Barkat Rice Mills

General Asim discusses defence and military ties with UAE President

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir discussed defence and military ties with United ab Emirates President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on his first official visit to the Gulf country, a statement issued by the Emirates News Agency (WAM) said Tuesday. The two sides also discussed ways to strengthen military affairs to serve the common interests of the two friendly countries during the meeting, as per the state news agency. (Report on Page 8)

Fawad claims 5 PTI MPAs offered Rs1.2bn inquiry into the phone calls and the bribery offer

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

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Cloudy Weather ISLAMABAD: A view of cloudy weather in Federal Capital on Tuesday. Photo: Online

PM thanks countries, UN for making Resilient Pakistan conference a 'resounding success'

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday expressed gratitude to the countries and the aid agencies for making the conference on Pakistan's post-flood challenges a

"A big thank you to Heads of states and governments, European Union, our development partners and United Nations for making Resilient Pakistan Conference a resounding success," he said in a tweet.

He mentioned the active role of United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in highlighting the plight of Pakistan's flood-hit

population. The UN Secretary General has shown stellar leadership all along. People of Pakistan will forever



Shehbaz Sharif said the world witnessed vesterday how the nations can come together in a show of solidarity to create a model of win-win partnership to lift suffering humanity out of tragedy.

"I was deeply moved by the compassion on display at Geneva Conference. Together we will

rebuild lives and hopes," he said. Pakistan on Monday secured stan and the United Nations in Development Bank (IsDB), \$2

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will undertake a two-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates on January 12-13. The Prime Minister will visit UAE on the invitation of President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zaved Al Nahyan, Foreign Office spokesperson said in a press release on

PM to visit UAE

on Thursday

The Prime Minister will be accompanied by a high-level delegation; including key members of the cabinet. This would be the Prime Minister's third visit to the UAE after assuming office.

The major pledges made at the Geneva, Switzerland, includconference, co-chaired by Pakied \$4.2 billion from the Islamic billion from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), \$1 billion from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and \$1 billion from Saudi Arabia.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif led the Pakistan delegation at Geneva moot where he described in detail Pakistan's Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction Framework (4RF), which laid out a multi-sectoral strategy for rehabilitation and reconstruction in a climate-resilient and inclusive manner.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Minister for Finance Ishaq Dar, Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman and Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb were part of the prime minister's delegation.

China-Pakistan joint drills

Staff of Pakistan Admiral M Amjad Khan Niazi has said that the interaction between the navies of Pakistan and China provided an opportunity to enhance interoperability, share experience to optimally utilize common sensors, iron out procedures and "further

In that regard, the Sea Guardian series of exercises serve the objectives of fostering interoperability and sharing professional experience to deal with contemporary traditional and non-traditional security threats, he said in an exclusive interview with

Pakistan Navy plans to host the AMAN-23 multinational maritime exercise in February this year, with the Chinese Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, having taken part in previous editions, are again expected to participate.

Geneva moot success of Pakistan, flood victims: Marriyum

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Tuesday that the Geneva conference was a big success for Pakistan and flood victims.

In a statement, she expressed gratitude to the Secretary-General United Nations and the international community.

Marriyum pledged that funds would reach the affected people in a transparent manner which would bring change in their lives.

"We thank the global and national media for highlighting the causes of humanity and climate change", she said, adding this conference had become a symbol of the collective feeling of humanity.

The minister said providing resources will help the flood victims start a new and better life. She said that the conference made the world realise the serious effects of climate

The conference turned coalition government.



thinking into action confront the collective challenge of climate change, she remarked, adding that it will prove to be an important global forum for the improvement of the environment and the planet.

"We also express our sincere

gratitude to the domestic and foreign participants who presented the case of Pakistan and all provinces at the global forum and supported it", she She said that Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif took concrete steps with the collaboration of all provinces and institutions on flood and these are the fruits of those efforts.

She opined that the Geneva $\,$ conference was a global recognition of the joint efforts of the

Global financial support to expedite reconstruction: FM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minis ter Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said the international community and the global financial institutions had pledged more than \$9 billion for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the flood affected areas of Pakistan and expressed the hope that the process would

now be expedited. In a video message shared on his Twitter handle from Geneva, the foreign minister termed the co-hosting of the 'Resilient Pakistan' conference in Geneva as a huge success for Pakistan as they had received pledges more than their expectations.

Expressing gratitude to the international community, the foreign minister said that with this financial support, they would be able to commence work on the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the flood-affected areas, repairing of damaged infrastructure, agricultural, and poverty alle-

Foreign Minister Bilawal ership."



to all the countries and institutions for making pledges of more than \$9 billion and particularly mentioned the United Nations Secretary-General, China, the USA, the European Union, French President Macron, the Middle East countries, all friends and others. "The entire world stands shoulders to shoulders with Pakistan," he said.

Separately, the foreign minister posted on his video message "Good news, Resilient Pakistan conference has exceeded expectations. The international community has united in solidarity with Pakistan's flood victims & pledged 9 billion dollars for recon, rehab & relief. We are particularly grateful to Antonio Guterres for his lead-

Shoe tossed atRanaSanaullah's car in Punjab PA premises

remain grateful," he said.



Monitoring Desk

LAHORE: Unknown person tossed a shoe at Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah's car in Punjab Assembly premises while he was leaving the assembly after attending the assembly session. Dunya

News reported. Sources said that the shoe was allegedly tossed by the driver of PTI MPA Rashid Hafeez. However, Mr Hafeez denied the claim saying, "My driver is wearing shoes in both feet".

Earlie, the assembly session was marred by ruckus ahead of vote of confidence by Punjab Chief Minister Pervez

Pakistan endured suffering by taking part in US war, laments Imran Khan

over \$10 billion pledges from the

international financial institu-

tions, donor agencies and devel-

opment partners for the rehabil-

itation, recovery and reconstruc-

tion of flood affected areas, during

an International Conference on

Climate Resilience.

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE : Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan lamented on Tuesday the suffering Pakistan endured as a result of its participation in the US

Addressing a seminar, Mr Khan expressed his concern over the terrorism incidents, warning that if the menace of terrorism would not end, the country would have to face the consequences. "If this war continues, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will suffer more," he added.

Continuing to discuss the matter of terrorism, Mr Khan suggested that the federal government hold regular meetings to address it. He slammed the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)



(PPP) leaders, saying, "When Asif Ali Zardari and Nawaz Sharif were ruling the country, it had witnessed 400 drone

Taking a swipe at Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, Mr Khan said, "Today our prime minister is welcoming the world and the foreign minister

parts of world. He [Bilawal] should have been in Afghanistan by now." Mr Khan also warned

the government not to divert the people's attention from the matter of the TTP. He complained that he was labelled "Taliban Khan", and he claimed that the country would face more suicide attacks in the future. As for Pakistan's role in the US war,

Mr Khan said, "I used to say that Pakistan needed to show neutrality in the US war. We took part in the US war for 20 years."

Underscoring the situation of the farmers in the PTI's government, Mr Khan said, "In our time, in the field of agriculture, the farmers were pleased." He said the rulers were now begging after their [PTI] government was toppled through a foreign plot.

Speaking about the Wazirabad incident, Mr Khan said, "As per media reports, JIT members are being pressurised to distance themselves from the findings of the investigation into an assassination plot against me. This further confirms my conviction that powerful quarters are behind the assassination attempt on

strengthen ties: Pak Naval Chief News Desk

BEIJING,: Chief of Naval elevate our relations."

Global Times.

WAPDA awards Rs11.922bln contract for Mangla Refurbishment **Project** Refurbishment Project, senior

E Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has awarded Rs 11.922 billion contract for Package XI of Mangla Refurbishment Project for Units 9 and 10 to G.E Hydro France.

The contract includes manufacturing, supply, installation and commissioning of the two units, says a press release issued here on Tuesday

General Manager (Hydel) Development, WAPDA, Ihsan Ullah and representative of G.E Hydro France Abubakar signed the agreement in that regard, the press release added.

WAPDA Chairman Lt Gen. (Retd) Sajjad Ghani , Member (Power) WAPDA Jamil Akhtar, project director of Mangla

officers, representatives of the consultants, and the contractors were also present on the occasion. Refurbishment Mangla

Project, on its completion, will enhance generation capacity of the existing Mangla Hydel Power Station from 1000 megawatts (MW) to 1310 MW, thus adding 310 MW additional power with an average 1,610 million units of additional energy per annum to the National Grid.

It may be mentioned that the USAID is providing US\$150 million as grant and AFD is providing 90 million Euros as loan for Mangla Refurbishment Project, while the remaining amount is being arranged by WAPDA through loans and from its own resources.

The Spokesman

Solid Waste Management

HYDERABAD: Workers of PAK-ALTAS company sitting with their vehicles to collect door to door garbage, after the inauguration ceremony of the city cleaning program of Sindh Solid Waste Management Authority with collaboration of Turk company PAK-ALTAS in Qasimabad taluka.



President directs FUUAST to provide justice to student

Mews Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi endorsing an order of Wafaqi Mohtasib (WM) directed Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology (FUUAST) to update the result of a student who had been earlier declared as fail on account of non-submission of a paper.

The student had submitted his paper of Pakistan Studies and its receipt was also



acknowledged but he was non-receipt of the paper for department, President Secredeclared fail on account of the marking in the examination tariat Press Wing said in a press

release on Tuesday.

While upholding the findings of the Wafaqi Mohtasib, the president observed that due to the Corona lockdown as per the policy of the university, the student submitted his paper to the teacher which was to be uploaded online for marking as per SOPs, however, when the result was announced, he was declared as fail.

Despite repeated requests/ complaints by the student, his

result was not updated. The president observed that not suffer.

since the student had submitted his paper to his teacher online and it was the duty of his teacher to submit it to the examination department.

But due to maladministration, the student was denied his rightful result and was declared

The president upheld the decision of Wafaqi Mohtasib and directed the FUUAST to update the result of the complainant on the basis of the paper checked so he did

Saudi Arabia considers providing much-needed financial help to Pakistan



RIYADH: Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud has directed to conduct a study to increase the amount of the deposit it made to the Pakistan's forex reserves to \$5 billion as the South Asian country is currently facing economic woes.

Earlier, the kingdom has parked \$3 billion in the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). In December last, it extended the term of the deposit for further three years, helping the country tackle economic fallout of the devastating floods and financial challenges.

Despite the assistance from the brotherly country, the forex reserves of Pakistan continued to deplete due to debt servicing. Earlier this month, the fx reserves held by the central bank plunged to nearly a decade low of \$4.5 billion after repayment of \$1.2 billion loan to the UAE banks. The reserves held by the commercial banks are standing at \$6 billion.

In order to save the country from defaulting on international liabilities, the coalition government is reach-International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The announcement from the Saudi crown prince to consider increasing the Kingdom's deposit in the SBP comes after the recent visit of the Pakistan Army Chief Gen Asim Munir.

Prince Mohammad bin Salman has directed to study augmenting the kingdom investments in Pakistan which have previously been announced on August 25, 2022 to reach \$10 billion.

He also "directed the Saudi Development Fund (SDF) to study increasing the amount of the deposit provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in favor of the Central Bank of Pakistan (CBP) which have previously been extended on December 2, 2022 to hit a \$5billion ceiling, confirming the Kingdom's position supportive to the economy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and its sisterly people".

The state-run Saudi Arabia's SPA said the development "came within the framework of the existing communication between HRH the Crown Prince and Muhammad Shehing out to the friendly states and the baz Sharif, Prime Minister of Paki-

General Asim discussed defence and military ties with UAE President

DUBAI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir discussed defence and military ties with United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zaved Al Nahvan on his first official visit to the Gulf country, a statement issued by the Emirates News Agency (WAM) said Tuesdav.

The two sides also discussed ways to strengthen military affairs to serve the common interests of the two friendly countries during the meeting, as per the state news agency.

"The two sides reviewed cooperation relations and joint work between the UAE and Pakistan in defence and military affairs, as well as ways to strengthen them to serve the common interests of the two friendly countries,"



said the statement.

Shati Palace. President Nahy-Gen Munir was received by an congratulated the army the UAE president at Qasr Al chief on his appointment, people.

wishing him luck in his new duties to serve his country and thanks and appreciation to the president for congratulating him.

The meeting was attended by UAE's National Security Adviser Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Presidential Court Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Adviser for Special Affairs at the Ministry of Presidential Court Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Tahnoun Al Nahyan, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for National Security Ali Mohammed Hammad Al Shamsi and Staff Lieutenant General Engineer Issa Saif Mohammed Al Mazrouei as chief of staff of the UAE armed forces.

world community on G-20 moot in IIOJK

Mushahid lambasts

Mews Desk

Senate's Standing Committee on Defence Mushahid Hussain Sayed on Tuesday lambasted the world community for its double standards and silence over India's attempts to hold the Group of Twenty (G-20) Summit 2023 in the disputed territory of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

It was rather incumbent upon the world to foil such Indian attempts in solidarity with the oppressed innocent Kashmiris facing the worst state-sponsored human rights abuses, he said while talking to a private news channel.

Senator Mushahid said, "If the world is much concerned then G-20 forum should hold its session in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, which is under Russian attack."

He said the international commu-

nity should not turn a blind eye to the plight of Kashmiris facing the worst violence and persecution at the hands of Indian occupant forces. But its silence over the Kashmiris' loud cries for justice and the just right to self-determination, and India's unilateral decisions on the disputed territory's issues showed its duplici-

The Group of Twenty (G-20) is ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the a leading international economic cooperation forum that has played a key role in shaping and strengthening international governance and framework on all major international economic issues. India got its presidency for a year on December 1, 2022.

According to the G20 official website, the summit logo was inspired by the colours of Indian national flag - saffron, white and green, and blue. It juxtaposes the planet Earth with the lotus, India's national flower that reflects growth

amid challenges, it said. The theme of India's G20 presidency is 'One Earth-One Family-One Future' that affirms the value of all life - human, animal, plant, and microorganisms - and their interconnectedness on the planet Earth and in the wider universe," the website said.

Naveed **Qamar** issued notice over ECP's code of conduct violation



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday issued a notice to Federal Minister for Commerce Naveed Qamar over code of conduct violation.

The minister has been served the notice over announcing development schemes in Tando Muhammad Khan on Jan 7 after the announcement of election schedule for local government elections in Sindh. He has been summoned to the District Municipal Office (DMO) in personal capacity or through a lawyer.

ECP issues arrest warrants for Imran, other PTI leaders

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday issued bailable arrest warrants for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan and other PTI leaders in a contempt case. The ECP had reserved the

verdict of the case on January 3. Former prime minister Imran Khan, PTI leaders Fawad Chaudhry and Asad Umar had sought immunity from attendance in the case which was turned by ECP

bench today. The ECP has directed PTI leaders to secure bail against surety bonds of worth Rs50,000 each before Janu-

On Tuesday last week, the Supreme Court of Pakistan had allowed the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to continue its proceedings against PTI Chairman Imran Khan, and his party



Fawad Chaudhry in contempt case filed against them over controversial remarks against the electoral body.

A three-member bench headed by Chief Justice Umer Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ayesha A Malik and Justice Athar Minallah heard the ECP's petition.

Last year, the top electoral body initiated contempt had urged the top court to proceedings against the PTI transfer all its contempt cases leaders for allegedly using foul against PTI leaders from differleaders Asad Umar and language against Chief Election ent high courts to a single one.

Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja and ECP. It has served several notices on them, asking them to appear in person and explain their point of view.

However, the PTI leaders did not appear before the ECP and later challenged its powers to initiate contempt proceedings under Section 10 of the Contemp cases against PTI Election Act 2017 in different high courts

The ECP in its six petitions

One batch of anti-fever injection declared 'substandard'

Sommerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has declared one batch of the anti-fever injection PARACET (paracetamol) 'sub-standard', ARY News reported on Tuesday.

One batch of the anti-fever injection PARACET (paracetamol) has been declared 'sub-standard' by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP). The authority issued a 'Product Recall Alert' and ordered concerned authorities to immediately seize the

sub-standard batch from the

markets. According to the alert, the batch number CIJI70 of Paracet's 1g/100ml Infusion was found 'substandard & adulterated containing black color particles visible to naked

NA body pass Imports, **Exports** (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Standing Committee on Commerce on Tuesday unanimously passed the Imports and Exports (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

"The Imports and Exports (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022 (Government Bill) as introduced in the National Assembly may be passed," the committee unanimous ly recommended.

The committee met on Tuesday afternoon in the Parliament House, Islamabad under the Chairmanship of MNA Khursheed Ahmed Junejo to discuss the performance of the Ministry of Commerce and its attached departments.

The committee, therefore, decided to invite Secretary Finance and Secretary Industries & Production so that concrete measures could be adopted to expand the network of Pakistani exports worldwide.

19.7mln mobile phones, smart devices manufactured locally in calendaryear

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's local mobile industry witnessed remarkable growth as the companies have manufactured around 19.7 million mobile phones and smart devices during the last calendar year, especially after the government introduced a Mobile Manufacturing Policy to encourage local produc-

"Due to increased local manufacturing, the import of mobile and smartphone devices has decreased from 10.26 million to a record level of 1.37 million," a senior official of the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication

Under the Mobile Device Manufacturing Policy, he said around 30 mobile manufacturers have been issued licenses to start local production of mobile devices.

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

Wana Bazar was closed, announcement to continue the protest



Special Report by Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: The protest sit-in of "Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasoon" (Waziristan peace public movement) in South Waziristan Lower Wana failed to succeed in the negotiations with the civil administration.

All roads linked to Waziristan were closed for traffic, more than 8 thousand shops and business centers of Wana Rustam Bazaar were closed.

Addressing a press conference by the leader of Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasoon (Waziristan peace public movement), PPP senior leader Imran Mukh-

That the negotiations with the local administration were going on for the

But the administration is not serious about negotiations, so "Waziristan Aman Oalsi Pasoln" is thinking of taking more drastic measures.

He said that we are giving this message to the leaders of international human rights, that we are seeking peace in our country and region according to the Pakistani constitution.

But the government is not taking our basic demands seriously, and thousands of people have come out on the streets and roads to get their legitimate

Imran Mukhlis said that we are begging for peace from the state institutions and officials for peace and order

We are being forced to take extreme measures, on the fifth day of the sit-in, more than 8,000 shops and business centers in Rustam Bazar Wana were unanimously locked by traders and

Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasoon' on Friday, January 6 the people of Waziristan responded to the call of (Waziristan peace public movement) and participated in large numbers in the protest and sit-in regarding peace.

"Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasoon" presented ten demands regarding peace to the civil administration and security high ups. On January 7, a three-hour long

meeting was held between the admin-

istration of South Waziristan Lower (DC, DPO and AC Wana). In which there was a detailed discussion on all aspects, the civil administration promised to implement the

demands of "Olsi Passon" as consti-

tutional and legal and sought time for

consultation with the higher authoristration was to end the sit-in.

He said, After that, another meeting was held in which he was asked to sit with the military leadership, The negotiation committee of "Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasun" (Waziristan peace public movement) also accepted this condition of the administration.

But yesterday, on January 9, the civil administration justified some of the demands of the "Olasi Passon", including glass-fronted vehicles, FC patrolling with police, speeding up work at police stations and early start of new police posts The promise was

There was a demand for time for the rest of the demands, which the "Waziristan Aman Olasi Pasoon" did not satisfy, as the aim of the civil admin-

It was not a serious process to justi-

fy only two or three demands out of ten demands because not to provide additional personnel to the police force deployed in Wana Bazar, delaying tactics in action against drug dealers, recovery of Jamshed Wazir and facilities at Angoor Ada Border, all sorts of things Declaration of non-affiliation with armed organizations, transfer of offices, trade Prompt action was possible in providing protection to professionals and bringing criminals to justice after a long consultation with the 27-member committee, the negotiation committee of "Waziristan Aman Olsi Pasoon" finally came to the conclusion that the civil administration is helpless in using the constitutional and legal powers.

Fazeel Asif Jah Appointed As Chairman of the Board of **PCBDDA**

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhary Pervaiz Elahi has appointed Mr. Fazeel Asif Jah as Chairman of the board of Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District (CBD Punjab).

The appointment of Mr. Fazeel has been done under Section 9 of the PCBDDA Act 2021. His

appointment is officially notified by the Secretary of Housing Urban Development & Public Health Department, Government of Punjab. Mr. Fazeel Asif Jah is directed by the CM Punjab, to take the charge with immediate effect.

Export potential needs TDAP coordination



Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) should give priority to Faisalabad in its future strategy to fully exploit its export potential, said Dr. Khurram Tariq, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI). In a meeting with Mr. Zubair Motiwala Chief Executive Officer TDAP, he said that Pakistan should explore non-traditional markets in addition to enhancing export of non-traditional products to maintain its export growth. He said that TDAP should regularly consult FCCI and other stakeholders in formulating its strategy before organizing exhibitions and expos. He underlined the need to materialize the objective of "Look Africa" policy in addition to enhancing bilateral trade to the landlocked Central Asian States, ASEAN and other economic blocks across the world.

He said that Faisalabad is strategically located in the heart of Pakistan. "It has reliable road, rail and air links with the Karachi and Gwadar ports in addition to road connectivity with China and Central Asian States through Afghanistan and Iran", he said and added that TDAP has already identified the impediments in exports to other countries and now practical and tangible steps must be taken to enhance exports. CEO TDAP endorsed the proposal of Dr. Khurram Tariq that Pakistan must fully avail the GSP Plus status as currently we are availing only 5% subsidized lines. He also appreciated the serious efforts of Secretary Commerce Muhammad Suleh Farooqi and hoped that he is trying his best to provide an enabling environment to the Pakistani exporters and business community.

He also stressed the need to promote regional trade in local currencies, adding that it would help to lessen pressure on dollars. "It would also help in curtailing transportation charges", he said and added that we must negotiate and ink preferential trade agreements with new potential markets. He also demanded that a special quota may be allocated for Faisalabad in different exhibitions organized by the TDAP. Dr. Khurram Tariq also invited Mr. Zubair Motiwala to visit FCCI and have direct links with the export community of this city. Later Muhammad Tariq Yousuf President Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) hosted a sumptuous dinner in honor of Dr. Khurram Tariq President FCCI. It was also attended by Mr. Touseef Saigol SVP KCCI, Mr. Zubair Motiwala CEO TDAP, Mr. Javed Bolwani Chairman Pakistan Apparel Forum and Mr. Fareed Iqbal Qureshi Secretary TDAP.

Country places in the red zone in term of per capita water availability

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Experts at an international workshop called for adoption of remote sensing in agriculture for crop area and yield estimation, introduce water markets for conversion of irrigation systems from supply to demand driven.

They addressed International Workshop organized by Precision Agriculture and Analytics Lab, National Centre in Big Data and Cloud Computing, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad at Center for Advanced Studies auditorium.

Prof. Dr. Asif Kamran from UAF in his welcome address said that the country was placed in the red zone in term of per capita water availability. He added that at the inception of the country, the per capita water availability was 5600 cubic meter whereas it has reduced to around 900 cubic meter now. He added we have to create the awareness and take measures to promote rational usage of water and make each drop more productive through precision irrigation technologies. He said that we need to adopt precision agriculture as every grain of seed, every milli metre of agro-chemicals, every horsepower of machinery, and every man-hour of farm labor counts to remain competitive and sustainable in face of global economic and climatic changes. He called for remote sensing in agriculture to estimate the crop yield that will help take timely trade related decisions.

Dr Azeem Khan, Lead Remote Sensing Scientist at the Department of Planning and Environment, Government of New South Wales, Australia said that Pakistan is a water stress country, it has low crop yields and water productivity, untapped land and water resources and a growing population.

BISP Cash Delivery

Quetta: Women waiting in queue to receive cash of Benazir Income Support Program from Easypaisa Shop on Tuesday.



Dawlance and Habib-Metro Bank extend Financial-Facilities for contractors

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Dawlance is Pakistan's leading manu-Memorandum of Undercontractors of Dawlance, Dawlance vendors with the transactions.

option to avail invoice financing from the CashNow® platform of HMBL.

The CashNow® portal is facturer of home applianc- a convenient tool-struces, which has now signed a tured to execute Supply-Chain Finance transactions standing with Habib-Met- for vendors and contractors ro Bank Limited (HMBL) of resourceful companies. to enable the suppliers and So, Dawlance vendors can derive tremendous advantagto undertake Supply Chain es by availing HMB financwith ease. The objective of this invoices, for smooth execucollaboration is to provide the tion of Supply-Chain Finance

of Dawlance - Umar Ahsan Khan said that: "I would like to thank the Habib Metro Bank for creating synergies with Dawlance to enhance the ease-of-doing-business in Pakistan. We are committed to support and build-capacity of our vendors and contractors, who play a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of Finance (SCF) transactions ing facilities, against their our innovative products and strengthening Dawlance as

Metro Bank is aimed at strengthening our contractors' ability to meet their

financial and business needs." Dawlance is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Arcelik-the 2nd largest manufacturer in Europe. It is committed to create greater solutions and convenience for its business associates, while catering to the evolving needs of the customers in Pakistan stan, with sustainable growth. products to other countries.

The Chief Executive Officer This collaboration with Habib Dawlance's award-winning technologies to conserve more than 55% energy, for promising long term sustain-

Habib-Metro Bank is a leading financial institution of Pakistan and it is a subsidiary of Habib Bank AG Zurich, which has established robust operations in 10 countries, across 4 continents. HABIBMETRO Bank has a network of 498 brancha technology-leader in Paki- and exporting high quality es in 198 cities, all over Paki-

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, M/s (i). Adnan Pervez Son of Mahmood Pervez Siddiqui (ii). Imran Pervez Son of Mahmood Pervez co.allottees / share holders of plot No. 249-E, Area Development Scheme Hassanabdal have appointed General Power of Attorney to Mr. Mehmood Mehdi Son of Mohammad Sabuktagin vide registered deeds at Nos. 860/4 dated 12-04-2016, & No. 861/4 dated 12-04-2016 from Sub Registrar Islamabad. The General Power of attorney wish to transfer shares of said plot to 3rd

If any one have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement otherwise objection will not be entertained. **Deputy Director**

Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region Rawalpindi

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mr. Muhammad Ramzan s/o Noor Muhammad & Sheikh Nasir ud Din s/o Sheikh Ghulam Rabani, allottees of plot Nos. 13-E & 15-E, Block-A, Lane-C, Area Development Scheme, Attock have appointed General Power of Attorney to Mr. Ikhlaq Ahmed s/o Muhammad Akbar Khan vide registered deed at No. 293/4 dated 31-05-1992 from Sub Registrar, Attock. The General Power of attorney wish to transfer the above mentioned plots to Mst. Iram Kazmi w/o Ikhlaq Ahmed.

If anyone have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement otherwise objection will not be entertained.

Deputy Director unjab Housing & Town **Planning Agency** Sub Region Rawalpindi

Federal Ministry of Education and **Professional Training**

E City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Rana Tanveer Hussain was the chief guest at the launch event of Deworming campaign today on 10th January, 2022. Rana Tanveer said that the

State is responsible for the education and health of the youth of collective duty to provide the future of Pakistan the right platform so that they can become a contributing citizen for the coun-

Federal Minister was briefed that Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training initiated "School Based Deworming Program in Islamabad Capital Territory" project in 2019. It was



Pakistan. He said that It is our initially, a three years project from tive Research and Development FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22 at the cost of Rs. 21.00 million however; it was extended for further one year i.e. till end of June, 2023. The target was to deworm about 481,823 enrolled children of 5 -14 years in schools. The project was conceived after the detailed survey regarding Soil Transmitted Helminthes (STH) conducted in schools in 2016 by Interac-

(IRD), Pakistan, Indus Health Network (IHN) and Evidence Action, together with the Institute of Development & Economic Alternatives (IDEAS, Mo National Health Services Regulations and & Coordination and World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with Federal and Provincial governments.

Minister was told that the

survey reported that 40 districts trained for administration of STH infections with 17 million school-age-children in need of treatment. The STH prevalence in Islamabad also found more than 20%. While in some areas of ICT the prevalence found more than 50%

According to WHO, children should be de-wormed once in a year where the STH prevalence is between 20 to 50% and at least 75% of the total target of children must be treated for three consecutive years to bring down the prevalence in children. In this regard, three rounds have been conducted in Islamabad and 640,000 students have been dewormed.

The rounds were conducted and private schools who were very appreciable.

across Pakistan are at-risk for medicine. Moreover, to cover the whole ICT, Lady Health Workers were engaged to deworm the students in un registered private schools and out of school children. They were also trained before the campaign. This is the 4 and last round of

the project and the target is 500, 000 children of 5 to 14 years. This round is also being

conducted through the teachers of Federal Directorate of Education and lady health workers. The campaign will start from 9th till 13th January, 2023. The DHO office and District Administration has been supporting this program along with FDE and PEIRA. The support of DHO office and through the teachers of public District Administration ICT is





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SCO continues to scale up its footprint in A**J** \mathcal{E} K and GBwith Spaisa pension account'

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI : Special Communications Organization (SCO) has launched 'S-Paisa Pension Account' facility through its Digital Financial Services "S-Paisa" under the national service initiative with the approval of State Bank of Pakistan. Now with this new service, the pensioners of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan will be able to receive their pension amount at their doorstep.

SCO has always been at the forefront of providing state of the art digital solutions to its customers. Our 'S-Paisa Pension Account' is yet another step forward in this direction It should be noted that this service also includes support of HBL Connect which enabled us to provide OTC based Cash in & Cash out services, Biometric services for proof of life for pension accounts and dormant account activation, all backed up by ATMs.

Pakistan achieves historic success by receiving pledges over 9 billion dollars: Faisal Kundi

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Faisal Karim Kundi Tuesday said that Pakistan had achieved historic success in the Geneva Conference by receiving pledges worth Rs 9.7 billion dollars.

"This was the result of effective diplomatic efforts of the Foreign Minister, Bilawal Bhutto who in a very short span of time visited various countries and sensitized the international community about the post flood situation being faced by Pakistan", he said during a presser.

Flanked by Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Media Coordinator, Nazir Dhoki during the news conference, the SAPM said the total pledges of 9.7 billion dollars included 9.04 billion dollars, 570.50 million Euros and 36 million pounds which is approximately PKR 2204

Faisal Kundi said that the funds

bilitation of the flood affected areas and people across the country.

The way Bilawal Bhutto fought the case of Pakistan at international forums by visiting different countries and inviting United Nation Secretary General to Pakistan for creating awareness and sense of sympathy about the flood damages which reflected his diplomatic wisdom, he said.

He said that still water had not receded from many of the flood affected parts of the country including Sindh, Balochistan, South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and South Punjab. "The country needs serious efforts and financial help for the complete rehabilitation of infrastructure and agriculture sector of the country", he added.

Criticizing the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf propaganda against Bilawal Bhutto visits, Faisal Kundi said that all the political parties should support the efforts of foreign minister for this national cause keeping aside the political differences.

He also criticized PTI for ruining diplomatic relations with the foreign acquired through pledges would be countries and said that the incumbent spent on the reconstruction and reha-government was eager to rebuild ties with tional community to fight the challenge



the friendly countries including Saudi of climate change which was caused by Arabia, Turkey, China, UAE and others who have extended their support in difficult times.

Talking about the climate change repercussions being faced by Pakistan and other countries, Faisal Kundi emphasized on engaging national and interna-

various reasons including illegal deforestation.

About the Benazir Kafalat disbursements under the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), he said the first tranche of Rs 55 billion had been released to the designated banks and retailers for around 7.7 million families.

While a separate amount of Rs 12 billion is being released for the children of Benazir Kafalat beneficiaries under Benazir Education Stipend.

These stipends were being disbursed without any deduction and if a person demands any kind of deduction or fee for payment, the beneficiaries should immediately report to BISP, he said and assured that zero tolerance policy would be adopted in case of any illegal deduction by any means.

Faisal Kundi said that the BISP was closely working with National Database Registration Authority (NADRA) to re-include the Benazir Kafalat beneficiaries who were exited without any verification during the PTI tenure.

He said that the preparation for the launch of BISP dynamic survey had been finalized and would be inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign minister, Bilawal Bhutto soon.

Responding to another question, he said 70 billion rupees had been disbursed among the flood hit families through adopting a transparent procedure.

Construction work

ISLAMABAD: A view of construction work at Bhara Kahu bypass along Srinagar Highway.



Anti-Corruption Seminar in Federal Urdu University Islamabad

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: A one-day seminar was organized in the Federal Urdu University Islamabad on the subject of corruption and remedies in order to raise awareness and consciousness among the people about corruption, in which the special guest was Mr. Tasneem Ahmed Qureshi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and Minister of State for Industry and Production participated on the special invitation of In-charge Islamabad Campus Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Ishaq while the keynote address of the seminar was delivered by Mr. Syed Tahir Kazim Islamabad Police.

A large number of teachers, officers, employees and students participated in the seminar. The ceremony started with recitation of Holy Quran. In his opening address, Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Ishaq, in-charge Islamabad Campus, thanked all the guests and said that his determination is to make Federal Urdu University Islamabad an exemplary institution free from corruption and he will not make any compromise in this regard.



Mr. Syed Tahir Kazim gave the keynote the causes, effects and laws of corruption and informed the attendees about the procedures for filing complaints against corruption in various government insti-

By which the rulers tried to perpetu-

there are some loopholes in them which address in the seminar, who shed light on are used by corrupt elements for their own benefit. So the most important thing is the voice of human conscience. He further said that politics is a sacred profession and the culture of calling each other thieves should end. At the end of the ceremony, the in-charge Islamabad Campus thanked ate their power. As many laws are made, the chief guest and all the participants.

Hamdard Pakistan held festivities under the title of 'Naunehal Grand Carnival'

News Desk

KARACHI: Hamdard Pakistan (HP) held festivities under the title: "Naunehal Grand Carnival" on Monday at Bilawal Stadium, Hamdard Public School (HPS), Madinat al-Hikmah to celebrate the 103rd birth anniversary of Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said, and to pay tribute to his exceptional and remarkable national services for the country. During the event, various entertainment activities were organized including a stage show, jumping castle, and magic show. Also, many decorated food & beverage stalls were set up to facilitate the visitors. More than 6000 people

attended the event. Ms. Sadia Rashid, President of Hamdard Group, graced the occasion as chief guest. She was accompanied by Fatema Munir Ahmed-Managing Director & CEO of HP, Dr. Arshad Saleem-COO of HP, Prof. Dr. Hakim Abdul Hannan, Head of the Clinical Sciences Division at HP, and the senior management of

Hamdard Public School. Ms. Sadia Rashid visited different



stalls including the Rooh Afza stall where children were provided with Rooh Afza for free. There were also stalls featuring bags and suits created by students of HPS. Ms. Sadia Rashid high $ly\,appreciated\,the\,artistic\,aptitude\,of\,the$ children. She encouraged the students in

their efforts and prayed for their success. The highlight of the carnival was

of Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said. This mosaic was made up of many hundreds or thousands of smaller images of Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said taken throughout his life. HPS students made the mosaic and presented it to Ms. Sadia Rashid as a gift. She praised the students and the teachers for such

the unveiling of a large photo mosaic outstanding artwork and said that this photo mosaic illustrates the life-long struggle of Shaheed Hakim Moham-

During the event, the young speakers expressed their deep devotion to Quaide-Naunehal Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said through a special tableau, songs, and speeches.

AIOU organizes an extension lecture on Seerat e Tayyiba



Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Seerat Un Nabi (SAWW) chair, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) organized an extension lecture on "Society manners: in light of Seerat e tayyiba ". Renown scholar, Dr. Yousaf Farooqi presided over the event. A well-known researcher, and religious scholar Jamia Islamia Imdadia Faisalabad, Maulana Mufti Muhammad Zahid, gave a detailed lecture on "Society manners: in light of Seerat e tayyiba". Sahibzada Sajid Ur Rahman hosted the event. Senior Advisor, PMU, Muhammad Rafiq Tahir, faculty members, and students also attend-

Mufti Muhammad Zahid, in his lecture, shed light on the etiquette and manners of society considering Secrat e Tayyiba. Every hadith of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) is full of ethics. His whole life revolves around ethics and respect. Quoting the events and hadiths of the Prophet's life, Mufti Zahid said that no one can negate knowledge and information focused on ethics and manners, provided in Qur'an

Prof. Dr. Sahibzada Sajidur Rehman introduced Maulana Mufti Muhammad Zahid in his welcome speech and said that Maulana Zahid has a great command on the Secrat e Tayyiba. Dr. Yousaf Farooqui said that there is a close relationship between society and civilization, and Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) created a civilization. Mohammad Rafig Tahir explained the aims and objectives of the center of excellence and chairs established in AIOU.

Senior Bureaucracy from Sindh and Balochistanvouch for Gender Sensitive Policies

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Growth for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress (GRASP) a project funded by the European Union and implemented by International Trade Centre (ITC) organized a two-day training



for senior officials from department of agriculture, food, livestock, planning and development, industries and commerce, investment, and women development from Sindh and Balochistan government

The objective of the training was to provide clarity on application of anti-sexual harassment laws to ensure safe workplaces for equal participation, deliver solutions on how to integrate gender into development policies, based on good practices.

The training also analyzed Sindh Women Agriculture Act (2019) and Balochistan Agriculture Policy 2021, Livestock Policy and Strategy 2020-2039, and Women Empowerment Policy 2020-2024 through

a gender equity lens. Mr Haroon Sharif, Former Minister of State and Chairperson, Board of Investment gave a session, addressing the policy and implementation challenges and their remedies based on his experience in development and finance fields. Dr Farzana Bari, eminent women's rights scholar-activist explained the sexual harassment law and why it is important to ensure a secure environment in the workplace as well as the public sphere. Mr Rafiullah Kakar, Member, Social Sector & Devolution Planning Commission of Pakistan gave a session on economic empowerment of youth in Pakistan, particularly Sindh and Balochistan.

Chef Christopher Jayaweera serving as the Executive Chef at PC Lahore

News Desk

LAHORE: Chef Christopher Jayaweera is currently serving as the Executive Chef at Pearl-Continental Hotel, Lahore. He is the driving force behind our culinary team. Exposure to various cultures, familiarity with multi-cultural flavours and his love for cooking has



brought him to Lahore. He combines his passion for creativity with his incredible skill to create memorable events and menus for our clients.

Spanning over a 25-year of professional hospitality experience in five-star hotels in UAE and Sri Lanka, Jayaweera has spent five years at Hilton International Colombo, where he was the Head Chef of Al Noukhaza Sea Food Restaurant. Christopher's philosophy is to make every experience unforgettable. He loves the range of food options available in Pakistan. He says his culinary philosophy is to create authentic food that represents who you are and where you are.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almas Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman: Managing Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood

Bureau Chief Karachi:

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Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan Saleem Zaman Khan. (mszk786@gmail.com Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz.

Karachi office: Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11. Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.

Lahore Office: 7-E.Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com Email:

Whatsapp: 0346-5008408

This year large number of Chinese tourists visiting Pakistan

fter three gloomy years of cross-border tourism due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the year 2023 is expected to witness a boom in the tourism sectors of Pakistan and China.

The current year, named as Pakistan-China Year of Tourism Exchanges, may witness a resurgence in the wake of no pandemic restriction across both countries.

"Exchanges have already started online. We are also working with Chinese tourism associations to develop business linkages. Soon we will finalize a calendar of events and activitie," Aftab ur Rehman Rana, Managing Director of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) told China Economic Net (CEN).

He believes that China, one of the biggest players in the tourism economy at the global level, will find a lot to explore in Pakistan, where a lot of business opportunities are coming up for individual investments in the tourism and hospitality sector.

"Many Chinese people working under CPEC returned to China during the pandemic, now it's time for them to come back with their families for a good visit. I expect that a number of Chinese tourists will visit Pakistan if we have better facilitation of border crossing, economical air ticket packages, and inter-city transportation between major cities like Beijing, Urumqi, Islamabad, Lahore..., he said.

The traffic will be two-way. He told CEN reporter that in China, the silk route was a very popular travel route that had also attracted many tourists from Europe. In Pakistan, the rich history, culture, festivity, and music, will offer a unique travel experience.

In this regard, PTDC has already developed a detailed guidebook on Pakistan in Chinese language. Video films on Pakistan will also be developed with subtitles in Chinese to help Chinese tourists know more about Pakistan. A working committee, having representatives of both the sides, will be formed to make the collaboration in tourism promotion more fruitful.

"It's the most favorable time for bilateral tourism. It's also time to make the visa policy more tourist-friendly on both sides. Tour operators should be encouraged to develop group tour packages so groups of tourists could go an organized matter on a set itinerary and see the beautiful sites on both sides," he further said.

Sincere efforts needed to curtail energy crisis

Raziq Ali Shah

midst economic challenges and fluctuating fuel prices the world over and within the country, exploring alternate energy resources has become imperative for curtailing fuel import bill and providing cheaper energy to domestic, commercial and industrial consumers.

With most of world nations already using solar, wind and hydel power as major chunk of their energy base, time is also ripe for Pakistan to shift to alternate modes of power generation to save precious foreign exchange and boost agriculture and indus-

Since, very less was done in this sector in recent past, the present government has stepped up efforts to curtail ever-increasing fuel imports and making it easy for public to get access to clean, green, environment-friendly and affordable solar energy.

Therefore, National Solar Energy Initiative has been launched by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif led government to tap rich potential of solar ener-

gy. "Federal Cabinet has approved

power instead of using costly imported fuels for power gener-

ation," said Minister for Power Federal Minister for Power Division, Engr Khurram Dastgir said, "Under this framework, three solar power plants are being planned with 1200MW capacity project in Layyah and two each projects of 600MW capacity in Muzaffargarh and Trimmu.

He said that by completing these projects, the consumers would be able to use inexpensive electricity. This is vision and commitment of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to facilitate poverty stricken people of the country on priority basis, he

The minister said that projects of 1-4 MW capacity would also be installed in rural areas and both local and foreign investors had shown keen interest in investing in these projects. "Investors have been briefed on 600 MW initial solar power project as the government plans to add over 10,000 MW power to national grid in near future."

Mentioning the government's priority for cleaner and cheaper power, he said, coal and oil prices witnessed sharp increase of 300-400 percent in international market in recent years and

consumers could not afford this asked to complete required ly reduce fuel import bill besides

"Therefore, all new projects would be based on wind, solar, hydel, nuclear and Thar coal potential as price of solar and wind energy was around 50-60 per cent less than other fuel," he

Referring to the Cabinet's approval of recommendation by Power Division, the minister said, these steps included running of the existing power units on solar energy during day time instead of using costly imported fuel, grant permission to private investors for establishing small scale 11 KV feeders in rural areas and shifting the government-owned buildings to solar system.

He said the government has also approved power subsidy for farmers to provide them electricity on affordable rate of Rs13 per unit. "Recently inaugurated 100 MW 'Zhenfa Solar Project' in Layyah district of South Punjab would also produce cheaper power at Rs 9 per unit."

Meanwhile an official at Power Division has informed that all Federal Government ministries, departments, authorities and their offshoots in provinces would immediately switch to solar energy. "Relevant authorities and stakeholders have been

process by end of April."

This initiative would help generate 300 MW to 500MW cheap power on fast track as part of an overall 10,000 MW power generation plan, he said adding, Converting the government buildings to solar power would help slash to some extent, the huge chunk of country's costly fuel import bill hovering around \$27 billion.

As the Engineering Development Board (EDB) is in process of formulating a Solar Panel Manufacturing Policy to promote local production and help meet each year growing power needs, energy experts hope that in near future, alternate energy resources would be

"Pakistan receives one of the best solar irradiations in the world and has a potential to generate over 2.324 million megawatts (MW) electricity per annum through solar thermal and photovoltaic systems," said an energy expert Gul Hassan Bhutto.

He said solar irradiation in Pakistan and India stands at 1,900 Kwh/m2, against China's 1,500 Kwh/m2 and Germany's 1,200 Kwh/m2, Bhutto said. "The government's move is appreciable as it will significant-

adding environment friendly and clean energy to national grid."

He said transparent solar was a cutting-edge technology and can be gathered and used through windows or any glass surface, regardless of the angle. "It has the potential to be a game-changer in terms of broadening the scope of solar."

CEO of 3-Ray Solution, Imran Imtiaz Butt has claimed that approximately 1.5 hours of continuous sunlight fall on earth was enough to resolve global energy crisis. "Every second around 173,000 terawatts of solar energy reaches the earth surface that can easily provide 10,000 times more electricity than the current production around the globe."

He claimed if only 16 per cent of the total area of the Sahara Desert is covered with solar panels, the total energy demand of the world could be met.

Solarization Project would hopefully produce desired results but it will soar demand of solar panels. Therefore there is direly needed that the government should not only ensure continuation of these projects but also devise a pricing mechanism so the ordinary consumers are not fleeced of their hard earned money by the business cartels.



A child or youth died once every 4.4 seconds in 2021 – UN report

Spokesman Research

n estimated five million children died before their fifth birthday and another 2.1 million children and youth aged between 5–24 years lost their lives in 2021, according to the latest estimates released by the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME).

In a separate report also released on Monday, the group found that 1.9 million babies were stillborn during the same period. Tragically, many of these deaths could have been prevented with equitable access and high-quality maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health care.

UN IGME was established in 2004 to share data on child mortality and report on global progress towards child survival goals, among other objectives

The group is led by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and includes the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank Group, and the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

"Every day, far too many parents are facing the trauma of losing their children, sometimes even before their first breath," said Vidhya Ganesh, Director of UNICEF's Division of Data Analytics, Planning and Moni-

"Such widespread, preventable tragedy should never be accepted as inevitable. Progress is possible with stronger political will and targeted investment in equitable access to primary healthcare for every woman and

Access to and availability of quality healthcare continues to be a matter of life or death for children globally, the group said. Most child deaths occur before the age of

five, and half are within the very first month of life. For these babies, premature birth and complications during labour, are the leading causes of death.

Similarly, more than 40 per cent of stillbirths occur during labour, though most are preventable when women have access to quality care throughout pregnancy and childbirth.

"It is grossly unjust that a child's chances of survival can be shaped just by their place of birth, and that there are such vast inequities in their access to lifesaving health services," said Dr Anshu Banerjee, Director for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing at WHO.

Even today, children still face "wildly differentiating chances of survival" depending on where they were born, with sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia shouldering the heaviest burden.

Although sub-Saharan Africa had just 29 per cent of global live births, the region accounted for 56 per cent of all under-five deaths in 2021, and Southern Asia, 26 per

Children born in sub-Saharan Africa also have the highest risk of childhood death in the world - 15 times higher than those in Europe and North America.

Meanwhile, mothers in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia, experience the painful loss of stillbirth at an exceptional rate. In 2021, 77 per cent of all stillbirths occurred in these regions, and nearly half of all stillbirths happened in sub-Saharan Afri-

ca. The risk of a woman having a stillborn

baby there, is seven times more likely than

in Europe and North America.

"Behind these numbers are millions of children and families who are denied their basic rights to health," said Juan Pablo Uribe, World Bank Global Director for Health, Nutrition and Population, and Director of the Global Financing Facility.

"We need political will and leadership for sustained financing for primary healthcare which is one of the best investments countries and development partners can make,"

While the COVID-19 pandemic has not directly increased childhood mortality, it may have increased future risks to their longerterm survival, according to the reports.

Disruptions to vaccination campaigns, nutrition services, and access to primary healthcare could jeopardize child health and well-being for many years to come, according to the reports.

Furthermore, the pandemic has also sparked the largest continued backslide in vaccinations in three decades, putting the most vulnerable newborns and children at greater risk of dying from preventable diseas-

The two reports are the first of a series of important data sets, with UN maternal mortality figures set to be published later in

Even though they highlight the remarkable global progress since 2000 in driving down under-five mortality, more work is still needed, said John Wilmoth, Director of the UN DESA Population Division.

"Only by improving access to quality healthcare, especially around the time of childbirth, will we be able to reduce these inequities and end preventable deaths of newborns and children worldwide," he said.

The new generation and our responsibilities

Javed Ullah Raja

hen we think about our young

generation, ultimate thoughts divert to unemployment. This is also important because it is increasing with time. The remedy of which is very important because it is an obstacle to poverty and the economic development of the country. Today, millions of students are graduating from countless colleges and universities of the country with degrees. It is our misfortune that the majority of the country's population is after completing education, part of them go in search of employment. The main reason for this is that we do not have such opportunities for the educated class to set up their own business, industry or factory, which would not only provide enough for themselves and their families, but also become a source of employment for others. It has been seen that the educated class can handle any business as well as no other. Anyway, some writers say that from getting education it is low investment that after education for a search of job. But this witness is also true because we do not have to provide opportunities, resources for the educated class to stand on their own feet. Neither for the unemployed persons is engorged for technical fields. If all this were done, unemployment could be brought under control to a great extent.

On the one hand, where there are very few employment opportunities, there are other kinds of complications, which need to be mentioned. First of all the employer i.e. the organization is responsible for this because they only need manpower who have experience. Where can this ability come from after getting education and taking degrees? It is obvious that if you get work somewhere, experience will come. But no organization is ready to hire without it. Apart from this, every organization would have tried to give priority to retired people. They are definitely a part of our society, but if you look at it from the other side, it is understandable that where should the educated youth go,

so this is a huge loss of rights falls into the category. Because in this race, neither education nor age limit is seen in this context. It is a matter of thinking that if they are eligible even till with their age, the institutions in which they were working why does they retire? In addition, there are many areas of our country that get special discounts. It must be found. But it is also very important to see. Question arises, what is the fault of those who live in the big cities and areas? Even if the academic grades of young people from remote places are very low, they get admissions for higher education and also get jobs.

Despite the passage of years, new cities, new commercial centers, new factories do not come into being. Rather, every new government that comes, not only blocks the running industries and institutions, but also seeks to close them down. There is a dire need not only to consider these few factors, but also to remove them on a war footing. These few reasons are preventing the youth from moving forward, also preventing the development of the country. This is our poor strategy. That our entire, literate class, talent, energy and youth force are shifting to abroad. We never think that their effects are directly or indirectly affecting the development of the country and where we were years ago today. Even more than that, we are moving backward. Look at our basic resources, electricity, water and gas, which are in dire need in every field, are getting worse day by day. Will it would not be right to say here that the age of coal and stone is coming back due to our useless strategies. In hell let's look at the countries in the world. The countries that emerged on the world map years after us are far ahead of us, among which China is the on the top, today it is fulfilling all kinds of needs of the whole world and we are also fulfilling our own needs and are staring at small countries. . The future of the country in terms of prosperity, social and economic development is in the hands of the new generation. For which a strong strategy is our responsibility.

Writer is senior analyst and reached at javedullahraja@gmail.com

International Conference 'Dialogue Is a Guarantee of Peace' held in Ashgabat

News Desk

ASHGABAT :The final document of the International Conference "Dialogue is a Guarantee of Peace", held in Ashgabat on December 11, 2022 in the frames of the Ashgabat International Week, was published in the six official languages of the UN (A/77/651) as an official document of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly under paragraph 14 Agenda "Culture of Peace".

The document reflects the fundamental goals and principles of the UN Charter, which include obligations to resolve disputes by peaceful means and methods. In this context, the notes the need to implement global document emphasizes that inclusive dialogue in its various manifestations plays an important role in strengthen- of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable ing relations and cooperation among Development.

The Outcome Document also supports the initiative of the UN Secretary General on the formation of a New



Agenda for Building Peace, which is consonant with the initiative of Turkmenistan to promote the philosophy of "Dialogue as a guarantee of peace".

In addition, the published document strategies and programs of the UN, in particular, the joint implementation that the policy of neutrality plays an efforts of the international communiimportant role in the development of a peaceful dialogue, trusting, friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the countries of the world and contributes to the strengthening of international peace and security at the regional and global levels. At the same time, the importance of preventive diplomacy is emphasized, in particular, the effective activities of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in Ashgabat in order to support the efforts of the world community to peacefully resolve conflicts in the interests of maintaining peace, as well as the need to develop and strengthen preventive diplo-

macy tools. Guarantee of Peace" promoted by Turk-

The Final Document emphasizes menistan is aimed at consolidating the ty in strengthening the traditions of peaceful and trusting coexistence of the peoples of the world, restoring values and worldviews, defining a culture of peace and trust as an integral factor in international relations.

The conference "Dialogue is a Guarantee of Peace", which laid the foundation for the launch in 2023 of the Global Campaign for Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace, has become a clear confirmation that Turkmenistan, being an active member of the world community, is not limited only to putting forward significant initiatives aimed at developing wide international cooperation that meets the fundamental interests of all countries and peoples, The Global Initiative "Dialogue is a but also takes consistent steps towards their practical implementation.

Presenting Shield

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC), Ehsan ur Rehman Mazari presenting a shield to the Argentinian Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Leopoldo Francisco Sahores on Tuesday.



FAO's support for Pakistan: from immediate response to resilience building

News Desk

GENEVA: The Food and Agriculture Organization of will continue to play a leading role in transforming ed by the climate crisis. Pakistan's agri-food systems to make them more efficient, provide support to the inclusive, sustainable and resilient, a challenge that has from immediate response gained in urgency following to long-term recovery and recent floods that have devas- resilience building," Qu told tated the country's agriculture the conference, which saw sector, Director-General QU

Internation-Todav's al Conference on Climate Guterres, Pakistan Prime Resilient Pakistan in Gene- Minister Muhammad Shebaz va, co-hosted by the Government of Pakistan and the UN, Emmanuel Macron. took place in the wake of last summer's floods, which had a particularly destructive of livestock assets – the last yields and increased returns of impact on the Asian coun- remaining asset for many try's agriculture sectors and

lihood. Pakistan had already experienced devastating floods in 2010 and is considtries in the world most affect-

"FAO will continue to Government of Pakistaninterventions from a range of Dongyu told a UN conference. global leaders, including UN Secretary-General Antonio Sharif and French President

The FAO Director-General called for the protection affected families – as well as on the smallholders who rely for urgent support to farm- 16 million people will benefit decade," Qu said

on agriculture for their live- ers to secure the Rabi planting season.

To date, FAO has mobilized over \$25 million and the United Nations (FAO) ered among the top 10 counhas provided over 600 000 affected people with seeds and fertilizers. In addition, livestock vaccination campaigns have been completed in the Balochistan Province and are being finalized in Sindh, while livestock feed distribution will

begin shortly, Qu said. Other examples of FAO's role in Pakistan include the provision of technical leadership for the Transforming Indus Basin Initiative, funded by Green Climate Fund. Through this programme, some 1.3 million people in vulnerable areas of the Indus River basin will see improved between 30 and 80 percent in the core of the FAO Stratetheir production. In all, about

from the programme, either directly or indirectly.

More recently, FAO has begun rolling out a European Union-funded programme to revive water resources in Balochistan. This project seeks to harness the province's limited water resources and ensure their smarter use in agriculture, alongside improved rangeland management for livestock rearing.

"In Pakistan, we will require massive and sustained investments in climate change adaptation and resilience. especially within the agri-food sectors," Qu told the conference. This is crucial to ensure "better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life for all - the '4 Betters' that are at gic Framework for the next

MoU signed to promote Sino-Pakistan coop on vocational education

№ Web Desk

BEIJING: The representatives from Shandong Institute of Commerce and Technology, Gwadar Port Authority, University of Gwadar, and China Overseas Ports Holding Company signed an agreement to promote cooperation on vocational education.

A signing ceremony for the joint operation agreement of Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute, built under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The event was attended by students, and professionals from all walks of life, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on

According to the agreement, the four parties will be collectively responsible for the operation and management of the institute. For this purpose, an executive body will be formed for policy making and implementation.

Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute is one of the many grant projects initiated in Gwadar by China. The mega-project was completed at a cost of \$10 million and handed over to Gwadar Port Authority in September 2021.

This project, among the many other livelihood support programs undertaken by the Government of China, is widely supported by the local people of Gwadar.

In the preliminary operation program under National Vocational and Technical Commission of Pakistan (NAVTTC), 130 local students – majored in various technical fields - graduated from

the institute. Upon its handover, henceforth, short courses and long diploma certification will be offered in conventional and non-conventional fields with more relevancy

to port and free zone operation. The systematic arrangement of the parties offers chances for subsequent on-site training and ultimately job opportunities for the young graduates.

It will also yield more skilled manpower for the local commu-

A National Workshop on Silvo-Ecological Zones and Aforestation



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A two days national workshop has been kicked off to finalize the Silvo-ecological zones maps, and suitable trees for afforestation under the Ten Billion Tree Afforestation Program in different ecological regions of Pakistan at the local hotel in Islamabad.

In the opening remarks, Mr. Mahmood AkhterCheema, Country Representative, IUCN Pakistan provided an overview of the progress of the independent third party consortium for monitoring of the Government of Pakistan's flagship project-the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Programme. He thanked the BMZ and German Embassy for their continued cooperation which has resulted in achieving another crucial milestone. In the opening remarks, Mr. Mahmood AkhterCheema, Country Representative, IUCN Pakistan provided an overview of the progress of the independent third party consortium for monitoring of the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Programme. He thanked the BMZ and German Embassy for their continued cooperation which has resulted in achieving another crucial milestone. He noted that the active participation of all provincial focal points from forest departments have made this possible, without their input and interest it was not possible to develop and finalize this list.

Dr. Faiz-ul-Bari, FAO Forests Advisor, informed workshop participants that FAO has provided technical support for monitoring activities on the ground and developed a system that maps the coordinates of the activities, which is reflected in the web-based GIS system. .

Dr. Javed Ahmad, Technical Advisor, TBTTP Consortium presented the overall objectives of this workshop and responded the queries

Mr. Riaz Wagan, Chief Conservator Forests of Sindh, emphasised the significance of species selection in calculating carbon sequestration, timber requirements, and medicinal use.

Mr. Asim Jamal, Project Manager, TBTTP 3rd Party Consortium informed that the selection of tree species for plantation in Pakistan would requires considering the local environmental conditions, the specific goals of the afforestation project, the involvement of local

In his closing remarks, H.E. Mr. Alfred Grannas, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany congratulated the consortium on behalf of German government for accomplishing another milestone; Government of Pakistan has played a key role for this flagship afforestation initiative. Sustainable development necessitates strong partnerships, and IUCN-led consortium of WWF and FAO is making

Provincial forest department representatives lauded the Consortium's efforts in developing the guidelines and organising this workshop. They praised the comprehensive guidelines and suggested that they be used in current and future afforestation and rehabilitation programmes for degraded forest landscapes.

CRBC \$100,000 *donation in* place for flood-hit families in Pakistan



News Desk

BEIJING: China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), a longstanding partner of Pakistan in transport and infrastructure network development, donated a total of US\$100,000 to the flood-hit families in Pakistan.

In October 2022, Wang Lijun, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and General Manager of the company attended the donation ceremony at the Pakistani Embassy in China.

According to the company, the donation will be divided into two parts, RMB 100,000 will be donated to the Pakistani Embassy in China and Rs 20.08 million will go to the Prime Minister's Flood Relief Fund, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

Expressing sincere sympathy to the families of the victims and those injured in the flood, Wang believed that with the joint efforts of the Pakistani government and people, they would overcome the difficulties and life and work would go back to normal at an early date.

Wang talked with Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque about the company's key project progress in Pakistan and expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Embassy for its long-term guidance and help.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Moin paid tribute to CRBC's contribution towards Pakistan-China friendship and its role in successful completion of many vital infrastructure projects in Pakistan including the Khunjerab-Raikot section of Karakorum Highway and KKH realignment projects at Attabad Lake and Havelian-Thakot sections.

Punjab, California sign sister province agreement

Spokesman Report

WASHINGTON: An agreement to declare Punjab and California as sister provinces was signed on 9 January 2023 at the State Capitol building in Sacramento, California, capital of the U.S. state of California, aimed at bolstering a mutually beneficial relationship.

Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the California State Assembly, signed the agreement on behalf of the state, while Wasif Khurshid, Chairman of the Planning and Development Board, signed on behalf of the Punjab govern-

U.S., Masood Khan, witnessed the signing ceremony.

Attending the signing ceremo-

Governor of California, Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis; Speaker Rendon, Chris Holden, members of the California State Assembly, US State officials and large untapped economic potential number of Pakistani-American community activists. Ambassador Masood Khan

and the visiting Pakistani delegation were warmly received at the California State Assembly and the delegation was recognized and greeted on the floor of the House, according to a press release issued by the Pakistani embassy.

The sister province agreement between California and Punjab Pakistan's Ambassador to the would promote mutual trade and commerce and increase the potential for educational, environmental, and cultural ny were former Prime Minister relations between the Province

Yousaf Raza Gilani; Lieutenant of Punjab and the State of California, the Pakistani envoy said later at another event, adding that it would also provide an opportunity to exploit the and promote people-to-people

The state of California, which is among the top four economies of the world, and a vibrant middle class of Punjab, would create the required synergies for nurturing a mutually beneficial relationship and a win-win partnership, Masood Khan said.

Earlier, the delegation visited the University of California Davis, a leading agricultural and veterinary research university in the world and met Chancellor Gary May. Both sides discussed ways to strengthen the collaboration between UC Davis, and the



Agriculture University Faisalabad and agreed to further build on the partnership, according to the press release.

The two sides discussed ways Davis support in hybrid seeds of and means to promote collabo- wheat, cotton and rice also came ration in the export of mangoes under discussion. Cooperation tural bases and vibrant populaand dates from Pakistan. UC on Climate smart agriculture

was also discussed during the meeting, it said. The delegation also attended

a reception hosted by Dr. Asif Mahmood, a prominent Pakistani-American politician, at his residence.

It was attended, among others, by Congresswoman Judy Chu, California State Assembly member Holden, Former secretary Labour Hilda Solis, representatives from the State Assembly and a large number of Pak-American community leaders, educationists and social entrepreneurs.

Welcoming the Pakistani delegation to California, Congresswoman Chu highlighted similarities between California and Punjab including strong agricultions of the two sides.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

Index	Fluctuation	
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close	
40,801.50	40,504.76	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
40,986.44	40,504.76	
Index Value	Change	
5,339,937,899	+296.74	
Percentage	Time	
+0.73%	Jan 10, 2023 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
7,697.63	-27.31	
Percentage	Time	
-0.32%	10 Jan, 3:59 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Averago	
Index Value	Change	
33,599.03	+81.38	
Percentage	Time	
+0.24%	10 Jan, 11:04 am GMT-5	

	GIVI 1 + 9
Open Market	Forex Rates

<u> Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average</u>

Change

+201.71

Time

10 Jan, 3:15 pm

Index Value

26,175.56 **Percentage**

+0.78%

Currencu	Duving	Calling
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	165	166.25
Bahrain Dinar	606.69	611.19
Canadian Dollar	177	178.35
China Yuan	33.68	33.93
Danish Krone	32.99	33.34
Euro	270	272.2
Hong Kong Dollar	29.09	29.44
Indian Rupee	2.76	2.84
Japanese Yen	2.48	2.52
Kuwaiti Dinar	745.63	750.63
Malaysian Ringgit	50.95	51.4
NewZealand \$	145.98	147.18
Norwegians Krone	22.43	22.73
Omani Riyal	592.78	597.28
Qatari Riyal	62.26	62.76
Saudi Riyal	66.8	67.25
Singapore Dollar	170.12	171.42
Swedish Korona	21.78	22.08
Swiss Franc	244	245.75
Thai Bhat	6.8	6.9
U.A.E Dirham	68.7	69.3
UK Pound Sterling	306	309
US Dollar	234.65	237

Zong 4G places Seed pouches at Customer Care centers as a part ofinnovative ënvironmental campaign



Example 2 Commercial Report

ISLAMABAD: As a part of Zong 4G's ongoing efforts to battle the effects of climate change and create a 'Green and Low Carbon Pakistan, their CSR team has initiated their Seed Pouch campaign. Zong 4G will be sending more than 10,000 Seed Pouches to CSCs all across the country.

Zong 4G will be placing Seed Pouches comprising of fruit, vegetable as well as flowering seeds in their CSCs (Customer Service Centers) for walk-in customers. These seeds can be easily planted and don't require much upkeep, therefore, making this an effective method to promote tree plantation and increase the number trees planted in the country.

"Creating a sustainable environment is one of the core focus areas of or CSR strategy and our Seed Pouches Campaign is an innovative way to do that," said Zong 4G's official spokesperson.

These fun and creatively designed pouches will directly contribute to the efforts to create a better environment for a better tomorrow. The execution will be actively addressing Climate Change and contributing towards the SDGs on a national scale.

The main focus will be in the following cities; Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Quetta and Peshawar. The monumental effect of this activity alone is a great example of how Zong 4G believes in involving all stakeholders to make a difference and bring about a positive change.

Huawei Datacom Named a Leader in the 2022 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Huawei announced that it was named a Leader in the 2022 Gartner® Magic Quadrant[™] for Enterprise Wired and Wireless LAN Infrastructure, the only non-North American vendor positioned in the Leaders Quadrant. Huawei takes it as a milestone and believes it is yet another testament to the global recognition of Huawei's full lineup of network offerings. Huawei's wide range of solutions include the CloudCampus 3.0 Solution, Cloud Engine series switches, Air Engine Wi-Fi Access Points (APs), and iMaster NCE automatic and intelligent network management

As an excellent supplier in the global enterprise wired and wireless LAN infrastructure market, Huawei has a holistic set of enterprise wired and wireless LAN infrastructure offerings. Featured products and solutions include the end-to-end Cloud Campus Solution



CloudEngine series switches, award-winning AirEngine Wi-Fi APs, and field-proven iMaster NCE automatic and intelligent network management platform. To date, these products and solutions have served millions of customers worldwide across industries, gaining high praise in the process.

Huawei remains committed to the global enterprise market, and constantly innovates to set the benchmark for enterprise networks in terms of simplified network architecture, bestin-class hardware design, agile software delivacross LANs, WLANs, and WANs, feature-rich ery, and flexible business models. More specif-

solution consisting of the central switch and Remote Units (RUs). Keeping hardware innovation in mind, Huawei has unveiled innovative third-generation Wi-Fi 6 smart antennas and a range of brand-new CloudEngine switches and AirEngine APs. With regard to software innovation, Huawei stands out with the powernetwork management platform that underpins the industry's first L3 autonomous driving network for campuses.

When it comes to innovative business models, Huawei differentiates itself from ments of fact. other vendors by launching a leasable and salable cloud management platform model, as well as flexible deployment options, including on-premises, Huawei public cloud, and MSP-owned cloud. To date, Huawei's campus network offerings have been widely used by customers in over 170 countries and regions

architecture from three layers to two with its helping them build a solid digital bedrock for their digital transformation journey.

To learn more about Huawei's CloudCampus Solution, please visit: https://e.huawei.com/en/ solutions/business-needs/enterprise-network/ campus-network Gartner Disclaimer: Gartner does not endorse any vendor, product or service depicted in our research publications, and does ful iMaster NCE automatic and intelligent not advise technology users to select only those vendors with the highest ratings or other designation. Gartner research publications consist of the opinions of the Gartner research organization and should not be construed as state-

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Waiting for Customer

ISLAMABAD: Labourers waiting along with their tools for daily wages work while sitting on roadside



ICCI calls for strong measures to address massive hike in inflation

ISLAMABAD : Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry has expressed great concerns over the massive hike in inflation in Pakistan that has made life miserable for the common man besides affecting the business activities. He called upon the government to take strong measures on an urgent basis to address the rising inflation in order to save the general public from further troubles and businesses from more losses. He said that the average rate of inflation in January 2022 was around 13 percent, which has crossed 30 percent in January 2023, which is a historic increase in inflation in one year.

Ahsan Bakhtawari said that as per data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the price of onion has increased by over 500% in one year, chicken by over 82%, eggs by over 50%, salt powder by over 49%, dal moong by over 47%, broken rice by over 46%, flour by over 45% and rice Irri by over 43%, which showed that the common man has almost been crushed by the inflation. He said that in one year, the price of diesel has also surged by over 60% and petrol by over 48%, which contributed to inflation. He said that the diesel is used causes of inflation and take urgent meas-



in the agriculture and transport sector and any increase in its price leads to more inflation. He said that due rising inflation, the purchasing power of the people has shrunk significantly, due to which business activities are slowing down and the economy is getting weak. He said that the great devaluation of the rupee, hike in the prices of electricity, gas and petroleum products has pushed up the inflation while the people are now facing a flour crisis. He stressed that the government should conduct a detailed analysis of the

ures to address them.

Faad Waheed, Senior Vice President ICCI, said that due to climate change and last year's floods, the risks of food security for Pakistan have increased due to which the country may face shortage of many food items in future. He said that despite being an agricultural country, Pakistan's food import bill in 2022 reached US\$ 9 billion, while the State Bank of Pakistan has also warned that food security risks are increasing for Pakistan due to the growing population and global warming. Therefore, he demanded that the government should formulate a comprehensive strategy in consultation with the stakeholders to ensure food security of the

Engineer Muhammad Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that due to last year's floods, Pakistan has suffered an estimated loss of over US\$ 30 billion, while the donors' conference in Geneva has pledged over US\$ 10 billion for Pakistan. He emphasized that the donors aid should be used to rehabilitate the flood affected people besides reviving the agriculture and infrastructure in flood hit areas that would reduce food security risks by improving agricultural production and save the people from more inflation.

4th Financial **Crime Summit to** be held this week

Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The 4th Financial Crime Summit will be held this week on January 14, 2023 in Karachi, with the theme 'Post-FATF Financial Crime Action Plan - Continuing the National Anti-Financial Crime Agenda'. The Summit is being organized by Dellsons Conferences under the banner of Dellsons Associates, together with its Knowledge Partner, A. F. Ferguson & Co., a member firm of the PwC network. The two organizations have been collaborating regularly to put together knowledge sharing and capacity building events for the bankcommunity, pertaining to a wide range of key topical matters.

Honourable President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi is expected to grace the event as the Chief Guest. Speakers and & CEOs and compliance and other entities, senior ry bodies and law enforcement agencies, including NACTA and PSX among others. There will also be participation of some foreign financial crime experts from and academic backgrounds.

Speaking on the relevance Amin, Chairman Dellsons cation.

stated, "Pakistan has taken great strides in addressing the FATF action plan and coming out of the grey list, with the State Bank of Pakistan and numerous other government bodies playing a key role to achieve the target. Real challenge now is to continue with the momentum particularly in these times of economic and political vulnerabilities, and ensure Pakistan does not become a target of FATF increased monitoring list in the coming years. Thus the ing and financial services 4th Financial Crime Summit will make a vital contribution in this regard by bringing together national and international stakeholders and experts, to share their insights, knowledge and

expertise." Some of the key topics panelists at this high-profile that will be covered in the summit include Presidents Summit include insights from relevant regulators chiefs of commercial banks and LEAs in Pakistan on the latest financial crime trends, representatives of regulato- FATF compliance journey and post-FATF action plan, impacts of financial SBP, SECP, FMU, FBR, FIA, crime strategies on business models, results of 2nd Financial Crime Survey conducted by A. F. Ferguson & Co., a member firm of PwC across consulting, fintech network, financial crime considerations for fintechs. understanding dark web and of the Summit, Ibrahim related financial crime impli-

Affordable certified training platform launched by L'Oréal **Professionnel**

KARACHI: L'Oréal Pakistan is reaffirming its commitment to create opportunities for women in Pakistan with the establishment of L'Oréal Professionnel Institute of Pakistan LPIP. The ambitious program, will launch in early 2023, aiming to provide affordable certified trainings from the ground up for aspiring as well as existing hairdressers.The vision behind the program is to explore and unlock the potential of the hairdressing community in

Pakistan. LPIP hopes to attract zealous women who wish to kick start their career in hairdressing for this initiative. It aims to partner with women centric NGOs and organizations to identify underprivileged women, who have the passion but lack resources and direction, the team aspires to use LPIP as the platform where they help them overcome this major barrier, providing them with free of cost professional hairdressing education that would help them to embark on their journey of financial independence.

The beauty company strongly believes and advocates the importance of economic mobility and financial independence for women in Pakistan and strives to create extensive opportunities that would help pave way to their success.

Commenting on the launch, Qawi Naseer, Country Managing Director L'Oréal Pakistan, said, "At L'Oréal, equal opportunity is etched into our DNA. We believe it is essential for women to be given the opportunity to access the right education, training and opportunities enabling them to assume an active role in the economy in order to sustainably move towards a world that is equitable, diverse, and inclusive. Through the launch of L'Oréal Professionnel Institute of Pakistan [LPIP] we look to continue to provide the right platforms to women to pursue their ambition and to achieve financially independence."

The company believes that supporting women is not only the right thing to do but also ensures the forging of a pathway toward a sustainable, fair and inclusive future.

Shell Pakistan is the official fuelling partner of Multan Sultans for PSL Season 8

KARACHI: Shell Pakistan announced the continuation of its sponsorship of Multan Sultans team in the HBL Pakistan Super League Season 8, scheduled to begin in February 2023. Shell is extending its power-packed partnership for the 3rd year with the same team in the PSL tournament, which engages millions of cricket enthusiasts every year. Multan Sultans was the champion of PSL Season 6 held in 2021 andwas the runner-up team in Season 7 held in 2022.

PSL has emerged as the most successful brand of cricket in Pakistan, while Multan Sultans is a very popular franchise team in the tournament.



Shell is offering many great opportunities for its customers, to win valuable prizes cricket extravaganza. and avail exciting offers on the purchase of Shell V-Power, a premium, high-octane stated, "We are delighted to fuel that enables car and bike be a part of Pakistan's biggest engines with unbeatable cricketing extravaganza, in performance and protection. collaboration with Multan

favourite players while enjoying exclusive access to this

Shell customers may also get Sultans.

Through this sponsorship, an opportunity to meet their

The Country Chair of Shell Pakistan, Waqar Siddiqui

their excitement over the continuation of their relationship with Shell Pakistan, Syed Haider Azhar,the COO of Multan Sultans stated, "We are really happy to continue our partnership for a third year with Shell, one of Pakistan's biggest and most icon-

Shell Pakistan has great

confidence in the country's

youth and enthusiastical-

ly supports healthy sporting

This tournament provides

millions of people with exhil-

arating entertainment and

opportunities to develop

Multan Sultans expressed

world-class athletes".

ic brands whose approach to excellence mirrors our own at Multan Sultans. They are committed to fueling the passion of the fans".

Golden Star, Shahkamal Club triumphant in K-20 Cup 2023 **T20 Tournament**

Sports Reporter

LAHORE: Golden Star Cricket Club and Shahkamal Club emerged as triumphant in the K-20 Cup 2023 T20 Cricket Tournament here on Tuesday.

The event, which is a regular annual club tournament, is being played in the memory of Col Fateh Sher Khan. It is being sponsored by a former cricketer Nabeel Ahmad to revive grassroots cricket and to identify new talent.

Raees Butt's scintillating knock helped Golden Star Cricket Club to a 23-run victory over Pak Lions in the 10th match of the tournament. Raees played 43 balls to hammer unbeaten 53 runs that included three fours and three sixes while Ali Raza slammed 36 runs and Usama Tahir 19 to help Golden Star Club post a decent total of 156 for 6 wickets in 20 overs. For Pak Lions, Haris Khan bagged 2 wick-



Brilliant bowling by Raees Butt and 133 for 10 wickets in 18 overs. Both the Abrar Ahmed restricted Pak Lions to bowlers clinched three wickets each

for the winning side. While Ahmad Safi Abdullah grabbed two wickets and M Naveed got one wicket. For Pak Lions, Hassan Nawaz scored 53 runs and Afzal Tahiri struck 39. For his all-round performance, Raees Butt emerged as player of the match.

Shahkamal Club trounced Shinning Cricket Club by 93 in the 9th match of the tournament. Shinning Club, batting first, scored 155 runs for five wickets in the allotted 20 overs. Ibrar Hussain smashed 49 runs, Azizullah 45 and Sheraz Ali unbeaten 16 runs.

Outstanding bowling by Ibrar Hussain (3-6) and Faheem Faisal (3-17) helped Shahkamal Club bundle out Shinning Club at a meager total of 62 runs in 15 overs. Only Syed Kazim Raza (20) and Abdul Salam (15) could cross the double figures.

On Wednesday (January 11, 2023), the only match of the day will be played between Golden Star Cricket Club and Pak Lions at 11:00 am.

Pakistan Women's Football team sets foot in Saudi Arabia for four-nation Cup

A Sports −

DAMMAM: Pakistan Women's Football team on Tuesday has landed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to partake in the upcoming four-nation cup, scheduled from January 11 to 19.

The national women's team will feature in the four-nation tournament from January 11 to 19, the remaining three teams include hosts Saudi Arabia, Mauritius and

The Green Shirts will kick start their four-nation cup here. campaign against Comoros

(PFF) shared a picture of the took the charge of PFF



national squad and supporting staff upon their arrival

It is pertinent to mention on January 11 before taking on that this will be the second Mauritius on January 15 and international engagement

Earlier, the green shirts participated in the South Asian Football Federation

an eight-year hiatus. After losing to India Saudi Arabia on January 19. of the Pakistan Women's and Bangladesh, Pakistan Taking to Twitter, the team after FIFA's nominat- thrashed Maldives 7-0 to in the rankings table, the green Pakistan Football Federation ed normalization committee conclude their first inter- shirts occupied the 160th rank national tournament on a

(SAFF) championship after

winning note.

Consequently, Pakistan women's football team also marked their return to FIFA rankings after a six-year absence.

Following their reinstation with a total of 928.4 points.

Brook, Gardner named ICC Player of the Month for December 2022



Spokesman Report

DUBAI: England's young batter Harry Brook and top-ranked all-rounder in Women's T20Is Ashleigh Gardner capped off a remarkable by claiming the ICC Men's and Women's Player of the Month Award for December 2022 respectively.

Young right-handed English batter Brook, who made an instant impact in the longest format of the game, got the reward for his consistent brilliance as he bagged the player of the month award for December 2022.

Brook accumulated 468 runs with the help of three centuries and a fifty in the y Test series against Pakistan which played a pivotal role in earning him the prestigious title and edge past Pakistan skipper Babar Azam and Australia's Travis

Meanwhile, Gardner beat the other two nominees – England's youngster Charlie Dean and New Zealand batter Suzie Bates - to end the year 2022 on a higher note as she claimed the coveted player of the month award for December.

Gardner enjoyed a splendid individual T20I series against India, amid which she picked up the joint-most seven wickets and also accumulated 115 runs at an average of more than 50.

No runs if a batter gets bowled on free-hit' SA20 brings new rules

CAPE TOWN: In an astonishing move to revolutionize T20 cricket, there will be no run off a "free-hit" delivery if that ball hits the batter's wicket in South Africa's nascent T20 league, SA20, starting today.

On the eve of the inaugural SA20, tournament organizers introduced a host of novel rules to the playing conditions in order to improve the quality of the competition.

According to these new alterations, no runs will be allowed if a free-hit delivery hits the batter's stumps, which is in clear contrast to the International Cricket Council's rules, which allow players to the free hit continued. However, the run even if a player gets bowled out on a free-hit delivery, through the runs will be accounted as byes.

A controversy sparked over runs allowed to India despite Virat Kohli being bowled out on a free-hit delivery in the nerve-wracking game against Pakistan in the last year's T20 World Cup.

The incident happened on the fourth delivery of the final over. Kohli smashed a huge six off Mohammad Nawaz when India needed 13 runs off three deliveries. Umpires called it an above-waist height no-ball on the batsman's insistence



next delivery hit the stumps and ran towards the boundary line through the third-man region with Kohli and Dinesh Karthik running three runs. Pakistan captain Babar Azam had a discussion with the umpire on whether the runs should be awarded to the Indian team, who went on to win the thriller by four wickets. However, the SA20 organizers, now believed that the advantage in such a situation should be given to the

Another unique change introduced by the SA20 is the selection of the playing The next ball was adjudged wide so XI after the toss is conducted – for the

first time in any major T20 tournament. Captains will nominate 13 names before the toss and after the coin flip, 11 players will be finalized and the two left-out players will become substitute fielders.

Moreover, there will be no overthrow runs if the ball deflects off the stumps while attempting for an intentional run-out. Furthermore, a bonus point will be offered besides the standard four points for a win, if a team can win with a run rate that is 1.25 times their opponents. The six-team SA20 competition will kick off on January 10 with MI Cape Town locking horns with Paarl Royals in

Pakistan boat rally to return mid-February

KARACHI: Returning with its second season, the Pakistan boat rally is slated to take place mid-February this year.

Following the boat rally's inaugural edition's success in 2021, the Pakistan Boat Rally and Fishing Association (PBRFA) has decided to keep promoting ocean tour-

"We got a massive response from people after the success of the first edition of the Pakistan boat rally," shared Ahmed Mamoor Amimi, the president of PBRFA, while speaking at a press briefing on Tues-

He announced continuing the rally with the aim to further ocean sports with its second edition deeming a "passion".

"Initially, we plan to hold this rally in mid-February this year," said Amimi.

PCB statement on Mickey Arthur

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board today confirmed it has been in talks with former national team head coach Mickey Arthur with a view to appointing him as the head coach to guide the side through to the ACC Asia Cup, ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 and the ICC Champions Trophy 2025

However, owing to his long-term contract with Derbyshire, we have also discussed a proposal to act as a consultant to the PCB on a time-sharing basis with Derbyshire. Unfortunately, however, this option is proving difficult to materialise for vari-

Under the circumstances, the PCB will continue its search for the right person to fit the slot of the national team head coach and some top names are already under consideration.

PCB to continue search for 'right person' as Arthur apologizes for full-time role

Sports Reporter

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Tuesday confirmed it has been in talks with former Pakistan head coach Mickey Arthur for a two-year long contract up until the ICC Champions Trophy



According to the PCB, owing to Arthur's long-term contract with English county side Derbyshire, the cricket governing body requested the former head coach to act as a consultant to the PCB on a time-sharing basis with Derbyshire, which, however, "proving difficult" to both sides.

The Pakistan Cricket Board today confirmed it has been in talks with former national team head coach Mickey Arthur with a view to appointing him as the head coach to guide the side through to the ACC Asia Cup, ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 and the ICC Champions Trophy 2025," shared PCB in a statement.

"However, owing to his long-term contract with Derbyshire, we have also discussed a proposal to act as a consultant to the PCB on a time-sharing basis with Derbyshire. Unfortunately, however, this option is proving difficult to materialise for various reasons on both sides," PCB added.

Consequently, the cricket board will now continue its search for the "right person" to fit the slot, while also sharing that some prominent names are also under consideration.

"PCB will continue its search for the right person to fit the slot of the national team head coach and some top names are already under consideration," shared PCB.

It is pertinent to mention that Arthur coached the national men's side between 2016 and 2019. During his tenure, Pakistan won their last major ICC event - Champions Trophy 2017 - and also rose to the top spot in the T20I rankings.

The South African coach was then removed from the position following Pakistan's fifth-place finish in the Cricket World

Lisowski stuns Higgins to seize quarter-final spot in **Masters**



№ Web Desk

LONDON: English cueist Jack Lisowski stunned two-time champions, John Higgins, 6-3 in the first round of the ongoing Masters 2023 to storm through to the quarter-finals.

Lisowski, who had not won a match in the tournament before, fired all cylinders to make his maiden victory in the championship a big one as he downed former World Champion Higgins 6-3 in the Best of 11.

Lisowski made his intentions clear by sailing through in the first two opening frames as he dominated the Scottish legend by 68-40 and 89-5.

Higgins, however, made an astounding comeback in the match by completely outclassing Lisowski with the highest break of 142 to cut the latter's lead by 2-1 but only for Lisowski to display alike performance in the fourth frame to restore his two-frame lead.

The two-time champion Higgins once again responded by winning the next frame but Lisowski soon moved one frame within the triumph by claiming two frames in a row.

Higgins again attempted to script a comeback by winning the eighth frame with 70-31 but Lisowski, fuelled with momentum seemed unaffected by it and dominated the former in the ninth frame with a century break to claim a historic victory.

Following his astonishing victory over Higgins, Lisowski now faces Iranian trailblazer Hossein Vafaei in the third quarter-final. Meanwhile, in another round-one match, reigning World Champion Ronnie O'Sullivan thrashed rookie Luca Brecel to

book his spot in the last eight.

Kohli's ton fires India to a thumping triumph over Sri Lanka in first ODI

A Sports

GUWAHATI: India's star batter Virat Kohli amassed his 45th ODI and 73rd international century to power his side to a dominating 67-run victory over Sri Lanka in the first ODI of the three-match series here on Tues-

day.

The right-handed batter survived two dropped catches on 52 and 81 before going on to hit a record-equalling ODI century and played a pivotal role in the

team's triumph. Batting first after being invit-

ed by the Sri Lankan captain, the Indian batting line-up displayed a combined effort to post a massive 373/7 in their allotted

Skipper Rohit Sharma and his opening partner Shubman Gill laid a solid foundation as they put on a 143-run opening partnership with both scoring half-centuries.

Rohit, who missed India's 2-1 T20I series triumph, scripted a strong start to the ODI series as he scored a quickfire 83 off just 67 deliveries with the help of nine boundaries and three sixes, while

Gill fell after scoring a 60-ball 70. Following the openers' departure, Kohli Kohli stood firm and despite losing partners at the other end, carried on charging

the Sri Lankan bowlers. The right-handed batter top-scored for India with a record-setting 113 off a mere

87 deliveries that witnessed the ball crossing the fence 13 times including a maximum. Besides the trio, wicketkeeper-batter KL Rahul remained the notable run-getter with his

vital 39-run knock and stitched

a 90-run partnership with Kohli

for the fourth wicket.

Kasun Rajitha made three scalps for Sri Lanka but leaked aplenty while Chamika Karunaratne, Dasun Shanaka and Dhananjaya de Silva struck out a batter apiece.

Set to chase a mammoth 378, Sri Lanka could manage to amass 306/8 despite a fighting century from their skipper Shanaka, who remained unbeaten on 108 off just 88 deliveries including 12 boundaries and three sixes.

The touring side had a dismal start to the run chase as they



lost two quick wickets including Kusal Mendis bagging a gold- en duck.

Nissanka (23) made an effort to revive the pursuit with his valiant batting and a 72-run fourth-wicket partnership with Dhananjaya de Silva, who scored Sri Lanka slumped to 206-8 in

the 38th over, but Shanaka kept the game alive with an unbroken 100-run stand with Rajitha; also bringing up his century in style with a four and a six on the last two deliveries.

Umran Malik led the bowling attack for India with 3/58, while Mohammed Siraj bagged two wickets.