



Countrywide party conventions meant to reorganize PML-N: Marriyum

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb Wednesday said the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) convention at Bahawalpur was the first of such multiple meetings which would be spearheaded by Senior Vice President and Chief Organizer of the party Maryam Nawaz.



Nawaz Sharif ended terrorism from country: Interior Minister

Federal Minister for Interior, Rana Sana Ullah has said that it was Nawaz Sharif whose government rooted out the menace terrorism at the time when it was said that terrorists had reached to the Margalla hills. While addressing a workers' convention of PML-N here in Bahawalpur, the Minister said that dynamic personality of former prime minister, Nawaz Sharif brought the country out of crisis. (Report on Page 8)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Safety

ISLAMABAD: A view of prepared security sand-bag bunker due to security reasons outside Parliament House, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

President emphasises Ulema's role in social reform, discouraging extremism



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday called upon the Ulema and Mashaiikh of the country to play their role in bringing positive social change, discouraging extremism, terrorism, and sectarianism.

The president, talking to a delegation of the Ulema Mashaikh Yakjehti Council of Pakistan (UMYC), that called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, urged their role for inculcating ethical and moral values in society, promoting the conservation of resources, national solidarity, religious tolerance, and inter-faith harmony and peace.

The president urged Ulema to play their role to eliminate extremism, terrorism and sectarianism by highlighting the true teachings of Islam in the light of the Quran, Sunnah and Ahadith of the Holy Proph-

et (PBUH).

He said that youth should be educated on tolerance, forgiveness, and peace as these were the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The president said that Islam emphasized the conservation of resources and avoiding wastage. The Ulema should also help promote moderate, responsible and sustainable consumption of resources, especially fuel and energy, through their Friday sermons in the mosques.

The delegation was led by Chairman UMYC, Qari Hidayat Ullah Mirani, and consisted of Muhammad Younas Qureshi, Molana Gul Wali, Major Ehtasham Uddin Kiyani, Prof Abdul Ghaffar Shah Bukhari, Abdul Rahim Abbasi, Noor Elahi, Fahad Maqsood, Hameed Ullah Khan, Sheikh Mazhar Hussain, Sheikh Zia ur Rehman, Alama Mufti Mehmood Ahmed Tabasam, and Jamal Khan.

PM calls into question Rs 417bln security funding to KP after fresh terror wave

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday raised serious concern over the resurfacing of terrorism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, saying that the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) failed to maintain security despite the availability of special funds.

He said that PTI was in rule in the province for the last 10 years and was responsible to ensure the safety of the lives of innocent people that suffered a new spate of terrorist incidents.

In his initial remarks at the meeting of the federal cabinet, the prime minister mentioned that Rs 417 billion were provided to KP since the year 2010 under

the National Finance Commission Award.

The funding was supposed to be used for the capacity-building of KP Police and security forces, he said.

"Where this money was spent despite the establishment of the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and Counter Terrorism Department (CTD)," he questioned.

He said the nation wanted the ruling KP government to be held accountable for the rise of terrorism in the province.

"Who regarded the terrorist as 'Jihadi' and let them return," he said, pointing out the lenient approach that led to the re-emergence of terrorism in the province. Shehbaz Sharif lauded the



courage and resilience of the people of KP for bearing the brunt of terrorism.

He said several members of the political families in KP and also the former prime minister

Benazir Bhutto lost their life in the wake of terrorist incidents.

"These invaluable sacrifices cannot be forgotten," he said, adding, it was painful that even minor children were among the dead in the recent suicide blast at a Peshawar mosque.

The prime minister warned that if urgent measures were not taken to control terrorism, it could spread to the rest of the country.

He vowed to "unitedly" fight the scourge and ensure peace in the country.

He also put aside the routine agenda of the cabinet to solely discuss the issue of terrorism, saying that an in-camera session could be held for further deliberations.

Fawad Chaudhry released from jail



Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry has been released from jail hours after court approved his bail plea.

Earlier today, a district and sessions court in the federal capital had granted post-arrest bail to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry in a sedition case registered against him for hurling threats at officials of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

Additional Sessions Judge Faizan Haider Gillani approved the bail against surety bonds worth Rs20,000. "I am granting bail to Fawad on one condition that he would not issue such statements against institutions," the judge remarked, adding that the parliamentarians should avoid giving such remarks.

The judge ordered the police to release the PTI leader.

Cabinet unanimously adopts resolution condemning Peshawar attack

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: A meeting of the federal cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the suicide attack in a mosque at Peshawar Police Lines.

The cabinet further stressed upon the need of promotion of national unity, solidarity and the raising of cohesive voice by all the political forces of the country against terrorists.

It called upon all the political forces to shun their political divide and grievances and express unity for the interests of the country and its people and unanimously converge on agenda for elimination of terrorism, so that requirements of the national security, solidarity, peace and economy could be protected in an effective manner.

The cabinet representing the people of Pakistan and their elected government, condemned in the strongest terms, the terrorist incident at Peshawar Police Lines of January 30 and expressed condolences and sympathies with the bereaved families.

"The entire nation shares the grief of the bereaved families," PM Office Media Wing in a press release said.



The cabinet also prayed for the high ranks of the shuhada and for their families to bear the losses with fortitude. It also prayed for the early recovery of the injured people.

The federal cabinet also made it clear that those could neither be the Muslims who targeted fellow Muslims at place of worship nor deserved to be called human beings.

Under the teachings of the Holy Quran and Sunnah and the unanimous opinion of the learned religious scholars, derived from these teachings and declared in 'Paighan e Pakistan' that such like incidents were openly against the tenets of Islam and 'Haram', the cabinet expressed.

The cabinet, in its meeting, also expressed the resolve to eradicate all forms of terrorism and ensure the protection of the lives and properties of the public.

Exchange of interfaith delegations positive move for promotion of religious harmony: Minister

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Minister of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Mufti Abdul Shakoor on Wednesday said the exchange of interfaith delegations would be a positive move for the promotion of religious harmony.

In a meeting with a delegation led by the Bishop of Europe, Robert Neil Anas here at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, he said there was no room for coercion in Islam.

The minister said in the Peshawar terrorist incident, Muslims engaged in worship were martyred. Islam and the constitution had equal rights for people belonging to all religions and in the spirit of the teachings of Islam, killing an innocent person was tantamount to killing all humanity, he added.

Chinese President, PM condole over Peshawar mosque bombing

Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday sent a message of condolence to President Arif Alvi over a deadly terrorist attack on a mosque in Peshawar.

On behalf of the Chinese government and the Chinese people, Xi extended condolences over the sad incident and expressed sincere sympathy to the bereaved families and the injured.

In his message, the Chinese President condemned the attack and added that China resolutely opposed all forms of terrorism and was willing to deepen counter-terrorism cooperation with Pakistan to



jointly maintain peace and security in the region and the globe.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang had also sent a message of condolence to Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on the same day over the attack.

The blast occurred on Monday in a mosque in Peshawar when a suicide bomber detonated his explosive vest in the front row of the prayer congregation.

Imran asks PDM to pinpoint terror incidents during PTI's tenure

Muhammad Ilyas

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan launched on Wednesday a broadside at the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), daring his political opponents to pinpoint instances of terrorism that took place during his tenure.

Addressing a press conference via video link, the former premier talked about the terrorist attack in Peshawar, saying, "Everybody knew, the reaction would come after the Afghan jihad. The drone attacks were started in the tribal areas in 2004. I was the only one to raise my voice against the drone attacks." Mr Khan commended the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) police's sacrifices.

Mr Khan criticised political opponents for using the tragedy in Peshawar for political gain and took a dig at former President Asif Ali Zardari. He challenged Zardari to file a defamation suit against him, suggesting that such action would only be taken by those with a sense of honour.

Recalling his removal from office, Mr Khan stated, "Unfortunately, the PTI government was overthrown through a regime change".

Speaking of the whopping hike in the petroleum products' (POL) prices, Mr Khan pointed out the international petrol prices were still not too high.

He criticised the KP governor for discussing the delay in elections in the province.

Blaming the PDM-led government for economic woes and rising terrorism, Mr Khan asked, "How can the current rulers steer the country in the right direction?"

Memberships

BAHAWALPUR: PML-N Senior Vice-President and Chief Organizer Maryam Nawaz inaugurating the PMLN Membership QR code at the Workers Convention.



Photo: APP

MNAs call for sustainable policy to combat terrorism permanently

City Report

ISLAMABAD: Members of the National Assembly (MNAs) on Wednesday called for a sustainable policy to combat the scourge of terrorism on permanent basis as faulty policies of the successive governments since 1980's had proved to be disastrous for the country.

Participating in a debate on the Peshawar Police Lines mosque blast in the House, they urged the country's political leadership to set aside their differences and join hands for achieving a lasting peace.

Nasir Khan Musazai of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf said all the rulers from 1980's to date were responsible for the current state of affairs. The scourge (of terrorism) could only be eliminated through a national counter-terrorism policy evolved for a decade, he suggested.

Mohsin Dawar, an inde-

pendent member, also blamed the policies of successive governments for sowing the seeds of terrorism in the country.

A Truth and Reconciliation Commission on the Afghan policy should be constituted and those responsible for the "disastrous policies" be held accountable, he added.

Agha Rafiullah of Pakistan Peoples Party recalled the terrorist attack on the Army Public School Peshawar and said the city met another massive terror incident.

He alleged that the 'Ladla' (Imran Khan), whose party was imposed on the country, including Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, had been promoting terrorism. It was Imran Khan who had even dubbed the elements involved in the APS attack as "Shaheed". He was leveling baseless allegation against the PPP leadership who had rendered supreme



sacrifice in the war on terror, Agha Rafiullah added.

Maulana Muhammad Jamaluddin of the Jamia Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl termed the Peshawar incident extremely tragic, expressing his astonishment over how a terrorist managed to enter the police lines mosque.

He said they were thankful to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for visiting Peshawar and urged him announce a compensation package for the

bereaved families of 'Shuhada'. He said terrorism had nothing to do with Islam and the terrorists were enemies of the humanity.

Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur said the Peshawar incident was a disaster. "Terrorism is a war in which you act and don't wait for the enemy to strike," he added.

He said innocent people were massacred in the Peshawar blast.

He said the state should

declare a war against terrorism, and everyone including Ulema, security forces and others would have to play their role.

Salahuddin of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan said the armed forces had overpowered the scourge of terrorism through successful operations, but again the terrorist incidents had against hitting various parts of the country.

Pakistan suffered economic losses of billions in the war against terrorism, he added.

Saira Bano of the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) said unfortunately in the last 75 year, a concrete policy to tackle the terrorist incidents could not be evolved. The menace could not be eradicated till the sense of deprivation of the people was removed, she added.

Later the House was adjourned to meet again on Friday at 11 a.m.

Pakistan, Canada reaffirms commitment to boost bilateral ties

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Canada and Pakistan on Wednesday reaffirmed their commitment to remain engaged to further boost bilateral economic, trade, and diplomatic ties.

Canadian High Commissioner Ms Leslie Scanlon called on Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, here, at the said

ministry, said a press release. The secretary EAD, and other senior officers from the ministry attended the meeting as the minister warmly greeted the Canadian high commissioner and highlighted long-standing bilateral ties between both countries.

The federal minister highlighted that Canada hosted a diversified Pakistani community which was commendably

encouraging for both countries.

He also appreciated the assistance of the Canadian government and thanked the high commissioner for standing with Pakistan in this hour of need.

The minister acknowledged that Canada had always been a source of support for Pakistan. Meanwhile, discussing the overall volume of trade

between both countries, the minister shared that a lot of potential remains to be explored for further enhancing and deepening the ties.

Canadian High Commissioner Ms Leslie Scanlon shared that Canada had undertaken a number of bilateral as well as multilateral projects in Pakistan.

It was further appraised that Canada was looking for elevat-

ing the trade and economic relation in various sectors in Pakistan for reaping the full potential of trade existing between both countries.

The higher officials from both sides were on the same page for bolstering futuristic collaborations for the betterment of economies, cultural exchange and mutual assistance to achieve a significant comparative advantage.

Had resigned when Maryam was notified as chief organiser, says Abbasi

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said on



Wednesday he had tendered resignation to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif as the party's senior vice-president when Maryam Nawaz was notified as the party's chief organiser.

Speaking to TV, he said that it was up to the PM how he responded to the resignation adding he would not accept any post offered by the party now. "The PML-N is like my home and I will contest on the party's ticket only", he added. Ms Nawaz, said, did not contact me upon her arrival to the country.

Earlier, Mr Abbasi rubbished reports about his resignation as senior vice president of the party.

Punjab governor dilly-dallying on elections date

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Baligh-ur-Rehman on Wednesday refused to give date for elections in the province.

In his letters written to the ECP, Punjab Assembly Speaker Sibtain Khan, and PTI parliamentary leader in Punjab Assembly Usman Buzdar, the governor said that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) should hold consultation with all stakeholders beforehand.

He also asked the electoral watchdog to consult stakeholders regarding the economic and security situation before announcing a date to hold elections across the province.

He stated that the Punjab Assembly was dissolved according to the law and constitution.

The governor said his office would fulfill its role to fulfill all constitutional requirements.



IHC suspends notification of Sheikh Rashid's appearance in police station

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday suspended the notice of the Aabpara police which demanded the Awami Muslim League chief Sheikh Rashid to appear in the police station.

Justice Tariq Mahmood Jahangiri of the IHC announced the decision after the lawyer of Sheikh Rashid completed his arguments. The hearing was postponed till Monday.

Meanwhile, the court ordered the inspector general of Islamabad police to be present in the next hearing.

Later, Mr Rashid spoke to the media and said the court had suspended the notice and the police could not arrest him, while thanking his lawyer for defending his constitutional rights in the best possible manner.



LHC orders Punjab IGP to furnish details about cases against Elahi, family

Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Wednesday ordered Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr Usman Anwar to furnish particulars of the cases lodged against former Punjab chief minister Parvez Elahi on Feb 3.

Justice Shehram Sarwar, while hearing Mr Elahi's plea against raiding his Gujrat residence and harassing the members of his family, ordered the IGP to come up with details.

Earlier, Mr Elahi had moved the court against raid on his residence. The Gujrat police raided the house of the PML-Q leader early on Wednesday while Mr Elahi and his son Moonis Elahi were not present there as they are in Lahore. The police team left after search in the house. Mr Elahi while blaming the caretaker government for the action said the sanctity of the house was violated and the police did not inform him before the raid.

Ambassador of UAE called on Minister Finance



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates called on the Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division today. Finance Minister Mr. Ishaq Dar and H.E. Mr. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates shared the historical and long-standing ties between both countries and exchanged views on further boosting and strengthening these economic ties.

Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar stated that Pakistan and UAE are engaging in various areas including energy, refinery, petroleum and trade, however, still a lot of potential is unexplored. In this regard, the Finance Minister also highlighted various avenues in which both countries can trade and invest. The Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates highlighted that UAE is fully cognizant of the development-oriented economic policies of the country being under-

taken by the present government and shared that UAE is keenly interested to augment its investment in Pakistan in new sectors of the economy.

Both sides exchanged views on the recent visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan to the UAE and his meetings with the UAE leadership and discussed the timely implementation of decisions taken in these meetings for furthering the brotherly relations between the two countries. The Finance Minister welcomed the proposal for new investment in Pakistan of UAE and assured the UAE's Ambassador of full support and cooperation by the present government. In conclusion, the Finance Minister shared sentiments of gratitude for good will and cooperation of his Excellency and hoped to enhance the bilateral relations further in the future.

Caption: ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates called on the Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division.

Nawaz Sharif ended terrorism from country: Interior Minister



Khalid Choudhary

BAHAWALPUR: Federal Minister for Interior, Rana Sana Ullah has said that it was Nawaz Sharif whose government rooted out the menace terrorism at the time when it was said that terrorists had reached to the Margalla hills.

While addressing a workers' convention of Pakistan Muslim League-N here in Bahawalpur, the Minister said that dynamic personality of former prime minister, Nawaz Sharif brought the country out of crisis.

The Minister added that Senior Vice President and Chief Organizer of Pakistan Muslim League-N, Ms. Maryam Nawaz has been assigned the task to lead party campaign and to reorganize and activate the party.

He said that PML-N was name of progress and guarantee to prosperity of the country.

Referring to the workers convention of PML-N Bahawalpur, he said that it was an organizational conven-

tion which was presenting a look of public gathering that showed power of PML-N. "Maryam Nawaz started her party campaign from Bahawalpur to reorganize and activate the party," he said. "She has a long struggle for the cause of democracy," he said.

"The enthusiasm and passion of PML-workers is being seen across the country," he said. He further said that who reposed their trust in the leadership of Mian Nawaz Sharif, they would have to follow his leadership. "People will have to standby and support Maryam Nawaz to save Pakistan," he said.

"The mission is launched by PML-N to bring Pakistan out of crisis. We are aware of increase in tariff of electricity and natural gas and surge in prices of petroleum products," he said adding that the PML-N led government was not responsible for current wave of price hike. Imran Khan was responsible for it as he inked a harsh agreement with IMF. He said that the current government saved the country form default like situation.

Australian high commissioner calls on Imran Khan

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Neil Hawkins called on deposed Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday.

During the meeting at Khan's Zaman Park residence in Lahore, both discussed bilateral issues while projects related to agriculture production between the two countries took centre stage.

Speaking on the occasion, Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins said that Australia has a close diplomatic relationship with Pakistan, and they consider mutual cooperation as a ladder for bilateral development and prosperity. The Australian government and people want peace and the stability of democracy in Pakistan added

Mr Neil.

He also expressed deep sorrow over the loss of precious lives as a result of the terrorist attack at Police Lines in Peshawar.

Meanwhile, the PTI supremo said his party values relations and cooperation with Australia, and also vowed to work together to counter environmental issues. He added that equal development is the right and of all nations, developed countries have to play their role in supporting these countries to defeat poverty and climate change issues.

"The standard of distinction between developed and developing countries is the rule of law, Tehreek-e-Insaf has made the very clear concept of the rule of law the key point of its political struggle," added Imran Khan.

Protest across the Punjab, if petroleum products not scale down: Mian Ejaz

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Central Secretary General of Pasban Rickshaw Taxi Drivers Union Punjab and nominated candidate of Jamaat-e-Islami PP-115, Mian Ejaz Hussain, while giving a 10-day deadline to the government, said to reduce the prices of petroleum products and to ensure operations against illegal Parchi mafias, otherwise there will be agitation across Punjab. He expressed these views while addressing the union meeting here today. On this occasion Noor Hussain, Muhammad Yusuf, Mubashir Reza, Muhammad



Hanif, Shahid Mahmood, Shabir Ahmed, Rana Yaqoob and others were also present. Mian Ejaz Hussain said why those who ask for sacrifice from the nation do not sacrifice themselves & the ruling class has become a sign of punishment for the people. The nation should struggle to get rid of it as soon as possible. He further said adding that, the inflation has destroyed the

bankruptcy of the country, the federal government has ordered 178 luxury vehicles and is not ready to reduce the burden of the 77-member ship cabinet. The prices of petrol, electricity and gas are being increased, but the landlords are not taxed. People are being asked for sacrifice, but the expenses of ministers, advisors and privileged classes are not being reduced. The current and former rulers have pledged the country and the nation to the IMF. Both blame each other, but in reality, everyone is the same in this bath. He said

that they are giving a 10-day deadline to end the artificial inflation and immediate reduction in petroleum products and to conduct an operation against the slip mafia; otherwise they will start protests across Punjab.

Alas, "the house is on fire from the lamp of the house" as long as caste interests prevail over national interests, no nation can progress, he further expressed.

Unfortunately, the current political parties have been surrounded by selfishness.

He further said that the country rich in natural resources has been shown in the vortex of economic slavery.

How can people and those who play with these resources be considered worthy of being called patriotic Pakistanis?

This kind of behavior cannot be expected from outsiders too. He said that these lords of power have gone further than stepmothers who have no feeling and pain for the people in their hearts.



ISLAMABAD Canadian High Commissioner, H.E. Ms. Leslie Scanlona called on the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Economic Affairs Division. APP

Millions of people in Sindh have lost their roofs due to floods and rains: Dr. Fateh



Spokesman Report

TANDOJAM: Dr. Fateh Marri, Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University has said that Millions of people in Sindh have lost their roofs due to floods and rains; currently, more than 8.5% of Pakistan's population is forced to live in temporary huts and on footpaths, due to the rapidly growing population, this number may increase alarmingly.

He expressed these concerns while addressing an awareness seminar regarding the housing scheme introduced on low investment for University employees.

Dr. Fateh Marri said that due to migration from different areas to cities and the economic crisis, it will be a big challenge for the common man to build his own house, the dream of a private residential colony for SAU employees is 30 years old and we have to take the first step for interpreted this dream from today.

Aakash Santorai, CEO of Property Marketing, who introduced the residential colony project on this occasion, said that due to the increasing population in the world, citizens of rich countries have started trying to live on Mars, at least we have to change our traditional attitude towards the housing sector, currently the property investment sector in Pakistan is contributing 9.6% to the services sector and 5.6% to the country's total GDP, "We have to make decisions today for the good of our future generations." He added.

Dr. Muhammad Ismail Kumbhar Director, University Advancement and Financial Assistance said that SAU is working seriously on the residential project of employees for the first time in its history, and all the credit goes to Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri.

At the event, Aakash Santorai provided complete information about the residential scheme for employees and answered questions from the audience about it.

Safety Awareness

ABBOTTABAD: Traffic warden is distributing helmets among the motorcyclists at a road in the city.



Photo: Online

Get comprehensive healthcare at your fingertips

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Find My Doctor, a premier online healthtech platform, has partnered with ISO 9001-certified medical laboratory Sina Health to bring comprehensive digital healthcare services to the residents of Karachi. The collaboration aims to provide high-quality and accessible healthcare, especially in these challenging times. In addition to the free video consultations, booking a doctor appointment in 5min through WhatsApp, and home sample collection services already offered through the Find My Doctor platform, the partnership is now expanding to include specialized care in the fields of gynecology, pediatrics, and mental health.

Find My Doctor has partnered with highly qualified and experienced gynaecologists, pediatricians, and mental health consultants to bring their services online and make it easily accessible to the residents of Karachi via our digital hospital-Sarfaraz Rafiquee Shaheed Hospital. This partnership with Sina Health will enable Find My Doctor to provide comprehensive care for women's health, child health, and mental health, ensuring that the residents of Karachi receive the best possible care for their well-being. The mental health counseling services provided by



Find My Doctor, in partnership with Sina Health, will play a vital role in supporting the residents of Karachi in managing their physical and mental well-being more effectively, providing them with much-needed respite during these trying times.

"We are proud to announce the addition of gynecologists, pediatricians, and mental health consultants to our digital hospital in partnership with Sina Health," said Saad Wahab Siddiqui, CEO of Find My Doctor. "Our goal has always been to provide comprehensive and accessible healthcare to the residents of Karachi, and this new initiative is a major step in that direction. We believe that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare, regardless of location, financial situation, or any other barriers."

"At Sina Health, we believe in providing quality healthcare to everyone," said Ambreen Kazim Thompson, CEO of Sina Labs. "We are thrilled to join forces with Find My Doctor to provide comprehensive and specialized care to the residents of Karachi. This partnership reflects our commitment to improving healthcare access and enhancing the overall quality of life for the people of Karachi."

The partnership officially launches on Thursday, 26th January 2023, and patients can expect to see the new services and offerings in the coming weeks. The collaboration between Find My Doctor and Sina Health is a commitment to improving healthcare access and enhancing the overall quality of life for the people of Karachi, building on the KMC partnership.

Robin Hood is the hero of the hour

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: In this classic struggle of rich and powerful versus poor, Robin Hood is the hero of the hour, as she fights for the poor against the oppressive Sheriff of Nottingham and his dastardly right-hand man, Guy of Gisborne. As Robin leads us on an entertaining journey through her legendary adventures, she is ably supported by Little John, Friar Tuck, Marian, Much the Miller's Son and others as they fight for the cause of the down-trodden villagers.

In today's world, this disparity between the rich and poor has driven us poles apart. Performing this play gives the children and the adults a chance to look at the same problems through a different lens. While the legend of Robin Hood may have been about a specific time in history, it is for all time, as relevant today as it was then.

The director's choice to have a girl play Robin Hood - invites us to be more open-minded about adhering to the strict gender roles and constructs we see around us. In the IB, we promote international-mindedness through equality and equity - and this is just one example of how BNI practice it!

Children address the issue of Child Labour in an art exhibition in Multan



News Desk

MULTAN/LAHORE: Child labor in agriculture is a serious issue in Pakistan. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), over 10 million children in Pakistan are engaged in child labor, with a significant portion of them working in the agriculture sector.

The Little Art in collaboration with Pakistan Workers' Federation hosted an art exhibition of child art on child labour in agriculture in Multan. The exhibition was held on 1 Feb and was attended by Faisal Iqbal, National Project Coordinator, International Labour Organisation, Rana Jamshed Farooq, Director Labour Department Multan, Malik Mukhtar Awan, Pakistan Worker's Federation, Umair Mushtaq, Senior Manager The Little Art and Saleem Qaiser, Director Multan Arts Council.

Children were invited from all over the country to create art works on child labour. In Multan and Bahawalpur, The Little Art led workshops with teachers on working with children through art and how to engage them understanding the issue of child labour. In response child created artworks that we on display in the exhibition.

The project is support by ILO's Eliminating Child Labour and Forced Labour in the Cotton, Textile and

Garment Value Chains and is co-funded by the EU.

Speaking at the occasion, the guests shared the following; Saleem Qaiser, Director Multan Arts Council "We are excited to host the child art exhibition for the first time in Multan. It was great to see how the children from government schools of Multan and Bahawalpur created wonderful works on art and participated in the exhibition." Rana Jamshed, Director Labour Department Multan Malik Mukhtar Awan, Pakistan Worker's Federation "We are excited that through this project we are able to work in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan to train teachers on using arts with children to educate them and communities on child labour. We are also supporting schools with art materials so all children can participate and benefit from the project."

Faisal Iqbal, National Project Coordinator, International Labour Organisation "I am thankful to PWF and The Little Art for undertaking this grassroots level work with innovative approach through arts. It is great to see children expressing creatively through arts. These are some of the most disadvantaged children but crucial part of making a long term sustainable change on the issue of child labour in our communities. I am also thankful to Multan Arts Council for hosting this wonderful exhibition in the art gallery."

60 billion revenue from Tobacco Health Levy can lessen Pakistan's financial woes

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Society for the protection of the Rights of Child (SPARC) shared a press release stressing the importance of pending Tobacco Health Levy Bill to ease Pakistan's current economic crisis.

Malik Imran Ahmed, Country Head, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK), mentioned that the destruction caused by tobacco induced non-communicable diseases to Pakistan's healthcare system is a fact. But now, the situation has escalated into something far more difficult with the

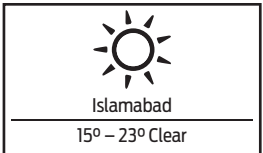
decline of national economy. Tobacco taxes in the country are low, with an average excise tax rate of only around 45%. Over time, cigarettes are becoming more affordable due to stagnant tobacco taxes that are not keeping pace with inflation and economic growth. Government needs to implement the pending health levy bill on tobacco. Once implemented it can help generate PKR 60 billion of revenue and can relieve our national economy from shrinking further.

Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Former Technical Head, Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of Health, shared the statistics, 15%

of male deaths and 1% of female deaths are related to tobacco use and exposure. Around 170,000 people die annually from tobacco-related diseases in Pakistan and almost 31,000 of these deaths are due to exposure to second-hand smoke. Not to forget that this number of death and disease is increasing day-by-day and is inclusive of children. Healthcare burden that comes from tobacco induced diseases is 615 billion rupees. Government should understand that by implementing health levy bill on tobacco, our economy will have long-term benefits.

Khalil Ahmed, Program Manager

(SPARC), stated that children are the first ones to suffer from the hazards of tobacco use because of the easy availability of cigarettes and for children being the most vulnerable group of population. Health levy bill will ensure that cigarettes become expensive and out of reach of a child's expense. In these crunch times, we can't afford a healthcare crisis which tobacco industry is aiming to bring forth by its deadly products. It is responsibility of government to stand with children. Health Levy Bill must be presented in Parliament so it can become an Act and can be implemented across the country.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr5:39 am
Zohr12:21 pm
Asr4:00 pm
Maghrib5:38 pm
Isha7:04 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)15
Bomb Disposal15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad1122 & 116
Emergency Ambulance1122 & 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad9222596
Rawalpindi9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance115
PIA Flight Info114
PIA Cargo9280979
Railway Enquiry117
Railway Exchange9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi5555489
CAA9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH561111
MH561116
MH561116
Cantt Hospital9270907-11
DHQ5556311-4
RGH9290301-7
Holy Family9290322-7
PIMS9261170-79
Polyclinic9218300-09
Shifa International4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA9221334-43
CDA9208301-04
Met Office9250360-6
RDA5555864
TMA5770886
Cantonment Board9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation9209224
Potohar Town9209224
Rawal Town5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-119204654

AIOU announces schedule of face-to-face workshops

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced the schedule of face-to-face workshops on the teaching practice of MA Education and B.Ed./M.Ed. programs offered in the autumn semester 2022. These workshops will start on February 8 and will be held in the regional offices/workshop centers of AIOU from 1:30 p.m to 6:30 p.m. Director General Regional Services, Dr. Malik Tauqeer Ahmed Khan said that as per the instructions of the Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, all the regional directors have been directed to provide all possible facilities to the students in the workshop centers. AIOU has already sent letters to the students to attend the workshops. The schedule of these workshops is uploaded on student LMS portals and is also available online on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk). Students are advised to contact the nearest Regional Campus for further information and

Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan chaired the second meeting of ADR Committee

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan, Judge Supreme Court of Pakistan chaired the second meeting of ADR Committee held in the conference room of the Supreme Court Building at Islamabad. The Committee overviewed the progress made by the provinces and Islamabad Capital Territory and emphasized upon speedy implementation of ADR legal framework.

The ADR Committee has been constituted by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umar Ata Bandial, Chief Justice of Pakistan upon the initiative of Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan for institutionalizing the ADR mechanism in the country. Further, the Committee has been mandated to ensure concerted and coordinated efforts at the national level to implement ADR laws across the country.

The members of the Committee include Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mirza Viqas Rauf, Judge Lahore High Court, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Adnan Iqbal Chaudhry, Judge High Court of Sindh, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muhammad Ijaz Swati, Judge High Court of Balochistan represented the Hon'ble Member from Balochistan, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hashim Khan Kakkar, Judge High Court of Balochistan and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Babar Sattar, Judge Islamabad High Court. The Secretary, Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan is the Secretary of the ADR Committee. Representative of the Federal and Provincial Law & Home departments, Federal and Provincial Judicial Academies also attended the meeting.

The representative of the Law Department of Punjab informed the Committee that the ADR law has been enforced to the extent of Lahore as a pilot project. The Chair showed concern and urged for implementation of same

across the Province at the earliest. Furthermore, it was informed by the representative that considerable progress has been made in the context of establishment of accreditation authority in the Province. Moreover, at the Lahore High Court steps have been taken to establish a dedicated directorate for monitoring data of ADR cases.

The High Court of Sindh has notified three mediation centers at Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur. The training for mediators and judges has also been initiated. Moreover, for public awareness ADR law various initiatives have been taken which were appreciated by the Hon'ble Chair.

The Home Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa also shared its progress stating that in 20 districts saliseen have been notified and in the remaining districts will be notified soon.

It was further shared that a number of developments were also reported for Islamabad Capital Territory including formulation of ADR Center Accreditation and Mediation Accreditation (Eligibility) Rules by the Islamabad High Court and Ministry of Law and Justice.

The Province of Balochistan also shared its progress stating that the ADR law has been formulated which shall be soon notified.

The Director General Federal Judicial Academy also gave briefing on the Training Manual prepared for imparting training to the judges, lawyers and mediators.

The ADR Committee has emphasized that a unified mechanism be devised for monitoring and collection of data on ADR cases. The Committee also stressed on advocacy campaign for raising public awareness on ADR legal framework in Pakistan.



Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan chaired the second meeting of ADR Committee held in the conference room of the Supreme Court Building at Islamabad.

Model

ISLAMABAD: A view of provincial historical places models displayed alongside a road at a Bahria Enclave in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Iman to get rid of 25% loan within two years

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Iman Haji Muhammad Rafique Claimed that his party will pay the 25% of National Debt within two years. The Country can not afford new election as only 128 seats will cost Rs. 40 Billion.

Haji Muhammad Rafique was speaking at a press conference in Islamabad. He claimed that his party must be tested for ruling over the country.

The party will provide free books and uniform to the students. Gas and Electricity bills of the mosques will be borne by the government. The government will consist of honest businessmen along with Civil and military establishment. Gas and Electricity loadshedding will no longer



Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Iman Haji Muhammad Rafique Claimed that his party will pay the 25% of National Debt within two years.

prevail in the country. The country will get rid of IMF terms and conditions. Our nukes will be safer under our government and Pakistan will progress by leaps and bounds.

WHO will be contacted to increase the compensation of polio workers. Dr. Jamal Nasir

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of the Young Paramedics Association called on Caretaker Minister Primary and Secondary Health Care Dr. Jamal Nasir. In the meeting, the issues of paramedics service structure, risk allowance, Covid and polio staff compensation, promotion of lady health workers and lady health supervisors were also discussed.

Discussed, Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Dr. Jamal Nasir said that training programs for paramedics will be started immediately in THQ hospitals and procedures will be simplified to ensure the promotion of lady health workers and supervisors. Dr. Jamal Nasir directed DG Health Services to ensure payments to staff serving during Covid-3 and 4 without any delay and WHO should be contacted immediately to increase the compensation of polio workers.

Dr. Jamal Nasir said that the doors of my office are always open for doctors, nurses and paramedics. He said that serving humanity is my top priority. On this occasion, DG Health Dr. Ilyas Gondal, Additional Secretary, Dr. Younis, Deputy Secretary Waleed Baig and Additional Director Medical Dr. Aqeel also present while Young Paramedics Association was led by Rukhsana Anwar and Younis Bukhari.

Pothohari Musical Night held Gandhar Festival



News Desk

RAWALPINDI: Pothohari Musical Night was organized in Gandhara Festival by Punjab Arts Council. Director of Arts Council Waqar Ahmed was the special guest of the musical night. Naem Hazarvi, the famous singer of Potohar, enthralled the audience by singing his beautiful songs. Director Arts. Councilor Waqar Ahmad said that the government is playing its role in bringing the ancient cultural heritage of the Punjab province to the people. Fairs are being organized to bring the culture of Gandhara, Sindh, Harappa and Cholistan to the people.

On the fourth day of Gandhara festival Mehfil-e-Mushaira was also organized, which was chaired by the presidential award-winning poet Dr. Abdul Waheed, while other poets Ikram included Anjum Salimi, Nasir Ali Nasir, Rukhsana Sahar, Asima Tahir, Rashida Mahin Malik, Afzal Khan, Mazharul Haque, Hafeezullah. Badal, Arshad Miraj, Gulnaz, Bashri Naz, Saeed Raja, Rawesh Nadeem, Shoaib Kayani, Hasan Abbas Raza recited the written word on Buddha and drew applause from the audience.

The stalls of expert artisans in Gandhara Festival are taking a lot of interest from the public while children have set its sights on the Jumping Castle. A seminar will be organized today at the Gandhara festival in which historians from across the country have been invited. The festival will continue till February 4.

COMSTECH Int'l Conference on science communication kicks off

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: COMSTECH International Conference/Workshop on "Science Communication and Community Engagement" inaugurated at COMSTECH on Wednesday.

The chief guest of the inaugural session was the honorable Mr. Justice Dr. Syed Muhammad Anwer, Acting Chief Justice of Federal Shariat Court of Pakistan.

He said that being a Muslim, to acquire knowledge and to educate ourselves and our future generations is our religious duty and to fulfill this duty, Science Communication, which is considered as the practice of informing, educating and raising awareness of science related topics in a community is not only the need of the time but our religious duty too.

He said the holy Quran is not a book of science but guides to live in harmony with the nature. He said Quran teaches us to explore through scientific research the cosmological scientific principles and realities about ourselves, the climate and environment around us and the universe in general.

He said that the Quran invites us to pursue scientific research in order to explore the scientific principles of the universe. He said that Allah has given us a direction to think over the coordinated working of the universe. He said that it is our religious duty to relentlessly and continuously pursue scientific knowledge which ultimately results in finding the scientific principles working therein.

He said that we Muslims generally are not fulfilling the responsibility bestowed upon us by Allah through Quran to acquire, possess and promote scientific education in our communities.

The Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary extended a very warm welcome to the participants and the experts. He informed that speakers from 7 countries with long experience and notable contributions in communication of science will address this conference.

He informed that over 460 participants got registered to attend this conference with different backgrounds, from science, media, policy makers, social work, to arts and cultures, diplomacy and environment.

He mentioned that we often perceive Science and Society as two separate worlds, far away from each other, but they are not. He said that indeed they are two sides of the same coin, there is an organic relationship between the two. Society benefits from scientific discoveries and scientific values. Whereas science needs social and political support. Without each other, none can flourish or sustain. He suggested that during the economic crises, strong public support for science is crucially important for the survival of scientific enterprise.

Prof. Choudhary concluded that society must shape the path of science, rather than science shaping societies. Society should help determine how its resources are deployed to fund scientific work, encouraging beneficial research, and discouraging others. Science should serve the interests and needs of the society.

Associate coordinator of the conference, Prof. Dr. Syed Javaid Khurshid gave a comprehensive introduction of the conference. He said that the basic aim of this conference is to develop a bridge between scientists and journalists to develop awareness in the general public.

In the first session of the conference, Mr. Michael Wadleigh, Coordinator UNESCO and Oscar award winner film maker gave lecture on "UNESCO open data to stop global social economic collapse", Mr. Kamran Akhtar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs talked on the 'role of science communication in international diplomacy, and Dr. Mahalacthomy Arujan, Director Malaysian Biotechnology Information Center (MABIC) gave lecture on 'science communication as an approach to future global crisis preparedness.



COMSTECH International Conference/Workshop on "Science Communication and Community Engagement" inaugurated at COMSTECH on Wednesday.

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OIC Executive Committee strongly condemns recent sacrilegious acts

Spokesman Report

The Executive Committee of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), in an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday, at the OIC General Secretariat headquarters, Jeddah, strongly condemned the recent despicable acts of desecration of the Holy Quran Al-Kareem in Sweden, the Netherlands and Denmark.

It called upon the respective governments to take effective actions to prevent the recurrence of these vile acts. The OIC executive committee, in a final communiqué of the open-ended extraordinary meeting, also deplored the global rise and number of incidents or racial and religious intolerance and violence, including Islamophobia and urged all the UN Member States to implement paragraph 150 of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action, a press release of the OIC Secretariat said.

The meeting held at the invitation of the Republic of Türkiye to discuss the recent incidents of desecration of the Holy Quran, condemned all attempts to denigrate the sanctity of the Holy Quran as well as other sacred values and symbols of Islam, including the Holy

Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him), under the garb of freedom of expression, which was contrary to the spirit of Articles 10 and 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); and called upon the international community to stand against these attempts.

It invited the ambassadors of the OIC member states in the respective capitals where vile acts against the Holy Quran and other Islamic holy symbols took place, to collectively make efforts with respect to the national parliaments, media, civil society organizations as well as the governmental institutions, in order to express the OIC's stance and to induce the relevant authorities to take the necessary legislative actions in order to criminalize such attacks, cognizant of the fact that the exercise of freedom of expression carried with it special duties and responsibilities.

The executive committee also noted with concern that Islamophobia was on the rise in many parts of the world as evidenced by the mounting numbers of recorded incidents of religious intolerance, negative stereotyping, hatred and violence against Muslims.

Expressing its deeply worries about the resurgence of racist movements and far right extremism in multiple regions of the world, it recalled relevant resolu-

tions and declarations by the Islamic Summit Conference and Council of Foreign Ministers, in particular the Final Communiqué of the 14th Islamic Summit, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, on 31 May 2019; as well as Resolutions adopted by the 48th Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Islamabad on 23 March 2022, in particular Resolution No. 32/48-POL on 'Combating Islamophobia and Eliminating Hatred and Prejudice against Islam', Resolution No. 34/48-POL on 'Combating Defamation of Religions', and Resolution No. 35/48-POL on 'Condemnation of Desecration of the Holy Quran'.

It also referred to the UN General Assembly resolution 66/167 and the UN Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 of March 2011, UNGA Resolution 76/254 designated 15 March as the "International Day to Combat Islamophobia".

The meeting stressed upon the need 'to ensure that the right of freedom of expression should be exercised by all, with responsibility and in accordance with the relevant international human rights laws and instruments.'

It reiterated the importance of promoting dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations for peace and



STOP ISLAMOPHOBIA
 The OIC: The provocative acts done by far-right activists are criminal acts perpetrated with the main intention to target Muslims and to insult their sacred religion, values, and symbols.

harmony in the world.

"Emphasizes the importance of promoting dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations while shunning hatred and extremism in order to achieve peace and harmony in the world; these are the principles highlighted by Amman Message," it was further added.

The meeting requested the OIC secretary general to implement paragraph 9 of Resolution No. 68/48-POL by appointing a Special Envoy on Islamophobia, within the existing resources, to lead collective effort on OIC's behalf.

Pakistani blogger making splash in China

Residing in China since 2016, a Pakistani girl, Mahzaib Abbasi currently pursuing a master's degree in the Chinese language at a top university in Beijing has explored different parts of the country.

"I have always been fascinated by the Chinese language and culture," Mahzaib told China Economic Net (CEN) and added it's a valuable skill that can open doors for my future career."

An avid traveller, Abbasi has travelled to more than 50 cities in China over the years, and with a 15-day vacation this Spring Festival, she sets foot westward to China's southwestern province of Yunnan, more than 2,000 kilometres away from Beijing.

As China relaxes its COVID-19 measures, "I am able to travel freely and explore different parts of the country," the globetrotter said as she films the dancing tourists and locals and grazing herds.

"The locals are polite and lovely, and I love their culture and lifestyle," Mahzaib told CEN excitedly, "In Yunnan, I saw so many people in the streets they were enjoying their vacations. Alhamdulillah, now everything is normal".

As she treks through different parts of the country, Abbasi feels the need to share what she sees with more people. To this end, she started vlogging in late 2020 and posted vlogs on Chinese and international social media platforms.

"I started vlogging to show what the real China is like," she explains, "many people have never been to China and have stereotypes against the country."

With over 161,000 followers on YouTube, the Pakistani vlogger navigate to garner viewers predominantly from Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and other Asian countries. In a 2021 vlog about how the Chinese celebrate Eid in China's northwestern city of Lanzhou, Abbasi received over 8,000 comments expressing thanks and appreciation for her efforts, with the video reaching a million views in less than a week.

Interestingly, her vlogs are tri-lingual where she presents in Urdu with Chinese and English subtitles. Mahzaib explains, she wants to promote her native language Urdu through vlogging. "I feel more comfortable in my native language," she says, "I also want to use my vlogs to reach out to people from other countries who understand Urdu, such as India and Bangladesh."

To date, the Pakistani hodophile has made 121 vlogs on social media platforms. "I feel humbled and proud that people find my videos useful," she said, "vlogging is not an easy job, but the positive feedback I receive keeps me motivated."

As this year marks the China-Pakistan year of tourism exchanges, Mahzaib sees this as a great opportunity for both countries to learn from each other's cultures. "I'm looking forward to exploring Xinjiang after graduation," says Abbasi. "I believe that through travel and cultural exchange, we can foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for each other."



Anjad_Rasmi

Statement of Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the UN-II

Besides this Agenda, we in the region are pressing forward with his proposed aims to reduce global strategic risks, invest in conflict prevention and peacemaking, and support regional preventive measures.

And as we start undertaking practical steps to unleash our political will to implement these peace building agendas, we often stop where the resources are not available. Our discussion today is about these resources, and in particular, their financial aspects; and we have already set the goals.

On 8 September 2022, the General Assembly adopted by consensus an important resolution 76/305, the first of its kind, focused on financing for peace building. The Central Asian countries strongly believe that financing remains a critical challenge

and needs our collective commitment for adequate, predictable and sustained fiscal sources for peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace building.

In this regard, we welcome the valuable work undertaken by the Peace building Fund and international financial institutions as a catalytic, rapid-response and flexible pre-positioned pooled fund, which provides financing to activities to sustain peace in conflict-affected countries. We also note with appreciation the launch of the Secretary General's peace building funding

dashboard and its contribution to enhancing transparency and coordination of funds and strengthening financial accessibility. It further facilitates information sharing while supporting United Nations peace building at the national, regional and global levels. Another important question is how and where we can best direct all the available resources.

In this regard, the Central Asian coun-



tries view the main opportunity gaps in addressing financial needs to enhance investments in human capital, including full, equal and meaningful participation of women and youth in peacemaking, conflict prevention and peace building efforts to achieve social justice.

These are more than mere gender equality and youth engagement. They are about updating peace building: creating solutions that reflect the needs of all people in conflict-affected settings and address the underlying conditions that drive conflict

in the first place.

In this regard, as a clear example of effective activities in the prevention nexus is the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRC-CA), which was established 15 years ago in Turkmenistan. With the valuable support of the Preventive Diplomacy Centre our countries established the Central Asian Women Leaders' Caucus (CAWLC) and Preventive Diplomacy

Academy for young people. Women Leaders' Caucus became the first platform of its kind aimed at increasing the political, economic and social participation of women in the Central Asian region. It was a

Major landmark, when in November 2022, CAWLC stepped into peace building deliberations by taking part in the dedicated session of the UN Peace building Commission (PBC), and a preceding side event, both held at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Mr. Chairman, The states of Central Asia are convinced that by taking joint actions, and encouraging all Member States and other partners to consider increasing their contributions to peace building and sustaining peace activities in the relevant countries and regions, the international community will strive and succeed in making the world a better place. Thank you for your attention!

Letter to the Editor

The drone attacks of Inflation

Inflation is an international problem and everyone is worried about it. Its effects continue to be seen along with the increase in population worldwide. Often inflation is commonly seen and heard whenever oil prices rise in the world, all countries, engulfed in inflation. In addition, the last severe storm, floods, droughts, and covid-19, this damaged crops and led to inflation. Some countries blamed inflation on the Russia-Ukraine war, which affected oil and wheat exports. Inflation drove up the price of everything.

In the current inflationary situation, the price of everything has more than doubled. It is expected to increase further because oil prices are increasing day by day. Now it is being said that the price of oil will cross 300. By this inflation will further increase. In the current wave of inflation, the middle class has been badly affected by profiteering and blackmailers. The main cause of inflation in the country is the Pakistani rupee, which is constantly falling against the dollar. The external debt burden on Pakistan is also more than 126 billion dollars. The inflation rate has reached 26.6. It was noted as concerned with nations of the world where the prices increases, they remain until the next wave of inflation. Than after, there are no ups and downs.

There is also a regular check and balance on the market. In these countries, the administration and thus the factory manufacturer and all related institutions are fully committed and bound by it. No one is allowed to steal or commit any illegal act. If in this regard some one is caught in the wrong, he is dealt with iron hands, which makes for a pleasant atmosphere with a lesson for others.

In the situation of inflation, if we compare our beloved country, the truth here is that it is difficult to understand where to start. It happens many decades have passed and people have always been crying about inflation. Inflation is going on continuously. The strange problem is that even if the oil prices in the world increase or not, here inflation increase. Inflation is not taking the name of stopping.

Till today, we are seeing that the prices fluctuate for some time. If it is to be said that the prices are not maintained even from morning to evening, then it will not be wrong. The role of the price controllers has remained to the extent that price lists are displayed in some markets. The businessmen are no ready to give the items accordingly. On asking, they reply that the rates are out of date. Then what is the role of these price lists and controllers?

Even in the past, the genie of inflation has been coming out of the bottle many times, but still, the inflation was bearable to some extent. Now the rich class has also bowed their knees due to inflation.

The increase in the prices of the most essential things and commodities of life, even more than 100 times, is beyond tolerance. Medicines have become beyond the reach of the common man. It is becoming difficult to bear the education expenses of the children. The graph of people's buying is going down day by day. On the other hand, the fun of the mafia, hoarders, and their moonlighting is increasing.

It is a matter of thinking about what will happen in the end. The example of previous Sri Lanka where there was a protest against inflation, the Prime Minister Mahindra Raja pakshye himself resigned. But there is no one to listen. On the contrary, inflation is being further reinforced. It is announced that petrol prices will not be increased until such and such a date, electricity will not be expensive.

It is already being warned that hoarders and black marketers be careful. Get ready to rob the people. That government deserves to be called a people's government, which relieves the people from the scourge of huge inflation. By using all its power, it should at least take immediate action against hoarders and blackmailers. It is requested that the drone attacks of inflation should be stopped immediately.

Javed Ullah Raja (Islamabad)

Iran marks 44th anniversary of Imam Khomeini's return to country

News Desk

TEHRAN: Imam Khomeini, the great founder of the Islamic Revolution of Iran on 1 February 1979, after 15 years in exile, returned to Iran from France. His arrival led to the final overthrow of the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, on 11 February 1979.

Iran Press/ Iran news: Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Tuesday morning visited Imam Khomeini mausoleum to pay homage to the founder of the Islamic Revolution on the eve of the Ten Day Fajr celebration and the approach of the 44th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

Fajr (Dawn) 10-Day is the occasion when 44 years ago Imam Khomeini returned to Iran on February 1, 1979, after a 15-year of exile by the Shah Regime, and 10 days later ended in the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

Every year, Iranians mark the anniversary of their Islamic Revolution from February 1 to 11, known as the Ten-Day Fajr ceremonies.

The Iranian nation toppled the



US-backed Pahlavi regime 44 years ago, on February 11, 1979, ending 2,500 years of monarchic rule in the country.

The Islamic Revolution, led by Imam Khomeini, established a new political system based on Islamic values and democracy.

The festivities, known as the Ten-Day Dawn, start with ceremonies that mark the return to Iran of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the late founder of the Islamic Republic, after 15 years in exile.

Millions of Iranians welcomed the charismatic leader in Tehran on Febru-

ary 1, 1979. Imam Khomeini's arrival intensified months of popular protests against the Pahlavi regime.

Ten days later, the rallies culminated in the downfall of the Pahlavi regime, bringing the curtain down on more than two millennia of monarchy in Iran.

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Ten-Day Dawn

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Massive human rights violations being committed by Indian troops



Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that massive human rights violations being committed by Indian troops at an unprecedented scale in occupied Jammu and Kashmir was the biggest challenge to world conscience. In a detailed meeting with leaders of Occupied Kashmir held at the Pakistani embassy here today, Barrister Chaudhry, while his serious concern over the prevailing situation in the occupied Kashmir said that concerted efforts were required to expose the Indian barbarism and brutalities in the region.

"After August 5, 2019, Indian government besides changing the special status of the state had amended several laws to strengthen its control over the territory", he said adding that there was a dire need that Kashmiris settled abroad should respond and use their influence to counter the Indian government's antagonistic policies effectively.

Lauding the supreme sacrifices rendered by the Kashmiri people Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry further said, "Kashmiris in the Occupied Kashmir are scripting a new history of resistance while fighting against the Indian army deployed in length and breadth of the valley."

Referring to his recent visit to UK and other European countries, he said that the world opinion regarding Kashmir was changing gradually and there were several countries including brotherly country Turkey who openly support Kashmiris' right to self determination.

Similarly, he said that there were a sizeable number of British and European parliamentarians who have been wholeheartedly supporting the Kashmir cause. He expressed the hope that the day was not far when Kashmiris would achieve the cherished goal for which they rendered matchless sacrifices.

The meeting, which was organized by Ambassador Sardar Masood Khan, was attended by Professor Imtiaz, Dr. Gh Nabi Mir, Dr. Dar and others whereas Sardar Ali Shahnavaz and Sardar Zarif Khan were present on the occasion.

Azerbaijan asks World Court to order Armenia to help demining effort



News Desk

THE HAGUE: Azerbaijan on Tuesday called on judges at the World Court to order Armenia to help demine areas it previously controlled and stop planting explosive devices which prevent Azeri nationals from returning to their former homes.

Azerbaijan asked the court, as part of an ongoing larger case, to issue an emergency ruling to order Armenia to give information about the location of the devices to allow for safe demining and stop putting in new mines.

"Azerbaijanis are continuing to suffer serious injuries and die because Armenia refuses to share the information that could save them," Azerbaijan's deputy foreign minister Elnur Mammadov told the court. Armenia's representative at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), as the tribunal is also known, denied that his country had laid landmines outside its own sovereign territories "let alone in civilian areas".

Yeghishe Kirakosyan accused Azerbaijan of planting some of the mines allegedly found in Azeri areas.

On Monday, Armenia asked the court in a competing case to order Azerbaijan to lift a blockade of the Lachin corridor in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh. The Lachin corridor is the only route through which Armenia can provide food, fuel and medicine supplies to Nagorno-Karabakh, a region internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan but home to around 120,000 ethnic Armenians.

The corridor has been blocked since Dec. 12, when protesters claiming to be environmental activists stopped traffic by setting up tents. Azerbaijan denies any blockade, saying the activists are staging a legitimate protest against illegal mining activity.

In October 2020, Azeri troops drove ethnic Armenian forces out of swathes of territory they had controlled since the 1990s in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region, before Russia brokered a ceasefire.

In the following year Armenia and Azerbaijan filed competing cases at the World Court. Each claimed the other had violated a United Nations anti-discrimination treaty, to which both states are signatories.

It is not known when the judges will issue a decision on measures in both cases but it generally takes at least a few weeks.

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Ms. Inger Andersen, UNEP Executive Director called on the Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

AJK PM seeks new techniques and modern technologies to compete the world

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MIRPUR: Azad Jammu Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan on Wednesday administered oath to the interim body of Azad Jammu Kashmir Engineers Association.

Addressing the oath-taking ceremony held in the federal metropolis, the PM while appreciating the engineering fraternity's role said that engineers have significantly contributed to the development of nations across the globe.

"We have the opportunity to work with big companies in the world", he said, adding that the engineering field had progressed a lot and there was a dire need to adopt new techniques and modern technologies to compete the world.

Referring to the deadly earthquake that hit Azad Kashmir on October 08 2005, the PM said, "After the earthquake, the reconstruction of buildings in line with present day requirements has become compulsory".

He said that the AJK government was sincerely pursuing its agenda to serve the masses. The PM said that although he had been contributing in politics at national level as a technocrat, the main aim behind his decision to join politics was to serve his countrymen.

On the occasion, the PM also expressed deep sense of shock over the loss of precious human lives in a terrorist attack in Peshawar. Special prayers were held for those who were martyred in the incident.

Envoys reaffirm resolve to take Ethiopia-Pakistan bilateral ties to new heights

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Jemal Beker Abdula and his counterpart in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia H.E. Shozab Abbas on Wednesday reaffirmed their resolve to take the already flourishing ties between the two countries to new heights by enhancing bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation.

Both the dignitaries expressed their resolve during the meeting which was held here at the Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Pakistan, Islamabad. They discussed regional and global issues of mutual interests during the meeting which reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations between the two countries. Both of them agreed to establish contact between the top leadership of Pakistan and Ethiopia.



Ambassador H.E. Jemal Beker Abdula said Ethiopia accorded utmost importance to its ties with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as both countries had a long history of working together for global peace and preservation of the rule-based world order.

As regards bilateral trade, the ambassador of Ethiopia said the prospect of trade between the two countries was bright as the busi-

ness community from both Pakistan and Ethiopia were eager to penetrate in each other markets.

He briefed his counterpart on the progress so far made on the Pakistani business delegation flying to Ethiopia on March 5-10 to explore business, trade and investment opportunities in the land of origin.

H.E. Jemal Beker said a high-level delegation from Ethi-

opia would also be expected to arrive in Pakistan in April to formally inaugurate the FDRE Embassy in Islamabad and sign the agreements in various fields including trade, science and technology, aviation and others.

He also discussed the matters related to the flight operation of Ethiopian Airlines in Pakistan with his counterpart H.E. Shozab Abbas who assured him of his full support in this regard.

Pakistan's ambassador to Ethiopia H.E. Shozab Abbas said there was a need to encourage the business fraternity from both sides to interact regularly to boost bilateral trade relations further. Moreover, he said that Ethiopia is a gate way to Africa, HQ for Africa Union and strong partner for Pakistan 'Look Africa Initiative'.

He, however, emphasized promoting educational cooperation between the two countries which was crucial to enhance people-to-people contact between the two countries.

Erdogan says Turkey positive on Finland's NATO bid, not Sweden's

News Desk

ANKARA: Turkey looks positively on Finland's application for NATO membership, but does not support Sweden's bid, Turkish President Teyyip Erdogan said on Wednesday.

"Our position on Finland is positive, but it is not positive on Sweden," Erdogan said of their NATO applications in a speech to his AK Party deputies in parliament.

Sweden and Finland applied last year to join the trans-Atlantic defence pact after Russia invaded Ukraine, but faced unexpected objections from Turkey and have since sought to win its support. Ankara wants Helsinki and

Stockholm in particular to take a tougher line against the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which is considered a terror group by Turkey and the European Union, and another group it blames for a 2016 coup attempt.

The three nations reached an agreement on a way forward in Madrid last June, but Ankara suspended talks last month as tensions rose following protests in Stockholm in which a far-right Danish politician burned a copy of the Muslim holy book, the Koran.

"Sweden should not bother to try at this point. We will not say 'yes' to their NATO application as long as they allow burning of the Koran," Erdogan said.



On the weekend, he signalled that Ankara could agree to Finland joining NATO ahead of Sweden. But Finland's Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto said on Monday his country was sticking to its joint application plan.

Of NATO's 30 members, only Turkey and Hungary are yet to ratify the Nordic countries' memberships.

Asked whether Turkey had plans for separate processes for Finland and Sweden, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said it was NATO and the two Nordic countries who would decide on any separate ratifications.

"If NATO and the two countries decide for sepa-

rate membership processes, Turkey will of course reconsider Finland's membership separately and more favourably," Cavusoglu said at a news conference with his Estonian counterpart in Tallinn.

Finland on Wednesday repeated its position that it will move in step with its Nordic neighbour.

"Finland continues to advance the membership process together with Sweden," the joint presidential and government committee on Finnish security and foreign policy said in a statement.

"The fastest possible realisation of both countries memberships is in the best interest of Finland, Sweden and the whole NATO," it added.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
40,619.94	40,673.06	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
40,985.46	40,611.15	
Index Value	Change	
5,406,055,500	-53.12	
Percentage	Time	
-0.13%	1 Feb, 2023 5: 00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,761.11	-10.59	
Percentage	Time	
-0.14%	1 Feb, 4: 35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,848.48	-237.56	
Percentage	Time	
-0.70%	1 Feb, 11: 44 am GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,346.88	+19.77	
Percentage	Time	
+0.072%	1 Feb, 3: 15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	188.9	191.3
Bahrain Dinar	712.73	720.73
Canadian Dollar	200.95	203.15
China Yuan	3.67	40.07
Danish Krone	39.11	39.51
Euro	292.34	292.94
Hong Kong Dollar	34.19	34.54
Indian Rupee	3.28	3.39
Japanese Yen	2.5	2.54
Kuwaiti Dinar	877.76	886.76
Malaysian Ringgit	62.83	63.43
New Zealand \$	173.25	175.25
Norwegians Krone	26.79	27.09
Omani Riyal	696.08	704.08
Qatari Riyal	73.62	74.32
Saudi Riyal	71.49	71.79
Singapore Dollar	204	206
Swedish Korona	25.61	25.91
Swiss Franc	291.69	294.19
Thai Bhat	8.15	8.3
U.A.E Dirham	73.03	73.33
UK Pound Sterling	330.8	331.5
US Dollar	268.58	269.08

Indonesia offers an ideal platform for Pakistani businesses to access ASEAN market: Envoy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Indonesian Ambassador, H.E Mr. Adam M. Tugio, paid a visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) on Wednesday and had a discussion with Acting President ICCI Mr. Faad Waheed and executive members of ICCI. The meeting discussed ways to explore new avenues of collaboration between the Indonesian and Pakistani business communities for mutually beneficial trade transactions.

Ambassador Tugio encouraged Pakistani business delegation to visit Indonesia to make personal observations on its potential for international trade and investment. He added that Indonesia and Pakistan share a rich history of friendship and mutual cooperation and the visit by the ICCI would further strengthen B2B relations between the two brotherly countries. Ambassador Tugio emphasized the significance of utilizing the



existing Indonesia-Pakistan Preferential Trade Agreement and working towards establishing a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.

The envoy also highlighted the importance of ASEAN market and stated that Indonesia offers an ideal platform for Pakistani businesses to access ASEAN market of over 650

million consumers due to its strategic location and well-established trade and investment ties with the ASEAN region. "We are eager to showcase the tremendous investment opportunities Indonesia has to offer and I am confident that the visit to Jakarta will result in significant trade and investment deals between business community of both nations", he said.



Ambassador Tugio shared that there is a strong opportunity for the two countries to build a mutually beneficial trade relationship by exploring complementary sectors. "Surgical equipments, spices, garments, textiles, and traditional herbal medicines have the potential to drive trade between Indonesia and Pakistan and bring economic benefits to both sides", he added. The envoy mentioned also the inter-

est of business community of Indonesia to invest in Special Economic Zones in Pakistan noting the improved infrastructure of CPEC and some are actively pursuing cooperation agreements with companies in Sialkot and Karachi. He further stated that the Indonesian Embassy is fully prepared to facilitate business-to-business meetings between the Pakistani business community and their counterparts in Indonesia.

Pakistan should benefit from the potential of blue economy

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Wednesday said Pakistan can develop its economy by benefiting from the potential of the blue economy.

Blue economy refers to social and economic development by using the seas and oceans while protecting the marine environment and linked communities.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that blue economy includes fisheries, aquaculture, marine life, transportation, marine tourism, coastal welfare, and other coastal and marine matters.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that farming plants and marine life, and fishing provide seventeen percent of animal protein to the entire human population.

The blue economy also includes marine and offshore wind energy, seafood industry, tourism, and exploitation of oil and gas reserves in the sea, but the present major



part of Pakistan's blue economy of consists of marine transport only.

Global maritime trade accounts for US\$2.5 trillion and Pakistan exports seafood worth only 430 million dollars annually, which is plagued by various problems. Old and outdated fishing methods that do not protect the lives of fishermen, he informed.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that Pakistan needs to equip its workforce with modern training, methods, tools, skills, and corpo-

rate culture to take full advantage of the blue economy.

Pakistan must adapt to international standards and benefit from global demands for seafood export. Port Qasim Authority and Karachi Port Trust are government-run entities that earn hundreds of billions of rupees, but this is likely to increase substantially.

If Pakistan can use its ports for trade with landlocked Central Asian states, this sector can be revolutionized while Gwadar can be developed as a hub for transshipment, ship repair, and shipbuilding.

Gwadar has immense potential for fisheries and aquaculture which needs to be exploited as port expansion will change the condition of the local people and boost the maritime industry which needs serious efforts.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that there are 529 species of fish in Pakistan, of which 230 are freshwater fish and the remaining 296 are marine fish. Pakistan has immense maritime potential and opportunities which are yet to be fully realized. According to global trends, prioritizing the blue economy has become very important.

Politicians lack ability to handle the economy

Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Wednesday said runaway inflation, record retreat of the rupee against the dollar, and oil price hike have exposed the weakness of economic policies.

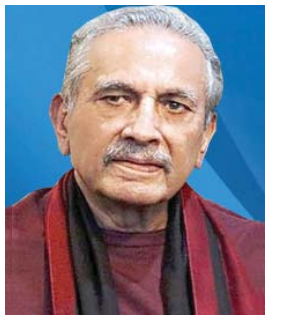
Due to the eroding rupee, wrong policies, and oil price hikes in the international market, the price of oil will have to increase again soon, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that our so-called economists would have been exposed earlier if such a severe financial crisis had come a few years ago in the country.

He said that if we look at the statements of economic experts in the last two decades, Pakistan should have been the most developed country in the world, but the reality is the opposite.

This shows that these economic experts are actually artists who take loans and give benefits to the elite and comfort the people with reassuring statements.

Shahid Rashid Butt said that twenty-three IMF programs prove that the ruling elite is not able to run the country and that only



international institutions can do that.

He said that if the shipping companies blacklist Pakistan, it could be more harmful than a nuclear attack on the country. The country is in need of an economic emergency like never before, but if the politicians do not have time to think for the country.

He said that our policymakers lack the ability to take timely decisions. Pakistan has delayed the decision to buy oil from Russia for more than a year and now it will not get oil at the price that India, Saudi Arabia, and other countries get because Russia is now in a much better position.

The opportunity to get cheap oil has also been missed while the IMF program has also been delayed by several months which are unforgivable crimes, he said.

Awareness event

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Syed Aminul Haque in a group photo on the occasion of 'Awareness Event for Internet Governance & Internet Resources Share for Pakistan' on Wednesday.



Awareness event for Internet Governance & Internet Resources Share for Pakistan.

PTCL launches OTT Platform

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL), a subsidiary of e&I (formerly known as Etisalat Group) has launched its new Over-The-Top (OTT) platform, SHOQ, to provide a superior and immersive viewing experience to all data users in Pakistan. SHOQ hosts a rich repository of selected content that is accessible to all, in line with PTCL's vision of empowering digital transformation for all.

The new platform was launched at a special event in Karachi, which was attended by President and Group CEO, PTCL & Ufone, Hatem Bamatraf, CEO, e&I, Khalifa Al Shamsi, CEO of evision, Olivier Bramly, CEO and Co-founder, STARZPLAY, Maaz Sheikh, senior PTCL & Ufone officials, industry leaders, showbiz celebrities, media representatives, and prominent personalities from different backgrounds.



Hatem Bamatraf, President and Group CEO, PTCL & Ufone, said, "We are delighted to introduce Pakistan's largest OTT platform to provide premium entertainment and news content to all data users. With the increasing penetration of the internet, Pakistan needed a high-quality local OTT service, offering affordable entertainment that is tailored to local tastes and preferences. SHOQ has what it takes to be the country's ultimate entertainment solution."

"We are pleased to support the development of Pakistan's largest OTT platform, powered by PTCL. Speaking at the panel, e&I CEO Khalifa Al Shamsi said, "We are confident that this new service will add great value to the people of Pakistan. e&I will continue to support the PTCL Group, especially in its new chapter of creating a digital future that empowers every person in society to create inno-

native digital services and tap into new customer segments, building success upon success." Olivier Bramly, CEO of evision, said, "We are delighted to be part of the new chapter in Pakistan's entertainment revolution. evision is the largest media and content aggregator in the MENA region, where we have always been an integral part of our customers' lives. We look forward to working with PTCL, especially in a market as large as Pakistan, where there is an explosion in mass content creation and streaming services, bringing unlimited opportunities to everyone."

"We are grateful to PTCL for giving us the opportunity to

strengthen our presence and impact in Pakistan. STARZPLAY CEO and Co-founder, STARZPLAY, Maaz Sheikh said during the launch event. "STARZPLAY is a leading subscription video-on-demand service that streams thousands of hit movies, TV shows and other Pakistani and international content. Through PTCL SHOQ, our service will be accessible to all Pakistanis looking to indulge in streaming quality media or entertainment."

SHOQ is available for all Pakistani data users at affordable daily, weekly, and monthly with two variants that are Lite & Premium and the packages have prices as low as Rs. 8 per day. Data users can visit www.shoq.com.pk and subscribe to the service. They can also download the SHOQ App from Google Play and Apple Store for the highest quality and seamless streaming experience.

Careem partners with Fly Jinnah, expands corporate portfolio

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Careem, the pioneer of ride hailing in Pakistan, has recently partnered with Fly Jinnah, a newly launched private airline for domestic flights in Pakistan, to expand its corporate portfolio Careem for Business (C4B).

Under the partnership, Careem will be providing hassle-free mobility solutions to 100+ Fly Jinnah employees across major cities of Pakistan. As a start, Careem will be providing 11 cars on a monthly basis with 24/7 operations as well as bigger vehicles (hiace and hijets) for the airline's crew members, including captains and cabin crew.

The partnership also presents exclusive offers for Careem and Fly Jinnah customers in forms of marketing activities including free tickets and free airport rides.

Commenting on the collaboration, Country Head Careem Pakistan, Feroz Jaleel stated: "We are extremely happy to partner with Fly Jinnah to address the mobility needs of their colleagues by providing top quality services as well as enhanced experience. As Careem's mission is to simplify and improve the lives of people, we will contin-

ue to partner with players in different industries to better assist them in providing safe, convenient and hassle-free mobility."

"Careem for Business" is the corporate services portfolio of the company, offering cost-effective and hassle-free mobility solutions to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as well as conglomerates. Currently, Careem for Business is offering services to various corporate clients including: Jazz, K-Electric, Daraz, Telenor, Habib Bank Limited (HBL), United Bank Limited (UBL), Nestlé, Haleeb Foods, Afinity, and PTCL, helping their employees easily commute to and from work every day.

Careem has also added a carpooling feature, dedicatedly catering to its corporate clientele. The carpooling service includes a pool of cars, in which colleagues in one organization living in proximity will get an optimized route in their daily commute from their homes to and from offices daily.

This feature has enabled the working segment of society to minimize travel and fuel costs while reaping the benefits like door-to-door pick and drop services, automated processing, and dedicated focal person and enjoy a safe, secure, and hassle-free ride from the corporate fleet.

FPCCI condemns violent assault on the life of the industrialist

News Desk

KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has condemned the attack on the life of Muhammad Lakhani, a renowned industrialist, in SITE industrial area in Karachi on Wednesday. This is unacceptable, raises fears even further & destroys whatever sense of security is left in the city; and, the Sindh Government and law enforcement agencies (LEAs) responsible for the law & order in Karachi owe an explanation in this regard, he added.

Mr. Suleman Chawla, SVP FPCCI, highlighted that the abysmal law & order situation has been progressively worsening in Karachi for the past few months; and, the business community is not feeling safe in this environment.



Pakistan won 15th West Asia Baseball cup

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Baseball team won the 15th West Asian Baseball cup after thrashing their Palestinian counterpart in the final by a leading margin of 11-03 at Pakistan Sports Complex here on Wednesday.

Pakistan has also qualified for Asian Games and Asian Championship after lifting the title.

Pakistani captain Faqir Hussain stood as the top scorer (03 runs) of the match, Arsalan Jamshaid, Muhammad Hussain, and Fazil Khan scored 02 runs each, while Shahzad Ahmad and Muhammad Younas scored 01 runs each.

The Palestine team only managed to get 03 runs and was declared the runner-up of the championship.

Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination Ehsan-re-Rehman Mazari and US ambassador Donald Blome witnessed the final and distributed medals and trophies among the winners.

Both teams have qualified for the Asian Baseball Championship in Taiwan, a qualifying tournament for the Baseball World Cup.



Meanwhile, Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 3-1 for the third position in the championship. Amila, Sindon and Roshan scored one run each for Sri Lanka, while Muhammad Musabbaral scored the only run from Bangladesh.

TCL joins forces with Peshawar Zalmi for a high octane PSL Season 8

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Wednesday, February 01, 2023: TCL No.1 LED TV Brand in Pakistan, announced, that it will be partnering with Peshawar Zalmi for the Pakistan Super League (PSL) season 8. This year, Pakistan's star cricketer, Babar Azam will lead Peshawar Zalmi as its captain, the addition is likely to augment team's thrilling performance with an equal chance of winning the PSL title. And that's just the beginning! Get ready for an array of thrilling activities, from the team's official anthem collaboration to the biggest fun-filled event of the season, The Met Carnival! On 4th February 2023, Saturday, Kingswood Gardens Lahore will host the biggest fun packed event for young generation featuring all of their favorite young artists, Abdul Hanan, Danyal Zafar, Faris Shafi and more, who will take the stage for a night of unforgettable performances. With state-of-



the-art sound and lighting products, the experience will be elevated to new heights. But that's not all! Get ready for exciting games, delectable food stalls, and unique merchandise vendors, offering a complete and immersive experience for all participants.

TCL and Peshawar Zalmi are also gearing up for the unveiling of their official anthem for the electrifying Pakistan Super League 8 (PSL 8), produced by none other than the renowned music producer, Naughty Boy, and featuring young, talented artists from across the

nation.

Majid Khan Niazi, TCL's Head of Marketing, said, "Our partnership with Peshawar Zalmi has been nothing short of a triumph for our brand, providing us with a golden opportunity to delve into the realm of sports marketing.

Javed Afridi, Chairman of Peshawar Zalmi, said, "We are ecstatic to welcome back TCL as our official partner and we're ready to take our partnership to the next level! We've always been committed to giving our partners the ultimate platform to showcase their brand and establish a powerful presence in every aspect of the game."

TCL has maintained its position as the No.1 LED TV brand in Pakistan and global No.2. With a presence in over 160 countries, TCL specializes in the research, development, and manufacturing of consumer electronics products ranging from TVs to audio, and smart home appliances.

Awarding Trophy

Najam Sethi, the chairman of the PCB management committee and director ICC, presents the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year and ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year trophies to Babar Azam



PCB announces selection committees for men's senior and U19 teams

Sports Reporter

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Wednesday, announced the selection committees for the men's national senior and U19 sides.

According to the PCB, the selection committee for the national men's senior side consists Kamran Akmal, Mohammad Sami and Yasir Hameed and is headed by Haroon Rashid.

Meanwhile, Akmal chairs the selection committee for the national men's U19 side and includes Tauseef Ahmed, Arshad Khan, Shahid Nazir and Shoaib Khan.

Speaking on the occasion, the chairman of the PCB management committee Najam Sethi asserted that the newly-announced selection committee involves individuals who understand the demands of the modern game. "These selection committees comprise individuals who have served Pakistan cricket for decades and understand the demands of the modern game," said Sethi.

"I am sure that their selections will be based on merit and help us attain the mission of taking Pakistan cricket to newer heights," he added.

Shaheen raring for comeback in HBL PSL 2023

Sports Desk

LAHORE: It was at the start of April in 2018 when a lanky teenager by the name of Shaheen Shah Afridi received international cap from Pakistan legend Wasim Akram at Karachi's National Bank Cricket Arena.

He had showed glimpses of brilliance in the last two months – during what was his maiden HBL Pakistan Super League season – that catapulted him to the national side.

The highlight was his five-wicket haul at Dubai against Multan Sultans, which saw him become one of the only two bowlers that season to bag five wickets in an innings.

Shaheen never looked

back from that moment, establishing himself as an all-format bowler for Pakistan and, subsequently, the leader of the Pakistan bowling attack.

Such was his utility for Pakistan that before the first Galle Test in which he injured his right knee by landing awkwardly while attempting a dive at the boundary in July last year, he had taken the most wickets (204) behind Australia's Pat Cummins' 209 across all three international formats.

He was so lethal that his strike rate of 35.4 was the best in international cricket amongst the fast bowlers with at least a thousand overs.

The fourth morning of that Test, however, put a

halt on an ever-progressing career. Shaheen was back in Pakistan colours in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in Australia last year and his bowling form grew proportionally with the matches he played, before a freak twist while completing that famous Harry Brook catch at Melbourne in the final sent him back to rehabilitation.

While the sight of Shaheen limping off the field broke millions of Pakistani hearts, it was the beginning of a struggle for a bowler who since his Pakistan debut had done nothing but bowl in heaps.

"There were times when I wanted to give up," Shaheen, who now has checked all the requisites for his return to competitive cricket, said on Wednesday. "I was working



on only one muscle and it was not improving. Often during the rehabilitation sessions, I used to say to myself 'this is enough, I cannot do this anymore'.

"But then I used to watch

my bowling on YouTube and see how well I had done and that motivated me and I told myself 'to push a little more' ... It is frustrating for a fast bowler to miss cricket because of an injury."

While there is no good time to be injured, Shaheen had come at a time when Pakistan were scheduled for their biggest home season in over a decade with seven T20Is and three Tests against

England followed by two Tests and three One-Day Internationals against New Zealand. Shaheen missed all 15 games.

"It is tough when you miss your home games because of the injury," he says. "Before our Test home season, I even missed the seven England T20Is. I was more distressed for missing the Tests, because I like Test cricket more. A bowler is measured on how he performs in Test cricket and I wanted to take wickets against England."

Was there any moment during the 2022-23 home season that made him want to get in the Pakistan colours? "It came when I was watching the [Multan Test] match and our tailenders were not able to finish the game.

Lahore Polo Club Century 99 Punjab Polo Club will start from 6th February



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Under the auspices of Lahore Polo Club Century 99 Punjab Polo Club will start from 6th February. This was announced by President, Lahore Polo Club Umar Sadiq along with Century Ventures Pvt Ltd Directors, Ayaz Lakhani, Kamran Afzal, Wasim Mazhar, Lahore Polo Club Executive member Agha Murtaza Ali Khan and Agha Najeeb Raza. On this occasion Chief Operating Officer Nazia Wasim was also present. The MoU signing ceremony was also held between Lahore Polo Club and Century Ventures with sponsors who will sponsor two biggest Polo event Punjab Polo Cup, and National Open Polo Championship (Quaid-e-Azam Gold Cup, 2023). Lahore Polo Club President Umar Sadiq said that Punjab polo cup is the oldest and historical polo event in Asia, he thanked to the Century Ventures who are sponsoring two biggest polo events this season. The Director Century Ventures Waseem Mazhar said that we really appreciate the Lahore Polo Club who are promoting the polo in Lahore and we have honour to become a part as a sponsors of two polo major events this season, The AC member of Lahore Polo Club Agha Murtaza said that there will be 6 to 8 team will take part in Punjab polo cup and from Argentina, UK, Spain, and Iran players are taking part in Punjab polo cup two each player of foreign country will play in each team. The tournament will continue till on 12th February, While another biggest tournament of Polo Quaid-e-Azam Gold Cup will begin from 6th March.

National Women's Amateur Golf Championship to kick off on February 3

News Desk



KARACHI: The 5th National Women's Amateur Golf Championship will take place from February 3 to 5 here at DHA Country and Golf Club.

According to the details, the three-day-long golf championship will feature as many as 60 talented golfers from the country.

The national golfers will have the opportunity to improve their World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) as the championship is being organized by keeping the rankings in mind for the first time.

The upcoming championship will be held in three different categories, zero to 12 handicap players will compete in 54-hole in category A, while in the B category, 13 to 24 handicap golfers will play 36-hole.

Whereas, senior amateurs and junior under-14 girls will participate in 9-hole competitions.

Speaking on the occasion, tournament director Humera Khalid asserted that Women players are actively participating in the promotion of the game and showed great interest towards the championship. "The championship is being played with the full support of the PGF and the SGA, which has also introduced the WAGR ranking," said Humera.

Gill ton helps India crush New Zealand to clinch T20 series

Sports Desk

AHMEDABAD: Opener Shubman Gill smashed an unbeaten 126 to help India clinch the T20 international series against New Zealand with a crushing 168-run victory in the decider on Wednesday.

Gill recorded his maiden T20 century for India as he steered the team to 234-4 after they elected to bat first at the world's biggest cricket ground in Ahmedabad.

Indian bowlers skittled out the Kiwis for a paltry 66 in 12.1 overs for a 2-1 series win. The hosts had whitewashed the Kiwis in three one-day matches.

The huge victory was India's biggest ever in T20 internationals and the biggest margin by runs in a match played between two Test-playing nations.

India elected to bat first on a batting-friendly pitch and Gill continued his magnificent run of form – hitting 12 fours and seven sixes in his 63-ball innings.

He had also put the New Zealand bowling to the sword with a double hundred and a ton during the ODI series.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas Mst.Fozia Ishfaq D/O Saliheen (shareholder) of plot No.120-B, Block-C peoples colony Area Development Scheme Attock has appointed General Power Attorney to her real brother Muhammad Kashif Rizwan S/O Saliheen vide registered deed No.226/4 dated 12/04/2018 from Sub Registrar Attock.

Now General Power Attorney wish to transfer share to her real brother Muhammad Sajid S/O Saliheen.

If anyone 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