



Imran Khan is on mission to isolate Pakistan globally
Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety and Spokesperson of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians, Shazia Murri on Tuesday said that Imran Khan was on a mission to isolate and default Pakistan at the international level. In her reaction to Imran Khan's statement, she said that the prohibited foreign funding case was like a noose around Imran Khan's neck.



Bilawal offers condolences
Chairman Pakistan People's Party and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed his grief and sorrow over the death of PPP MPA PeshuMal's father. He also expressed grief and sorrow over the demise of PPP Minority President of Sindh Lal Chand Ukrani's Uncle. He prayed for the departed souls and courage to the bereaved family.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Question mark on foreign investment

ISLAMABAD: A view of sealed Centaurus shopping Mall in Federal Capital, as the Capital Development Authority has sealed Centaurus Mall in an overnight raid over lack of safety measures, two months after a huge fire broke out at a shopping mall located in the center of the federal capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Maulana Fazl calls on PM

News Desk
ISLAMABAD: Amir of Jammat-e-Ulema Islam (F) Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Tuesday called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. During the meeting, the overall national and political situation was discussed.

Arshad Sharif's killing CJP Bandial orders to register case till evening

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Umar Ata Bandial on Tuesday ordered to register the murder case of senior journalist and ARY News' former anchorperson Arshad Sharif, who was killed in Kenya in the month of September. Arshad was shot dead in Kenya by the local police along the Nairobi-Magadi highway in a "mistaken identity case" on October 23. The official police statement later expressed "regrets on the unfortunate incident." A five-member larger bench including CJP Justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar heard the case. Foreign Secretary Asad Majeed, the secretary of the interior, the secretary of information and broadcasting and the PFUJ president appeared before the court after being summoned. At the outset of the hearing, CJP Bandial asked the additional attorney general of Pakistan, if the fact-finding inquiry committee has returned to Pakistan long ago and why the report has not been submitted to the SC yet. The report has been finalized and will be submitted to the SC after review by Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, the AAGP replied to the CJP's query. Why does he want to look at the report before the submission? Is he planning to change it, CJP remarked. It has been more than 40 days since the nation is waiting for the inquiry report. The CJP Bandial asked the AAGP to submit the report on Arshad Sharif's killing today and register the case till evening. Later, the hearing was adjourned until tomorrow. Earlier in the day, the Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan took suo moto notice of senior journalist and ARY News' former anchorperson Arshad Sharif's killing in Kenya.



No one will be allowed to disrupt hard-earned gains of war against terror, says COAS

News Desk
RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir visited Tirah Valley, Khyber District on Tuesday. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the COAS spent day with forward troops deployed along Pakistan-Afghanistan Border. He was brief by field commander about operational preparedness and border control measures in place as part of Western Borders Management Regime. While interacting with officers and men, Gen Asim Munir praised them for their high morale and operational readiness in the line of duty. He said that State's writ has been established due to innumera-



ble sacrifices by tribal people and security forces. "Our fight against terrorism will continue with the support of the nation till we achieve enduring peace and stability," he reiterated. The Army Chief went on to say that the defence of the

motherland will be ensured at all costs and there won't be any space for spoilers of peace. "No one will be allowed to disrupt the hard-earned gains of war against terror made thus far," the COAS added. Later, Gen Asim Munir visited Corps Headquarters Peshawar and laid floral wreath to pay homage to the martyrs. The COAS was also briefed about operational, training and other matters of the formation including efforts to create secure environment for socio-economic development projects to uplift the newly merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Earlier, on arrival, COAS was received by Lieutenant General Hassan Azhar Hayat, Commander Peshawar Corps.

Imran Khan says 'NRO-II is more shameful than NRO-I'

Spokesman Report
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan National Reconciliation Ordinance-I (NRO) cost Pakistan dearly. NRO was a controversial ordinance issued by former president Pervez Musharraf, on 5 October 2007. It granted amnesty to politicians, political workers and bureaucrats who were accused of corruption, embezzlement, money laundering, murder, and between 1 January 1986, and 12 October 1999. Imran Khan in his tweet said the two crooked families and their associates looted the country's resources and increased debt four times in ten years. "NRO2 is even more shameful. Rs 1100 billion corruption cases are being given immunity. Daylight robbery," he added in his tweet. Earlier, Imran Khan said that the current rulers are playing political games just to get NRO-II. The PTI chairman, while addressing PTI workers in Islamabad, urged that it is necessary to end the ruler ship of the thieves in the country at the earliest. He asked PTI workers to complete preparations before his next announcement against the incumbent government.

PM vows 'proactive' implementation of Journalist Safety Law to ensure media freedom

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said media freedom and democracy reinforced each other and expressed his government's resolve to support an environment for journalists free of intimidation and harassment. "My government believes that no journalist or human rights activist should be called out in the line of duty," he said, expressing his firm resolve to proactively facilitate the implementation of the Journalists Safety Law. Addressing at an event here to mark 10 years of the United Nations' Plan of Action organized by Journalist Safety Forum, the prime minister termed a free media and freedom of expression the important pillars of a State. Shehbaz Sharif said press freedom in Pakistan had been close to the hearts of journalists and civil society. He said journalists of the



country over the years greatly contributed to press freedom and mentioned that Hamid Mir, as the chairperson of Journalist Safety Forum, faced difficult challenges including an attempt on his life. He termed the killing of prominent journalist Arshad Sharif an "extremely sad incident" and said

democracy to put the country on right track. He termed the 1973 constitution 'a very sacred document' which acted as a binding force among the units of the federation and ensured democratic values besides ensuring basic rights of citizens. In 2013, he said, Pakistan became the first country in Asia to pass legislation on the safety of journalists and last year, the parliament passed the landmark 'Protection of Journalists and Media Protection Act'. Shehbaz Sharif, on requests of the media community, assured to look into the Section 6 of the Act to prevent harassment and intimidation of journalists. He mentioned that there were still challenges facing the journalists in their line of duty and required sustained efforts by media, civil society, UN and international bodies.

Religious card of incompetent, corrupt leader failed: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Tuesday that the religious card of the shameless, incompetent, corrupt Kashmir seller has failed. In a tweet, she said that Imran Khan had ruined governance, economy and foreign relations of the country during his four year rule. The minister said that the accountability narrative of PTI leadership failed and they destroyed relations with friendly countries. "Imran Khan's US conspiracy narrative has been buried", she maintained. APP

Gas supply schedule announced for Punjab, KP

Spokesman Report
KARACHI: Consumers in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) provinces are likely to face 16-hour gas outages this winter season, whereas the SNGPL MD unveils a new schedule. Gas outages are likely to intensify in Punjab and KP provinces. The Managing Director of Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) Ali J Hamdani said, "Only eight hours of gas will be supplied to domestic consumers in the span of 24 hours across Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)." While speaking to the media in Lahore, Ali J Hamdani blamed Ukraine and Russia for the gas crisis saying, that the increase in RLNG price in the global market was the outcome of the Ukraine-Russia war, which affects the supply across Pakistan. Not much RLNG could be bought this year, due to the expensive RLNG in the global market. Meanwhile, people are installing compressors and stealing gas worth billions. MD SNGPL urged that gas prices should be increased as they are unable to purchase expensive gas and resell it at a low price. "We are not cutting off the gas at industries but we are just putting a ban on new connections due to ongoing crisis," Hamdani stated. While talking to the media, MD Hamdani announced the daily schedule of the gas supply.

Expressing grief

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi offering condolences over the sad demise of former Chinese President Jian Zemin, at Chinese Embassy on Tuesday.

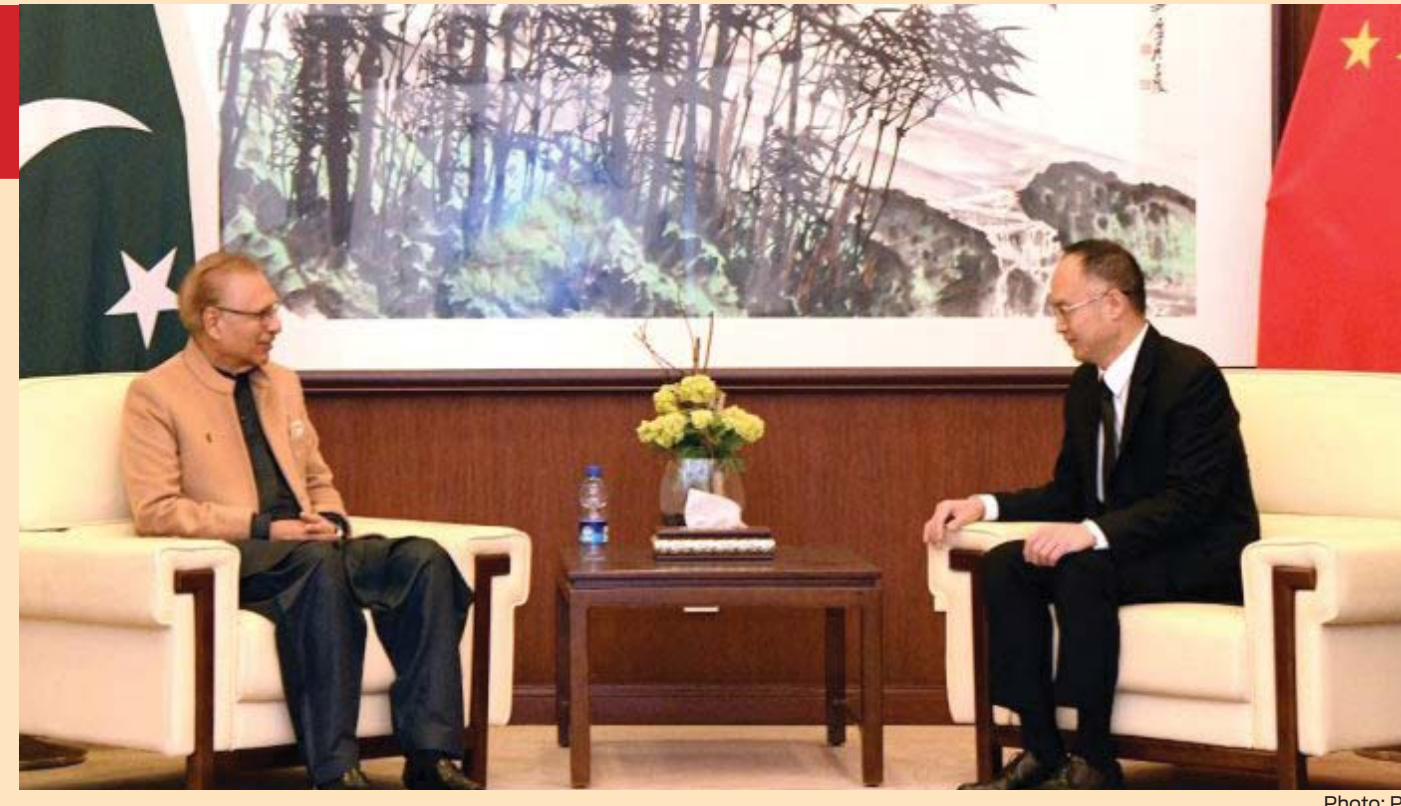


Photo: PID

President visits Chinese Embassy to condole Jiang Zemin's death

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday paid a visit to the Chinese Embassy to extend his heartfelt condolences, on behalf of the Government of Pakistan and the people, to the Chinese leadership and the people over the passing away of former Chinese

president Jiang Zemin. While signing the condolence book, the president wrote that he was deeply saddened and grieved, and his thoughts and sincere prayers were with Jiang's family, friends and the people of China over the passing away of Jiang Zemin, the

former president of the People's Republic of China and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China.

Condoling with Chinese Ambassador Nong Rong later, the president said Jiang Zemin was a remarkable leader, a visionary and a states-

man, who promoted global peace and stability at bilateral, regional and international levels, the President Secretary at Press Wing stated in a news release.

President Alvi said the former Chinese president was a great and trusted friend of

Pakistan who made invaluable contributions to strengthen the bilateral all-weather strategic cooperative friendship between the two countries and played a key role in further strengthening and cementing people-to-people relations. APP

Samina Alvi for collective efforts to promote social inclusion of differently abled people

KARACHI: The First Lady Samina Arif Alvi addressing a graduation ceremony at NOWPDP institute for imparting vocational training to differently abled children

She was addressing the graduation ceremony at network of organizations working for Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) Pakistan vocational training institute in which award and certificates were distributed among differently abled students who had completed technical and vocational courses in various trades.

Samina Arif Alvi said that it was our collective responsibility to work together for bringing change in society as



it was not physical or mental disability that obstructs the growth and prospects of special persons but a limited and discriminative mental approach prevailing in society.

Begum Alvi said that besides tradition and education focusing on equipping the special children with market oriented technical and vocational skills and professional training was

also needed to become productive part of the society by utilizing their capabilities and play due role in development and prosperity of the country.

Appreciating efforts of NOWPDP management for providing job oriented training to special children and also assisting them in getting jobs, Samina Arif Alvi said that besides specialised institutions differently abled children should also be provided opportunities of education and learning at general schools.

President NOWPDP Amin Hashwani addressing at the occasion said that persons with disabilities were essential part of the society and measures were required to bring them

into mainstream so that they could play active role in development of the country.

CEO NOWPDP Omair Ahmed and Fatima speaking at the occasion informed that 668 students have completed their courses in centres at Karachi, Sujawal and Islamabad in white collar, blue collar and financial literacy training.

Earlier the first lady Samina Arif Alvi visited different sections of the institute including textile lab, Computer lab and arts gallery.

At the end, Samina Arif Alvi distributed awards among the best performing students while the Institute's management presented souvenir to the distinguished guest. APP

1.94pc candidates sail through CSS 2022 exam

LAHORE: The Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) on Tuesday announced the result of CSS 2022 written examination results.

According to the details, only 393 candidates have passed the examinations, which is slightly higher than the previous year's result of 365.

Chairman Federal Public Service Commission of Pakistan retired Captain Zahid Saeed signed the summary to release exam results.

The FPSC has also officially published the list of successful candidates on its website.

As many as 32,059 candidates applied for CSS 2022 exam while 20,262 candidates appeared and only 393 passed. Therefore, the passing percentage, with respect to candidates who sat for the exam, was 1.94%.

In 2021, 39,650 candidates had applied for the exam while 17,240 appeared and only 364 passed. Therefore, the passing percentage, with respect to candidates who sat for the exam, was 2.11%. (Dunya News)

Pakistan not facing risk of default, says Ayesha Ghaus Pasha

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for finance Dr Ayesha Ghaus Pasha on Tuesday said that the government had paid sukuk bonds and Pakistan was not facing the risk of an economic default.

While talking to media, the minister said that talks were going on with the International Monetary Fund



(IMF) adding that the country intended to complete the IMF program.

Ms Ayesha further said that

the incumbent government got the country on the verge of default adding that the country needs \$16 billion to recover the losses incurred due to floods.

Talking about the next tranche of the IMF, she said that the next tranche would be released after approval by the IMF board. Talks with the World Bank, Asian Develop-

ment Bank, and other monetary organization were going on, she added.

Addressing the concerns regarding country's economic default, Dr Pasha said that the crisis was not severe enough to lead the country to economic default adding that the country had ample resources [to face the risk]. (Dunya News)

APHC leader seeks world intervention to stop Indian state terrorism in IIOJK

News Desk

MIRPUR (AJK): Senior All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leader Nayeem Ahmed Khan, while condemning the Modi government's belligerent policy towards Kashmir, Tuesday urged the influential world governments to take cognizance of the fast-deteriorating political and human rights situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The APHC leader, in a message from Tihar jail where he has been languishing for several years, said India's racist regime had turned Kashmir into a hell for its citizens.

Referring to the abysmal human rights situation in

the restive region, the incarcerated Hurriyat leader said the extra-judicial killings, enforced disappearances, harassment and humiliation of common masses, arbitrary arrests and attacks on rights defenders by the Indian occupation forces had become a new norm in the valley.

The Indian government, he said, had been using the colonial era tactics to suppress the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle for right to self-determination.

He, however, maintained that the policy of oppression and suppression could not deter the Kashmiris from pursuing their struggle for which they had rendered matchless sacrifices.

He lauded the Kashmiri-

ri youth for their resilience, who, he said, had taken up the mantle of freedom movement and were scripting a new history of resistance against India's illegal occupation.

Urging New Delhi to shun its policy of intransigence, he said, India must bear in mind the fact that genuine freedom movements could not be suppressed by the use of force.

Referring to the Indian government's nefarious designs to change the status of the occupied Kashmir through political and administrative machinations, the APHC leader said it was high time that the world should influence the Indian government to stop its naked aggression against the Kashmiris.

Terming the attempts an

atrocious assault on the Kashmiris' political and cultural identity, he said the Indian policies aimed at marginalising majority community and reducing them to minority were in violation of international law and the UNSC resolutions that strictly prohibited the occupying state from changing the status of a disputed region.

About the plight of Kashmiri prisoners, he said, "Caging Kashmiri political and human rights defenders on flimsy grounds and holding them in preventive custody and denying them the right to fair trial and subjecting them to inhuman treatment in prisons and terrorising their families is yet another darkest aspect of Indian colonialism."

US Ambassador Donald Blome calls on Ishaq Dar



ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Donald Blome, Ambassador of the United States of America to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar-APP

ISLAMABAD, Dec 6 (APP): Ambassador of the United States of America (USA) to Pakistan Donald Blome called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Finance and other senior officers from Finance Division participated in the meeting, said a press release issued here.

The finance minister welcomed Donald Blome and highlighted the historic and durable bilateral relations with the United States on the economic and trade front.

The finance minister apprised the US Ambassador about the ongoing post-flood reconstruction and reha-

bilitation projects being undertaken by the present government.

It was also shared that the present government was highly concerned about the well-being of the masses, therefore a number of measures were being undertaken in this regard.

Both sides shared other matters of common interest as well during the meeting.

Dar apprised the US ambassador about the government's comprehensive and pragmatic plans in terms of revenues and expenditures for meeting its national as well as international financial obligations.

Donald Blome reciprocated the same sentiments on bilateral relations between the United States of America and Pakistan.

He acknowledged the huge level of economic losses being faced by Pakistan due to the flood crisis and shared that the US government stood with Pakistan in such testing times.

FM Bilawal to visit Indonesia, Singapore on Dec 7-9

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will pay official visits to Indonesia and Singapore from December 7-9 to hold meetings with his counterparts and attend international events.

In Bali, Indonesia, the foreign minister will hold a bilateral meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi.

He will participate in two multilateral events including 15th Bali Democracy Forum and an international conference on Afghan women's education, the Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

In the 15th Bali Democracy Forum, the foreign minister would underscore Pakistan's commitment to democratic values and the importance of democracy in responding to modern-day challenges.

At the International Conference on Afghan women's education, Bilawal would highlight Pakistan's efforts for lasting peace and development in Afghanistan, including the importance of equal access to education for all segments of society.

In Singapore, the foreign minister will hold a meeting with Foreign Minister Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan and call on President Halimah Yacob. A wide spectrum of bilateral relations will be discussed during these meetings.

"The foreign minister's visits to Indonesia and Singapore are a reflection of the high priority that Pakistan accords to its relations with ASEAN countries, and its commitment to further strengthen relations with Indonesia and Singapore in all areas of mutual interest," it was added. APP

Over 13.5 mln children receive anti-polio drops in 36 districts

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Over 13.5 million children under-five years in 36 districts have been immunized with anti-polio drops during the third Sub-National Immunization Days campaign of the current year 2022.

The campaign covered nine districts of Punjab, eight districts of Sindh, six districts of Balochistan and Islamabad.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the campaign is being launched on December 5, targeting nine high-risk districts of the region.

Over 100,000 trained and dedicated "Sehat Muhafiz" were engaged in the vaccination drive to inoculate the targeted children at their doorstep.

In a message, Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination, Abdul Qadir Patel said that if we can eliminate the poliovirus from southern KP, we will succeed in eliminating polio from Pakistan altogether.

He added that we are actually quite close to the finish line, and we

are determined to get there as soon as possible. "Pakistan has made great strides in the fight against polio, with virus circulation reduced to only one small part of the country", he said.

Dr. Shahzad Baig, Coordinator of the National Emergency Operation Centre emphasized that the anti-polio campaign required collective action at all levels to eradicate the poliovirus from the country completely.

He said that our aim is to ensure timely and repeated vaccination of eligible children. "High-risk districts are our top priority, and we are keen to eliminate the poliovirus from the challenging areas while protecting the rest of the region as well," he added.

"I particularly urge all parents and caregivers to get their children vaccinated in every vaccination drive instead of hiding them or refusing to take the necessary drops during all vaccination drives.

It is important to realize that the polio virus still exists in our surroundings, and no child is safe until all children are truly vaccinated," Dr. Shahzad Baig said.

BHC bars further registration of FIRs against Senator Swati



QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court (BHC) on Tuesday barred further registration of first infor-

mation reports (FIRs) against Pakistani Tehreek-e-Insaf's Senator Azam Swati.

A BHC bench comprising Justice Kamran Mulakhail and Justice Aamir Rana issued the directives while hearing a petition regarding the termination of cases against Senator Azam Swati.

The court also directed the Inspector General of Police, Balochistan, to submit a report regarding the cases registered against Azam Swati. APP

Sehat Kahani-Jubilee Life Insurance hosted Breast Cancer Awareness

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The session was chaired by the Honorable First Lady of Pakistan, Begum Samina Arif Alvi. The objective of this event along with spreading awareness was to share the battles of breast cancer survivors to motivate more people to come forward to talk about this deadly disease. The survivors were also given a memento by the First Lady to honor their brave journey.



Sehat Kahani, this year, pledged to provide at least 3 free of cost online consultations via its application to any female in Pakistan who needs to access a doctor for her symptoms. Sehat Kahani also joined hands with Jubilee Life to add unlimited online consultations to its Cancer Protection Program for breast cancer patients.

Additionally, to complete the circle of care, Sehat Kahani is also creating a National Breast Cancer Patient Support Program which will offer peer-to-peer support, counseling, and mental health help to cancer patients. These support

programs will commence in January 2023.

On this occasion, the CEO and Co-founder of Sehat Kahani, Dr. Sara Saeed Khurram highlighted the role of Sehat Kahani against breast cancer by saying:

Moreover, Jubilee Life Insurance offers a 'Cancer Protection Plan', a comprehensive plan which helps in covering the medical expenses of cancer treatment at an affordable cost so that the patients can ensure sound and complete treatment. The holders of

Jubilee's Cancer Protection Plan are also entitled to free online oncology consultation 24/7.

On the occasion, Jubilee Life Insurance's Group Head of Retail Operations, Administration, and Marketing; Mr. Farhan Akhtar Afridi added, "Cancer is a critical illness that one wishes to never have. It not only causes emotional trauma and strains the entire family but creates a potential for financial crisis as well."

Discussion around the topic of breast cancer is important as it ensures early

diagnosis and treatment of cancer which increases the chances of successful treatment. To demonstrate the importance of breast cancer awareness, the First Lady of Pakistan, Begum Samina Arif Alvi said,

"I am grateful that for the past four years, there has been a significant discussion in Pakistan on the topic of breast cancer. However, the current prevalence of the disease which is about 1 in every 8 women in Pakistan necessitates more dialogue. It has been mentioned again and again that early diagnosis can ensure better success rates of the treatment. I appreciate Sehat Kahani for launching a cancer protection program in collaboration with Jubilee Life insurance company to ease the financial burden of cancer patients. I also applaud the idea of Breast Cancer Patient Support Programs and will continue to support such initiatives"

The event honored breast cancer survivors highlighting their struggles. Ms. Amma Salman Butt, a breast cancer survivor, and a motivational speaker added to the discussion:

Illegal parking

RAWALPINDI: People parked their motorcycles in illegal parking area at Raja Bazaar in the city and needs the attention of concerned authorities.



Photo: Online

The Legend of Maula Jatt released in UK For a Week

News Desk

ISLAMABAD : The global blockbuster The Legend of Maula Jatt's 18+ uncut version was released in theaters across United Kingdom on 2nd December 2022 upon huge public demand. Cineworld, Odeon, Reel Cinemas, and Showcase will be playing The Legend of Maula Jatt's uncensored version for audiences in their cinemas.

The UK audience previously saw a censored version of the film, whereas in Pakistan and the rest of the world full version of The Legend of Maula Jatt was released. For the last week of the film's exhibition in UK, the distributors and producers have released an uncensored full version, available over 76 locations throughout UK.

The Legend of Maula Jatt as led to Pakistani



cinema's miraculous domination on the Subcontinent's box office, post-COVID. The mega-hit directed by Bilal

Lahsari and produced by Ammara Hikmat is the highest grossing film from the subcontinent in the past 4 years. The film broke records by becoming the highest grossing Punjabi film of all time worldwide in the 4th week of its release. The film also surpassed the lifetime earning of all the Punjabi hits including Carry on Jatta 2, Saunkan Saunkne & Chal Mera Putt 2 as it sits tall with the box office earnings of 209 CR+ worldwide collection and still going strong despite numerous releases every week ever since its release.

Before this, the film has managed to make many other records and has many titles to its name including; Highest Grossing Pakistani Film, 2nd Highest Grossing film from the Subcontinent in UK for the year 2022 & the Most Watched South

Women in Sustainable Entrepreneurship-Sustainability 101

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Climate change challenges must be overcome at the government level for food security, environmental impact and sustainable growth of industries. This was expressed by Ms. Rubina Amjad, President of Faisalabad Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry in a one-day workshop.

Addressing the participants of "Women in Sustainable Entrepreneurship-Sustainability 101" which was organized in Faisalabad Chamber's Board Room with the support of Faisalabad Women's Chamber, Stimulus Private Limited and Frederick Nauman Foundation. She said that, the climate change has had very bad effects on the growth of industries, food security and human life on a permanent basis, but it has also reduced the production of basic raw materials for the industries. She further said that concrete steps are needed at the government level to control the effects of climate change.

Sohail Ashraf appreciated the services of FIEDMC

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Punjab government will extend full support to the BOD of FIEDMC for the early and expeditious colonization of M3 and Allama Iqbal Industrial Estates, said Secretary Industries, Commerce, Investment, & Skills Development Department (ICID) Lieutenant (R) Sohail Ashraf.

Addressing the business community in Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI), he appreciated the services of FIEDMC Board and said that its early colonization was imperative to enhance exports and generate maximum job opportunities for the unemployed youth. He said that PPRA rules must be observed while initiating new investment projects with a focus to attract maximum FDI. He expressed



satisfaction that FCCI and FIEDMC are working with full cooperation to achieve the targets of its colonization. He directed chairman FIEDMC Board to share his ambitious plans and award of contracts for the provision of basic amenities with him to avoid any misunderstanding.

Dr. Khurram Tariq President FCCI said that some legal restrictions of the

Special Economic Zone are hindering colonization and serious investors have been forced to purchase costly land outside FIEDMC areas and set up their production units. He said that the government must concentrate on the provision of uninterrupted power and gas supply to ensure its speedy colonization. Dr. Khurram Tariq pointed out that no one is ready to take owner-

ship of this mega project as people are facing land acquisition problems due to the presence of abandoned water courses falling in their plots. He said that this issue has been successfully resolved in residential colonies but it is still pending in industrial estates. President FCCI said that it is a herculean task to establish an industrial unit in this industrial area. He also mentioned the much trumpeted "one window" facility and said that practically it is not available in case of FIEDMC. He said that the potential of M3 and Allama Iqbal Industrial Estate is beyond our apprehension but it is heading towards collapse due to the governance and administrative related issues. He demanded a serious and aggressive strategy for the colonization of industrial estates.

Arts Council Karachi elections will be held on December 18

Bureau Report

KARACHI : Arts Council of Pakistan Chairman Commissioner Karachi and Chief Election Commissioner Muhammad Iqbal Memon has said that the Deputy Commissioner South has been appointed as the Election Commissioner for Arts Council elections 2023-2024.

According to the law, elections will be held on December 18, the administration shall take all possible measures for peaceful elections, rioting or actions which may cause unrest during election campaigning and elections shall be prohibited, possession of arms shall be prohibited. He expressed these views while addressing a press conference at the Arts Council along with Deputy Commissioner South Saeed Leghari on Tuesday.

He said that the nomination papers are being collected from December 7, 2022, the tradition of elections is going on every two years, we conduct transparent elections and the election process continues in a vigorous manner, he said that elections will be held keeping the democratic traditions intact, we are trying to make the election process successful, all the officers of the division will be involved in this process, he said that on the day of the election, someone Any kind of rioting and sloganeering will not be allowed, while arms will be banned to maintain peace and order, he said, "We are a democratic nation, all artists are a beacon o, I am proud of the fact that Arts Council Karachi is working for the arts worldwide, regarding the election schedule, he said that the voter list has been displayed, on December 7, the candidates will be announced at 5 p.m.

Nomination forms can be submitted till 8th December, nomination form will be scrutinized on 9th December at 5 pm. The forms can be withdrawn, the final list of candidates will be displayed on December 10, the final list of candidates will be displayed on December 10, the election campaign will end at 12 midnight on December 16, while the voting will continue on December 18 from 10 am to 8 pm. It will continue till noon.

Dr. Sadiq Ali, posted as AC (Mir Ali), North Waziristan



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Dr. Sadiq Ali Served as Addl. Assistant Commissioner Wana Subdivision for 13 months in Wana Subdivision, South Waziristan.

He was an energetic and dynamic officer, A qualified and officer to deal with the complex nature of Tribal issues, land disputes and Jirga System.

Dr. Sadiq Ali played vital role in Gurgura Land Dispute, Ghundak land dispute, Border land disputes between tribes, Boundary disputes, ADR cases, tribal disputes bw Wazir Mehsud and other issues of public interest.

His Efforts in Polio eradication and COVID campaigns were exemplary.

His initiatives of public welfare, and skill development of youth and special person will be remembered for long time.

Whether its Road blockade or protests, he dealt it with his great conflict resolution skills.

His role in functioning educational institution and health facilities such as DHQ Wana, GGDC Wana and others was matchless.

He was accessible to everyone, and interactive with youth and elders during his tenure.

JUI-F to hold workers convention on Dec 8 in Quetta

ISLAMABAD: The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) will hold workers convention on December 8 at Ayyub Stadium, Quetta in which a number of notable political figures will join the party.

Talking to APP on Tuesday, JUI-F Spokesman Muhammad Aslam Ghauri informed that former Chief Minister Balochistan Nawab Muhammad Aslam Khan Raisani, former Home Minister Balochistan Nawab Zafarullah Khan Zehri, former Provincial Minister.

District Nazim Nushki Haji Ghulam Dastagir Badeni, former Minister for Transport Balochistan Sakhi Mir Amanullah Notezai, an independent candidate from PB-20 Pishin Agha Asmatullah, former candidate for National Assembly from Pishin Malik Abdul Qayyum Kakar, and tribal elders Nawab Nuroz Khan Zehri and Sardar Zafarullah Khan Gachki would join the JUI-F.

He said the central leadership of JUI-F including Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman, Minister for Housing and Works Maulana Abdul Wasay, Minister for Communication Maulana Asad Mehmood, Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Mufti Abdul Shakoor and Senator Abdul Ghafoor Haideri would address the gathering. APP

Pakistan lacks substantial information and data capacities, says experts

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD : Stressing the need for strengthening structures at community level to reduce the impact of disasters and effective social protection services delivery, experts said that financing to upgrade and modernize weather forecasting systems and building the capacity of communities can play a crucial role in responding to disasters in future.

This was the crux of a panel discussion titled: 'Adaptive Social Protection: Preparing for Future Disasters,' on the 2nd day of 25th Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and jointly held alongside UNESCAP's 6th South and South-west Asia High-level Political Forum and Policy Dialogue on SDGs.

Mr Gul Najam Jamy, Senior Technical Advisor of the World Bank, Pakistan, said the local communities have tremendous potential to adapt and respond to emerging challenges. Ms Anum Zeb, the Programme Coordinator Climate Advocacy, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), was of view that currently Pakistan's seasonal based forecast has an accuracy of 60-75%, which

acts as a hurdle in designing Early Action Protocol for Forecast Based Financing.

Ms Shazia Maqsood Amjad, Executive Director, Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy, highlighted that the duplication of efforts during the response as social protection needs to be minimized. The various actors such as the government, NGOs, and other organizations should harmonize their response strategy

Mr Arif Goheer, Global Change Impact Study Centre, was of view that the state of preparedness in Pakistan in the face of natural disasters is quite low. Likewise, Pakistan does not have up to the mark information and data capacities in terms of ASP and thus, it hinders the proper assessment of the impacts of a disaster on diverse groups of the population.

The panelists during the discussion also asserted that the early warning systems should be linked to social registry to address the key issues pertaining to adaptive social protection. Syed Muhammad Mustafa, Social Protection Specialist, Islamabad and Dr Fareeha Armughan, SDPI earlier presented various facts and details regarding the existing state of adaptive social protection in Pakistan.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:30 am
Zohr 11:59 am
Asr 3:21 pm
Maghrib 4:59 pm
Isha 6:28 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan
Corporation 9209224
Potohar Town 9209224
Rawal Town 5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
Wapda Islamabad 9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint 119, 9272249
Wasa Water Tank
Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

AJK people reject PTI's narrative of lies in LG polls: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Narcotics Control Atta Tarar here on Tuesday said people of Azad Jammu Kashmir (AJK) had rejected the narrative of lies of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf in the local government elections.

Addressing a press conference, he said, "People of AJK have totally rejected the PTI's narrative of lies and leveling allegations against opponents without any evidence in the Local Government Elections".

He said PTI had been defeated in Muzafarabad, Neelam valley, Rawalakot and Haveli by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) parties.

He said Imran Khan had caused damage to the Kashmir cause during his tenure, adding India had revoked article 370 of the constitution and changed the special status of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Tara deplored the misconduct of AJK Prime Minister with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif exhibited during an event held in AJK. APP

IIUI Extravaganza 2022 kicks off

Saudi Ambassador inaugurate the event

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Extravaganza 2022 organized by International Islamic University (IIUI) was inaugurated by H.E. Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki Ambassador of Saudi Arabia on Tuesday at the new campus. The event shall continue till December 9 in which a food gala, book fair, speeches, media hunt, arts exhibition, competitions of Qirat & Naat and Mushaira are being organized.

On the first day, a book fair, flower exhibition and food festivals were organized. The Inaugural ceremony was also joined by Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, IIU President Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, diplomats of KSA and other Muslim countries, Vice Presidents of the university, Deans, DGs, Students Advisors, Provosts and a large number of students at both the campuses.

Speaking on the occasion, the KSA Ambassador said that the extravaganza 2022 is a true picture of the university's Islamic and International character. He said these activities that have been organized by the university in such an organized manner will provide a platform to the youth to showcase talent and utilize their energies. He said Islam is a religion

of peace and this is the message that we can disseminate through educational institutions and youth. He said IIUI has a special role in nurturing the Muslim youth in the light of the Islamic teachings. Talking about the Pak Saudi relations, he said both countries have deep rooted brotherly ties that are historic. He said university is an omen of strong times between KSA and Pakistan.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed in his address said universities are vital across the world as every nation's progress is dependent on higher education institutions. He said the government is keen to make the youth compatible and competitive according to modern needs so that young minds may contribute to the socio economic progress of the country. We in the education sector have to impart knowledge and we have to integrate with the society, said Chairman HEC. He added that universities must operate according to the needs of society. IIUI has made a tremendous chain of activities that deserves appreciation. Dr. Mukhtar opined that universities must address the societal requirements like IIUI adding that IIUI is heading towards the right direction. He added that we must shift towards the technologies and we must not be hesitant to opt for modern ways of

education. It is time to pay back to society according to its needs, he said.

Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi said that the university is keen to focus on the needs of society and we are making all our efforts to bring youth towards the initiatives that may pay back to the society. He said university has a clear idea that youth is the biggest agent of change and this extravaganza is an example as in dozens of events we have brought various platforms for the young talented students to shine and serve the society and humanity. He said students are the top priority of IIUI management that is why it is going to launch a facilitation centre for the students. IIUI President specially thanked the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques for the continuous financial support of IIUI.

Earlier, Vice President Female campus Dr. Samina Malik said that the university under the leadership of Dr. Hathal is working hard to prosper and shine and results are now on our doors as university has outshined in the rankings and performance report has already been published.

The chief guest visited food stalls of the students of various countries who had come with cultural cuisines and famous sweet dishes of their respective countries. Later, IIUI President also inaugurated



the calligraphy exhibition set up by the department of Islamic Arts and Architecture. Famous calligrapher Rasheed Butt was the chief guest of the exhibition.

Space Maker Kits

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology Agha HJassan Baloch handing over Space Maker Kits to Vice Chancellor IST, Maj. Gen. (R) Rehan Abdul Baqi for organising teenager space maker camp, at the ministry in Islamabad on Tuesday. The Secretary G.M. Memon and Chairman PSF also present.



Photo: PID

Air University to organize 3rd International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security (ICCWS-2022)

ISLAMABAD (DEC 6, 2022): National Centre for Cyber Security (NCCS) at Air University, Islamabad is organizing "3rd International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security (ICCWS-2022)" on 7th and 8th of December 2022 in Islamabad. This two-day international conference, technically co-sponsored by IEEE, is aimed at providing a platform for researchers and professionals engaged with contemporary research in the emerging areas of cyber security to share their experiences. IEEE ICCWS-22 will focus on the technologies, applications, and innovations in the field of cyber security.

This event will feature nine keynote tech talks by National/International speakers, CEO/CISOs. Panel discussions, and eight research paper presentations highlighting the recent advancements in the field of cyber security. Keynote speakers are coming from different countries around the globe including USA, Belgium, Estonia, Qatar, and Malaysia. It will be a unique opportunity for collaboration between industry, academia, and research/development organizations working in the multifaceted field of cyber security. ICCWS-22 is an eminent learning opportunity for students as well as professionals all over the globe. This gives participants a golden chance to enhance their learning and make a perceptible contribution for a better and securer Pakistan.

The District Court of F-8 Markaz should be shifted to a newly constructed building as soon as possible

News Desk

ISLAMABAD : Islamabad's prominent businessman Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari has said that keeping in mind the respect of judges, judiciary and lawyers, District Court Islamabad from f-8 Markaz immediately be shifted to a newly constructed building. This will increase the prestige of judiciary and lawyers and they will be able to perform their services in a better place and environment.

Along with this, the residents of F8 Markaz will also get relief. Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari expressed these views while speaking in a meeting yesterday. He said that parking has become an issue in F8 Markaz and even people are parking in the streets around F-8 Markaz which is a cause of increasing suffering of the people.

Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari has demanded from the government and higher authorities that the construction of Islamabad High Court building and new District court building should be completed as soon as possible so that the resident of F-8 Markaz can use the commercial facilities of it in a better way.

Parliamentary interactions to help increase Pak-Argentina bilateral trade: Senator Zubairi

ISLAMABAD: Convener of Pakistan-Argentina Friendship Group Senator Engr Rukhsana Zuberi on Tuesday stressed that persistent parliamentary interactions between Pakistan and Argentina would help increase their bilateral trade.

The two countries existing trade relations did not reflect their true potential of economic and commercial ties, she said while talking to a high level delegation from Argentina here at the Parliament House.

Senator Zuberi said people-to-people contacts could be strengthened by connecting the parliamentarians of both countries.

The delegation led by Argentinian Secretary of Foreign Affairs Pablo Tettamanti and Ambassador of Argentina in Pakistan, Leopoldo Sahores, comprising Asia & Oceania Director Eduardo Acevedo Diaz and Counsellor, Deputy Head of Mission Camilo Silberkasten, was received by Senator Zuberi along with Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad.

Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad said the potential of enhancing cooperation between the two countries should be multi-dimensional. APP



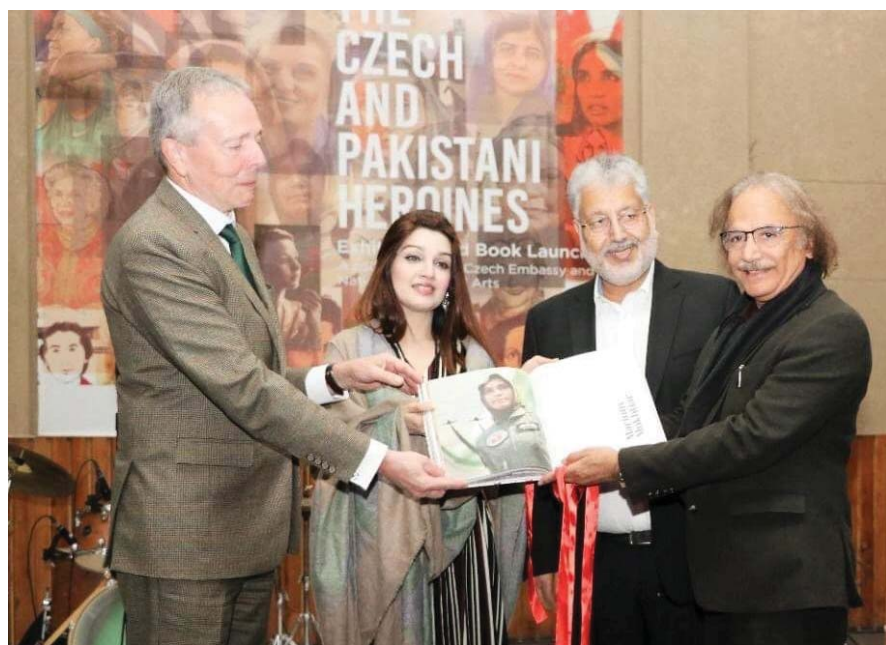
The first-ever engineering expo in Balochistan was held on Tuesday to showcase over 100 final-year projects of the students of the three engineering universities of the province.

Mushaal inaugurates Czech, Pakistani Heroines exhibition

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Embassy of Czech and National College of Arts collaborated an event to pay homage to Czech and Pakistani Heroines of courage at NCA Islamabad. An exhibition and a book launch was unveiled by Ms. Mushaal Hussein Mullick Chairperson Peace and Culture Organisation wife of Yasin Malik, Jailed Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Chairman Jammu Kashmir Liberation front along with the Chairman Higher Education Commission Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed and the Ambassador of Czech Republic to Pakistan H.E Mr. Tomáš Smetánka, Ambassador of Italy to Pakistan Mr. Andreas Ferrarese, DG Khana-e-Farhang Iran Mr. Rehman Zaad, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan Mr. Wada Mitsuhiro and a representative of Kenyan embassy graced the event with their presence.

Rehana Hussein Mullick Co



Chairperson Peace and Culture Organisation, Secretary General Peace and Culture Organisation, Prof Zafar Sindhu also

participated in the inaugural ceremony. Vice Chancellor NCA, Prof. Dr. Murtaza Jafri warmly welcomed the guests

to the splendid evening, which was concluded by a musical performance by the Musicology students of NCA.

Punjab Musical night held at Lok Mela

City Reporter

RAWALPINDI : Punjab Musical Night was organized on the last day of the ongoing Folk Mela at Folk Heritage Islamabad in which traditional songs of Punjab were presented. Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi and Director General Punjab Arts Council Muhammad Abrar Alam were the special guests in the musical night.

On this occasion, Director General Punjab Arts Council Muhammad Abrar Alam also dressed the Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi with the turban of Punjab. Speaking at the event, Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi said that the folk songs of Punjab have their unique place in the culture of the entire country, in which the traditions, simplicity and sincere



love of the people of Punjab are hidden. The artists of Punjab have preserved their folk songs, their tunes and unique

accents in a rich manner. Today's young generation is also benefiting from this, he added. Director Gener-

al Punjab Arts Council Muhammad Abrar Alam said that the Punjab Arts Council is also playing a significant role in promoting the culture of other provinces and federal units. During the Lok Mela, the citizens have shown special interest in the Punjab Pavilion and the youth have made Salafis in the Haveli model.

Director Waqar Ahmed said that it is the honor of Punjab Arts Council Rawalpindi to present the culture of Punjab in the Lok Mela and this was possible only with the hard work of the officers and officials. Sain Zahoor, Aslam Lohar, Sain Riaz, Ruby Reshmaan, Afshan Zebi, Alisha Shehzad, Muhammad Hamza, Iram Abbasi and Simi Folk Dance Group performed in the musical night. Shagufta Khan performed the duties of host in the musical night. A large number attended the Punjab Musical Night.

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 Whatsapp: **0346-5008408**

Iranian women deserve full support

Dalia Al-Aqidi

Despite all the atrocities committed by the Iranian regime against its own citizens since they began their protests in September — following the death of Mahsa Amini in the custody of Iran's so-called morality police — the free women of Iran, supported by their husbands, families, neighbors and fellow citizens of all backgrounds, have shown extreme bravery and courage.

As the days pass and the number of victims continues to rise, no international effort has succeeded in stopping the Iranian government's acts of violence against the Iranian people. According to Oslo-based nongovernmental organization Iran Human Rights, the security forces have killed at least 448 protesters, most of them in Sistan and Balochistan province on Iran's southeastern border with Pakistan.

The group's director Mahmood Amiry-Moghaddam stressed to AFP that the ongoing protests are "the beginning of a revolution of dignity." He added:

"Women and minorities, who have for more than four decades been treated as second-class citizens, are empowered through these protests to come out to the streets and demand their fundamental human rights."

However, the country's judicial authorities have proudly announced that thousands of Iranians and about 40 foreigners have been arrested and more than 2,000 people have been charged over the unrest. It is well known that detainees in Iranian prisons often disappear or are killed without an accurate official explanation.

On Saturday, President Ebrahim Raisi praised his country for protecting the people's rights and freedoms, defending the ruling regime amid its crackdown on anti-government protesters. "The constitution guarantees the existence of the Islamic system," he said, adding that it also "guarantees fundamental rights and legitimate freedoms."

This is the usual method and vocabulary used by dictators when they are trying to brainwash their people and cover up the crimes perpetrated against everyone who demands human rights and justice in a state that resembles a large prison.



It is not surprising that the oppressor points to foreign entities, accusing them of interfering in his country's internal affairs, instead of taking responsibility for his bloody crimes. The whole world has become aware of how the regime treats the free people of Iran.

The radical, totalitarian Iranian government has blamed the revolt on its enemies. These false accusations reflect the regime's fears of losing its grip on the country, making it blind to the international support expressed during the ongoing FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Ahead of their first match, the brave players in the Iranian team refused to sing the nation-

the loss being used as new fuel for the Iranian opposition.

That type of behavior in turn angered the government, which considered it an act of betrayal and disloyalty. One man, Mehran Samak, was apparently executed for celebrating the Iranian team's elimination from the World Cup. According to the BBC, security forces shot him in the head while he was honking his car's horn. Pro-reform news outlet IranWire shared a video showing crowds at Samak's funeral chanting "death to the dictator."

What can ordinary people do to help?

Instead of relying on other countries, civilians around the globe can make a difference by reaching out to their representatives and lawmakers to take a stand, attend pro-Iranian demonstrations and donate to legitimate organizations.

The only way to save the brave women and men of Iran is to show solidarity and support from anywhere in the world. Regime change will be the only way out. Women, Life, Freedom.

Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect SPOKESMAN point of view

Football World Cup

The World Cup is a big deal in Latin America, with cities across Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and elsewhere brought to a standstill whenever their respective national teams are on the pitch. But for one segment of society in particular, the 2022 tournament hosted by Qatar is particularly significant.

Arab Latin Americans are thought to number about 23 million people. There are large communities in Brazil and Argentina, and significant populations in Mexico, Chile, Venezuela and Colombia, made up of descendants of Arab emigrants who came over from the Middle East and North Africa, voluntarily or as refugees. And, like everybody else in these countries, Arabs love football.

The fact the 2022 World Cup is taking place in an Arab country for the first time provides an even greater incentive for the Arab diaspora in Latin America to tune in from distant time zones. The only question is whether to support the Arab side that reflects their ethnic origins, or the teams of their adopted countries.

Qatar's hosting of the competition "certainly generates sympathy among Arab communities; people have been waiting for that World Cup for a long time," Agustin Dib, director of the Arab Culture Club in Buenos Aires, told Arab News.

According to him, however, most Arab Latin Americans tend to root for the team that represents their adopted home.

"In Argentina, the first Lebanese and Syrian immigrants began to arrive at the end of the 19th century," said Dib. "The same happened in Brazil. So, we are fully Argentinian, Brazilian, and so on — and love our national teams."

At the same time, though, Arab Latin Americans watch with pride national squads from the Arab world and eagerly follow the fortunes of the likes of Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Qatar. The Saudi team's historic 2-1 victory against Argentina in their opening match in Qatar no doubt captured the imagination of many.

There are large Arab communities in the border zones between Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. In these areas, a World Cup campaign can temporarily divide Arab groups.

This is certainly the case in the bisected Brazilian city of Chui and its Uruguayan counterpart, Chuy, where several thousand Palestinians have settled. Most of the time, this community pays little heed to the geographical boundary separating them. But a World Cup can change this.

"In general, we cheer for both Uruguay and Brazil," Jaber Nassar, a 43-year-old shop owner who lives on the Brazilian side of the city, told Arab News. "But if there is a match between both teams, each side will root for its national squad."

The rest of the time, though, there has traditionally been a historic bond between both communities when it comes to football. In 1987, they founded the Central Palestino Futbol Club. Active for a little more than a decade before folding as a result of lack of funds, Central Palestino was part of the Uruguayan league and made waves in the 1990s when it reached the finals of a national championship.

"I used to see many matches with my mother when I was a boy. Central Palestino was a local champion and we would travel throughout Uruguay to see them play," said Nassar, whose brother-in-law was part of the squad for several years.

The Palestinian community routinely turns out in force to watch as many matches as possible during a World Cup, said Nassar. A few of his friends even traveled to Qatar for the tournament.



A report warns that an all-out exchange of nuclear weapons

For thousands of years, predictions of apocalypse have borne little fruit. But with dangers rising from nuclear war and climate change, does the planet need to at least begin contemplating the worst?

When the world rang in 2022, few would have expected the year to feature the US president speaking of the risk of doomsday, following Russia's threats to go nuclear in its invasion of Ukraine.

"We have not faced the prospect of Armageddon since Kennedy and the Cuban missile crisis" in 1962, Joe Biden said in October.

And on the year that humanity welcomed its eighth billion member, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that the planet was on a "highway to climate hell."

In extremes widely attributed to climate change, floods submerged one-third of Pakistan, China sweat under an unprecedented 70-day heatwave and crops failed in the Horn of Africa, all while the world lagged behind on the UN-blessed goal of checking warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels.

Kennette Benedict, a lecturer at the University of Chicago who led the report's nuclear section, said risks were even greater than during the Cuban Missile Crisis as Russian President Vladimir Putin appeared less restrained by advisors.

While any Russian nuclear strike would likely involve small "tactical" weapons, experts fear a quick escalation if the United States responds.

"Then we're in a completely different ballgame," said Benedict, a senior advisor to the

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, which in January will unveil its latest assessment of the "doomsday clock" set since 2021 at 100 seconds to midnight.

Amid the focus on Ukraine, US intelligence believes North Korea is ready for a seventh nuclear test, diplomacy has been at a standstill on Iran's contested nuclear work and tensions between India and Pakistan have remained at a low boil.

But Benedict also faulted the Biden administration's nuclear posture review which reserved the right for the United States to use nuclear weapons in "extreme circumstances."

"I think there's been a kind of steady erosion of the ability to manage nuclear weapons," she said.

- Charting worst-case climate risks - UN experts estimated ahead of November talks in Egypt that the world was on track to warming of 2.1 to 2.9 C — but some outside analysts put the figure well higher, with greenhouse gas emissions in 2021 again hitting a record despite pushes to renewable energy.

Luke Kemp, a Cambridge University expert on existential risks, said the possibility of higher warming was getting insufficient attention, which he blamed on the consensus culture of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and scientists' fears of being branded alarmist.

"There has been a strong incentive to err on the side of least drama," he said.

"What we really need are more complex assessments of how risks would cascade around the world."

Climate change could cause ripple effects on food, with multiple breadbasket regions

failing, fueling hunger and eventually political unrest and conflict.

Kemp warned against extrapolating from a single year or event. But a research paper he co-authored noted that even a two-degree temperature rise would put the Earth in territory uncharted since the Ice Age.

Using a medium-high scenario on emissions and population growth, it found that two billion people by 2070 could live in areas with a mean temperature of 29 C (84.2 F), straining water resources — including between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan.

The year, however, was not all grim. Vaccinations helped much of the world turn the page on Covid-19, which the World Health Organization estimated in May contributed to the deaths of 14.9 million people in 2020 and 2021.

The world has seen previous warnings of worst-case scenarios, from Thomas Malthus predicting in the 18th century that food production would not keep up with population growth to the 1968 US bestseller "The Population Bomb."

One of the most prominent current-day critics of pessimism is Harvard professor Steven Pinker, who has argued that violence has declined massively in the modern era.

Speaking after the Ukraine invasion, Pinker acknowledged Putin had brought back interstate war. But he said a failed invasion could also reinforce the positive trends.

Drawing a parallel, he said, "After the biblical Israelites abandoned human sacrifice, they kept having to take measures to prevent backsliding."

Disclaimer: Views expressed by AFP in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect SPOKESMAN point of view

Ukraine withstood the Russians in 2022. Can it drive them out in 2023?

When Russia invaded Ukraine, Vadym Khlupianets, a 26-year-old ballet dancer at Kyiv's National Operetta Theatre, joined the army. Nine months later, he was killed by a sniper on the eastern front.

At his funeral, the theatre's creative director Bohdan Strutynskii said the young ballet dancer deserved a very different honour: "Applause at the end of a performance, with people asking for an encore."

Olga Kucher, director of the Zaporizhzhia Regional Children's Shelter, also found herself in an unexpected role. In March she led 215 orphaned children in woolly hats and puffer coats on a 24-hour train ride, fleeing for their lives.

"My heart is being torn apart," she said. "And I feel so sorry for these children. They're so young."

Ukrainians astonished the world—and themselves—in 2022, withstanding an all-out military assault by a superpower meant to crush them within days.

Millions fled to safety. Millions endured bombardment in basements and bomb shelters. Tens of thousands perished in cities laid to waste by the invaders. And millions rallied to the cause of a nation, taking up arms, volunteering in ambulances, ferrying food to villages at the front, caring for one another's children.

WHY IT MATTERS

Russia says it launched its "special military operation" to protect its security from Western encroachment. Ukrainians, who heard President Vladimir Putin proclaim their national identity a fraud and their land as wrongly stripped from Russia, view the war as an existential struggle—both national and personal.

On the battlefield, David dealt blow after blow to Goliath. In the war's first hours, Ukrainian defenders obliterated Russia's elite paratroopers attempting to seize an airfield on Kyiv's outskirts.

In April, they sank Russia's flagship cruiser. Last month, they were mobbed by joyous residents as they rode into Kherson, a city Putin had proclaimed Russia's forever.

Now, with the war's first winter setting in, it is Russia that is on the defensive, drafting in hundreds of thou-

sands of reservists to protect remaining occupied territory—about a fifth of Ukraine.

Military experts who once debated whether Kyiv could stand for more than a few days, are discussing whether it can win the war outright. Kyiv says it will not stop until it drives all Russian forces out, including from lands occupied since 2014.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR 2023?

Both sides face new challenges. Russia's retreats, including beyond the wide Dniro River, have left the front line far shorter and better fortified, making it harder for Ukraine to find new weak spots to repeat the breakthroughs that shifted the war's momentum in the autumn.

But the brutal winter also brings advantages to Ukrainians defending their own country against conscripted reservists that Russia must feed and supply thousands of kilometres from home.

Ukraine "has been masterful thus far in attacking and defeating Russian forces," tweeted Mark Hertling, a former commander of U.S. ground forces in Europe. But its next objectives—to breach fortified Russian defences in the east and cross the Dniro River in the south—are among the toughest any military could face, he said. "They'll succeed, but not fast."

Meanwhile, there are no talks to end—or even pause—the war. Kyiv says even a temporary truce would give Russia a chance to regroup and solidify its grip on occupied land. As 2022 winds down, Russia has been hurling missiles at Ukraine's energy infrastructure, plunging millions of Ukrainians into darkness and cold. Moscow claims a military justification; Ukraine says this serves no purpose but to harm civilians.

"Cold, hunger, darkness and thirst aren't as scary and deadly for us as your 'friendship and brotherhood,'" Zelenskiy said, addressing Russians in a speech in September.

"Without gas or without you? Without you. Without light or without you? Without you. Without water or without you? Without you. Without food or without you? Without you."

Explore the Reuters round-up of news stories that dominated the year, and the outlook for 2023. Reuters

Pakistan calls for closing digital divide to accelerate progress in poor countries

UNITED NATIONS :Despite global progress in expanding use of the Internet and information communications technology (ICT), the digital divide between developed and developing countries remains wide, Pakistan has said during an online discussion organized by a UN body that conducts independent research on international security issues.

"The inability of the developing countries to reap benefits of digital transformation offered by extraordinary opportunities for innovation, communication, sustainable development and economic growth is amplifying the risk of further deepening of the already existing digital divide," Ambassador Aamir Khan, deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the webinar sponsored by the Geneva-based United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

If unchecked, he warned that the exponential proliferation of disinformation through online platforms and



social media was exacerbating social discord, competing nationalisms, discrimination, hate speech, stigmatization, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and related intolerances.

According to statistics, out of 2.9 billion people offline, 96% live in developing countries.

Bridging the digital divide will require addressing the major imped-

iments that developing countries face in engaging with and accessing new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, the Pakistani envoy said.

At the same time, he said, the new era of strategic competition transformed by significance of the unconvention-

al battle space and the coercive power of hybrid warfare has seriously undermined the space for international cooperation.

"There is no doubt that in order to have an open, stable, accessible, secure and peaceful cyberspace, the need for formulating a comprehensive framework for cyber capacity-building is more than ever before," Aamir Khan said.

Achieving real and sustained progress in the various dimensions of digitalization requires skills development and effective training, in particular in developing countries," he said, adding, "This is necessary to unlock the benefits of technology, including the more effective use of emerging technologies and ensuring that individuals stay safe, protected and productive online."

In this regard, Aamir Khan called for prioritization of transfer of technology and technical assistance based on an open, fair and non-discriminatory access to ICT-related science, technologies, products and services. APP



Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Khazar Farhadov met with H.E. Mr. Syed Ahsan Raza Shah, Additional Secretary Afghanistan & West Asia of MFA and H.E. Mr. Syed Rafeeq Bashir Shah, Chairman of Trading Corporation of Pakistan.

KSA & UAE lead the GCC with 39,070 & 32,272 rooms respectively under construction



Spokesman Report

DUBAI : According to new research commissioned by Arabian Travel Market (ATM), and conducted at the end of September 2022 by hotel market intelligence and global benchmarking company STR, the GCC region now has over 170,000 hotel rooms under active development (planning, final planning & under construction).

This is equivalent to 40% of the GCC's existing hotel room inventory, a figure almost four times greater than the rest of the world which currently lags behind at an average of 11% under active development compared with existing supply.

Danielle Curtis, Exhibition Director, Arabian Travel Market, said: "Between EXPO 2020, the 2022 FIFA World Cup, and Saudi Arabia's ambitious Vision2030 strategy, the GCC's hospitality sector development pipeline remains robust in contrast to global hotel development, which is slowing, due to weak economic growth forecasts.

"While the hospitality sector's growth does highlight the region's increasing popularity on the global stage, it is also indicative of regional government strategy, to diversify GDP growth away from hydrocarbons into tourism, that will help to drive demand still further, over the coming years.

The STR report estimates 135,560 existing rooms in Saudi Arabia with an active pipeline of 82,639 rooms, with total room inventory projected for 2030, at over 218,000 rooms. Similarly for the UAE, STR currently tracks more than 202,000 existing rooms with an active pipeline of 48,910 rooms, a combined total of almost 251,000 rooms by 2030.

"Interestingly, Ras Al Khaimah, is second only to Dubai, with 5,076 rooms in its pipeline, almost the same amount as Sharjah, Abu Dhabi and Fujairah combined," said Curtis.

The UAE's historic occupancy performance provides a blueprint of what the region can expect as new rooms enter the market. Rooms supply increased by more than 70,000 rooms between 2010 and 2019, a staggering 68% increase in supply or about 6% average annual growth.

"With such levels of investment and development, we are expecting a marked increase in the number of GCC participants at ATM 2023, including inbound tour operators and travel agents from across the globe, as the region continues to attract growing numbers of tourists, for whom environmentally friendly and sustainable development will be critical," added Curtis.

ATM which is the leading Middle East travel and tourism event for international inbound and outbound tourism professionals, takes place at the Dubai World Trade Centre on 1-4 May, under the official theme of "Working Towards Net Zero".

Vladimir Putin drives across Crimea bridge in a Mercedes

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin on Monday drove a Mercedes across the Crimean Bridge linking southern Russia to the annexed Crimean peninsula, less than two months since an explosion tore through one of the Kremlin chief's showcase infrastructure projects.

The 12-mile (19 km) road and rail bridge, which was personally opened by Putin in 2018, was bombed on Oct 8 in an attack Russia said was carried out by Ukraine.

Putin, accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Marat Khusnullin, was shown on state television behind the wheel of a Mercedes, asking questions about where the attack took place.

"We are driving on the right hand side," Putin said, as he drove across the bridge. "The left side of the bridge, as I understand it, is in working condition, but nevertheless it needs to be completed. It still suffered a little, we need to bring it to an ideal state."

Putin also walked along parts of the bridge, Europe's largest, to inspect sections that are still visibly scorched.

Ukraine never claimed responsibility for the bombing of the bridge on the morning of Oct. 8, a day after Putin's 70th birthday. Russia's Federal Security Service said the attack was organised by Ukrainian military intelligence. (Web Desk)

Majid Al Futtaim expands its retail footprint in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Majid Al Futtaim – the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East and Africa – announced two strategic launches that aim to expand its retail footprint in Pakistan. This includes the recent opening of two myli stores in Lahore as well as breaking ground to open Carrefour's eleventh store next year. This brings Majid Al Futtaim's total investment to PKR 11 billion which will create further job opportunities for Pakistanis, support the national economy by strengthening local businesses, and provide a modern shopping experience for customers.

On 5 December, Majid Al Futtaim diversified its offering with the launch of its unique health and beauty concept, myli. The two brand-new stores, located inside Carrefour at both



Packages Mall and Fortress Mall, offer a wide variety of quality products including cosmetics, fragrances, and hair and skin care. myli is poised to be the one-stop solution for all customers' beauty and healthcare needs, in response to the high demand for accessible personal care products that retailers are observing across the country.

In addition, the upcoming Carrefour store at the Defence Housing Authority in Lahore will be the brand's

eleventh to open in Pakistan. Once up and running in the fourth quarter of 2023, the new supermarket will provide customers with convenient access to more than 25,000 items from various categories, including consumer goods, fresh foods, electronics, home accessories and more at unbeatable value. Development work on the store began following a ground-breaking ceremony today, attended by Administrator DHA Lahore Brig Waheed Gul Satti.

Hani Weiss, Chief Executive Officer of Majid Al Futtaim Retail, during his visit to Pakistan attended both the opening of myli and the ground-breaking ceremony – accompanied by Umer Lodhi, Country Manager of Carrefour Pakistan.

Hani Weiss, Chief Executive Officer of Majid Al Futtaim Retail, said: "Majid Al Futtaim continues to broaden and scale its operations in Pakistan, uplifting our customers' shopping experience through modern and contemporary retail solutions. The upcoming Carrefour store and the newly launched myli concept demonstrate our commitment to the nation and will contribute to elevating the retail market. Our latest investment decisions reflect our strategic focus on customer convenience and creating shared value for local business partners and the national economy."

Al Jazeera submits slain journalist's case to ICC



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: TV network Al Jazeera submitted the case of slain journalist Shireen Abu Akleh to the International Criminal Court on Tuesday, saying she was killed by Israeli forces.

The Qatar-based channel said it had "unearthed new evidence" on the death of the Palestinian-American, shot while covering an Israeli army raid in Jenin on May 11.

Any person or group can file a complaint to the ICC prosecutor for investigation, but the Hague-based court is under no obligation to take on such cases.

Al Jazeera said its submission highlighted "new witness evidence and video footage (that) clearly show that Shireen and her colleagues were directly fired at by the Israeli Occupation Forces."

"The claim by the Israeli authorities that Shireen was killed by mistake in an exchange of fire is completely unfounded," the channel said.

An AFP journalist saw a lawyer representing Al Jazeera's case entering the ICC's headquarters to hand over their submission.

The ICC last year launched a probe into war crimes in the Palestinian territories, but Israel is not an ICC member and disputes the court's jurisdiction.

Israel said it would not cooperate with any external probe into Abu Akleh's death.

"No one will investigate IDF (Israeli military) soldiers and no one will preach to us about morals in warfare, certainly not Al Jazeera," Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid said in a statement.

The Israeli army conceded on September 5 that one of its soldiers had likely shot Abu Akleh after mistaking her for a militant.

The veteran reporter, who was a Christian, was wearing a bullet-proof vest marked "Press" and a helmet when she was shot in the head in the Jenin refugee camp, a historic flashpoint in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Meeting

British High Commissioner, H.E. Dr. Christian Turner along with UNDP Consultant Sir Michael Barber called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division in Islamabad on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

UNICEF appeals for US\$10.3b emergency funding to support children

News Desk

GENEVA/NEW YORK: UNICEF today launched a US\$10.3 billion emergency funding appeal to reach more than 173 million people – including 110 million children – affected by humanitarian crises, the enduring effects of the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide and the growing threat of climate-impacted severe weather events.

"Today, there are more children in need of humanitarian assistance than at any other time in recent history," said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell. "Across the globe, they are facing a deadly mix of crises,

from conflict and displacement to disease outbreaks and soaring rates of malnutrition. Meanwhile, climate change is making these crises worse and unleashing new ones. It is critical that we have the right support in place to reach children with decisive and timely humanitarian action."

The lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and global economic disruption and instability, including inflation and the rising cost of food and fuel, have had a devastating impact on the lives and wellbeing of millions of the world's most vulnerable children.

Climate change is also worsening the scale and intensity of

emergencies. The last 10 years were the hottest on record and the number of climate-related disasters has tripled in the last 30 years. Today, over 400 million children live in areas of high or extremely high-water vulnerability.

At the same time, children are crossing borders in record numbers, with their families or separated from them, or unaccompanied. Altogether, nearly 37 million children worldwide are displaced due to cascading crises, a level of displaced children not seen since the Second World War.

As part of its Humanitarian Action for Children, which sets out the agency's 2023 appeal, UNICEF plans to reach:

8.2 million children with treatment for severe acute malnutrition.

28 million children with measles vaccinations.

63.7 million people with access to safe water for drinking and domestic needs.

23.5 million children, adolescents, and caregivers with access to mental health and psychosocial support.

16.2 million children and women with access to gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions.

32 million people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by

personnel who provide assistance to affected population.

25.7 million children with formal or non-formal education, including early learning.

The top five appeals by funding requirements for 2023 are for: Afghanistan US\$1.65 billion

Ukraine and Refugee Response US\$1.058 billion

Syrian Refugee Crisis US\$867 million

Democratic Republic of the Congo US\$862 million

Ethiopia US\$674 million

"The devastating impacts of climate change are an ever-present threat to children," said Russell. "Which is why we are prioritizing climate adaptation and resilience

building as part of our humanitarian response. This will help us to reach children living through today's crises, while also helping them and their communities prepare for those yet to come."

Putting national and local organizations at the centre of humanitarian operations is a key strategy in UNICEF's humanitarian response. Key results in 2022 were made possible by UNICEF's partnerships, including with humanitarian country teams, UN agencies, civil society and non-governmental organizations, national and local responders and resource partners. Notable results include:

23.8 million children vaccinated against measles.

2.6 million children treated for severe acute malnutrition.

28 million children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning.

13 million children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support.

25.9 million people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs.

5.5 million people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse.

4.2 million women, girls and boys accessing Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index

Current	Prev. Close
41,539.94	41,612.67
Day's High	Day's Low:
41,743.92	41,296.54
Index Value	Change
2,974,744,485	-72.73
Percentage	Time
-0.17%	6 Dec, 2022 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index

Index Value	Change
7,521.39	-46.15
Percentage	Time
-0.61%	6 Dec, 4:35 pm GMT

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average

Index Value	Change
33,721.58	-225.52
Percentage	Time
-0.66%	6 Dec, 11:44 am GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

Index Value	Change
27,885.87	+65.47
Percentage	Time
+0.24%	6 Dec, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	152.24	153.49
Bahrain Dinar	596	600.5
Canadian Dollar	166.23	167.58
China Yuan	31.85	32.1
Danish Krone	31.73	32.08
Euro	249.2	252
Hong Kong Dollar	28.74	29.09
Indian Rupee	2.74	2.82
Japanese Yen	1.93	1.97
Kuwaiti Dinar	732	737
Malaysian Ringgit	49.99	50.44
New Zealand \$	139.22	140.42
Norwegians Krone	22.65	22.95
Omani Riyal	582.5	587
Qatari Riyal	61.5	62
Saudi Riyal	63.25	63.85
Singapore Dollar	165.62	166.92
Swedish Korona	21.46	21.76
Swiss Franc	239.14	240.89
Thai Bhat	6.26	6.36
U.A.E Dirham	65.35	65.9
UK Pound Sterling	292.5	295
US Dollar	229.25	231.4

Nayatel & Huawei celebrate a decade of business together

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD:- Nayatel & Huawei celebrated a decade of a successful partnership at Serena Hotel in Islamabad. The event was attended by both teams and there was a warm sense of partnership and accomplishment in the air as they came together to celebrate a decade long journey of two companies growing stronger together.

Managing Director Huawei EBG, Mr. Gao Weijie gave the welcome address and talked about the friendship between the two companies and how they have become more like family over the last decade. He announced a specially created commemorative coin to mark this special occasion that would be presented to the guests.

Mr. Aqeel Khurshid, CTO Nayatel said "Huawei & Nayatel together did a lot of great things and are still doing so, in these 10 years we built a great trust and confidence in Huawei. Nayatel & Huawei both are customer-centric and very innovative organizations, and because of these common attributes we developed a strong bond between Nayatel & Huawei."



COO Nayatel, Mr. Saad Saleem said "Nayatel started business with Huawei in 2012, we felt very comfortable in dealing with a Chinese company, it was the best decision we

made. Nayatel was founded on principles of Quality, Service, Passion and desire to serve, and same are the values of Huawei. Together the two organizations plan to build more

secure and stable networks for our customers" "We have been lucky that we have partnered with Huawei. Huawei truly believes in Innovation because they are focused on R&D. Everyone buys Huawei, because Huawei is a great brand. Together both companies need to work hard and take calculated risks so we can create history together" said Mr. Wahaj Siraj who is the CEO for Nayatel.

A milestone video showcased the last decade which was appreciated by everyone after which a celebratory cake cutting ceremony was held where Mr. Gao Weijie (Managing Director EBG), Mr. Pan Feng (new Managing Director EBG), Mr. Shahzad Rasheed (CEO Cloud) and Mr. Faran Humayun (Director ISP) were joined by Mr. Rashid Ali Khan (Board member), Mr. Jahangir Khan (Board member), Mr. Wahaj Siraj (CEO Nayatel), Mr. Khawaja Saad Saleem (COO Nayatel) and Mr. Aqeel Khurshid (CTO Nayatel).

Shields were distributed by both teams, followed by the Nayatel and Huawei management teams signing an MOU for a strategic partnership for the coming years with an aligned vision to grow together as a family.

Waiting for Customers

KARACHI:- Labourers sit alongside a road waiting for customers at Soldier Bazaar in Provincial Capital.

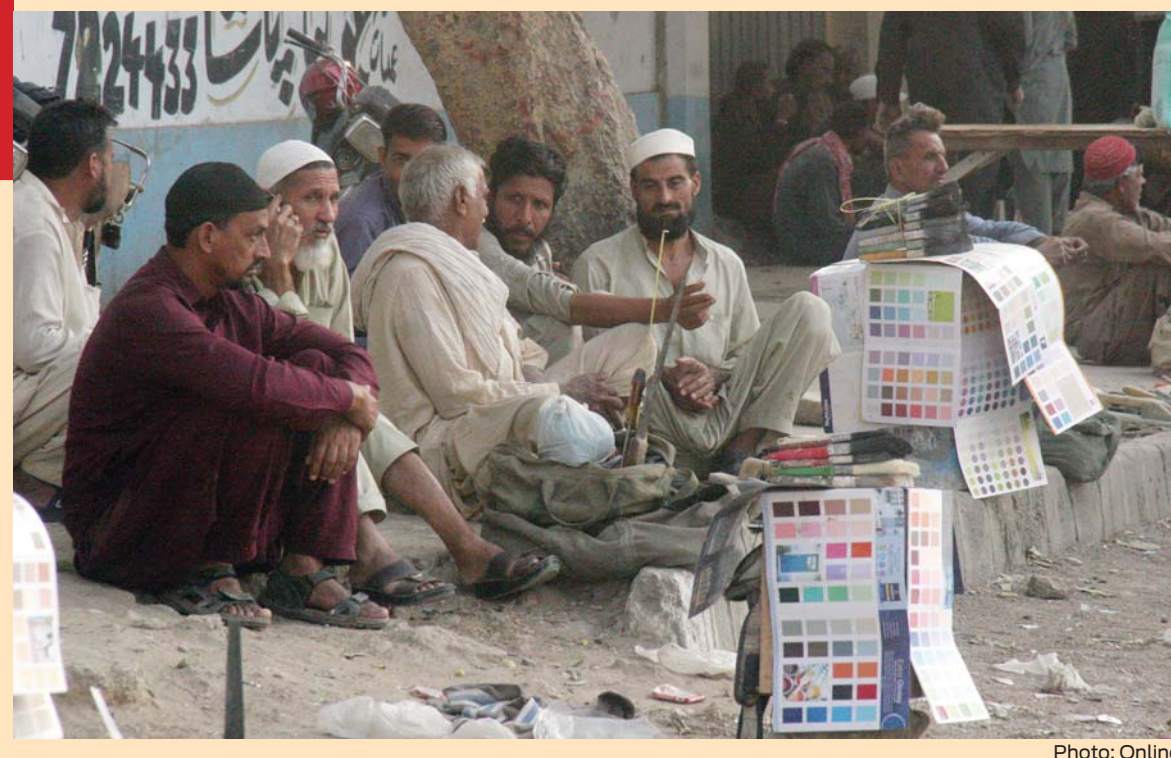


Photo: Online

foodpanda partners with U Microfinance Bank to provide Motorbike financing

Commerce Reporter

KARACHI : foodpanda, the country's leading online delivery service provider, has entered into a strategic partnership with U Microfinance Bank (U Bank), Pakistan's fastest-growing Microfinance Bank, to provide motorbike financing opportunities for its delivery riders. Through this partnership, foodpanda riders will have access to relevant financing facilities to acquire motorbikes on easy monthly installments.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of this partnership was signed by Ms. Mariam Pervaiz, Chief Commercial Officer & Chief of Staff - U Microfinance Bank and Mr. Muntaqa Peracha, Managing Director & CEO - foodpanda, while the signing ceremony was presided over by Mr. Kabeer Naqvi, President & CEO - U Microfinance Bank in the presence

of senior management officials from both the collaborating organizations.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Muntaqa Peracha, Managing Director & CEO-foodpanda said, "foodpanda is not just a delivery platform that provides sustainable income opportunity to its riders but also puts their welfare as a priority. We are excited to partner with U Microfinance Bank which will benefit and create an impact in improving the lives of our riders. Partnerships like this will not only cater to the needs of our riders but will also result in better service to our customers," he further added.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Kabeer Naqvi, President & CEO-U Microfinance Bank said, "At U Bank, we have consistently been fostering strategic partnerships with various organizations to expand our outreach while uplifting the masses.

Federal Minister assures quota for OEPs to increase Manpower Export

News Desk

ISLAMABAD : Sajid Hussain Turi, Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP & HRD) said that the government is working to allocate quota to Overseas Employment Promoters (OEPs) in order to increase manpower exports as the government has set a target of manpower export of one million this year. He said that he is tapping new markets for manpower export as he has visited many countries including Romania, Portugal, Greece who have shown interest to import manpower from Pakistan. He said that Malta, Poland, Hungary, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Tajikistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq have also shown interest to import manpower from Pakistan and MoUs are being



signed with many of them for manpower export. He said this while addressing the business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI). Sajid Hussain Turi said that over 4700 OEPs are working in Pakistan out of which about 2200 are active and stressed that they should play a role in promoting manpower exports while the government would facilitate them. He announced that OEPs would be included in

the delegations of his Ministry so that they could explore new avenues of manpower export. He said that special courts would be set up to decide the cases of Overseas Pakistanis in 60 days. He said that more schools and industrial homes for Overseas Pakistanis would also be set up. He said that Protector Offices in Islamabad, Sukkur, Abbottabad, Bannu, Gilgit Baltistan would be opened to facilitate the OEPs in promoting manpower

export. He said that a new policy for Community Welfare Attaches (CWAs) is being made to give them targets for community welfare and addressing the issues of Overseas Pakistanis. He assured that all highlighted issues of the business community would be considered for redress.

Speaking at the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Pakistan is facing reducing foreign exchange reserves and promoting manpower export is the best option to enhance remittances and improve forex reserves.

He said that 65 percent of the population of Pakistan is quite young and the government should equip this talent with latest skills and training to improve the prospects of manpower exports.

'Sale of Globe Residency'

News Desk

LAHORE : General subscription for Globe Residency REIT (GRR), Pakistan's first developmental REIT being listed on the Pakistan Stock Exchange, will take place on December 14 and 15.

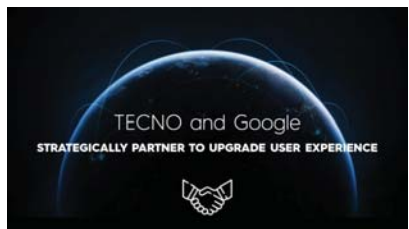
14 million units, which make up 10% of the total units of the REIT Scheme have been offered by Javedan Corporation Limited to the General Public at a price of PKR 10 per unit. Arif Habib Limited is the Lead Manager for this Offer for Sale with Habib Bank Limited, Habib Metropolitan Bank Limited, Bank Al Habib Limited and, Bank Alfalah Limited as bankers to the offer along with Ismail Iqbal Securities and Growth Securities acting

as underwriters.

GRR is a closed ended, Developmental REIT Scheme with a limited life of 48 months offering investors the opportunity to become an investor in the Globe Residency apartments project at Naya Nazimabad

Arif Habib Dolmen REIT Management Limited (AHRMRL) is the REIT Management Company of GRR and Arif Habib Development and Engineering Consultants (PVT) Ltd is the Project Manager. In total, GRR is constructing nine towers, which were launched in November 2021 and will be ready for possession within the next 3 years. Total number of apartments in the project are 1,344 of which 1,098 have already been booked.

TECNO and Google Strategically Partner to Upgrade User Experience



LAHORE : TECNO, an innovative technology brand with operations in over 70 markets globally, has inked a strategic 3 year partnership with Google on software that will further enhance the user experience and bring new dynamics to the smartphone market. The partnership will bring an optimized user experience for TECNO smartphones, where TECNO mobile devices will be at the forefront of delivering latest Android updates, as well as power more seamless cross-device experiences.

The partnership enables TECNO to continue delivering new Android updates in a timely manner. For instance, TECNO was among the first smartphone manufacturers to make the Android 13 Beta available, via the CAMON 19 PRO 5G this year, offering a more customized interface, better gaming performance, and a one-handed mode.

TECNO has been pioneering cutting-edge smart device and AIoT ecosystem upgrades, with its "2 to 2 + Double 1 + N" AIoT strategy to drive cross-device connectivity. "2 to 2" refers to the addition of individual and home with audio and router devices, "Double 1" stands for laptop and smartphone, while "N" translates to TECNO's goal to drive infinite possibilities for consumers in an interconnected and tech-driven reality. Working with Google will help TECNO expand the connectivity to internet enabled devices including tablets.

TECNO aims to create a fully connected and intelligent ecosystem that will greatly benefit individuals as well as enterprise users.

As TECNO pilots more novel breakthroughs via revolutionary partnerships, its users across more than 70 markets worldwide can expect more delightful and intuitive experiences with increased connectivity and accessibility.

Jazz partners with LUMS to launch EMPOWER, Women's Leadership Program

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : Jazz, Pakistan's leading digital operator and a part of the VEON Group, has partnered with LUMS, Pakistan's leading research-intensive university, to launch "Empower," an Executive Development Program for Women Leaders.

Empower is a three-day learning and residential program. Through this program, Jazz intends to instill valuable leadership skills among women leaders in workforce. Attendees include 75 women from Jazz, and the company will also be offering 20 scholarships through open enrolment for other women leaders to attend the program.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, Sanam Sheikh,

Chief People Officer at Jazz said, "Empower is launched with the mission to provide women leaders with skill-sets needed to excel in leadership roles. The three-day immersive program reiterates our company's commitment towards promoting gender diversity at the workplace by empowering women and helping them thrive as leaders."

Spanning from 6th to 8th December, Empower will provide trainees with cutting-edge technologies and best industry practices to help them navigate their managerial roles strategically and more efficiently.

Dr Arif Nazir Butt, Professor at the Suleman Dawood School of Business at the Lahore University of Manage-

ment Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan reinforced, "Empower is a unique learning experience with a focus on enabling women leaders to cultivate their executive management roles by influencing business agility and organizational competitiveness. The program provides collaborative opportunities for self-reflection and development; steering the executives towards enhanced confidence and professional competence."

Jazz is an equal opportunity employer. It's one of the first telecom companies with a high female representation in its executive leadership. Jazz is also the signatory to the global Women's Empowerment Principles, a set of Principles offering guidance to businesses on how to promote gender



equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace, and community and was recently recognized

for its Gender Inclusive Workplace at UN Women Asia-Pacific 2022 WEPA Awards. This award recognizes organiza-

tions that have incorporated the right measures to make themselves the preferred employer for women.

Pakistan, England cricket teams arrive in Multan for 2nd Test

MULTAN: Both teams of Pakistan and England cricket arrived, here on Tuesday, for the second Test match at the Multan Cricket Stadium which will begin on 9th December.

According to the PCB officials, the team players would rest on December 07 and there is no activity scheduled for the day.

However, the teams would participate for the training at the Multan Cricket Stadium from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm while the squad members from each side would hold a pre-match media conference at the stadium.

The toss would take place at 0930 am on 9th December and each day's game would start at 1000 am.

After stumps, a squad member from each side will hold a post-day media conference.

Meanwhile, the district administration has completed all arrangements for the match while foolproof security arrangements have also been finalized by the police. APP



COMBAXX 1st CNS All Pakistan Squash Championship 2022

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The one-day qualifying round of the prestigious COMBAXX 1st CNS All Pakistan Squash Championship 2022 being organized by Pak Navy, was played here at Pakistan Navy Roshan Khan Jahangir Khan Squash Complex, Fleet Club, Saddar Karachi.

The following players qualified for the main round:

Men's: 1. Sadam Ul Haq (Army), 2. Azlan Khawar (Punjab), 3. Abbas Shaukat (KP), 4. Mehmood Mehboob (Punjab).

Women's: 1. Kainat Amir (Sindh), 2. Amna Malik (Army), 3. Noor Ul Ain (SNGPL), 4. Habiba Ali (Sindh).

The following are the results of Qualifying Round:

Result: Men's Final Qualifying Round: Sadam Ul Haq (Army) bt Hikmat Yar Khan (Punjab) 11-2, 11-9, 11-5 (25 mins).

Azlan Khawar (Punjab) bt Talha Saeed (Sindh) 11-8, 11-7, 11-7 (27 mins). Abbas Shaukat (KP) bt Mutahir Ali (KP) 11-5, 11-9, 11-4 (26

mins). Mehmood Mehboob (Punjab) bt Tanveer Qamar (KP) 11-6, 11-7, 11-5 (23 mins).

Result: Women's Final Qualifying Round: Kainat Amir (Sindh) W/o Alina Zehra (Sindh). Amna Malik (Army) bt Sameera Shahid (Sindh) 11-4, 11-4, 11-3 (11 mins). Noor Ul Ain (SNGPL) bt Mahnoor Ali (Sindh) 11-7, 11-4, 11-6 (14 mins).

Habiba Ali (Sindh) bt Aina Aziz (Sindh) 11-4, 11-6, 11-2 (12 mins)

Result: Men's 1st Qualifying Round: Sadam Ul Haq (Army) bt Asad Ullah (Army) 11-7, 11-6, 11-6 (17 mins). Hikmat Yar Khan (Punjab) bt

Rohan Amjad (Sindh) 11-5, 11-3, 11-0 (20 mins). Azlan Khawar (Punjab) bt Hurraira Zafar (Sindh) 11-6, 11-5, 11-8 (23 mins). Talha Saeed (Sindh) bt Sardar Hassan (Navy) 11-4, 11-8, 11-9 (30 mins). Mutahir Ali (KP) bt Ali Daud (Sindh) 11-4, 11-6, 11-6 (15 mins). Abbas Shaukat (KP) bt Mohammad Ali (Sindh) 11-5, 11-2, 11-0 (18 mins). Mehmood Mehboob (Punjab) bt Muzammil (Navy) 11-1, 11-6, 11-3 (14 mins). Tanveer Qamar (KP) bt Hassan Paracha (Sindh) 9-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-6 (30 mins).

Result: Women's 1st Qualifying Round: Alina Zehra (Sindh) Vs Bye Kainat Amir (Sindh)

bt Syeda Sarah (Sindh) 11-1, 11-1, 11-4 (17 mins). Sameera Shahid (Sindh) bt Wania Tahir (Sindh) 11-4, 11-2, 11-2 (14 mins). Amna Malik (Army) Schrish Ali (Sindh) 11-5, 12-10, 11-5 (19 mins). Mahnoor Ali (Sindh) w/o Mohira Waqar (Sindh). Noor Ul Ain (SNGPL) bt Saliya Rasheed (Sindh) 11-0, 11-1, 11-2 (7 mins). Habiba Ali (Sindh) bt Syeda Zunaira (Sindh) 11-2, 11-1, 11-0 (7 mins). Aina Aziz (Sindh) bt Soha Ali (Sindh) 11-5, 11-7, 11-7 (17 mins).

Today's fixtures: Matches will start at 1000 hours today (Wednesday) while the opening ceremony will be held at 1400 hours today (Wednesday).

Ronaldo eyes World Cup quarters as Morocco dare to dream

DOHA: Cristiano Ronaldo will aim to fire Portugal past Switzerland and into the World Cup quarter-finals on Tuesday as Morocco bid to derail Spain's bid for a second global crown.

Just two last-eight slots remain to be filled in Qatar after five-time winners Brazil swatted aside South Korea 4-1 and 2018 finalists Croatia squeezed past Japan via a penalty shoot-out.

Ronaldo was hogging the headlines at the tournament even before he kicked a ball after launching a tirade against Manchester United and their manager Erik ten Hag.

Following an exit by "mutual agreement" he is now seeking a new team, with sources saying he is in talks over a blockbuster deal with Saudi club Al-Nassr.

The 37-year-old superstar forward, who is appearing in what is almost certainly his last World Cup, has been a shadow of his former self in Qatar despite all the hype.

After scoring a penalty in his team's opening clash against Ghana to become the first player to score at five World Cups, he has huffed and puffed but has failed to find the net again.

Ronaldo's starting role in the team remains a hot topic among Portugal fans, but coach Fernando Santos said he was not paying attention to the raging debate.

"I do not read this type of material," he said. "It is not a lack of respect, it is simply that we have three days to train for a game and I am not looking at other kinds of news. We focus on the upcoming match."

Argentina's quiet man Alvarez can hurt Dutch, says Nathan Ake

News Desk

DOHA: The Netherlands must beware of Argentina's "quiet" assassin Julian Alvarez when they meet in their World Cup quarter-final on Friday, his Manchester City team-mate Nathan Ake said.

Forward Alvarez has hit form for Argentina in Qatar, scoring in their final group game against Poland and again in their last-16 win over Australia.

The 22-year-old has also made an impact since joining City in the close season and Ake warned his Dutch team-mates not to underestimate him despite his low-key demeanour.

"As a player he's very technical, very difficult to mark even in training, very sharp, good finishing, so it will be tough," defender Ake said on Tuesday.



"He's a great player but also a great guy off the pitch. He's a little bit quiet. He's still learning English and he comes from a different environment so it's all new for him but he's fitted in

really well."

The Netherlands have already beaten the champions of Africa, Asia and North America at this World Cup and are aiming to add the reigning South American title-holders to that list.

Ake said trying to stop Argentina's Lionel Messi will be "a good challenge" and he is excited at the prospect of a showdown between two of the World Cup's iconic teams.

"Argentina fans are very good — they are always there, they create a great atmosphere," he said.

"They love football, they go there to see football and they enjoy it and as football players you want that atmosphere."

Argentina beat the Netherlands on penalties in the semi-finals of the 2014 World Cup after a tense 0-0 draw in Sao Paulo.

Louis van Gaal was the Dutch coach then as he is now, and Ake said the players want to "fight for him and do well for him" before he steps down at the end of the tournament.

"Ever since he came in he's been great for us, he's very direct and he lets everyone know where he stands," he said of Van Gaal.

"If you're a starter or if you're a bench player you know exactly what you have to do in the team."

"I think that makes it very clear for everyone."

Ake said Van Gaal was "a very good guy" off the pitch who "doesn't want any sympathy" after undergoing treatment for an aggressive form of prostate cancer.

"It's very inspiring," said Ake. "He never really speaks about it so I think that's maybe the biggest part."

Solidarity Through Volunteering'

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Sports and Youth Affairs Department Punjab has organized a seminar on the eve of International Volunteers Day under the theme of "Solidarity Through Volunteering" in the collaboration of Punjab Food Authority (PFA) and Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) at Nishtar Park Sports Complex e-Library, Lahore.

Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta was Chief Guest on this occasion. Director General PFA Mudassar Riaz Malik, Director PFA Hafiz Qaiser, CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana, CEO LWMC Ali Annan Qamar, Director Admin Syed Umair Hassan, Assistant Director Youth Affairs Nazish Noor and hundreds of male and female volunteers also attended

the seminar.

Addressing the seminar, Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta said the impressive and effective role of volunteers cannot be denied at any testing time. "Volunteers had played a decisive role in the Pakistan Movement and other disasters like floods and earthquakes. Volunteers had played a major role in the relief operation in 2005 earthquake," he added.

Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta emphasized on the need of solid planning for better results of volunteering. "Different kinds of calamities and disasters are quite common in different parts of world but the loss of lives and other valuables can be controlled through concrete planning," he elaborated.

Secretary Youth Affairs and

Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta said that youth can play a key role in the establishment of a healthy and civilized society in the shape of volunteers. "There three key prerequisites—What to do and how to do, motivation and strict check & balance—that can play important role in the progress of the country," he explained.

First of all, a Panel Discussion was conducted in which Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta, Director General PFA Mudassar Riaz Malik, CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana and CEO LWMC Ali Annan Qamar expressed their views to underscore the significance of volunteers and their role in different kinds of calamities and other difficult times.

The panelists said the contribution of volunteers is an essential component to eradicate

poverty, hunger, illiteracy, mitigate disasters, which will contribute to prosperity of our country at large.

Talking in the Panel Discussion, Director General PFA Mudassar Riaz Malik said that Punjab Food Authority is preparing volunteers to educate people about food and its purity. "Volunteers played an important role in wars in Islamic history," he added.

Director General PFA Mudassar Riaz Malik said that PFA is going to introduce a star rating system in which 400 restaurants are being listed. "We expect that the restaurants will show their willingness about their inclusion in the star rating system voluntarily."

CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana on this occasion said that it is important to provide a



platform to the youth. "Lahore Qalandars took trials of 5 lakh players out of which we managed to pick star players like Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Fakhar Zaman."

CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana further said that the best volunteers will be made part of Lahore Qalandar and will also be

Haris Rauf suffers grade-II strain, out of England series



ISLAMABAD: Pakistani pacer Haris Rauf has been ruled out of the Test series against England due to a grade-II strain in right quad.

The fast bowler underwent an MRI during the first day's play of the Rawalpindi Test after he rolled over the ball while fielding, said Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

The scans and the subsequent assessment by PCB medical staff concluded that the fast bowler suffered a grade-II strain.

Haris would now travel to Lahore to begin his rehabilitation at the National High Performance Centre.

It may be mentioned that England won the first of the three Tests on Monday by 74 runs. The second and third Tests would be played in Multan (December 9-13) and Karachi (December 17-21), respectively. APP

Non-issuance of visa deprived Pak blind cricket team from int'l mega event: FO

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday deeply regretted the non-issuance of visa to its blind cricket team by India for participation in the third T-20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind.

"As a result of the Indian decision, Pakistani players would be deprived of the opportunity to participate in an international sporting event of special significance," the Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

This reflected India's insensitivity towards the promotion of sports meant for differently-abled persons.

The tournament is being played in India on December 5-17. The spokesperson further stressed that the sports events must not be politicized, adding that they had conveyed their disappointment to the Indian side.

T20 women's cricket championship

Tahir Amin Malik.

LAHORE: Nahida Khan's second half-century in as many matches led Dynamites to their first win in the four-team second phase of T20 Women's Cricket Tournament 2022-23 in Lahore on Tuesday. In another match, Iram Javed's unbeaten half-century helped Strikers beat Blasters by eight wickets.

At the LCCA Ground, after being put into bat, Dynamites scored 137 for eight in 20 overs. Opening batter Nahida Khan top-scored with a 36-ball 51, which included seven fours. Her opening partner Gull Feroza scored run-a-ball 33, laced with three fours. The pair added 80 runs for the first wicket.

Challengers' Anousha Nasir was the pick of the bowlers with four for 24.

In return, Challengers managed to score 125 for five in 20 overs and were 12 runs short of the target. Dua Majid was the top run getter for her side, scoring 41 off 39, smashing five fours. Captain Omaira Sohail scored 28 off 21, hitting two fours and one six.

At the Lahore Gymkhana, Irum Javed's quick-fire 33-ball 54 not out helped Strikers chased down the 142-run target for the loss of two wickets in the 18th over. In the run-chase, opening batters Muneeba Ali and Javeria Rauf provided a solid 50-run start to the innings. After the departure of skipper Muneeba (38, 33b, five fours, one six), Javeria was joined by Iram and both added 59 runs for the second wicket. Javeria contributed 43 off 34 balls, hitting six fours. Iram's unbeaten knock included four sixes and one four.

Earlier, after opting to bat first, Blasters scored 141 for eight in their 20 overs. Opening batter Shawal Zulfikar top-scored with a 41-ball 36, studded with five fours. Captain Fatima Sana returned undefeated on 34 off 24 balls, which included six boundaries.

Scores in brief:

Dynamites beat Challengers by 12 runs
Dynamites 137-8, 20 overs (Nahida Khan 51, Gull Feroza 33; Anousha Nasir 4-24)

Challengers 125-5, 20 overs (Dua Majid 41, Omaira Sohail 28, Aliya Riaz 26)

Player of the match - Nahida Khan (Dynamites)

Strikers beat Blasters by eight wickets

Blasters 141-8, 20 overs (Shawal Zulfikar 36, Fatima Sana 34 not out, Ayesha Naseem 30)

Strikers 146-2, 17.5 overs (Iram Javed 54 not out, Javeria Rauf 43, Muneeba Ali 38)

Player of the match - Iram Javed (PCB Strikers)

clean".

At the end of Panel Discussion, Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta gave souvenirs to Director General PFA Mudassar Riaz Malik, CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana, CEO LWMC Ali Annan Qamar and Director Admin Syed Umair Hassan. In return, all the panelists also presented a souvenir to Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta.

At the end of the seminar, Secretary Youth Affairs and Sports Punjab Ehsan Bhutta, Director General Punjab Food Authority (PFA) Mudassar Riaz Malik and CEO Lahore Qalandars Atif Rana also participated in an awareness walk to highlight the importance of International Volunteers Day and visited a stall established by Lahore Waste Management Company.