Whenever there are crimes like murder, attempted murder, robbery, abduction, kidnapping, child, minority and rape, a case should be registered immediately and there should be no delay.

Fights and property disputes should be dealt with immediately. The dignitaries of their region should be included in the DRC to provide timely and immediate justice to the people.

The District Police Officer will conduct an open court after fifteen days directly to the people to solve their problems at their doorsteps.

Finally, the police officers and youths individually stated their problems regarding service structure, promotion, transfers, leave, and police public schools, which were resolved by the RPO Dera on the spot and issued orders to the DPO Tank.



Islamabad  
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr .....5:28 am  
Zohr .....11:58 am  
Asr .....3:21 pm  
Maghrib .....4:59 pm  
Isha .....6:27 pm

EMERGENCY

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

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MH .....561116  
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RDA ..... 5555864  
TMA ..... 5770886  
Cantonment Board ..... 9270151-3  
Islamabad Metropolitan  
Corporation ..... 9209224  
Potohar Town ..... 9209224  
Rawal Town ..... 5773343  
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

PML-N's Wasim Ahmad Khan joins PTI



LAHORE: Former advisor to Punjab Chief Minister and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Wasim Ahmad Khan on Sunday announced to join Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). He announced this during a meeting with PTI Central Vice President (VP) and Senator Ijaz Ahmad Chaudhry.

The senator welcomed the newcomer with PTIs muller. PTI leaders, including Sajid Sardar Joiya and Asif Bhai were also present at the occasion.

Chaudhry, while talking to the media, said the PTI was the most popular party in the country, adding that only Imran Khan possessed the ability to steer the country out of crises.

Taking a dig at the ruling coalition in the center, the VP said that the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) had journeyed Pakistan to the brink of disaster, adding that the movement would face defeat in the face of a no-confidence motion against Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi. (Dunya News)

# LEAs tightening noose against blasphemers on social media

ISLAMABAD: The law enforcement agencies (LEAs) was consistently tightening the noose against blasphemers on social media and netting the people who are allegedly involved in this criminal activity with every passing day.

According to a tentative statistic, 62 blasphemers have been putted behind the bars so far, nine of them have been awarded the capital punishment by the trial courts while two of them have been awarded death penalty by the high courts. In addition, the accused under trial in blasphemous cases had never been granted bail by any court of law yet.

To curb the menace of blasphemous material on social media, a number of faith-based organizations have got into momentum including Legal Commission on Blasphemy Pakistan, Namooos-e-Risalat Lawyers Forum Pakistan, Legal Thinkers Forum, Tehreek Tehfuz Namooos-e-Risalat Pakistan, World

Khatm-e-Nabuwat Council, Anjuman Ashqaan-e-Muhammad, Tehfuz Khatm-e-Nabuwat Forum, Tehfuz Khatm-e-Nabuwat Wukla Forum, Legal and Cyber Experts Forum, Razakaran-e-Khatm-e-Nabuwat and Islamabad Bar Association.

These religious organizations are pursuing the blasphemous cases till their logical conclusions.

Legal Commission on Blasphemy Pakistan Secretary General Sheraz Ahmad Farooqui informed that utilizing its Cyber Crime Wing's expertise, the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) had booked an accused allegedly involved in publication of indecent content against the sacred books Quran and Bible on social media on Tuesday.

However, it had also arrested two miscreants allegedly involved in proliferation of desecration stuff on social media on Wednesday, he added.

He said a blasphemer namely Sana

Ullah had been awarded death sentence twice by the Anti-Terrorist Court, Peshawar-I.

Farooqui said ATC Judge Fazl Sattar Khan reserved the verdict in the following case on November 24, adding that the convict used to share desecration content on the WhatsApp group against the sanctity and prestige of Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), Mothers of believers (Ummahaat-ul-Momineen) and the religion of Islam.

He further informed that a woman known as Rabia Peerni had been arrested after the First Information (FIR) registration at the Data Darbar Police Station, Lahore on Saturday. He said the accused was involved in desecration of Islamic values and injunctions publicly and making viral number of videos on social media.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly (NA) had passed a unanimous resolu-

tion to withdraw appeals of the government from the Supreme Court to annul the decision of Lahore High Court (LHC) against the publication of blasphemous content on the social media.

The resolution's mover PML-N Member of National Assembly Chaudhary Faqir Ahmad told APP that the then government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf challenged the decision in the apex court instead of implementing it in letter and spirit.

He urged the incumbent government to withdraw the appeals against the LHC's decision filed by the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication and Pakistan Telecommunication Authority in the tenure of so called Riyasat-e-Madinah.

In addition, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony had reactivated its Web Evaluation Cell to control the increasing incidents of blasphemy on

social media. The Ministry's spokesperson Muhammad Umar Butt, talking to APP, informed that the people could report blasphemous material if found on social media on the official email address: reportblasphemy@mora.gov.pk, Facebook page: @mora.official or WhatsApp number: 0306 3332555.

He made it clear that hate material against the religion or sacred figures was completely banned as per law and the Constitution. "Those allegedly involved in this illegitimate activity would be taken to task as per law of the land," he added.

He said that Ulema and Mashaykh of various schools of thought were making unflinching efforts to promote religious harmony among all sections of the society. They always discouraged non-state actors fueling propaganda against the religion and state at all public forums, he maintained. APP

## Appreciation

ISLAMABAD: Secretary Heritage and Culture Fareena Mazhar presenting the shield to photojournalist Online news agency Sultan Bashir on best performance during Annual Lok Mela at Lok Virsa. Executive Director Lok Virsa Shahzad Durrani also present at the occasion.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

## SDPI's 25th SDC kicks off Monday as South and South-West Asia's Economic Forum

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Silver Jubilee flagship annual sustainable development conference (SDC) of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on "Sustainable Development in Unusual Times: Building Forward Better" kicks off here from Monday as Southern version of the Economic Forum.

"This year, the SDC which will continue till 8th December is being hosted along-with the Sixth South and South-West Asia (SSWA) Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the Government of Pakistan. This is our version of the World Economic Forum with human, social, economic and environmental dimensions," said Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director of the SDPI while explaining highlights of the conference.

The Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Mr Ahsan Iqbal will inaugurate the conference and the President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi will be the chief guest at the closing of the conference. The Under Secretary General of the United Nations, and head of UNESCAP Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana will be the chief guest. Deputy Planning Minister of Maldives, MoS Finance of Sri Lanka, and Vice Chair Planning Commission Nepal are also coming to Pakistan for this conference.

The Speaker of the National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, Commerce Minister Naveed Qamar, Climate Change Minister Sherry Rahman, Minister for Poverty Alleviation Ms Shazia Marri, Minister of States Aisha Ghuas Pasha, Romina Khurshid, Shaza Khwaja, and former cabinet members Asad Umar, Dr Moeed Yusuf, Dr Sania Nishtar, and Malik Amin Aslam are among the speakers of the conference.

As many as 350 dignitaries/speakers/experts hailing from the United Nations, the Government, Academia, Civil Society, Media, and Private Sector from across the country and 16 other countries will speak in 11 plenary sessions and 35 panels.

The overarching theme of the 25th SDC is Sustainable Development in Unusual Times: Building Forward Better. After the COVID-19 Pandemic, it was expected that the world will be in a state of 'New Normal', however, a plethora of crises has become a hallmark of that new normal. These crises can be best described as 'triple C crises', i.e., Conflict (within and across borders), Climate Change, and the consequences of COVID-19. The cumulative effect of these crises has led to multi-decade high inflation, recession, and food and fuel predicaments. Although the world escaped a recession during the Pandemic, economic slowdown left scarring effects on low- and middle-income countries.

## HEC Invites 'Innovative' Start-Ups For Innovator Seed Fund Grant



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has invited innovative start-ups owned by students, alumni, faculty members, or researchers from public or private sector universities to apply for the Innovator Seed Fund (ISF) Grant.

In a statement, the HEC noted that Innovator Seed Fund (ISF) Grant - envisioned for the development of innovation and start-up ecosystem in Pakistan - is a flagship initiative of the commission under the Higher Education Development in Pakistan Project (HEDP).

The ISF is anticipated to support the development of fledgling start-ups having innovative ideas through the provision of seed funding grants, to transform them into successful and sustainable enterprises.

The grant package includes up to \$35,000 in seed funding, stretched over start-ups proposed budgetary requirements for activities, including but not limited to entrepreneurial training, legal or financial, or marketing training and support, among other services.

About the applicant eligibility, the HEC conveyed that the lead applicant must either be a student, alumni or faculty member, or researcher of the higher education institutions (public or private) and must have endorsement from one of the HEC-established 35 Business Incubation Centers across the country.

The lead applicant must have an SECP-registered business concern, ensuring the legal status and promising potential of the start-up.

The priority sectors for ISF support include but are not limited to Agriculture, Food Resources and Agri Tech, Banking; Microfinance and FinTech; Creative, Digital Media, Arts and Culture; Education and EdTech; E-commerce and Smart Retail; Emerging Technologies; Health Care and Health Tech; Housing, Construction and Manufacturing; Sustainable Development, Climate, and Energy; Transportation and Logistics.

## DC monitoring squad equipped with modern cameras remained in action

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Under the arrangements of District Administration, the DC monitoring squad equipped with modern cameras remained in action throughout the city, through which continuous monitoring of anti-dengue measures, provision of medical emergency services in hospitals, price control mechanism and implementation of development projects were being monitored regularly. The DC monitoring squad has been directly monitoring and assigned targets from the district emergency operational center established in the DC office and the drone camera is also attached to this service. The Deputy Commissioner Imran Hamid Sheikh informed the Punjab Minister Chaudhry Latif Nazr and Secretary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Punjab Dr. Irshad Ahmed during their visit at Faisalabad. The Deputy Commissioner gave briefing on the working/ procedure of DC Monitoring Squad.

The Deputy Commissioner said that historical initiative has been started to monitor various issues, where the working is getting encouragement with positive reinforcement results in three months. The Deputy Commissioner said that the DC



monitoring squad checks the presence of price boards on fruit and vegetable shops/carts in the markets and bazaars of the city and any violation gets reported on the "Qeemat Punjab App" after which the relevant Price Control Magistrate takes action within the due course of time.

Similarly, anti-dengue measures are being remedied by checking and are

informed for immediate action to remove stagnant water. The provincial minister and health secretary appreciated the revolutionary initiative of the deputy commissioner and said that such initiatives need to be implemented in other districts of the province to check the working of various departments in order to achieve the required goals.

## Empowering Women for Sustainable Future an event by Kinnaird College for Women

News Spokesman

LAHORE: The UN Forum is the world's largest annual gathering on Business and human rights with more than 2,000 participants from government, business, community groups and civil society, law firms, investor organisations, UN bodies, national human rights institutions, trade unions, academia and the media.

Kinnaird College for Women Organized a Side Event During a UN Forum on Human Rights at the Geneva Headquarter of the United Nations under the title of: Empowering Women for Sustainable Future"

While addressing at the Forum Dr Rukhsana David, Principal of Kinnaird College for Women said: Women, who make up half of the world's population, are paving their ways in economic and social development in the last three



decades. By providing the opportunities to women including in decision-making, Empowering them Through Education and participation in all kinds of activities can lead towards a sustainable path of development can be achieved together by leaving no one behind by 2030..

Rizwan Anwar Global Youth Ambassador of United Nations Said in refer-

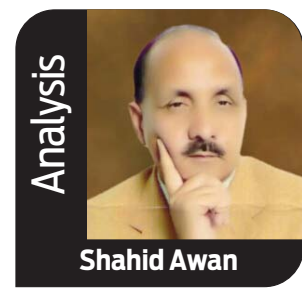
ence to Pakistan and the huge percentage of youth population that we have, it is important to highlight the important role youth can play in building a sustainable society at all levels. The youth are not only leaders of tomorrow but they are also catalysts for huge changes we aspire to bring in society right now. There has been an increasing attention recently on policies and programming

by Governments, UN Entities, regional and multilateral organizations and researchers, that focuses on youth civic engagement. We also need to Engage youth from the grassroots levels for developing sustainable future for all.

Maha Jamil Director KCLCD and Co-Chair of Youth Revolution Clan Said: We are gearing up awareness through such events and by engaging young women in sustainable development agenda of United Nations and to encourage more commitment from the Youth for a positive and meaningful civic Engagement. This event is put together to acknowledge innovative thinking and encourage the spirit of social entrepreneurship, Women Empowerment, and to recognize the contribution that youth is making in sustainable development and to draw attention to the surmounting challenge of climate change, poverty and disparity that looms menacingly.

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# Foundation of PPP



**Shahid Awan**

**I**n the political history of Pakistan, the party that came into existence on November 30, 1967 was named "People's Party". It was founded at the house of Dr. Mubashar Hasan in Lahore, the provincial capital of Punjab. The founding chairman of the party was Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Bhutto was the foreign minister in the cabinet of General Ayub, he not only resigned from the ministry but also founded a new party in disagreement with the Ayub government. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was an astute politician, young and determined, who had made his name internationally. He first made the youth a part of the party to awaken the deprived people of Pakistan and give them their rights. In this regard, he addressed the students of the Polytechnic College Rawalpindi which was near Golra Mor Rawalpindi, where a shot was fired there and a young man belonging to Pindi Gheb was martyred. Later Zulfikar Ali Bhutto went to his

home in Pindi Gheb to express his condolence to the family of martyred youth, where on the way he was welcomed by school children at Dhurnal village and the children broke leaves of a 'tahl' (tree) and threw them on his car for reception. It is said that there was one Nazir Ahmed among these children. Bhutto got down from the car and loved the small children and shook hands with them. A young man named Nazir Ahmad, who was caught in love with Bhutto, hung a 300 feet high pipe at his shop and displayed the PPP flag for 45 years. Now that young man has entered old age, he cries remembering Bhutto's party. Many young people like Nazir Ahmed who joined the party after falling under the spell of Bhutto have now separated from the party due to the misbehavior of the local leadership, but even today their Bhutto is alive and Bhutto is in their hearts.

Bhutto's grandson Bilawal Bhutto had a speech in Karachi on November 30, 2022. He referred to the explosion at Karsaz on October 18, 2007, on the arrival of his mother Benazir Bhutto, and said that more than 150 party workers were martyred in this tragedy. B.B Shaheed was threatened not to go to the hospital to see the injured workers in the blast, but she reached the hospital early in the morning without

informing the security agencies. Seeing their brave leader in their midst, the party workers forgot their wounds and raised slogans in favor of B.B Shaheed and the party. Later, Karsaz martyrs were buried in Garhi Khuda Bakhsh graveyard and their families were gifted houses in Islamabad by Asif Ali Zardari. Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto said in a speech that on this occasion, B.B would have gone out of the country if she wanted or sat at home and addressed through video link. She was a fearless and courageous woman who believed in democracy. Without caring about the threats of the extremists, she gave a historic speech at the Liaqat Bagh Rawalpindi rally and became immortal forever by holding the position martyrdom. After which riots started all over the country and the emotional workers and leaders of the party announced the separation of Sind. On this occasion, Asif Ali Zardari, who was put in jail for 12 years as a target of political revenge, gave a clear message by "Pakistan Khapey" in this critical situation that PPP believes in saving Pakistan instead of revenge.

Regarding the establishment day of the PPP, a grand program was organized on the day in the historic city of Hasan Abdal, the place of which was the historic house of Dr. Sikandar Hayat Khan, a prominent

figure of the region, founding member of the party, and a well-known physician, who has separated party activities due to severe illness in those days, but his son Sardar Ashar Hayat Khan has been active in the party since the time of PSF and is now the president of PPP District Attock. While his younger brother Sardar Zulfikar Hayat Advocate, contested as an MNA election on the party ticket in 2018. Now the third generation of this family also stands with the party. Dr. Sikandar Hayat himself contest the election as the unanimous candidate of the opposition against General Musharraf's nominated Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz in the 2004 by-election.

On the foundation day of PPP, Sardar Ashar Hayat had invited party workers and officials from all over the district. On this occasion, dozens of people from different parties also announced their participation in the PPP. A large number of women were also present at the event. The district president of the women's wing Ms. Hajra and a young man from Pindi Gheb Malik Umar Khan also spoke and described it as a blessing to be a part of the party. Sardar Ashar Hayat advised the party workers to be united and work with common people in the field and said to play a role in countering the negative propaganda and incitement against

the country's institutions and to strengthen the party. He gave an example of the party's success in the recent local elections in Azad Jammu Kashmir and said that the time is not far when the PPP will achieve success across the country. Sardar Zulfikar Hayat said in his address that the party workers are the crown of our heads, despite losing the elections, he maintained contact with his workers, due to which when the people of other parties and the people of the election were enjoying the power and the common man, he was the only politician who shared the sufferings of the people and that is why thousands of people left other parties and joined PPP. He told the youth that the PPP is the only party in the country which is headed by a youth leadership who is well versed in politics and foreign affairs at the domestic and foreign levels. The youths in the party should strengthen the hands of the party to end the politics of hatred and division in the country and bring forward the youth leadership in the country by establishing an atmosphere of unity and tolerance in the country, creating employment opportunities will be created for the youth. He said that the youth should participate in positive activities on social media and stand against unnecessary and negative activities. This is the message of PPP.

## National Skills Development Initiative

**D**igi PAKISTAN will train 1 million people in various fields of computer science to enable them to earn employment both at home and abroad under the National Skills Development Initiative.

The main objective of the program is to build a highly skilled human resource in diversified IT domains and contribute in nation building towards a knowledge-based economy.

In order to bring this vision, a comprehensive DigiPAKISTAN National Skills Development Initiative has been designed which provides contemporary online training of Information Technology in Technical, Non-Technical and High-Tech Domains across all provinces of Pakistan and overseas Pakistanis to empower youth of the nation.

Under this program, DigiPakistan will launch 16 courses in Fast Track Technical Programs, 15 courses in Fast Track Non-Technical Programs while 01 course will be on Associate Certification Programs.

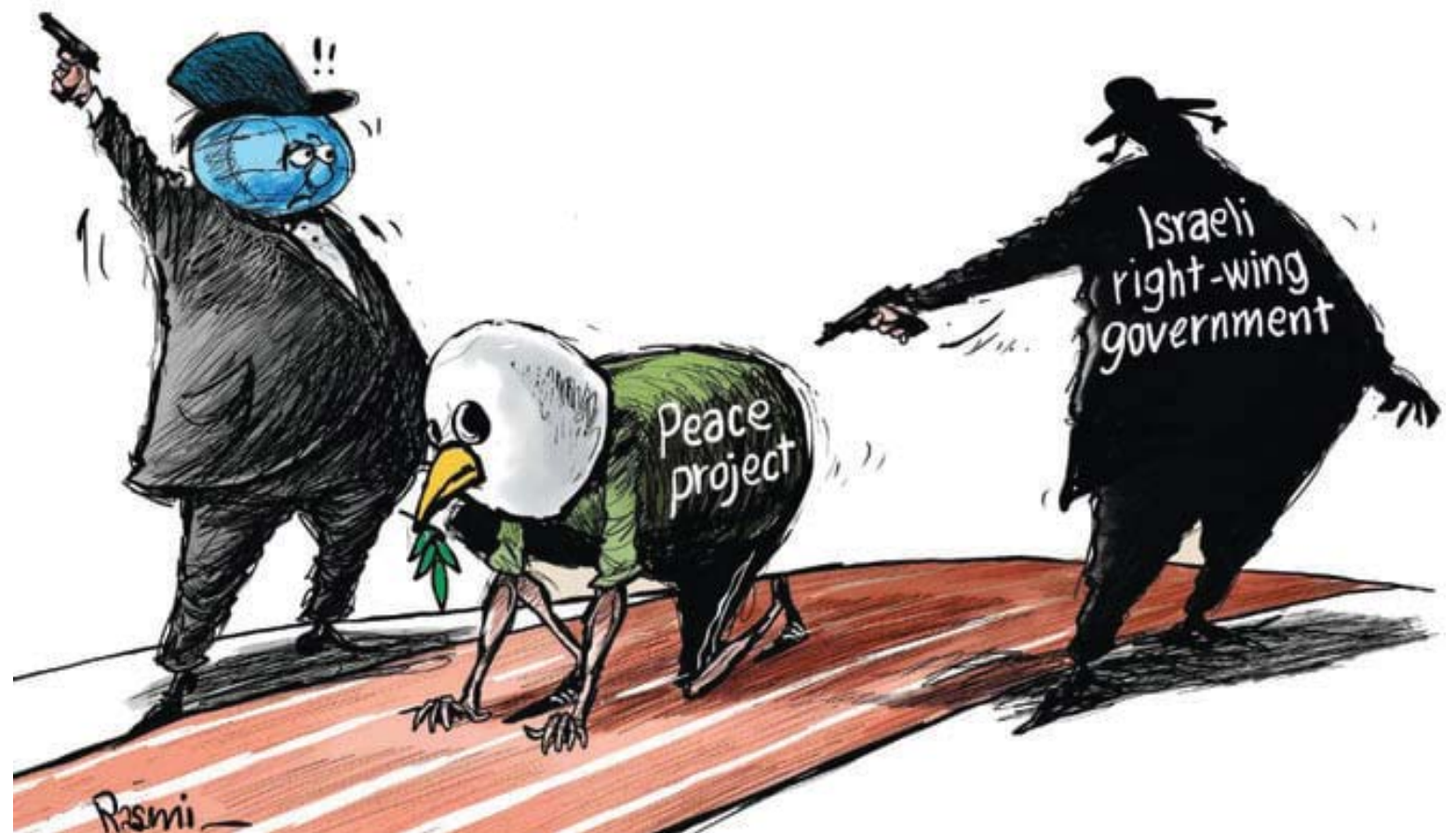
Fast Track Technical Programs will include IT Fundamentals, Microsoft Front End, ASP.NET, PHP Laravel, SQL Server, Android Apps, iOS Apps, React Native, CCNA, CompTIA Security, CEH, CHFI, CISA, CISM, AWS Practitioner, AWS SysOps, AWS Developer, Microsoft Cloud Administrator, Google Cloud, Python, ML & AI and Data Science.

Fast Track Non-Technical Program will include courses on SAP ERP, Project Management Professional (PMP), Amazon FBA Business, Search Engineer Optimization (SEO), Digital Marketing, Social Media Marketing (SMM), Graphic Design, UI / UX Design, Video Editing, AutoCAD and Microsoft Office.

Associate Certification Program will provide training on Digital Forensic Cyber Security, CISSP Cyber Security Professional, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain Technology and Full Stack Web Development (MCSA).

DigiPakistan was launched to train the youth of Pakistan in Information Technology Skills Development to support the Initiative DIGITAL PAKISTAN in capacity building, increasing the competencies of our graduates and providing them the skills that are very important to enhance the capabilities for further employment.

It also aimed to transform Pakistani Youth into productive workforce to contest the challenges of fourth industrial revolution through latest, demand driven and state of the art IT skills with increased access to high-quality education for everyone, anywhere and anytime.



## Air pollution posing threat to human lives

**Fakhar Alam**

**A**bid Ahmad (50), a poor driver of the container is battling for their life at Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) after he was diagnosed with acute pneumonia and respiratory infections caused by air pollution and COVID-19.

Doctors were making efforts to save the life of the poor Abid, who was on a ventilator for nearly 35 days at the Pulmonology ward of LRH after his condition got deteriorated in a private hospital.

Standing in front of the bed of his ill-fated father, Ahmad Khan, a resident of Mera Kachori Peshawar with stretched hands praying for his early recovery said, "My Baba who was a driver of a cargo container, was complaining about shortness of breath since last few months and often sit on the ground after walking few yards in a bid to restore his oxygen." "Last month, we rushed him to a private hospital where he was diagnosed with acute respiratory infections and referred him to LRH."

She said the air pollution coupled with pneumonia had severely damaged his both lungs due to which he fell prey to the corona due to low immunity. Terming air pollution a serious threat to human lives, the senior pulmonologist said it could affect people of all age groups especially children and elder citizens, adding air pollution reduced lung growth and functions in children besides leading to respiratory chest infections, lung cancers, coronary heart diseases, strokes and asthma that often cause premature deaths if untreated.

"Air pollution was the major cause of stillbirth and preterm births besides less cognitive IQ and acute respiratory infections in children. I advised people to use face masks and adopt safe energy resources to improve the air quality index."

Referring to the WHO report 2021, Dr. Anila said around seven million people die every year worldwide due to excessive use of hazardous gas emissions mostly by industrial units, brick kilns, vehicular traffic, and other means of air pollution.

In Pakistan, about 128,000 deaths were reported every year due to pollution-related diseases, according to a recent report of Fair Finance Pakistan, a non-government organization working to combat climate change.

Known for the fragrance of Gul-e-Dawodi in December, he said Peshawar was currently engulfed by thick smoke mostly being emitted by thousands of unregistered rickshaws, taxis, and unfit public transport while brick kilns, marble crushing units, and industries were additional contributors to air pollution.

He accused the previous PTI government of axing thousands of trees, and plants and destroying green belts in Peshawar for paving way for an ill-planned bus rapid transit (BRT) project, which further aggravated the gravity of the situation.

Muhammad Irshad, Chief Analyst, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 pollution in Peshawar was reported higher than limits set by National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) and its bigger impact on public health was much more than that.

PM 2.5 pollution was a complex mixture of extremely small particles that stays for a longer period in the air and once inhaled can affect people's hearts, stomachs, and lungs leading to strokes, asthma, cancer, and other chronic diseases. He said about 60 percent of pollution was being contributed by vehicles and rickshaws in Peshawar.

EPA conducted a scientific study with help of SUPARCO in 2017-18 at different locations of Peshawar where dust and pollution were measured in the air between five to 10 feet in height where PM 2.5 was almost four times higher than NEQS stand-

ards. He said the study noted about 52mg/m3 higher dust and smoke particulate in the air while normally it should be around 15mg/m3 as per NEQS standards. He said the Bank of Khyber has established 20 air quality monitoring stations in KP including Peshawar.

Dr. Aftab Ahmed, Director of Livestock and Dairy Development said plastic pollution was more dangerous than air pollution as the former might transmit to people through eating animals and fish flesh. He explained that once it entered in the human body, the affected person would not feel hungry like a healthy person, and could be fatal with time.

Faridullah Khan, Deputy Director EPA KP said the shifting of brick kilns on Zigzag has started in the province, and two brick kilns one each at Och canal in Peshawar and Jalala Mardan were converted to this technology. He said 400,000 bricks can be prepared in 20 cycles under Zigzag compared to 300,000 bricks in 40 cycles in a common brick kiln unit.

Syed Ishtiaq Urmnar, Provincial Minister for Environment and Forests said KP Environment Protection (Amendment) Bill 2022 has been passed by the provincial government under which a ban on preparations and manufacturing of all types of plastic bags was imposed. Vehicles Emissions Testing Stations (VETS) have been strengthened to check smoking-emitting vehicles, he added.

KP's first Climate Change policy 2018 has been approved with a major focus on combating air pollution through whopping plantations and mass awareness to maintain air quality, he said. To combat air pollution, he said that the first manmade Ghari Chandan forest has been raised near Peshawar where over 3.2 million saplings were planted under the billion trees afforestation project.

## Quality education going beyond reach of poor parents

**Abdul Shakoore Khan**

**R**apid population growth and dwindling education facilities in the public sector provided ample room for the growth of private-sector educational institutions during the last three decades.

On-the-ground infrastructure of educational institutions in the country was quite sufficient to meet the needs of students during the 1980s when the country's population was around 84.253 million (1981 census). But, it grew to around 132.352 million in 1998 and 207.68 million as per the 2017-18 census exerting extreme pressure on public sector institutions.

In the 1980s, a small number of students used to study at private schools but the coming years witnessed a mushroom growth of the private sector making it a lucrative business in wake of the increasing population, and many major chains surfaced on the horizon. However, the ongoing inflation and hefty fees charged by the private schools had landed parents in Balochistan in real trouble like millions of others across the country.

"I am the symbolic father of 4000 children, and unless you waive off the fee of all of them I will not leave my just struggle to drag the school business mafia to court," Mohammad Aslam Rind, former Nazim and famous social worker of the Quetta city said narrating his strives. "I shall keep struggling against them until they stop hounding parents for charging hefty fees even during annual holidays."

He claimed that authorities seemed helpless against the big and branded private school chains. "It seems like only the parents' headache to fight back these giants minting money for their vested interest."

Abdul Rasheed, a WASA lineman in Quetta has also complained about high fees. "Monthly school fee of my five children is over Rs 20,000. Then there are Rs 10,000 school van charges. How can I afford it with a meager salary."

When asked Abdul Rasheed, why he used to get his children admitted to a private school, his answer was almost the same as that of millions of other parents. "If the education standard deteriorates

at the government schools then what is the other option than to approach private institutions."

Zahoor Elahi, another government employee had the same story as he had to shift his children to the government schools to save the fees money to meet other needs like rations, clothes, medicines, and utility bills.

"How could I spend Rs 35,000 every month on the education of my four children out of my total Rs. 70,000 salary. So, I shifted my children to government schools."

When people have to make choices between education, healthcare, food, and other essentials, they sacrifice education as living without eating and wearing could not be possible. This trend develops a clear divide between the rich and the poor and many shining students of poor families are deprived of quality education due to paucity of funds.

When asked, the private school owners give multiple reasons to justify the fee hike. "Situation after COVID had changed. Since prices of all commodities had gone up, we had to raise fees to pay salaries and meet other requirements of our institutions," said Parveen Rehmat, Principal of St Francis Grammar School Quetta.

Even if her opinion is validly considered, still there could be room to facilitate students if they compromise on their profit ratio. But, unfortunately, people have made this missionary a lucrative business for earning money.

Commenting on this situation, Director Education Abdul Wahid Shakir said there are 15089 public sector schools in Balochistan catering to the needs of 1,004,242 students while 327,000 students are enrolled at 1230 private institutions registered under Balochistan Education Foundation (BEF).

"The BEF has formulated BPEIRRA to regulate these institutions. The BPEIRRA is formulating rules and we hope to resolve this issue in near future," he said.

Parliamentary Secretary of Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Rubaba Buledi regretted the delayed implementation of relevant laws but was confident to overcome discrepancies in the fee structure.

"The parliament has framed laws and formed the Authority. We are ensuring early implementation of these laws to provide respite to parents.

# Saudi Arabia's Capital Market Authority approves regulations of market-marking and procedures

News Desk

JEDDAH: The CMA's approval aims to regulate the activities of listed securities market-making, and impacts resulted from approving the market making registration application

RIYADH: Regulations proposed by the Saudi exchange around market-making procedures have been approved by the Capital Market Authority ("CMA"), it was announced on Sunday.

The CMA's approval aims to regulate the activities of listed securities market-making, and impacts resulted from approving the market making registration application, and description of mechanism of practicing market making activities on securities, a statement said.

The statement continued that regulations include the market-maker's activities through providing continuous listed securities buy/sell orders during the market open session to provide liquidity to the relevant listed securities.

Also, among the conditions of the market-maker, it shall have a membership of the market or derivatives market and shall have the written policies and procedures to separate between the market making activities and any other activities practiced by the maker.



This maker shall also have the security and technical requirements necessary for practicing the activity, or any other condition proposed by the market and approved by the CMA.

The regulations set out the Market Maker's liabilities; among them, to assign an account at the Securities Depository Center (Edaa) (where applicable) and Securities Clearing Center

Company (Muqassa) that are limited to practicing activities of market making only on specific security (securities) in accordance with the Market Making Agreement.

Also, all activities of market making practiced by the market-maker shall be in compliance with the Capital Market law, its implementing regulations and the market rules, and any other relevant laws.

The CMA's approval on the market-making regulations and procedures comes as part of the CMA's continuous efforts to create potentials facilitating trading process, including increasing efficiency and volume of liquidity in the capital market through providing continuous listed securities buy/sell orders.

## Russia says it won't accept oil price cap and is preparing response

News Desk

MOSCOW: Russia "will not accept" a price cap on its oil and is analysing how to respond, the Kremlin said in comments reported on Saturday, in response to a deal by Western powers aimed at limiting a key source of funding for its war in Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Moscow had made preparations for Friday's price cap announcement by the Group of Seven nations, the European Union and Australia, the Russian state news agency TASS reported.

"We will not accept this cap," RIA news agency quoted him as saying. He added that Russia would conduct a rapid analysis of the agreement and respond after that, RIA reported.

Russia has repeatedly said it will not supply oil to countries that implement the cap – a stance reaffirmed by Mikhail Ulyanov, Moscow's ambassador to international organisations in Vienna, in posts on social media on Saturday.

"Starting from this year Europe will live without Russian oil," he said. The G7 price cap will allow non-EU countries to continue importing seaborne Russian crude oil, but it will prohibit shipping, insurance and re-insurance companies from handling cargoes of Russian crude around the globe, unless it is sold for less than \$60. That could complicate the shipment of Russian crude priced above the cap, even to countries which are not part of the agreement.

Russian Urals crude traded at around \$67 a barrel on Friday. US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said the cap will particularly benefit low- and medium-income countries that have borne the brunt of high energy and food prices.

"With Russia's economy already contracting and its budget increasingly stretched thin, the price cap will immediately cut into (President Vladimir) Putin's most important source of revenue," Yellen said in a statement.

In comments published on Telegram, Russia's embassy in the United States criticised what it called the "dangerous" Western move and said Moscow would continue to find buyers for its oil.

"Steps like these will inevitably result in increasing uncertainty and imposing higher costs for raw materials' consumers," it said.

"Regardless of the current flirtations with the dangerous and illegitimate instrument, we are confident that Russian oil will continue to be in demand."

## Canadian PM Justin Trudeau sends heartfelt greetings on Sindhi Cultural Day

OTTAWA: Canadian Prime minister Justin Trudeau on Sunday extended his heartfelt greetings to everyone living in Canada on the day before Sindhi Cultural Day.

"This occasion deals a brilliant opportunity for Canadians of Sindhi origin to share their rich cultural legacy with the community," Trudeau said in a letter.

Trudeau, in his warm wishes to the Canadian Sindhi community, said: "I am certain that many performances and activities planned for today's celebration have been enjoyed by everyone in the audience."

PM Trudeau thanked the Sindhi Association of North America (SANA) Canada's active members including president Jam Muncer, Rizwan Issani, General secretary Raj Bansari, Rab Nawaz Gaho, Shahid Ali, and Shiraz Memon for their hard work in shaping the remarkable event.

He added that events such as this are a wonderful reminder that Canada is truly a multicultural nation made stronger and more resilient by our diversity.

People in Sindh are also celebrating Sindh Culture Day to highlight their culture.

Several programmes, shows, and rallies are being held in different cities to celebrate the day.

The staff of the Peoples Bus Service will wear traditional Ajrak and Sindhi Topi.

The main event for Sindhi Culture Day will be held in front of the Karachi Press Club which will be attended by people across the city, dressed up in Sindhi attire.

# Indonesia's Mount Semeru Volcano Erupts, Top Alert Status Triggered

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Indonesia's Mount Semeru erupted Sunday spewing hot ash clouds a mile into the sky and sending rivers of lava down its side, sparking the evacuation of nearly 2,000 people exactly one year after its last major eruption killed dozens.

The eruption of the highest mountain on Indonesia's main island of Java, around 800 kilometres (500 miles) southeast of capital Jakarta, prompted authorities to raise the alert status to the highest level.

"Hot avalanches" caused by piles of lava at the tip of the 3,676-metre (12,000 feet) volcano slid down after the eruption, National Disaster



Mitigation Agency (BNPB) spokesperson Abdul Muhari said in a statement.

The increased threat level "means the danger has threatened the people's settlement and the volcano's activity has escalated", Volcanology and Geological Disaster Mitigation

Center (PVMBG) spokesperson Hendra Gunawan told broadcaster Kompas TV.

No casualties or injuries were reported immediately after the eruption but Gunawan warned nearby residents not to travel within eight kilometres (five miles) of the

crater after the threat level was raised to four. The BNPB said 1,979 people were taken to 11 shelters, with at least 6 villages affected by the eruption.

Images on local TV showed evacuees, mostly women and children, taking shelter in a school. Videos shared with AFP by local rescue group Irannala Rescue showed a huge black cloud rising from the volcano's crater, engulfing the sky and blocking the sun in nearby villages.

The villages were being battered by monsoon rains by the afternoon and the rainfall was mixing with volcanic ash, according to Kompas.

Residents were also told to avoid a southeastern area 13 kilometres (8 miles) along a river in the direction where the ash was travelling.

"A lot of people have started to go down," Thoriquil Haq, the local administration chief for Lumajang, where the volcano is located, told Kompas TV.

Most residents in the two most-threatened villages have evacuated themselves, said Patria Dwi Hastiadi, spokesperson of the Lumajang Disaster Mitigation Agency.

Japan's weather agency had earlier warned that a tsunami was possible in the southern islands of Miyako and Yaeyama in Okinawa prefecture, Kyodo news agency reported, but the country's meteorological agency said no significant tidal changes were observed.

# Protest-hit Iran abolishes morality police

TEHRAN: Iran has scrapped its morality police after more than two months of protests triggered by the arrest of Mahsa Amini for allegedly violating the country's strict female dress code, local media said Sunday.

Women-led protests, labelled "riots" by the authorities, have swept Iran since the 22-year-old Iranian of Kurdish origin died in custody on September 16, three days after her arrest by the morality police in Tehran.

Demonstrators have burned their mandatory hijab head coverings and shouted anti-government slogans, and since Amini's death, a growing number of women have failed to wear the hijab, particularly in parts of Tehran.

"Morality police have nothing to do with the judiciary and have been abolished", Attorney General Mohammad Jafar Montazeri was quoted as saying by the ISNA news agency.

His comment came at a religious conference where he responded to a participant who asked "why the morality police were being shut down", the report said.

Since the 1979 Islamic Revolution that overthrew Iran's US-backed monarchy, there has been some kind of official monitoring of the strict dress code for both men and women.

But under hardline president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the morality police – known formally as the Gasht-e Ershad or "Guid-

ance Patrol" – was established to "spread the culture of modesty and hijab".

The units were set up by Iran's Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution, which is today headed by President Ebrahim Raisi.

They began their patrols in 2006 to enforce the dress code which also requires women to wear long clothes and forbids shorts, ripped jeans and other clothes deemed immodest.

The announcement of the units' abolition came a day after Montazeri said "both parliament and the judiciary are working" on the issue of whether the law requiring women to cover their heads needs to be changed.

Raisi said in televised comments Saturday that Iran's

republican and Islamic foundations were constitutionally entrenched "but there are methods of implementing the constitution that can be flexible".

"Spreading corruption! The hijab became mandatory in 1983. Morality police officers initially issued warnings before starting to crack down and arrest women 15 years ago.

The squads were usually made up of men in green uniforms and women clad in black chadors, garments that cover their heads and upper bodies.

The role of the units evolved, but has always been controversial even among candidates running for the presidency.

Clothing norms gradually changed, especially under

former moderate president Hassan Rouhani, when it became commonplace to see women in tight jeans with loose, colourful headscarves.

But in July this year his successor, the ultra-conservative Raisi, called for the mobilisation of "all state institutions to enforce the headscarf law".

Raisi at the time charged that "the enemies of Iran and Islam have targeted the cultural and religious values of society by spreading corruption".

Iran's regional rival Saudi Arabia also employed morality police to enforce female dress codes and other rules of behaviour. Since 2016 the force there has been sidelined in a push by the Sunni Muslim kingdom to shake



off its austere image.

In September, the Union of Islamic Iran People Party, the country's main reformist party, called for the hijab law to be rescinded.

The party, created by relatives of former reformist president Mohammad Khatami, demands authorities "prepare the legal elements paving the way for the cancellation of the mandatory

hijab law".

As recently as Saturday it also called for the Islamic republic to "officially announce the end of the activities of the morality police" and "allow peaceful demonstrations". Iran accuses its enemy the United States and its allies, including Britain and Israel, and Kurdish groups based outside the country, of fomenting the street protests. AFP

# Effective measures likely to eradicate polio from Pakistan by 2023: UNICEF

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A senior UNICEF official said the polio program in Pakistan was back on track and hoped that the crippling disease will be eradicated from the country by end of 2023 following effective measures to check its spread.

Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei in an exclusive interview with APP, said the current data suggested that virus was now under control in the country.

"We are using all available resources and services at our disposal to reach every girl and boy in Pakistan with lifesaving vaccines and protect them against the entirely preventable disease," he said.

Appreciating efforts of over 350,000 health workers traveling to all parts of the country to administer doses of the vaccine to every child, he said, "the

program is back on track to stop all wild polio virus transmission in 2023."

George Laryea-Adjei said Pakistan was in a much better position today to eradicate polio than a year ago. However, there were challenges that hampered the efforts to eliminate the virus completely.

He expressed concern over the attack on polio and health workers in some parts of Pakistan and lauded the courage of polio teams.

He also appreciated efforts of polio eradication endeavors of the government recalling that Pakistan was the first country to launch an ambitious program for training its health workers to support national immunization programmes.

Highlighting the challenges, he said that the onslaught of back-to-back disasters – drought, heatwaves, floods and acts of violence continued to put

millions of children's lives at risk in Pakistan.

He said the recent catastrophic floods destroyed vital health facilities and exacerbated health risks for millions of children, especially those living in districts historically at the highest risk for polio.

The UNICEF, Regional Director said, UNICEF had been working with the government, UN agencies and NGO partners from day one of the flood to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable children and families, in 54 of the 90 calamity hit districts.

In the health sector, he said 110 mobile health teams were providing critical health services to children, women, and adolescents and UNICEF was also assisting the national measles and rubella vaccination campaigns for children under the age of five in flood affected districts.

Moreover, UNICEF was working for water, sanitation and hygiene in the flood-affected

areas as well.

"We are delivering over two million litres of safe drinking water to the flood-affected communities," he said. The UNICEF also built toilets and distributed hygiene and menstrual hygiene management kits, besides installing new taps and repairing critical water networks destroyed by the floods.

UNICEF established over 600 temporary learning centres to provide safe spaces for children to learn and play in the education centres, he said while highlighting his organization's endeavours.

Divulging details of the activities of UNICEF in northern Pakistan at the outset of winters, he said UNICEF procured 16,000 warm clothing kits for children up to 12 years of age which were being dispatched for distribution in snowbound areas of Balochistan, KP provinces and Gilgit Baltistan region.

Moreover, around 15,000



blankets have been distributed in KP and Balochistan provinces, he added.

Referring to impact of climate change, he said "The impact is profound throughout South Asia and in 2022 alone, climate-induced floods in Pakistan, Bangladesh, northern India, and Afghanistan left over 15 million boys and girls in need of assistance."

ly high risk' to the impacts of climate change, ranking 14th out of 163 countries and regions.

Since April, Pakistan has been hit by a series of extreme weather events. There was no spring this year, with the country going from winter directly into a scorching summer. Temperatures reached over 50 degrees Celsius in some areas of the country followed by catastrophic floods.

He said these reoccurring and escalating climate catastrophes were directly threatening children lives and destroying infrastructure critical to their well-being.

First and foremost, global leaders must urgently limit global heating to 1.5 degree Celsius as this was the only way to save children's life, he suggested.

"We must prepare children to live in climate changed world through climate change education and green skills training," he added.

**Ministry completes all arrangements to organize Int'l Real Estate Expo**

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Housing and Works has completed all the arrangements to organize the first ever 'International Housing and Real Estate Expo' on December 8 to promote the real estate business in the country, besides ensuring safe and secure housing for the people.

"A four-day expo will be organized in collaboration with other relevant ministries, agencies, organizations, and authorities to encourage the approved housing projects and uplift the construction sector in the country," an official in the Ministry told APP.

He said that the people associated with the real estate and housing industry across the country would participate in the exhibition.

The stall was allocated to all the real estate developers, housing societies, real estate consultants, and construction material-related industries.

The main objective of the expo is to create awareness among the masses on approved real estate in the country, he added.

The official said that the Ministry would also allocate the stalls to those whose housing projects and companies were approved by the government, taxpayers, and companies with No Objection Certificates (NoCs) from relevant authorities.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Housing and Works Iftikhar Ali Shallwani told that the construction sector was the biggest provider of job opportunities for it has several other industries attached to it.

"It was a fundamental right of everyone to have secure and safe housing, and the ministry intended to organize the event to achieve this purpose," he added.

Iftikhar Shallwani said different stalls would be set up by the Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA), Pakistan Housing Authority Foundation (PHAF), and the country's major builders, developers, and marketing companies.

The Secretary said that he had also extended a cordial invitation to the ambassadors of different countries to participate in the upcoming expo and avail the opportunities in the housing sector which were offered by the present government. APP

**SNGPL seizes more than 100 compressors in Lahore raids**

**Spokesman Report**

LAHORE: The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Ltd (SNGPL) has seized more than 100 compressors in raids in Lahore.

The compressors are being used in houses to suck gas to address low pressure in Lahore, the SNGPL officials said adding obtaining gas from the gas line through the compressor is an unethical practice and a violation of the law.

The citizens are also advised not to use compressors for increasing the gas pressure as it was dangerous.

The raids were conducted in Shalimar, Mughalpur, Uchra, Samanabad, Gulshan-e-Ravi and others.

Read more: BAP urges govt to resolve low gas pressure issue in Ziarat

The SNGPL warned that gas meter will be disconnected from the household consumer from where a compressor is seized.

The SNGPL said the cooperation of consumers is essential for the success of the crackdown campaign and therefore gas consumers have been requested to call SNGPL helpline 1199 to report the use of gas compressors.

**PFC to take part in 3-day Jakarta single country expo from Jan 18**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) will take part in a 3-day single country expo in Jakarta-Indonesia starting from January 18 to discover business opportunities and explore new markets access for Pakistani products, Chief Executive Officer PFC, Mian Kashif Ashfaq said.

He expressed these views while talking to a delegation of IT professionals led by Mian Faiz Bukhsh here on Sunday.

He said that PFC along Chenone will be participating in this mega event and conference being held by ministry of commerce.

He said Chenone will also exhibit its high quality international standards products to capture their share in global market. He said it is an excellent opportunity to showcase Pak products and develop business deals with international buyers.

He said a delegation comprising exhibitors and manufacturers from Pakistan representing 20 major sectors including tourism and IT are visiting Jakarta to participate in the expo.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq said the Pakistan-ASEAN Trade Development conference (PATDC) will also be attended by dignitaries from ASEAN.

He said expo will also offer professional buyers a sourcing platform with wide variety of products ranging from basics to the most creative and qualitative. APP

**Oil price fall benefit should be passed on to masses**

**Tariq Khattaq**



ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh on Friday expressed concern over decreasing foreign exchange reserves.

The export, remittance, and investment situation is also worrying calling for urgent measures to stabilize the economy to prevent further weakening of the rupee, he said.

Talking to businessmen, he said that full focus on reducing the current account deficit alone cannot improve the situation.

Atif Ikram Shaikh, who has also been the former chairman of PVMA, said that exports and remittances are decreasing due to the gas crisis, inflation, and recession in western countries.

The reason for the decrease in domestic and foreign investment is political instability which

is a great source of distress among businessmen. He said that to the decrease in foreign exchange reserves, the rupee continues to weaken, so the government will have to try to increase exports and decrease imports.

Due to the ravages of floods, the government will have to import wheat, cotton, and other food items on a large scale, which will widen the current account deficit, he said.

He observed that the textile industry earned nineteen billion dollars in foreign exchange last year and this year it needs cotton or its income will fall.

He said that oil prices in the international market are gradually declining; however, the sitting government should pass on the benefit to the consumers. Oil price was \$94 per barrel in the first week of November and now it has reduced to \$74 per barrel.

Consumers are being taxed by Rs36 billion of Petroleum Development Levy, inflation (CPI) rose to 23.6 percent with the core inflation at 14.5-18.5 percent, and the inflation is likely to go up further, as the government has decided to increase gas prices and impose more taxes, as the government is running short on revenues.

The government's debt payments will increase as the SBP has increased the discount rate by 100 basis points and the IMF is also demanding additional taxes of Rs.800 billion, he mentioned.

He urged the government to provide relief to the people and immediately restart incentive schemes.

He noted that exports may further hurt as exporters' LC for raw materials and intermediate goods are not being opened due to a shortage of reserves.

**New IMF programme needed to avoid default**

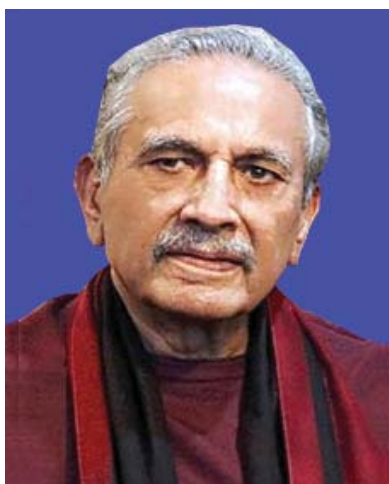
**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Sunday said the government's economic performance is not satisfactory as it continues to prefer politics to economy.

The popular policies can push the country to further economic mess and the threat of default is snowballing as the economy is passing through one of the toughest periods in the country's history, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that a large external financing gap, a challenging global situation, devastating floods, and political instability have increased the risk for the country.

The uncontrollable current account deficit is coming down after currency devaluation and other tightening measures, the biggest worry is external repayments amid declining foreign exchange reserves, he added.



Shahid Rasheed Butt said that Pakistan's external debt repayment obligations are \$73 billion in three years and when it is compared to prevailing foreign exchange reserves of \$7-8 billion all we get is worries. External debt and liabilities have

doubled in seven years from \$65 billion or 24 percent of GDP to \$130 billion or 40 percent of GDP due to irresponsible borrowing.

Presently Pakistan's total debt and liabilities have increased from Rs19.9 trillion to Rs60 trillion as of June 2022 which is 90 percent of GDP, he informed.

Pakistan must exploit friendly relations with China and seek IMF-led debt restructuring of at least \$30 billion or the situation will go out of control, he warned.

The government should try to enter into a new IMF programme to avert a default, he said.

Under the new IMF programme along with debt restructuring, the country will likely witness strict monetary, exchange rate, and fiscal policies but we have no other option, he said.

The country's economic growth will remain slow, the rupee will remain under pressure, and the interest rate will remain at higher levels despite due to IMF's involvement.

**Illegal Occupation**

RAWALPINDI: People are busy in buying warm clothes from Landa Bazaar during cold weather at Sadar Bazaar in the city.



Photo: Online

**Chaudhary Shehzad organized Dream Smart Dinner**

**Sohail Anjum Malik**

MANSHESTOR: Dreamland Marketing Pvt Ltd CEO Chaudhary Shehzad Ahmed organized a grand ceremony of Dream Smart Dinner in the local hall, where Majeed Ahmed Khan Gold Medalist was the chief guest, Consul General Tariq Wazir Muhammad Shahzad Sadiq Malik Brigadier Abid Kabir Cheema. Farhan Elahi Dr. Liaqat Malik Chaudhry Altaf Shahid Mirza Khurram Baig-Atif Riaz Malik-Agha Sameer Anwar-Rana Rauf-Malik Muhammad Jibrin Anwar Kashif Jalil Chaudhry Tanveer Ansari MNA Ehsanul Haq Bajwa and prominent real estate related from Pakistan Europe UK Personalities participated, Farzana Afzal Sheikh, a prominent literary figure of Britain and Pakistan, performed the duties of Nizam.

On this occasion, the host, Chief Executive of Dreamland Marketing Pvt. They have done successful projects in Islamabad and very soon they are launching a new project in Karachi. Overseas Pakistanis can invest in these projects with confidence. Head of Business Development Smart City Brigadier Abid Kabir Cheema said that our project All the basic facilities are available to those who invest in the city and it is for every section of the city community.



Dr. Liaqat Malik, Chief Executive of Easy Digital Money, said that all overseas Pakistanis should invest in Pakistan, which shows the love of overseas Pakistanis for Pakistan. Member National Assembly Ehsanul Haq Bajwa congratulated Chaudhary Shehzad for conducting a successful program. Appreciated the work done and congratulated Shehzad Chaudhary of Dreamland Private Limited for organizing today's successful program. Farzana Afzal Manwar Niazi, Dr. Hamid Khan Mashriqi said that he was

very happy to see the interest of overseas Pakistanis in the program today. The credit goes to Chaudhary Shehzad, the founder of Dreamland Private Company Limited and his team for the program. Finally, awards were given to those belonging to various fields. Senior journalist Chaudhary Arif Pandhir was awarded with a special Life Achievement Award for his services. If the debt is not restructured immediately, Pakistan's debt crisis could worsen further, which could hamper Pakistan's ability to pay back on time, he warned.

**PFC to take part in 3-day Jakarta single country expo from January 18**



**News Desk**

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buyers. He said a delegation comprising exhibitors and manufacturers from Pakistan representing 20 major sectors including tourism and IT are visiting Jakarta to participate in the expo.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq said the Pakistan-ASEAN Trade Development conference (PATDC) will also be attended by dignitaries from ASEAN.

He said expo will also offer professional buyers a sourcing platform with wide variety of products ranging from basics to the most creative and qualitative.

He said PFC and Chenone have already attended several other international fairs in US, China, Italy, Sri Lanka etc and introduced its products which are in great demand.

He hoped in getting orders from foreign buyers. He said main purpose of attending the single country expo is to help strengthen the national economy and TDAP is facilitating the manufacturers of export products. He said he will also hold series of marathon meetings with tycoons for investment to avail government unprecedented special package for foreign investors.

**OPEC+ likely to maintain oil output levels**

**News Desk**

Major oil-producing countries led by Saudi Arabia and Russia look set to maintain their current output levels at a meeting Sunday, ahead of fresh sanctions against Moscow coming into force.

The 13-member Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is due to consult with 10 other oil-producing nations, including Russia, to review their decision in October to cut production by two million barrels per day.

The OPEC+ videoconference will take place from 1100 GMT Sunday.

On Friday, the EU, G7 and Australia agreed a \$60-per-barrel price cap on Russian oil, which will come into effect on Monday or soon after, alongside an EU embargo on maritime deliveries of Russian crude oil.

It will prevent seaborne shipments of Russian crude to the European Union, which account for two thirds of the bloc's oil imports from Russia, an attempt to deprive Moscow's war chest of billions of euros.

While Russia denounced the incoming price cap on Saturday, threatening to suspend deliveries to any country that adopted the measure, Ukraine suggested the cap should have been set even lower.

For OPEC+, the big unknown in the oil equation is how heavily sanctions will hit Russian supply.

"The uncertainty for Russian supply is significant", DNB analysts said. OPEC would therefore "aim for a low-profile meeting that leaves existing production quotas unchanged".

- An 'uncomfortable position' -

Moscow's threat to suspend deliveries to countries abiding by the price cap would put "some in a very uncomfortable position", said OANDA analyst Craig Erlam: "Choosing between losing access to cheap Russian crude or facing G7 sanctions".

The choice of a virtual OPEC+ meeting instead of an in-person conference at the Vienna headquarters, suggested a policy rollover, UniCredit analyst Edward Moya said.

But "deeper oil output cuts" could still not be ruled out at this stage.

Amid economic gloom fuelled by soaring inflation and fears of China's weaker energy demand due to its Covid-related restrictions, the two global crude benchmarks remained close to their lowest level of the year, far from their March peaks.

Since the group's last meeting in early October, Brent North Sea oil and its US equivalent, WTI, have lost more than six percent of their value.

But speculation that a further OPEC+ production cut might still be on the table boosted prices throughout the week.

# Pakistan need 263 runs to beat rampant England in 1st test



## Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Rampant England pushed its first test in Pakistan in 17 years to an exciting last-day finish after setting a brave target of 343 runs for the home team on Sunday.

Pakistan ended the fourth day at 80-2, needing in the final session after a brave target of 90 overs left in the first test of the three-match series.

First innings centurion Imam-ul-Haq was not out on 43 off 60 balls while one of four Pakistan debutants, Saud Shakeel, was lucky to be there on 24 after Keaton Jennings couldn't hold on to a two-handed catch close to the wicket in the penultimate over of the day.

Ben Stokes' plan to start with a barrage of short-pitched balls paid dividends for England in the final session after the tourists declared their second innings at 264-7 at tea for an overall lead of 342.

"We're confident we can do it," England's

assistant coach Paul Collingwood said. "The boys have shown that they'll come up with different plans and different ways... it's going to be an exciting day tomorrow.

"Some might say it's an early declaration, (but) we're not scared of losing and I think that's a really good position to be in."

Abdullah Shafique (6), one of the three Pakistan first innings century-makers, fell into England's trap and pulled to Ollie Robinson in the deep before Azhar Ali was struck on his right index finger in the same over and left the field in pain.

Stokes, who shared the new ball with Robinson, got the faint inside edge of Babar Azam off another short pitch ball to reduce Pakistan to 25-2 before the two left-handers — Imam and Shakeel — batted confidently to produce a 55-run stand until Jennings' missed opportunity.

In its first innings, Pakistan's lower order dug in to reduce England's lead before getting

dismissed for 579.

"The aim in the camp is to win the match," said Pakistan middle-order batter Agha Salman, who did the bulk of Pakistan's scoring on Day 4. "We were expecting them to make a challenging declaration because that is the way they've been playing for quite some time now."

And England didn't sit back on a wicket still conducive to batting and pushed its bid for victory with yet another electrifying display with the bat from the top order in the second session.

Joe Root smashed 73 and Harry Brook followed his belligerent century in the first innings with 87 off 65 balls before getting bowled by fast bowler Naseem Shah (2-66).

England added a brisk 218 runs in the second session to finish the innings with a rapid run rate of 7.4 an over, which matched its first-innings aggression that saw the visitors rack up an electrifying total of 657.

Despite losing first-innings century-makers

Ben Duckett and Ollie Pope, England underlined its plan of setting up a target for Pakistan in reaching 46-2 in seven overs before lunch.

Pakistan's inexperienced bowling resources were further reduced when debutant fast bowler Haris Rauf couldn't recover from his strained right quad and was unable to bowl in the second innings.

Root survived a scare shortly after completing his half-century when Naseem couldn't hold on to a reverse sweep in the covers before legspinner Zahid Mahmood (2-84) dismissed him and then Stokes for a duck in a single over.

Earlier, offspinner Will Jacks, who was given his test debut at the last minute after Ben Foakes had to sit out due to a viral infection, picked up 6-161 on a wicket doing the bowlers few favors before Pakistan was eventually bowled out.

Pakistan's tailenders frustrated England for nearly 1.5 hours with Salman scoring 53 off 67 balls after the home team resumed on 499-7.

Salman shared a 57-run stand with Mahmood (17), who didn't play a false shot despite being surrounded by at least six England fielders close to the bat for much of his time at the crease.

Salman successfully overturned on-field umpire Joe Wilson's leg before decision through a television referral just before reaching his half-century.

TV replays suggested Jacks had pitched the ball outside the line of leg stump when the batter attempted a reverse sweep but missed the line of the ball and was struck on the front pad.

Salman reached his second test half-century by chipping leftarm spinner Jack Leach over covers before edging Jacks to the lone slip. Leach bowled the bulk of the overs with Jacks and finished with 2-190.

Injured Rauf (12) hung in with Mahmood and added a further 22 runs before Jacks finally wrapped up the innings by dismissing both batters.

## Lahore Garrison team wins All Pakistan Inter Club Golf at Rumanza

### Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The All Pakistan Rumanza Inter Club Golf Championship 2022 contested at par 72 Rumanza Golf Arena, the first signature golf course of Pakistan came to a conclusion yesterday and signaled a commendable victory for the ten member Lahore Garrison Golf Team. Based on its performance over three days at the wonderful Rumanza Golf Course it was declared the Champion Club team and became eligible for gold medals and the prize money reward of Rs 1.3 million. Karachi Golf Club Team was the runners up and Lahore Gymkhana team ended up third followed by Rumanza Golf Club, Rawalpindi Golf Club, DHA Karachi, Bahria Garden City, Islamabad and

last was Airmen Golf Club, Karachi.

The winning team of Lahore Garrison comprising of Matloob Ahmed, M. Shahzad, M. Alam, Damil Ataullah, Ahmed Kayani, Usman Akram Sahi, Mustafa Bilal, Lt Col (r) Asif Mehdi, Lt Col (r) M. Shafi, Tariq Mehmood ended as leaders with a team aggregate score of 1564. The runners up team, Karachi Golf Club had a team aggregate score of 1581 and their team comprised of Waheed Baloch, M. Zubair, Mudasar Iqbal, Saim Shazli, Yashal Shah, Arsalan Shikoh Khan, Samir Feroz, Khurram Khan, Khalid Jamil Siddiqui and Asad, I.A. Khan. The Lahore Gymkhana team finished third at a team score of 1587. Team members were Shahid Javed, Aadil Jehang-

ir, Talat Ijaz, Salman Jehangir, Qasim Ali Khan, Hussain Hamid, Danish Javed, Omer Javed Zia, Asim Tiwana and Shafique Bhatti.

The individual amateur segment winner was young Damil Ataullah who topped in the race for individual honors with impressive three rounds scores of 70, 69, 71 giving a match aggregate of 210, six under par. He wins a seven days Umra Trip. Out of the other participating amateurs seventeen years old Omer Khalid of DHA Karachi was second with three rounds scores of 71, 72 and 74, his total being 217, one over par. Another young one from Karachi, Yashal Shah had a final days round of 68, the best score in amateur category and finished at a score of 219, three over par.

Amongst the professionals, the superb ones were professionals Hamza Amin and Ahmed Baig who are associated with Rumanza Golf Club. Hamza Amin had three rounds scores of 70, 71 and 68 while Ahmed Baig had scores of 69, 68 and 69. A remarkable show of skills from these leading golf professionals of the country.

At the conclusion of All Pakistan Inter Club Golf Championship 2022 the winning teams were awarded gold, silver and bronze medals and cash prizes by Major General Zafar Marwat in the presence of Brig (r) Fayyaz Ahmed Khan, Tournament Director, Col Habib ur Rehman, Project Secretary, DHA Multan and participating golfers at the Rumanza Driving Range.

## Three more matches decided in National Physical Disability T20 Cricket Championship 2022

Defending champions Bahawalpur PD got off to a winning start by defeating Sargodha PD by 10 wickets thanks to Skipper Mohammad Nauman's brilliant half-century.

Lahore PD defeated Sialkot PD and Peshawar PD defeated FATA PD. In these matches, Muhammad Nauman, Muhammad Shahbaz and Muhammad Adeel were declared Man of the Match.

Karachi (Sports Reporter) The defending champions Bahawalpur PD defeated their rivals Sargodha PD by 10 wickets thanks to their captain Muhammad Nouman's brilliant unbeaten half-century of 59 and got off to a winning start in the



National Physical Disability T20 Cricket Championship 2022. Under the management of Pakistan Physical Disability Cricket Association and with the cooperation of International Committee of the Red Cross, Shahid Afri-

di Foundation and Pakistan Cricket Board,

In the first match of the national championship in 5 cities of Pakistan, Dering Stadium Bhalpur, Sargodha. Scored 119 runs for 8 wickets while playing first. Zafar Hussain

scored 27 runs and Waqar Amir scored 25 runs. Kashif Abbas and Muhammad Asif took two wickets each.

In reply, Bahawalpur achieved the required 120 for no loss in 8.4 overs. Captain Muhammad Nauman scored 59 runs and Muhammad Shahzad scored 49 runs on behalf of the winning team. Muhammad Nauman, the best player of the last championship, won the man of the match award, continuing his outstanding performance.

At G Park Cricket Ground Sialkot In the second match, Lahore PD also defeated Sialkot PD by 10 wickets. Sialkot batted first and scored 140 runs for 9 wickets in 20 overs.

## Combaxx 1st Chief of Naval Staff All Pakistan Squash Championship to commence from 6th

KARACHI: Combaxx 1st Chief of the Naval Staff All Pakistan Squash Championship being organized by Pakistan Navy is all set to commence from December 6 to 12 at Roshan Khan Jahangir Khan Squash Complex here.

Giving details of this prestigious event, the Tournament Director Commodore Tauqir Ahmed Khawaja (recipient of Tamgha-e-Imtiaz) said that the event carries a heavy purse of 1.5 million while it will consist of 54 matches.

Squash legend Jahangir Khan and CEO of Combaxx Sports Omar Saeed were present at the

briefing. Commodore Tauqir said that the first qualifying round will consist of twelve matches in which sixteen players will feature.

The four top winners from both categories will make it to the Main Round of top 12 ranking players, he added.

He said that the tournament winners will be decided after the conclusion of 15 matches of both male and female categories.

He said that in recent years, there has been no satisfactory holding of enough squash events at the national level for our players which is not an encouraging sign, but he hoped that the hold-



ing of this mega event initiated by the Pakistan Navy is a good augury for squash in the country as with such events we can

unearth and groom new talent to produce world-class players to regain past glories in squash once again.

"All Pakistan championships and the International level championship' each will be held alternately every year, he concluded.

## Pakistan Kickboxing Federation announces 14-member squad

LAHORE: The Pakistan Kickboxing Federation has announced 14 members Pakistan squads for participation in Kickboxing Asia Cup which is starting from 10th to 14th December in Thailand. Chief De Mission will be Justice Retired Farooq Saeed. The President South Asia Kickboxing Committee (Wako Asia) and Secretary General (Wako Pakistan) Pakistan Kickboxing Federation Tahir Abbas said that after the completion of trials there are nine players has been selected which include Zaib Hassan, (Faisalabad), Hassan Ali Lahore, Anil Khokhar and Sark Chandiyu (Karachi) Abdul Rehman (Rawalpindi) Muhammad Hassan (Gilgit) and Abdul Rehman. He said one player has been drop due to illness and Abdul Bari will be Coach and I will be Manager with this team. He said that we won more medals in 2017 and hope this Asia cup will bring more medals in Asia cup.



## 2nd International Physical Education and Sports Sciences Conference

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babar, Dean of Health Sciences, Superior University was the chief guest in 2nd Online International Conference for Physical Education and Sports Sciences which was conducted by Department of Physical education & Sports Sciences, Allied Health Sciences, Superior University, Pakistan with the collaboration of Pakistan chapter of international association of physical education & sports promotion society international.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babar applauded the conduction & smooth execution due to which reason this conference become successful. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babar appreciated the

efforts of organizing committee which was comprised of Prof. Dr. Jewelston M. Santos, Chairman IAPES & Faisal Fayyaz. Overall more than 2000 participants attended this 2nd International conference through different & hybrid platforms on Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, youtube etc. Prof. Rania Lampou, Global Scholar, STEM Instructor, (Greece) & Melanie Jenkins, Olympic FIG Judge MAG & WAG, Australian Sports Official (Australia) inaugurated this conference and graced the occasion.

Dr. Fariha Naveed, Ms. Arooj Malik, Ms. Irum Fawad, Ms. Sidra Parveen, Prof David, Mr. Syed Muhammad Murtaza

graced this occasion as a Guest of Honor. Prof. Dr. Naveed Babar further added that Allied Health Sciences of Superior University is really happy while starting this joint venture with Pakistan chapter of International Association of Physical Education & Sports, Sports Promotions Society International. Prof. Dr. Naveed Babar, said about the success of conference that a large number of participants in this conference declaring the success of the conference.

Prof. Dr. Naveed Babar congratulated to Prof. Dr. Jewelston M. Santos, Ms. Arooj Saqib, Irum Fawad & Faisal Fayyaz & spoke this that We couldnot have done it without you! Good

Luck! Sports people from all over the world participated in this conference which aims to highlight the importance of human, human health, sports and physical education.

Founder & President of Sports Promotion Society International, International Advisor of International Association of Physical Education & sports, Faisal Fayyaz informed that the huge amount of attendees attended this conference which was having the theme of "HUMAN & HUMAN HEALTH" under the UNSDG #3, 4, 9, 16, 15, 17, for welfare of humanity & human

mankind. Sports promotion society international & Pakistan chapter of International Association of Physical Education & Sports and Superior University organized this event for the welfare of humanity and sports. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir Nazir, President Pakistan IAPES, Assistant Professor Punjab University Prof. Dr. Sajjad Ali Gill, Assistant Professor Punjab University Hira Atta, Lecturer Punjab University, Prof. Dr. Gurdeep Singh Indian Hockey Olympian Director World University Games, Prof. Dr. Kishore Mukhpande Head of Department Indian Physical Education Department, Ms. Arooj Saqib

Sr. VP, Ms. Irum Fawad, Mr. Shaheen Butt, Mian Muhammad Farooq, Mr. Sabz Ali, Ms. Safoora Saleem Shahnaazi, Ms. Batool Ather, Mr. Imran Sarwar Khan, Mr. Mubashar Abbass, Syed Muhammad Murtaza, Hakeem Hanif Ali delivered their life experiences, delivered knowledgeable wonderful insights & research based discussion while World Sports Experts participated enthusiastically in the 2nd International Physical Education and Sports Science Conference 2022.

The collaborators of this conference was Global Trainers Academy, Neuron technologies, International Association of Physical Education &

Sports, United Countries School Sports Council (UCSSC), Pakistan Sports Promoters (PSP), Progressive Marketing, Sports Promotion Society International (SPSI), IAPES Pakistan Chapter & Department of Physical Education & Sports Sciences-Allied Sciences-Superior University, Pakistan. 2nd Online International Conference on Physical Education and Sports Sciences was organized on Saturday, 3rd December 2022 under the auspices of Superior University, Sports Promotion Society International, International Association of Physical Education & Sports. Faisal Fayyaz & Prof. Dr. Jewelston M. Santos was the organizer.