نے نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم سے عرض لیا که وه اکثر خرید و فروخت میں دھو که **Barkat Rice Mills**

(Pvt) Limited

Imran Khan refuses to attend APC, claims Asad Umar

PTI Chairman and former PM Imran Khan has decided against attending the All Parties Conference (APC) convened by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Feb 7 (Tuesday) to discuss ways to overcome the current national challenges. It was revealed by PTI Secretary General Asad Umar in a media talk outside the LHC. (Report on Page 8)



Highlights from the year of the Korean **Workers' Party of Korea**

2022 was a year fraught with unprecedentedly harsh trials and (Report on Page 5)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rajab-ul-Murajjab 12, Saturday, February 4, 2023

🤐 www.dailyspokesman.net 🔰 @daily_spokesman 📑





Daily Spokesman Vol: 15, Issue: 301 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Kashmir Solidarity Day

ISLAMABAD: Commuters drive past banners hanged at D-Chowk in Constitution avenue ahead of the upcoming Kashmir Solidar-



Apex committee assures protection of life, property at every cost

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Apex Committee Friday essed determination to protect life and property of the people at every cost and make an example out of the terrorists who shed blood of Pakistanis.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chaired the important meeting of the Apex Committee held here at the Governor The committee assured the nation that

those who attacked innocent Pakistanis, would be punished and the government would come up to its expectations. The meeting reviewed, in detail, the inci-

dents of terrorism, particularly the suicide attack on the mosque in Police Lines Peshawar on January 30 and its aftermath.

The officials of the intelligence agencies briefed the participants about the overall security situation and the action taken against the terrorists.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Moazzam Jah Ansari updated the meeting about the ongoing investigation into the suicide attack.

He said they had identified with the help of the videos, the method and route, used by the attacker to enter the Police Lines.

The participants prayed for the elevation of ranks of martyrs in Jannah, grant of patience and fortitude to the bereaved families, and for early recovery of the



While sympathizing with the affected families, the meeting assured that the blood of the martyrs would not go waste, and the government and the nation stood with the heirs of the martyred. The participants saluted the armed forc-

es, Pakistan Rangers, Frontier Constabulary, Counter-Terrorism Department, police and other law enforcement agencies for their unprecedented valour against terrorism, and paid tribute to the officers and soldiers who were martyred in the

The meeting also gave in-principle approval to the proposals for the upgradation of National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), CTD and police, and the provision of training, weapons, technology and other necessary equipment to ication of terrorism and take decisions in the meeting.

It was decided that a CTD headquarters would be built immediately in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, besides establishing a forensic laboratory like the one in the Punjab

It was decided that all the state organs would work in complete cohesion and coordination, and with utmost dedication for the elimination of terrorism and the achievement of collective national goals. Necessary legislation would also be carried

out in that regard. The participants lauded the prime minister's decision to call an All Parties Conference and expressed the hope that the national political leadership would sit

through consensus.

They appealed to the Ulema and religious scholars to use the pulpit for elimtion of terrorism. They should inform the public about the categorical announcements of 'Paigham-e-Pakistan' and guidelines of religious institutions that terror attacks were sinful, and against the teachings of Holy Quran and Sunnah, and that those who shed the blood of innocent people had nothing to do with Islam.

Federal ministers Ishaq Dar, Rana Sanaullah Khan, Senator Azam Nazir Tarar, Maulana Asad Mehmood, Aminul Haq, Mufti Abdul Shakoor and Marrivum Aurangzeb, Adviser to the PM Engineer Amir Muqam, KP Governor Haji Ghulam Ali and caretaker Chief Minister Azam Khan, caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, Gilgit-Baltistan Chief Minister Khalid Khurshid, Azad Jammu & Kashmir Prime Minister Tanvir Ilyas, leaders of political parties, community leaders, religious scholars, representatives of intelligence agencies and high ranking police officers attended the meeting.

Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, chiefs of armed and civil forces, Secretary Interior, chief secretaries and inspectors general of police of all provinces, including Islamabad, AJK and GB, and the National Coordinator of National Counttogether to forge a way forward for erad- er Terrorism Authority were also present

KP Police one of bravest; fought as frontline force against terrorism: COAS

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Friday said the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Police was one of the bravest and had fought as a frontline force against terrorism.

The Army Chief visited Peshawar Police Lines blast site, met with Police Officers and men and appreciated the bravery and contribution of KP Police and law enforcement this," the COAS concluded.

agencies (LEAs) in war against terrorism, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The COAS also appreciated the high morale of KP Police and LEAs and paid rich tribute to the martyrs of police who have laid down their lives for the defence of motherland.

"We as a nation together will root out this menace of terrorism till enduring peace and InSha Allah we shall achieve

Pakistan, IMF conclude technical level talks

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have concluded the technical level talks in which the government presented a plan for cutting Rs611 billion in budgetary expenditures, citing sources.

Sources said that Pakistan has left no option other than hiking the prices of petrol, diesel, electricity and gas. The final decision for the toughest decisions will be taken by the prime minister, sources added.

The federal government is also expected to take the other political parties into confi- for the different sectors, moredence regarding the tough over, the government also economic decisions in the upcoming all-parties confer-

The government is expected to increase fuel levy and impose sales tax on petrol. On the dictation of the IMF, petrol prices will be hiked, whereas, the levy of Rs10 per litre on diesel is expected to be increased.

The global lending institution also demanded to impose a sales tax on diesel.

In the four-day technical talks, the federal government and the IMF mission held discussions to reduce the budget deficit. Different plans were discussed to reduce the burden of external debt

Sources said that the government presented a plan to reduce Rs611 billion in budgetary expenditures. Moreover, the government also agreed on limiting the subsidies to up to Rs340

In another development, the details of the mini-budget also came into discussion. The IMF demanded to increase the sales tax rate from 17% to 18%.

They also deliberated on ending discounted sales tax rates for different sectors.

It was learnt that the authorities will end discounted sales tax worth Rs110 billion mulled over introducing a new clause in the mini-budget for the imposition of flood levy.

Asset declaration

To meet another condition of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the federal government has made it mandatory for all government officials of grade 17 and above to declare their assets.

A notification to this effect was also issued by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

According to the notification, the government has also asked public servants to submit details of their overseas assets. "All 17 to 22 Grade officers have to provide all information before opening a bank account," the notification read.

Imran heaps praise on Fawad over commitment



Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Fawad Chaudhry called on former prime minister Imran Khan on Friday.

During Mr Chaudhry's visit to the PTI chief's Zaman Park residence, PTI leaders Asad Umar and Ejaz Chaudhry were also present. During the meeting, Mr Khan praised Mr Chaudhry's efforts, while other party leaders also paid tribute to the former federal minister. On Friday, PTI chief lashed out at Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif over destruction of economy and resurgence of terrorism in the country.

China completes export of Hualong No.1 nuclear power project to Pakistan

Spokesman Report

BEIJING: The inauguration ceremony for the K-3 Hualong No.1 nuclear power unit was held in Karachi on Thursday, marking the first time China has officially delivered its self-built third-generation nuclear power technology to a foreign country, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) said.

The K-2 and K-3 Hualong No.1 nuclear power units in the port city of Karachi have formed the largest nuclear power plant in the country, Global Times reported on Friday.

The K-2 nuclear power unit May 2021, and the K-3 nuclear power unit was delivered in April 2022. By now, the accumulated generated electricity



reached nearly 20 billion kilowatt-hours, providing power for 2 million local residents, according to CNNC.

The annual nuclear power generated by the K-2 and K-3 units is equivalent to the power entered commercial service in generated by 6.24 million tons of coal. This has reduced CO2 emissions by 16.32 million tons, optimizing the energy structure of Pakistan and easing pressure

In addition, the full construction period of the K-2 and K-3 units has provided over 60,000 jobs for local society as well as contracts and business for local construction firms. Since China-Pakistan nucle-

ar power cooperation started in 1991, the two sides have jointly built two nuclear power plant bases with six nuclear power units, CNNC mentioned.

Petroleum crisis looms large, warn oil companies

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The oil companies warned the government that a possible petroleum crisis is looming large over the country due to the shortage of US dollars and several other factors. The Oil Companies

Advisory Council (OCAC) penned down a letter on behalf of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and refineries to Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and the federal government about the unavailability of raw materials.

The OCAC in a letter to the federal government highlighted the challenges being faced by the oil companies due to the shortage of petroleum products, rupee devaluation.

Russian fuel cargoes to start arriving from April, Senate told City Reporter



跨 Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The vessels carrying Russian oil and crude products would start arriving Pakistan from April this year, Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik told Senate Friday.

Replying to the question of Senator Mushtaq Ahmed during question hour in Senate, he said negotiations with National Shipping Corporation (NSC) were going on for transporting Russian oil.

High level meetings were held between Pakistani and Russian delegates on trade of petroleum products in the month of January, 2023. Long-term contract for the import of crude oil to meet up to 20% of Pakistan's crude oil import requirements is under discussion with Russia.

ECP announces schedule for by-polls on 31 NA seats on March 19

ISLAMABAD: The Elec-

tion Commission of Pakistan (ECP) would hold by-polls on another 31 National Assembly constituencies on March 19. The seats had fallen vacant due to resignations of PTI MNAs.

The notification says the returning officers (ROs) will issue a public notice in this regard on February 8, while the candidates will be able to file their nomination papers with the ROs from February 10-14, followed by publication of a list of the nominated candidates next day. The scrutiny of documents will be carried out till February 18.

The appeals against the acceptance or rejection of nomination papers by the ROs can be filed on Feb 22. Last date for devising of appeals by the appellate tribunals will be Feb 27, followed by publication of the revised list of candidates on February 28. The candidates can withdraw their nominations papers and publication of revised list of candidates is fixed as Mar 01.

The Spokesman

Inauguration

Karachi: Aseefa Bhutto Zardari inaugurates the three-day 12th 'SRSO Sartyoon Sang Crafts' exhibition at Ocean Mall.



Bilawal speaks at Prayer Breakfast in Washington, emphasizes importance of faith

News Desk

WASHINGTON: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was the keynote speaker at the International Luncheon, an important part of the National Prayer Breakfast activities in Washington DC on Thursday.

Earlier during the breakfast, which was attended by more than 1400 guests from the United States and around the World, the Foreign Minister was recognized as a young and dynamic foreign minister to treat all people with kindness by the Foundation organizing

In his remarks, the Foreign Minister emphasized the role of faith and prayer in life, both by unity and harmony." individually and collectively as

a global community. He said, "faith in one Creator that watches over us, guides us and give us strength is the bonding feature of all faiths. This sense of unity enables us to see the humanity in those who are different from us, and to treat them with same kindness and respect that we would want for ourselves."

The Foreign Minister said, "In Islam the rights of our fellow human beings -Haqooq-ul-Ibad - constitute one of the most important pillars of our faith. By asking its adherents and respect, regardless of their background or belief, Islam emphasized the need to reaffirm seeks to create a society where discord and strife are replaced

The Foreign Minister fate is tied to the fate of others desire to have peace and amity.



referred to the many challenges facing the world today and our belief in the importance of and we must work together to

build a better future for all." He emphasized the need to build bridges of understandcompassion and empathy in ing, tolerance and compassion addressing global issues. "Our in the pursuit of our common

The Foreign Minister also spoke about the devastating floods in Pakistan and thanked the international community for coming forward and assisting Pakistan in this hour of

The National Prayer Breakfast is a high-profile event, held annually since 1953, that gathers US and international leaders for a discourse on contemporary issues with key emphasis on the importance of faith and democracy. This year's Breakfast was also attended by King of Jordan, His Majesty King Abdullah II. The invitation to the Foreign Minster as a keynote speaker at the International Luncheon is a recognition of Pakistan's important voice in this discourse.

Imran Khan refuses to attend APC, claims Asad Umar

Bureau Reporter

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan ĥas decided against attending the All Parties Conference (APC) convened by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Feb 7 (Tuesday) to discuss ways to overcome the current national challenges.

It was revealed by PTI Secretary General Asad Umar in a media talk outside the Lahore High Court (LHC) where he had come to attend hearing of his petition seeking announcement of date for

elections in Punjab.

"How we can sit with the government when it is violating the Constitution, registering sedition cases against us and arresting our people," the former planning minis-The PTI leader also accused

the government of deliberately creating confusion in holding elections, adding that Punjab Governor Balighur Rehman was not ready to give a date for elections in the province. He hoped that the election date would be decided by Thurs-

A day earlier, PM Shehbaz



announced that he would hold Chairman Imran Khan to the APC for which all the lead- attend the conference. Federal ing political leaders had been Minister Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, a

sent invitations. The prime former speaker of the National minister also invited PTI Assembly, contacted PTI lead-

ers Asad Qaiser and former defence minister Pervez Khattak to convey the invitation to Mr Khan for the key huddle.

The meeting has been called days after over 100 people, most of them police officials, were martyred and many others injured in a terrorist attack on a mosque in the Peshawar Police Lines. A suicide bomber, who managed to enter the red zone in guise of police official, blew himself up in the mosque. The blast was so powerful that a part of the mosque caved in, trapping several people under the

CDA concludes first phase of operation to vacate PTI MNAs' parliament lodges

№ City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Capital Development Authority (CDA) on Friday concluded the first phase of operation to vacate the parliament lodges occupied by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) members of the National Assembly (MNAs).

MNAs Farrukh Habib, Shahid Khattak, Shabbir Qureshi, and Zahoor Ahmed vacated the lodges. On the other hand, eight MNAs handed over the keys to their places of residence to the authority while others sought two days time to do so. PTI MNAs include Asad Qaisar, Sources said that locks of the lodges were broken in the supervision of Assistant Commissioner (AC) city Rana Musa and magis-

National Assembly passes Pakistan Maritime Zone Bill 2021

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Friday passed the Pakistan Maritime Zones Bill, 2021 as reported by the Standing Committee.

Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Ali Zahid on behalf of Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif moved the bill in the House.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the bill says, Territorial Water Maritime Zone (TWMZ) Act, 1976, as amended in 1997, is currently in force. However, a process of its complete revision was initiated soon after the ratification of the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) by Pakistan in February, 1997.

Revision to the TWMZ Act, 1976 has been made keeping in mind the provision of national/international maritime and customary laws warranting elaboration of internal waters, rights of innocent passage, safety zones, offshore installations, pollution, dumping, jurisdiction on foreign ships, foreign warships, visit and search, piracy, armed robbery against ships, arrest, trial and punishment etc.



The bill will enable Pakistan to deal with said matters in accordance with the national/international laws and asserts its rights, jurisdiction and sovereignty in sync with internationally accepted provisions.

Meanwhile, two bills including the National Skills University Islamabad (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the Quaidi-Azam Foundation Bill, 2023 were introduced in the National Assembly.

The bills were moved by Ministers Naveed Qamar and Murtaza Javed Abbasi respectively in the House.

Moreover, the House also adopted amendments in the rules of procedure and conduct of business in the National Assembly 2007.

The amendments were moved by Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi in the House.

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

IHC issues notices in Sheikh Rasheed contempt case

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Friday served notices to the Attorney General for Pakistan, Advocate General Islamabad and police in a plea filed by Awami Muslim League (AML) head Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed for initiating contempt proceedings over his

the AML chief, stated in the petition that despite suspension of the police summon notice by the IHC he was arrested and an first information report (FIR) was also registered against him.

At the outset of the hearing, Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri asked which order of the IHC had been violated. The court (on Feb 1) had only suspended the summon Imran Khan.

notice (of the police) and not stopped the police from registering an FIR.

He asked the petitioner's lawyer to read out the previous plea and observed that the courts granted bail to an accused in one case and he/she was arrested by the police in

another case. Sheikh Rasheed's lawyer argued that the police should have not registered the FIR when the high court Sheikh Shakir Shafiq, nephew of had suspended the notice. At that time investigation was underway and the FIR was registered on its basis.

Later the court adjourned the case till Monday.

The Aabpara Police (Islamabad) lodged the FIR against the AML chief for levelling allegations against former president Asif Ali Zardari of hatching a conspiracy to murder Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman

Hina arrives in Sri Lanka on two-day official visit

News Desk

COLOMBO: Minister of state for Foreign Affairs, Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar arrived here on Friday on a two days official visit of Sri Lanka.

The Minister of State was received by Sri Lankan State Minister for Tourism, Ms. Diana Gamage, Pakistan's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Maj. Gen. (R) Umar Farooq Burki and officials of the High

Khar will attend 75th Independence call on the Sri Lankan leadership Day of Sri Lanka as a guest of honour. and hold a meeting with the Foreign In addition to attending the Inde-



During the visit, Ms. Hina Rabbani pendence Day events, she will also Minister of Sri Lanka.

Kashmir Solidarity Day observed at Isra and **Sindh Universities**



HYDERABAD: The faculty, employees and students of Isra University Hyderabad and the University of Sindh Jamshoro Friday observed Kashmir Solidarity Day to express solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (HoJK).

Though February 5 is marked to observe Kashmir Solidarity every year however due to the holiday on February 5, 2023, the management of both universities has decided to observe the day on February 3, 2022.

In this connection, ceremonies

were organized at both universities where the speakers highlighted the atrocities being committed against the people of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir by the Indian government and urged the world community to intervene in the issue and provide a sigh of relief to Kashmiri brethren.

Rallies were also brought at both campuses where the participants while condemning the brutality of Indian troops in Held Jammu and Kashmir expressed solidarity with the Kashmiri brethren with demand from the United Nations to resolve the issues in accordance with reso-

FBR notifies asset details declaration rules for public servants

Example 2 Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Friday notified "Sharing of Declaration of Assets of Civil Servants Rules, 2023" for federal government servants of BPS17 to 22 to declare asset details.

The move comes in the wake of stringent pre-conditions set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to lend money to the country as the government had assured the lender to fulfill all conditions.

The notification obligates public office holders to declare details of assets owned by them and members of their families inside and outside the country to the FBR. The authority has also obligated the banks to provide these details twice a year, on Jan 31 and July 31.

Know More: Govt to impose Rs200bn taxes to comply with IMF conditions

Banks will access the asset data of federal employees in the first phase at accounts.

the time of opening bank accounts. The conditionality is expected to extend to provincial employees as well in the next phase. "Bureaucrats' assets will be

checked prior to the opening of a bank account," sources said. "Banks will get information from the FBR for the opening of accounts of bureaucrats", added sources.

The international lender had, earlier, demanded Pakistan to amend laws for asset declaration of public servants. Sources told that the IMF had stressed on public declaration of assets inside and outside the country owned by public servants. For this purpose, the lender had also demanded to set up an authority and Electronic Assets Declaration System to ensure transparency of the process. The government finally acceded to the demand earlier by allowing banks access to asset declaration of civil servants as a prior condition for the opening of bank

Day is not far when Kashmiris will achieve their cherished goal: PM

跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime minister Azad Kashmir Sardar Tanvir Ilyas Khan has said that the day was not far when Kashmiris would achieve their cherished goal of freedom from India's illegal and forcible occupation.

The prime minister said this while talking to a Kashmiri delegation that called him at his residence in Islamabad today. Pertinently, the delegation comprised of elderly women from Indian occupied Kashmir visited the PM's residence on the latter's invitation.

The visiting delegates on the occasion presented Kashmiri Shawl, Pheran (Kashmiri cloak) and Kangri (Fireport) as a gift to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister on the occasion praised Kashmiris' resilience in times of repression and said, "We are proud of our brethren in IoK who stand like a ple challenges".



rock against India despite facing multi-

day was not far when Kashmiris would they rendered matchless sacrifices.

He expressed the optimism that the achieve their cherished goal for which

Kashmir Solidarity Day

ISLAMABAD: Children are wearing Kashmiri traditional dresses as performing tableau during Kashmir Cultural Festival to



SHO Gulab Leghari may be dismissed forthwith & tried for blasphemy: Asghar Dars

KARACHI: An emergency meeting of Zaireen Khidmat Committee Dargah Masooma-e-Sindh Bibi Maham (S.A.) was held under the chairmanship of eminent religious scholar Allama Muhammad Asghar Dars. Abdul Sattar Dars, Chief Organizer of Azadar Rabita Committee Hyderabad, was the chief guest.

Addressing the meeting, Allama Asghar Dars expressed his anger over the throwing out of the Mimber-e-Rasool (SAAW) from the Dargah Bibi Maham's Mosque. He emphasized the need for religious harmony and unity among Muslims.

Addressing the meeting, Allama Asghar Dars advised the government to give preference to neutral people while appointing civil servants around Dargahs and religious places. He Leghari Qurban Malah who is alleged- with some miscreants.



demanded immediate dismissal and ly responsible for carrying out miscreant arrest of the SHO Police Station Gulab activities at the Dargah in connivance

In the meeting, important decisions were taken for the annual Azadari procession and the bringing out the Taboot of Imam Musa Kazim (A.S.) at Dargah Bibi Maham on Sunday, February 19, in which thousands of mourners from all over the country would partic-

He demanded from the Sindh government that the miscreant SHO Gulab Leghari should be immediately dismissed before this coming event so that law and order can be restored on the occasion of this annual Azadari programme.

Karachi Editors Club President Mubasher Mir, Ijaz Haider, Z.H Khurram, Kishwar Adeel Jafari, Naeem Tahir, Mirza Shah Nawaz Agha, Aun Al-Hasan and representatives of other organizations also participated in the meeting.

DPO Shabir Hussain organized a Durbar

跨 Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: DPO South Waziristan Shabbir Hussain Marwat held a Durbar/ Court for police employees in his office detailed instructions were issued to honestly perform duty according to the prevailing conditions. DPO Said, You can

visit my office anytime for any legitimate issue DPO Waziristan, construction of Court for police employees in honestly and bravely in the police mess and new residential buildings will start

After legitimate submissions, immediate orders problems.Special prayers were offered for the martyrs speedy recovery and peace of the veterans.

According to the details,



his office in Police Line.

The Durbar/Court was formally started with the recitation of the Holy Quran, after which prayers were of the police martyrs in the Peshawar police line mosque of the police and for the blast and for the speedy recovery of the injured soldiers.

DPO South Waziristan South Waziristan District has issued detailed instruc-Police Chief Shabbir Hussain tions to all officers and men all the problems of police Marwat organized a Durbar/ to perform their duties personnel will be solved on

context of the current situation and said that all of you can submit your legitimate problems to me without any recommendation and withwere issued to solve the offered for the martyrdom out hesitation which will be solved on merit. He listened to the prob-

lems of the youth individually and issued orders on the spot to solve them.

Addressing the police Darbar/court, DPO said that

priority basis.

Work will be started soon on the new buildings for police mess and accommodation, Phase 3 personnel working on fixed salaries will be released very soon, orders and postings will be purely on the basis of merit Equipping the police with the best and modern weapons as per modern requirements, In order to fully combat crime and anti-peace elements.

The DPO said that the Police of Bakhchit District South Waziristan is my own police and I am proud of it.

The doors of my office are always open to the public and you, so you can feel free to come to my office at any time for legitimate concerns.

I have processed all your requests, finally, special prayers were offered for the security, prosperity and lasting peace of the country of Pakistan.

Bilal Afzal tours CBD Punjab Boulevard, Kalma Chowk Underpass 👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Excise, Taxation, Communication and Works Punjab, Mr. Bilal Afzal, visited the site of CBD Punjab Boulevard and Kalma Chowk Underpass remodeling project as a follow-up to his last visit as per the directive of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab, Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi. CBD Punjab Boulevard and Kalma Chowk Underpass remodeling is the project of the Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBD-DA), also known as Central Business District (CBD Punjab).

Provincial Minister was briefed about the development of the project by the technical team of PCBD-DA and the official contractor of the project. During the visit, Bilal Afzal said "My today's visit is in regard to the directions by Caretaker CM Punjab to visit the CBD Punjab Boulevard and Kalma Chowk Underpass Remodeling site after every three

Asad Qaiser addresses peace march at Marghuz Swabi



SWABI: Former National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser said that Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif's statement in the Apex Committee today is very regrettable. All political parties decided at time of $\ensuremath{\mathsf{FATA}}$ merger that 1000 Billions funds will be allocated for KPK but present imported regime stopped that funds. He expressed these views while addressing peace march at Swabi.

The former National Assembly Speaker said that our policy is clear that we will never interfere in any country internal matters but we will also not allow any one interference in our internal matters. He said that KPK people suffered a lot due to war against terror and peace was restored in KP due to ex PM Imran Khan policy. He said that present imported regime has again ruined the peace of country by wrong polices.

He further said that the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are supporting PTI for restoration of peace. He said that only way forward to come out of present political and economic turmoil is in free and fair election.

Renowned Beautician Jane Askar donates shields to prominent personalities at event



LAHORE: The Renowned Beautician Jane Askar gave the reception to the office Staff and some renowned personalities. The event was held at Jane Askar Salon and Institute at Beautiful Lawn. On this occasion the shields were give among the personalities and staff. This event was organized by Syed Qalb e Abbas Advertisers and Event Planner. The shield was given to Shazia Rajpoot, Zareen Panna, Film Artist, Shabnam, Shef, Nasir Zaidi, Javed Lovely, Coke Studio Violin Master, Nadia Saleem and Farhan were the host of this event. On this occasion Jane Askar Director said that I really appreciated the role of my staff, my friends and colleagues who are playing vital role in my business. At last Jane Askar thanked the entire guest to join this event.

Barrister Sultan meets US Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee



👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry had a detailed one on one meeting with US Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee here on Friday. On the occasion, President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry briefed the US Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee on the latest situation in the Indian occupied Kashmir. Barrister Chaudhry while referring to the simmering situation in the held territory said that the United States should play its role in resolving the Kashmir issue and stopping human rights abuses in occupied Kashmir. During the meeting, the US Congress member said that she would play her role to raise the Kashmir issue at every forum.



2023 Belongs to Wahaj Ali Actor Takes the Internet by Storm





15º – 23º Clear

Namaz Timings .5: 40 pm ...7: 05 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi	/
Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance.	1122 &
& Rescue Services	4451122
Motorway Police	9266044
Motorway Police9	270601-20

Women Police Stations

	9222596 9270601-20
 ENQ	UIRY

ENQUIR	Y
Edhi Ambulance	11!
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	11
Railway Exchange	9270831-
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489

HOCDITALC

позги	ALJ
CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEDARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8,	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-	89266316
Wapda Islamabad	9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint 1	19, 9272249

Govt working to issue energy bonds for tech up-gradation: NEECA chief

ISLAMABAD: The Managing Director of the National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA) Dr Sardar Mohazzam on Friday said that the government was contemplating to release energy-saving certificates and energy conservation bonds to encourage technological up-gradation in the industries.

He made the remarks while speaking at a dialogue on "De-carbonizing Pakistan Cement Sector: Pathways to lever net zero targets" organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) under the auspice of its Network for Clean Energy Transition in Pakistan: Research and Advo-

Dr Mohazzam further said that the cement sector held immense potential for de-carbonization and energy efficiency and "we must analyze and take inspiration from policy initiatives being implemented in India and China." APP

Motorway police reunite missing girl with family

ISLAMABAD: The National Highways and Motorway Police (NHMP) reunited a minor girl aged between 4-5 years with $her\,parents\,at\,sector\,M14,\,Beat-2,\,Kharpa.$ According to NHMP sources, a family

was traveling from Bannu to Taxila in a Hiace van. The van stopped at 110N service area for a short break. The family left the girl later identified with the name of Fatima mistakenly in the service area when they resumed their journey toward Taxila. Finding an unattended girl, the crew of the service area informed the administration. The admin officer, Muhammad Anwar, and mobile patrolling officers (Tiger-3) took the child into safe custody. They managed the missing girl emotionally and tried to get the information about her parents, however, she was unable to share anything about them with NHMP

Taking proactive measures, the beat administration informed the wireless control, shared her pictures, and also noted at helpline 130. Meanwhile, the parents of the missing girl also did call the NHMP helpline and reported the incident of their



missing child.

Soon after receiving a report about a missing girl from the control room, beat administration contacted her parents on their given contact number. Fatima's parents reached the Beat-2 office to receive her. NHMP handed over the girl to her efforts of motorway police.

parents after fulfilling all codal formalities. At this moment, emotional scenes were witnessed when the parents found their daughter safe and calm in the NHMP beat office. They appreciated and expressed their gratitude for the sincere and timely

Kashmir Cultural Festival

Opening ceremony of 3-day Kashmir Cultural Festival (Feb 3-5, 2023) organized by Lok Virsa to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day. Ms. Farina Mazhar, Secretary, National Heritage and Culture Division was the chief guest on the occasion.



Kashmir Cultural Festival opens at Lok Virsa

Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa) in collaboration with Ministry of Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir Culture Department and Federal Directorate of Education is holding a 3-day "Kashmir Cultural Festival" from Friday, 3rd to Sunday, 5th February, 2023 at Lok Virsa Complex, Garden Avenue, Shakarparian, Islamabad marking Kashmir Solidarity Day.

The major objective of the festival is to promote Kashmir cause through a cultural perspective while expressing solidarity with the innocent Kashmiri people struggling for their right of self-determination in the Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK).

The main features would include Kashmiri Artisansat-work, Kashmiri folk crafts, Kashmiri patriotic songs, Kashmiri folk songs, Kashmiri folk paintings, photo exhibition on screening of video documentaries on Kashmir, Kashmir musical evening, stage drama on Kashmir, promotional stalls to promote Kashmir cause and display of banners bearing slogans in favour of Kashmir

In this regard, an opening ceremony was held today here at Lok Virsa Heritage Museum. Ms. Farina Mazhar, Federal Secretary, National Heritage and Culture Division was the chief guest.

In her address, she condemned atrocities being committed by Indian forces on the innocent Kashmiri people struggling for their right of self-determination in the Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). She said that the Indian forces are Kashmir, Kashmiri cuisine, not only violating human rights in the HOJK but also trying to destroy cultural identity of the Kashmiri people. She appreciated the role of Lok Virsa in projecting the Kashmir cause through a cultural perspective.

In his welcoming speech, Executive Director, Lok Virsa Mr. Shahzad Durrani explained the objective of the festival. He also thanked Ministry of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir Culture Department and Federal Directorate of Education for their effective collaboration in holding the

A large number of people including Kashmiri families and vouth attended the ceremony and commended efforts of Lok Virsa

in promoting the Kashmir cause. Kashmir musical night at Kashmir Cultural Festival will be held on Saturday, 4th February, 2023 at 6.00 pm at Lok Virsa open air theatre, Garden Avenue. Stage drama to highlight Kashmir cause will be presented on Sunday, 5th February, 2023 at 6.00 pm at Lok Virsa open air theatre. Kashmiri artisans-atwork, Kashmiri folk paintings display, photographic exhibition on Kashmir and Kashmiri cuisine will continue with daily timings from 10 am to 8 pm.

Mushaal urges Pakistan to move ICJ against Indian occupation of Kashmir

跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The chairperson Peace and Culture Organization Mushaal Hussain Malick stressed the need that the Pakistani government should take the issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) in International Court of Justice (ICJ) to build a presser on the hindutva regime to resolve the long-smoldering Kashmir dispute as per the UNSC's resolutions.

Speaking at an event organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in connection with Kashmir Solidarity Day as Chief Guest, here on Friday, Mushaal said that Kashmir was a burning volcano that could erupt anytime but ironically even then international community and UN bodies adopted a quite callous and uncaring approach towards the world's worst likely human

The event was attended by Director General Information Service Academy, Savved Mubashar Taugir Shah, Director General DEMP, Dr. Tariq Mahmood Khan and Secretary General Peace and Culture Organisation, Sabien Hussein



Mullick.

Mushaal, a wife of incarcerated hurriyat leader Yasin Malik, said that people of the occupied valley were facing like doomsday situation as Modi regime unleashed barbarism and was committing genocide as well as ethnic cleansing of Kashmiris

She went on to say that the fascist authorities imprisoned political personalities of the IIOJK including her husband Yasin Malik and used all brutal and inhuman tactics against them

to silence them.

The chairperson stated that the Modi notorious regime was involved in physical and mental torture of Kashmiris and even they could not spare the infants and women in order to spread terror to muzzle the dissenting voices.

Mushaal said that supremacist Hindutva regime was changing the demography of Kashmir, as domiciles were being issued to Indian citizens under a nefarious plan to convert Kashmiris community from Majority

She said that Kashmir was the root cause of every problem as India was not only releasing a statement of akhand bharat but threatening war.

She raised questioned as to why the UN was just limited to issuing reports on the Occupied Kashmir rather taking tangible and practical steps to implement its own resolutions to settle the issue once and for all. She urged the UN to take steps like elsewhere in the world including Ukraine to demilitarize the region which was turned into a garrison city.

Mushaal stated that the UN should appoint a special envoy who should not only make an effort to release political prisoners but also investigate the human rights violations in occupied valley.

She also said that the Pakistani government should enroll an application in the UN for changing the demographics status and should discuss this matter in international forums.

The Chairperson appreciated the Ministry of Information's efforts to depict the Indian forces' atrocities through paintings.

$Ministry \, of Education \, shows$ commitment to observe Kashmir Day



ISLAMABAD: In order to enthusiastically observe Feb 05 as Kashmir Day to express solidarity with the people of Kashmir in their just struggle for freedom from Illegal Indian Occupation Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and for their right of self-determination and a just struggle in the face of India's increasingly oppressive policies and atrocities, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training is making efforts to mark the day in full swing.

A consultative meeting, chaired by Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain, was held at Ministry of Education today in this regard. During the meeting it was decided that all departments under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education will show solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir by observing the day with full enthusiasm and commitment. The minister instructed all the public & private institutions to plan and organize conferences, solidarity walks, seminars, panel discussions, talk shows and competitions to highlight the struggle of Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination as per UN resolutions.

He said that, "Ministry of FE&PT is committed to raising awareness and providing support to the people of Kashmir, and will continue to work towards ensuring that their voices are heard and their rights are

Under Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Allama Iqbal Open University, National Skills University Islamabad, Pakistan Institute of Fashion & Design Lahore, NFC Institute of Engineering and Fertilizer Research Faisalabad, Inter Board Committee of Chairmen (IBCC), FBISE, Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad, Private Educational Institutions Regulatory Authority, National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC), National Book Foundation, National Commission of Human Development, Federal College of Education, National Education Foundation, Federal Directorate of Education, Basic Education Community Schools, and National College of Arts Lahore will hold different activities to mark the day and contribute towards the larger cause.

FDE and STEAM Pakistan celebrate STEAM Competition 2023 winners



Example 2 City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Directorate of Education, Ministry of Federation and Professional Training in partnership with STEAM Pakistan organized a multi-level STEAM Competition for FDE schools across Islamabad, culminating in a celebration for winners and top performing schools yesterday.

Entries included functioning water filtration plants, earthquake detectors, robots, and more! Arts in Action required students to showcase learning concepts in creative and innovative art - entries for this round included beautiful paintings, sculptures and models, and drawings. The final category, STEAM Rock Star, required students to develop raps, poems, or songs that teach STEAM concepts. Entries included raps about the function of a human heart and physics concepts, songs about the potential science holds, and more! Students competed at the area level in six sectors of Islamabad – BharaKau, Nilore, Urban I, Urban II, Tarnol, and Sihala. Teachers also had the chance to compete for having the 'Perfect Pedagogy'.

Winning students and teachers from each sector had the full red-carpet experience along with cash prizes and recognition from the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional training! 21 exceptional student entries were awarded PKR 5,000 each, and 15 top student entries across all categories were awarded 20,000-25,000 PKR each. Top teachers were awarded 20,000 PKR each for submitting entries of innovative and engaging teaching techniques. Additionally, Mr. Aamir Khawaja, Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Education announced cash prizes worth PKR 50,000 each for sever schools which performed exceptionally throughout the year based on the STEAM School Journey. He encouraged the schools to utilise the funds in organising more STEAM activities for students.

All 1,200+ students in attendance had special sessions curated for them. These included arts activities, science demonstrations, music and math performance, STEAM game-show and STEAM Safeer speaker sessions from exceptional leaders from FIA, corporate sector, sports, and PIA, and science demonstrations. Mr Aamir Khawaja also encouraged students to work hard and follow their dreams

Mr. Waseem Ajmal, Additional Secretary MoFEPT was also in attendance and in his closing remarks encouraged students to keep pushing, ask questions, stay curious, and look up to people like Galileo who pushed the boundaries of accepted knowledge.

Fly Emirates to Dubai and enjoy a free night's stay

ISLAMABAD: Emirates has today announced an exciting new offer for travellers planning their next winter sun escape to Dubai in partnership with Fairmont Hotels & Resorts. Starting from 30 January 2023 to 13 February 2023, travellers who purchase an Emirates return ticket in First or Business Class to or stopping over in Dubai, will be able to enjoy a complimentary night stay at Fairmont The Palm hotel.

This special offer is valid for all return tickets to or stopping over in Dubai, purchased until 13 February 2023. The offer is available on bookings made on emirates.com or via participating travel agents, for bookings made at least 72 hours in advance of passengers' arrival.

Named after Dubai's iconic manmade island, the Palm Jumeirah, Fairmont The Palm is the ideal luxury resort for couples and families. Offering 381 lavish rooms and suites overlooking the stunning Arabian Gulf and the incredible Dubai skyline, travellers are able to experience some of the world's finest flavours at a choice of ten restaurants and bars. Guests traveling with young ones can enjoy the "Fairmont Falcons Kids's Club" which offers extensive activities for children from 3 years up to 15 years old in friendly and cozy surroundings while guests looking for some relaxation can indulge in a treatment in the renowned Fairmont Willow Stream Spa. The luxurious resort also includes four outdoor temperature-controlled swimming pools, private white-sand beach and a state-of-the-art health club.

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

Bureau Chief Lahore:

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

Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz.

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

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

Whatsapp: 0346-5008408

Reconsider the appointment of rejected candidate

resident Dr Arif Alvi has directed FBR to reconsider the appointment of a candidate from Ex-FATA who had been denied employment, despite securing first position in the written exam, on the ground that his degree was issued to him late by his university due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and he was not in possession of the degree on the cut-off date. He observed that FBR had ignored the university's categorical statement on his degree stating that the complainant was eligible for admission in any university or job from June/July 2021 as his degree was issued late in June 2022 due to COVID-19 which was beyond human control, and it was not the fault of the student.

The President gave this decision in a case where Mr Hamza Wazir (the complainant) had applied for the post of Assistant (BS-15) in FBR in October 2021, secured first position in the written test, and subsequently, was also called for an interview. FBR denied him the job opportunity by claiming that since the degree was issued to the complainant on 02-06-2022 after a lapse of more than 08 months after the date of advertisement published on 19-09-2021, therefore, he did not meet the relevant criteria for the post.

Feeling aggrieved, the complainant approached the Wafaqi Mohtasib (WM) who gave the order that the selection and appointment of a person against an advertised post was the sole prerogative of the Agency, and the case was referred to Chairman FBR to reconsider it. The complainant, then, filed a review petition with WM which was rejected on the ground that on the cut-off date, the complainant had no proof of being a Bachelor's Degree holder, therefore, he was not eligible for the said post, and that no maladministration was established on the part of FBR. Subsequently, Mr Hamza Wazir filed a representation to the President.

The President accepted his representation, and held that FBR had not considered the case of the complainant objectively by not providing him the opportunity to explain the matter and deprived him of his due right; that special relaxation, incentives and enticements were given at large due to epidemic of COV-ID-19, which was beyond human control.

He further stated that nowadays, there was tough competition for each and every post and a large number of candidates were coming forward, and the obligation to act fairly on the part of administrative authorities had been evolved to ensure the due process of law, prevent the failure of justice and avoid any unfair treatment. The President noted that earlier on 24-05-2021, the complainant had filed a complaint before WM with the plea that he got admission in the Associate Degree Program at Islamabad Postgraduate College, affiliated with the Quaid-e-Azam University, in 2019 and it had not declared the result of 1st and 2nd semester despite a lapse of two years, which would delay the completion of his degree and also affect his career prospects.

The case had been disposed of on the assurance of the University's representative before the President's Secretariat that the student's bachelor's degree might be considered from June/ July 2021. He added that the act of FBR ran counter to this decision of the President, therefore, maladministration had been established on the part of FBR. The President, therefore, set aside the orders of the Mohtasib and directed FBR to reconsider the appointment of the complainant against the post of the Assistant against the quota of Ex-FATA.

Preparing Pakistan for the future battle space

Syed Haider Ali Gardezi

or the world superpowers, the battlegrounds are changing evolving and become evermore complex with the passage of time. Warfare over the past three decades has evolved multidimensionally. The new battlegrounds are not limited to just a battlefield where two armies meet and kinetic engagement follows, rather, there are multiple battlegrounds, each unique and more complicated than the other. The contemporary wars and the wars of the future will be fought in the mind of an individual, on the screens of devices being held by these individuals, in the streets of belligerent states, in the legislatures of the enemy states, in the civil societies of contending nations, in the data banks of the foes, in the economic hubs of the rivals, in the space above the and even in the deep seas, so on and so forth. It is not an unreasonable assessment to say that everything that we as an individual, society or nation interact with, can be turned into a weapon with the right application of relevant social or technological agency.

The United States of America constituted a special task force dubbed as 'Special Competitive Studies Project' (SCSP) with the intention of assessing the threat from China and other hostile nations and how to counter these threats effectively. The project was Chaired by

and Mr YlliBajraktari, (President & CEOSCSP). It is quite interesting how the ex-CEO of Google, was chosen to lead a Defense assessment project.

The second lesson is technological superiority to outpace, outmaneuver, outsmart and consequently out gun our adversary. Although no one publicly acknowledges this anymore, however, India remains a primary threat to Pakistan's existence. Terrorism, instability, is all a consequence of Indian activities to keep us in turmoil. Anyone to deny that is either delusional or simply and deliberately doesn't want to see the light of day. For Pakistan to effectively contend with India, to deter, or defend, technological advancement to improve kinetic and non-kinetic capabilities, is the way to go. This will reduce our dependence on a large standing army that requires vast number of resources to maintain and will consequently help us achieve the required parity at all tactical, operational and strategic levels of war.

The third lesson is that Pakistan is actively experiencing Armed conflict via the proxies of its enemies, particularly India, however, there is an increased possibility to see attacks below the conflict level. This includes disinformation campaigns, political manipulation, sabotage and espionage enabled by upcoming technologies. The leadership of Pakistan must be mentally prepared for unconventional means of war that will continue to be a nuisance

ly. Complacency regarding such acts of aggression is a possibility if not acknowledged by the military planners which will only increase vulnerability of Pakistan in peace and especially during a hot war.

Fourth lesson is the individualization of war. A relatively new concept, which talks about how targets can be achieved by focusing on individuals of the enemy group. Using disinformation, psycho logical warfare, blackmail, cyber-attacks including hacking, biological warfare against individuals, to cause significant damage to the enemy. This exercise or operation is dubbed as micro-targeting. This is a threat and an opportunity as well. Micro-targeting is a threat to decision making during war and peace, however, if used to our advantage can cripple enemy command and control on a critical level. Micro-targeting with the help of AI will boost our capability to sort and sift through large number of data, to find weaknesses and gaps among enemy commanders, leaders, and other persons of interest.

The fifth lesson is the protection of national infrastructures, particularly in the cyber space. The enemy is aggressively attacking our databases and critical cyber infrastructures to acquire sensitive data, although we are aware of this threat but there can be improved cyber security by involving private tech firms and contractors to enhance our capabilities at par with the global norms.

The sixth lesson is the integration of

Dr. Eric Schmidt (Ex-CEO Google) if not predicted and averted effective- humans and machines for effective decision-making and enhanced output on the strategic, operational, and tactical levels of war. New technologies allow us to perceive the battle space and the environment in a more meaningful, logical, efficient manner, which translates into better real time response to crises and planning even during peace. Availability of data and the application of AI to sort and sift through data gives enhanced awareness to leaders, decision and policy makes as well. New technologies will also create some hurdles for the decision makers, as it is becoming evermore difficult to differentiate between truth and falsehood. Deception through technologies like deepfakes will hamper the decision-making process even more.

The seventh lesson is the use of AI in wargaming. AI is now being used by DARPA, to wargame scenarios with the enemy in case of a war. Such an exercise if incorporated can enhance performance, improve coordination, and highlight weaknesses that maybe human mind might not be able to before. Incorporation of AI into wargaming is the future of planning at all levels of war.

These are few lessons for Pakistan to be employed immediately to effectively counter the threat it faces particularly from the east. The enemy can never be underestimated, and for our own survival and war preparedness, we must integrate emerging technologies along with incorporating new aspects of warfare to achieve national security objectives.



Sacrifice in the Interest of the Country and the Nation

Javed Ullah Raja

oday the country is going through a very difficult situation. Internal and external concerns and threats are increasing. Our political parties are responsible for instability in the country. Stakeholders are responsible, for worsening the situation of the country. Due to this, the country is standing on the brink of destruction today. It is not wrong to say that until today we have done politics for ourselves. All the political parties who talk about democracy have not played any role in adopting democracy. Due to this, the country is surrounded by extreme difficulties. It has been going on that until today we have not supported any elected government. We have always been busy blocking for each other in the game all our leaders are involved. We have not allowed anyone to sit peacefully. Of this, they did not get a chance to make decisions for the betterment of the country. Nor the role of the government leaders was to sit with the opposition leaders and the opposition leaders to work together with the government. The result was that many years were spent in quarrels and talking behind each other's backs. Hatred against each other is increasing. In these mutual differences, we also damaged the country's treasures and used the institutions for our own interests and did not hesitate to do it. It is to be noted that when all the power, machinery, and attention of the state is spent in futility. How will the problems of the country and nations be solved? The past history of the country is a witness that in this inattention, we saw the period of martial law many times in the country.

Dear readers! The resources and strategies we had to invest in improving the state of the country have been wasted. Day by day we see and hear that every new government comes to power in any country. They accept it. Rather, they try to give full cooperation and support. In addition, it has also been seen that when the power ends, those rulers are discharged with respect and dignity. This is the nature of these nations and countries. There are secrets to growth. We are so engrossed in internal affairs that we don't pay attention to any good deeds. In these internal distractions, external and especially neighboring countries have also become silent in mutual affairs. Yes, it is certain that in this situation, hostile countries get an opportunity. They are looking for an opportunity. So they get busy with their anti-national activities. Undermining institutions is on their list. They keep trying to weaken the institutions of the country by increasing internal interference. Suicide attacks, firing, explosions, and different types of incidents are happening in different parts of our country.

The current example is before us. At this time, showing each other a stake is in full swing. We have nothing to do but throw mud at each other. They are also trampling moral values. We are not trying to solve them and we are not trying to solve our problems.

Due to our internal affairs, foreign investors stay away from visiting the region. Which is extremely harmful to the country. The scheduled cooperation of friendly countries also gets slow. Another thing that is often seen is that a government implements welfare works or development projects for the people's benefit of the peoples. The incoming government deliberately stops it. We have never thought about who is the loser. Because, the treasure is used by the country.

Another important aspect is mutual cooperation with friendly and neighboring countries. Plans are also not given any importance. In this way, the problems of our internal affairs also affect the future mutual cooperation of foreign countries. Due to this we have lost the ways of development. If we examine the economy and development of the country today, we are years behind in the race for development due to these internal issues. Even the few facilities in the past that were available have been washed away. Electricity, water, and gas are becoming scarce. Because of this, the economy has collapsed. Now the memories of the age of iron and stone are being revived.

The reason for this instability is that the value of the rupee has fallen a lot compared to the dollar. Today it is 273 against the dollar, while India's rupee is 82 and Bangladesh's is 108. The oil price reached 250, in India that is 105 and in Bangladesh, it is 130. Today, it is still time for us to stop our personal interests and personal disputes. Stakeholders may sacrifice in the interest of the country and the nation. If we do not do this, time may pass, but history will never forgive us. Those who are not forgiven by history will be remembered with bad words by the rest of the world. The truth is that if our political parties spend as much effort and energy in enmity with each other, it would be good if we put as much effort into our real enemies.

Now once again friendly countries have assured cooperation. Partnership agreements have been extended. Foreign investors are keen to invest in the country. So stakeholders should also put aside their internal differences and make efforts to put the country on a better path. Internal differences are nothing but a waste of time.

Suggestions for tax reforms

oday the IMF delegation has come to Pakistan and everything is being taxed to meet the revenue target, which has broken the poor man's back. To get the country out of this predicament, I have some suggestions for tax compliance with the terms of the IMF, if we try to achieve this goal with things that will affect the common man as little as possible. We are working on policies to protect our citizens from heart and related diseases and to raise awareness about the things that cause them and keep them out of

as an excellent weapon to prevent

these factors. WHO suggests that if a 10% tax is imposed on something, its consumption decreases by 8%. When talking about heart and related diseases, tobacco and

sugary drinks are one of the main causes of them. And these are the things that are not the necessities of life. We buy diseases with money. If seen, more than four and a half hundred people leave this world every day from tobacco alone. About 5,000 are burden will be reduced, diseases will be reduced.

admitted to hospitals every day. 615 billion is being spent annually on diseases caused by tobacco.

More than 2 billion are blown up in smoke every year on this unnecessary item. Similarly, billions of rupees worth of sugary drinks are consumed every year, which are not necessities of life, and we buy many diseases with money, including obesity, diabetes, heart diseases and many types of cancer, and only medicines for diabetes. But 2640 million US dollars are being spent every year.

Keeping all these things in mind, it is my polite request that instead of imposing more taxes on essential items like petrol, electricity, gas, flour, etc., the revenue should be met by increasing the tax on

tobacco and sugary drinks, the prices of which in Pakistan are lower than those of other countries. There are very few in comparison.

In the United Kingdom, the price of a pack of cigarettes is 17 pounds, which is 3,800 rupees in Pakistani rupees, while its price in Pakistan is less than 100 rupees. Similarly, the prices of sugary drinks in Pakistan are very low compared to other countries. Taxing them will not affect the common man and will generate revenue to meet the IMF conditions.

I have another request that for tobacco and sugary drinks, the proposal that has been given According to the study, tax is also considered earlier by the Ministry of Health, which includes

the Health Levy Bill, if it is implemented, 55 billion can be obtained from this bill alone. And if another pending proposal of the Ministry of Health is added to it, 105 billion can be collected from them.

I request that along with passing the health levy bill on tobacco and sugary drinks, they should be taxed to make them more expensive, which will have many benefits, revenue will be filled, health

There will also be a reduction in the sufferings of the people, which will be a win-win situation for the country and the common man will not be

Sanahullah Ghaman

But despite all these facts, the industry mafia misguides our policy makers with false data to achieve the results they want, just as the industry is still misleading the finance minister with unsubstantiated facts.

We request our rulers to take decisions keeping in mind national and public interest instead of individual interest

The writer is General Secretary Panah

The Spokesman 5

DPRK and Major Events in 2022

Highlights from the year of the Korean Workers' Party of Korea

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: 2022 was a year fraught with unprecedentedly harsh trials and challenges for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The country, however, did not flinch back, but achieved epochal changes all year round. The following are some of the typical events that took place in the country in 2022. **Ever-lasting Future of the Workers' Party** of Korea Guaranteed

In October 2022, Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the WPK, gave a commemorative lecture at the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK.

Noting that the WPK which had recorded a nearly-80-year history in power, was faced with a responsible time when it should continue the history for all eternity, he said that what is important for a socialist ruling party in guaranteeing its future development is to firmly maintain its intrinsic duty and principle in its activities, without losing the pivot for development in any environment and conditions. Continuing that it is necessary to intensify the effort to rally the entire Party around its Central Committee with a single mind, keep its root deep among the masses of the working people and secure the trust of all the people, he defined political, organizational, ideological, discipline and work-style upbuilding as the orientation of the building of the WPK in the new era.

His lecture was of historic significance in that it served as an occasion for renewed intensification and development of the building of the socialist ruling Party.

State Policy on Nuclear Forces Enshrined

The Seventh Session of the 14th DPRK held in September 2022 adopted the law, titled, On the DPRK's Policy on the Nuclear Forces.

Through the adoption of the law, the country declared at home and abroad that its possession of the war deterrent founding anniversary of the Korean as a means for national defence was People's Revolutionary Army. legalized, clearly demonstrating the



independent resolve of the government of the Republic and its staunch will to defend its sovereignty and interest.

The event made the peace-loving stand of the government and its policy on the nation's nuclear forces more transparent and legitimate. By enshrining the policy in law, it drew a line of no retreat regarding its nuclear weapons, a treasured sword for defending peace which it had obtained overcoming all manner of hardships, so there would Supreme People's Assembly of the no longer be any bargaining over them. **Demonstration of the Nation's Compre**hensive Might

On April 25, 2022, a grand military parade was held in Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang in celebration of the 90th

The column of honorary cavalry-

men led the parade. It was followed by the column of soldiers representing the guerrilla army in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, which is the first generation of the Republic's armed forces; a column of the Korean People's Army in the days of the Fatherland Liberation War, which had created an unheard-of military miracle of defeating atomic bomb with rifle; columns of the ground force, navy, air force, strategic force, special operations force, corps units and military academies of various levels of the KPA, revolutionary schools, provincial Worker-Peasant Red Guards, the Ministry of State Security, the Public Security Forces, emergency epidemic prevention workers, mechanized units and

While columns of powerful weap-

ons passed through the parade ground demonstrating the true image of the country's defence capabilities, jet fighters decorated with bright illuminations made minimum-altitude flights and displayed such aeronautics as zooming over the square. The parade was brought to its breathtaking climax when the new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17 heaved into sight

Miracle in the History of International

In May 2022 the DPRK put in place a highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system after omicron variant entered its territory. All the country was locked down by region and unit, and strict anti-epidemic measures were taken.

Kim Jong Un led the anti-epidemic campaign. He convened major meetings of the WPK Central Committee in

succession and took prompt measures against the situation. He urgently dispatched the KPA medics to Pyongyang and visited places related with the anti-epidemic work to acquaint himself with the situation. He even donated his household medicines for families in difficult conditions.

According to a report, he examined 1 772 documents with a total number of 22 956 pages during the 90-odd-day period of the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system.

Under his wise guidance, the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{DPRK}}$ could defuse the public health crisis in a little more than 90 days, and this was a miracle unheard-of in the history of international healthcare.

Creations Made in the Face of Chal-

In 2022 the DPRK registered many remarkable successes in spite of the hostile forces' tenacious moves to stifle it and sudden public health crisis.

On April 11, 2022 Songhwa Street with 10 000 flats was inaugurated as the first entity in the programme for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism. It was followed by the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, a luxurious residential area for the ordinary working people.

In June the renovated local-industry factories in Kimhwa County were commissioned, heralding the era when the countryside is transformed.

August witnessed the completion of the large-scale Orangchon Power Station composed of several dams and multi-tier power station units. About 20 days later a large-scale sodium carbonate production line was newly built in the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, conducive to putting the chemical industry on the Juche basis.

In October the world-class Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm was completed in a short span of about 230 days since the start of its construction. About ten days later the Taesongsan Ice-cream Factory was brought to completion. Its construction was a priority project in

the people-oriented policy of the WPK. In November the first-stage project for renovating the Kumsong Tractor Factory was completed, which proved to be a big stride in the effort for laying the foundations for powerfully propelling rural rejuvenation in the new era.

New Appearance of Rural Rejuvenation As part of an effort to realize the grand programme for rural rejuvenation in the new era advanced by Kim Jong Un, the DPRK launched in 2022 a campaign for housing construction in the countryside

for radically changing the appearance of

all the rural villages across the country.

The WPK and the DPRK government ensure that necessary materials are supplied to each city and county for housing construction in the rural areas. As a result, ideal socialist villages sprang up in many areas by the end of 2022, and farmers moved to new houses.

In September 5 500 modern farm machines were provided to South Hwanghae Province, the largest grain producer of the country.

Powerful Deterrent Demonstrated The scale of the hostile forces' nuclear war games targeting the DPRK reached its climax in 2022. Their joint maritime exercise, anti-submarine exercise, missile defence exercise, maritime manoeuvring exercise and Vigilant Storm aggravated the tension on the Korean peninsula.

To cope with the enemy's provocation, the KPA conducted powerful military operations. It staged military exercises including drills of the units for the operation of tactical nukes, strike drills of frontline long-range artillery sub-units and flying corps and largescale combined air-strike drill of the air force. These exercises clearly showed that the more tenacious the enemy's military provocations were, the more thoroughgoing and merciless the DPRK's countermeasures would be.

The country successfully test-fired hypersonic missile, new-type tactical guided weapon, strategic cruise missile and new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17, demonstrating its enormous might for firmly guaranteeing the peace and security of the Korean peninsula and the rest of northeast Asia.

UNIDO holds Safe Meat Butcher Shops Competition in KPK

PESHAWAR: The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) organized the Safe Meat Butcher Shops Competition under the Project for Agri-food and Agro-industry Development (PAFAID) -a project funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) being implemented by UNIDO in close coordination with the Government of Pakistan.

The competition results were announced. The aim of this competition was to strengthen food safety compliance by strengthening the capacity of butchers in Good Hygiene Project Officer from UNIDO head-Practices (GHP) and by applying at their business points in your Project target districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province namely: Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan, Abbottabad, and Kohistan. A joint committee comprised of UNIDO and KPFS&H-FA teams selected the most compliant butchers' shops as winners of the competition. Mr. Shahrukh Ali DG KP Food Safety and Halal Food Authority (KPFS&HFA) and Dr. Gabor Molnar lenges present in the existing business



quarters distributed the model meat shop equipment to 35 butcher shops. The equipment includes chillers, deep freezers; bone saw cutters, teflon sheets, meat mincing machines, digital weighing scales, insect killers, PPEs, and thermometers.

The event also included the launch of the Slaughterhouse/Abattoir Investor's guide which aims to help investors navigate the unique mix of chal-

environment; this will guide potential investors seeking to establish a modern and hygienic slaughterhouse/abattoir in Pakistan. This handbook seeks to combine international best practices with context-specific knowledge gained from the activities of PAFAID.

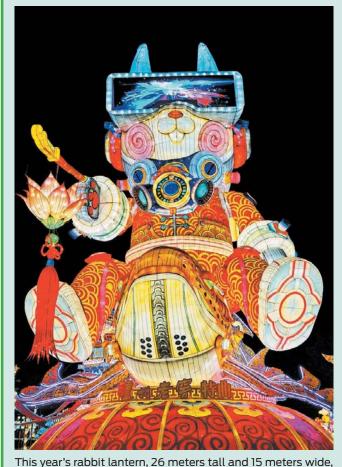
Mr. Shahrukh Ali acknowledged UNIDO's and JICA's efforts in improving the food safety standards across the meat value chain in KP. He appreciated the technical guidance and distribution of equipment provided by UNIDO as a istan province. For more information,

great step towards improving the food safety standards of these shops and the model would be replicated throughout the province.

Mr. Arif Baloch, Secretary Local Council Board stated that UNIDO has been closely cooperating with the department to improve slaughterhouses in KP. He also appreciated UNIDO's share recommendations in the by-laws related to slaughterhouses which have been submitted to the relevant sections for adoption.

Dr. Gabor Molnar stressed the importance of food safety and how it impacts individuals and society. He also shared an update on the ongoing and future activities planned under the initiative.

PAFAID, is a four-year Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) funded project being implemented by UNIDO in close coordination with the Government of Pakistan, aims at improved pilot applications of the compliance capacities and value addition practices in the cattle meat value chain in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and apple value chain in Baloch-



is the largest rabbit in Zigong's lantern show history

ISC & ISSI holds Kashmir Solidarity Day Seminar

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The India Study Centre (ISC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) organized a Seminar to commemorate "Kashmir Solidarity Day". The Chief Guest for the Seminar was Nawabzada Iftakhar Ahmed Khan Babar. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan. The Keynote Address was delivered by Amb. Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, Additional Secretary and Spokesperson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Arshad Ali, Director India Study Centre, highlighted the importance of 'Solidarity Day' and stressed the importance of continuous support for people of IIOJK, who were facing the brunt of Indian state repression driven by the ideology of 'Hindutva'.

In his remarks on the occasion, Director General ISSI Amb. Sohail Mahmood underscored the importance of the Kashmiris'

long saga of Indian repression in IIOJK, the sinister Indian design to change the demographic structure of the occupied territory in violation of Security Council resolutions and the 4th Geneva Convention, firm resolve of the Kashmiris to pursue their legitimate aspirations at all cost, and Pakistan's abiding support and solidarity for this just cause.

In her Keynote Address, Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch highlighted how India had adopted a four-pronged approach of disenfranchisement, suppression, disinformation, and maligning the legitimate struggle of the Kashmiris. Stressing that India must reverse its illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019, she reiterated that Pakistan will continue to steadfastly and unequivocally support the Kashmiris' right to self-determination until its full realization.

In a recorded message, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Chairman of the World Forum for Peace and

right to self-determination, the Justice, thanked the people of Pakistan for their continuous support, prayers, compassion and understanding for the issues faced by the people of IIOJK.

Ms. Maliha Hamid Mughal, a student of NDU, highlighted the impact of the illegal occupation on the youth of IIOJK and said that continuous violence had exerted a direct impact on the education, socio-economic condition, mental health, and future prospects of the youth of occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr. Mahmood Sagar, the Convener of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference AJK, thanked the people of Pakistan for commemorating "February 5" as 'Kashmir Solidarity Day' for the last 30 years. He said that self-determination was an inalienable right of the Kashmiris and that their voice deserved to be heard in the resolution of Jammu and Kashmir

In his address, Chief Guest Nawabzada Iftakhar Ahmed Khan Babar urged Pakistanis



to actively continue to advocate the rights of the Kashmiris. He recalled that Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had described Kashmir as the "Jugular Vein" of Pakistan; and the

Kashmiris had proved that they were the jugular vein of Pakistan. He highlighted the political unity within Pakistan on the Kashmir

In his closing remark, the

Chairman BOG of ISSI, Amb. cipled stance on the issue. Khalid Mahmood argued that the principle of self-determination is enshrined in the UN charter and that Pakistan has historically adopted an extremely prin-

The Seminar was attended by senior officials, academics, students, members of civil society, and diplomatic representa-

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

'`` Index Fluctuatioı		
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close	
40,471.16	40,733.51	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
40,872.87	40,329.75	
Index Value	Change	
3,658,868,766	- 262.35	
Percentage	Time	
-0.64%	3 Feb, 2023 5: 00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,900.41	+80.25	
Percentage	Time	
+1.03%	3 Feb, 4: 30 pm GMT	
IISA: Now Jones I	Industrial Averan	

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
34,169.78	+115.84	
Percentage	Time	
+0.34%	3 Feb, 11: 34 an GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
27,509.46	+107.41	
Percentage	Time	
+0.39%	3 Feb, 3: 15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forey Pates		

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	189	192
Bahrain Dinar	712.72	720.72
Canadian Dollar	200	202.2
China Yuan	39.67	40.07
Danish Krone	39.33	39.73
Euro	300.98	301.58
Hong Kong Dollar	34.19	34.54
Indian Rupee	3.28	3.39
Japanese Yen	2.5	2.54
Kuwaiti Dinar	878	887
Malaysian Ringgit	62.83	63.43
NewZealand \$	173.25	175.25
Norwegians Krone	26.79	27.09
Omani Riyal	696.08	704.08
Qatari Riyal	73.62	74.32
Saudi Riyal	73.55	73.85
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	75.14	75.44
UK Pound Sterling	337.01	337.71
US Dollar	280	283

MMBL joins hands with Avanza Solutions to launch DOST Corporate Portal



跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited (MMBL) has collaborated with Avanza Solutions to develop and deploy a state-of-the-art enterprise banking solution, DOST Corporate Portal. This platform is part of MMBL's strategic pursuit to optimize operations and explore greater technical prowess to ultimately fulfill the growing banking and financial needs of various business segments.

Chief Operating Officer, MMBL, Sardar Mohammad Abubakr and Chief Executive Officer, Avanza Solutions, Omer Ahmed Khan inked the agreement in Islamabad earlier this week along with senior leadership from both organizations at the MMBL Headquarters. Through this partnership, the DOST Corporate Portal is built upon the foundations of Avanza's 'Ambit Enterprise Banking Platform' - a next-generation banking platform, facilitating MMBL to deliver corporate internet banking and payment services to its customers in a secure, cost-effective, and personalized manner.

Huawei with Awan Distribution and C Digital Launch Idea Hub S2 in AJK

Spokesman Report

AJK: - Huawei Technologies Pakistan, Awan Distribution and CDigital collaboratively organized the Launch event of Huawei Ideahub S2 at Pearl Continental, Muzaffarabad, Azad Jammu Kashmir.

This launch ceremony was attended by Senior Minister AJK Khawaja Farooq Ahmed, Secretary Tourism AJK, Ms. Midhat Shehzad, Director AJK IT Board Dr. Khalid Rafique and other government officials. Awan Distribution in collaboration with partner CDigital have been working towards bringing the digital transformation in AJK for several years and now with Huawei technologies and it's solution IdeaHub S2, will keep working towards eliminating Video Conferencing challenges of organizations in Azad Jammu Kashmir.

Huawei continues to enter and explore new markets in Northern region of Pakistan in an effort to bring and implement cutting edge leading technology for organizations of all scales and sizes. Customers from public and AJK IT board, University of Azad Jammu Kashmir, SCO AJK. Live demonstration if the IdeaHub S2 was done for the customers where various ideahub solutions includ-



ing smart classroom, smart office and smart shape detection was also demonstrated. education sector attended the event such as education solution were discussed. During the demonstration, smart features of IdeaHub like split screen multi application use and intelli-

In his remarks Mr. Essam Baghdadi, President Awan Distribution said "We would like to thank our Partner Huawei Technologies and $gent \ smart \ tracking \ of \ camera \ were \ displayed. \quad the \ dignitaries \ of \ AJK \ who \ attended \ our \ event$ Intelligent hand writing recognition and auto and added value, knowledge and insight to the

product launch. It reflects a deep understanding of a fast growing IT knowledge and implementation in this highly educated territory of the great nation of Pakistan which would have not been possible without Huawei support.

In his speech Dr. Khalid Rafique, Director IT Board, AJK appreciated the efforts by saying " We appreciate Huawei and Awan Distribution efforts and we should certainly conduct more conferences like these in AJK to excel. This event can prove to be a milestone for facilitating education through smart class rooms in AJK".

Mr. Khawaja Farooq Ahmed, Senior Minister Local government and Rural Development added that "Huawei, Awan Distribution and CDigital did an amazing job with this event and it's really something to be appreciated. Such events and programs will definitely help IT advancements in Azad Jammu Kashmir".

Along with other dignitaries Miss Midhat Shehzad, Secretary Tourism AJK concluded her remarks by saying that "This was a great effort to promote IT. We can achieve great results with Huawei's Ideahub Technology and conducting virtual meetings will not only reduce expenses but also time. Through these public-private Partnerships, we can achieve

Income of \$13bln possible by eliminating loadshedding, says Mian Zahid Hussain

Example 2 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 Friday said the dysfunctional energy sector has contributed to the devastation of the country's economy.

4000 megawatts of electricity is wasted annually in line losses and non-payment of bills therefore the circular debt is increasing day by day the IMF has asked Pakistan increased the price of electricity by Rs12 per unit, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the power a half billion dollars annually. sector has become a major threat to the country's economy, which no previous economic recovery should be the acquisipovernment has been able to solve on a sustainable basis despite tall claims.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the power sector is harming the country's economy by billions of dollars, while according to the World Bank, the end of load shedding can benefit the people by four and a half billion dollars and businesses by about eight and



The main goal of the government for tion of cheap, safe, and sustainable energy, for which 100% of bills should be recovered, load shedding should be eliminated and transmission and distribution losses must be brought under global standards.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that dependence on imported oil and gas for power generation is a major obstacle in the development of this sector. Seventy-five percent

of coal is also imported for the process of generating electricity.

Currently, 2600 megawatts of cheap electricity is being generated from Thar coal. In Pakistan, power generation through nuclear and renewable sources is dismal while production in both these sectors needs to be increased to save valuable foreign exchange and improve the balance of payments, he said.

The business leader said that the cost of installing wind and solar power plants is much lower than fuel-fired power plants, but there is less attention to this aspect, while the promotion of private solar power can completely solve transmission losses and electricity theft and save ten billion dollars in foreign exchange is also possible, but it requires determination.

The potential of wind power i is at least 50,000 megawatts, but only 1335 megawatts of electricity are being generated from it, while only 600 megawatts of electricity are being generated through solar energy, which is only 1.4% of the potential. There is also a dire need to upgrade the power transmission and distribution

account enforcement system to support creators ed the account enforcement

TikTok updates

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: TikTok is an entertainment platform powered by the creativity, self-expression, and heart that creators put into making authentic content. In order to support creators on the platform, TikTok announced an updated system for account enforcement, which aims to facilitate a smoother experience on TikTok while creating content.

TikTok's Communi-TikTok takes action on their content to keep the platform safe. Most of the community members aim to follow the policies, but there is a small minority of people who repeatedly violate the policies and don't change their

To allow for a better user experience, TikTok updat- them.

system to better act against repeat offenders with the goal of helping TikTok more efficiently and quickly remove harmful accounts, while promoting a clearer and more consistent experience for the vast majority of creators who want to follow policies.

The existing account enforcement system leverages different types of restrictions, like temporary bans from posting or commenting, to prevent abuse of prodty Guidelines establish and uct features while teaching explain the behaviors and people about the policies in content that are not allowed order to reduce future violaon the platform, and when tions. While this approach people violate the policies, has been effective in reducing harmful content overall, TikTok heard from creators that it can be confusing to navigate.

It can disproportionately impact creators who rarely and unknowingly violate a policy, while potentially being less efficient at deterring those who repeatedly violate

Politicians lack capacity and will to improve the battered economy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Friday said Pakistan to face default risk for five years as the government is not serious about reducing expenses, increasing investment, and booting exports.

Even if Pakistan is saved from bankruptcy due to the IMF this year, its condition will worsen again next year, it said. To save Pakistan from bankruptcy, foreign investment of at least fifty billion dollars is needed, said Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President

A reduction of ten billion dollars per year in imports or at least a fifty percent increase in exports is required which is not possible, he said.

Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that the government is not serious about reducing its expenditure or increasing its

The government does not want to close the shops in by evening, and neither it has any intention to reduce expenditure or improve the investment environment. Presently some difficult but necessary decisions are being made as there is no other way left for the government, he observed.

He noted that the success of the ninth review of the IMF will open gates for new loans, after which the money will be squandered for political interests in such a way that the tenth review of the IMF may face problems.

Trade Volume with China

From January to November 2022, the total import and export volume between China and other RCEP members reached 11.8 trillion yuan (\$1.75 trillion), up 7.9 percent year-on-year and accounting for 30.7 percent of China's total foreign trade volume.



Karandaaz to Launch 2022 Survey on Financial Inclusion

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: With the aim to help increase financial inclusion, especially of underserved groups in the country, Karandaaz is all set to launch a comprehensive demand-side survey - Karandaaz Financial Inclusion Survey (K-FIS), a nationally and provincially representative financial inclusion survey of over 6,600 individuals across

access to and demand for financial services, especially digital financial services. The survey will help measure the adoption and use of a range of financial services among key underserved groups, including females, the poor, rural, and others. It will identify drivers and barriers to the adoption of digital financial services. The survey aims to produce actionable, forward-looking insights based

The survey aims to track on rigorous data to support product and service development and delivery.

Pakistan is one of several countries with a National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) targeting financial inclusion as a goal. The strategy has usage and access to digital accounts as the first pillar of an extensive plan. The metrics through which basic financial inclusion is measured are vital, and data is the backbone of programs aimed



at strengthening the financial ecosystem through private and public interventions.

in Pakistan, Karandaaz believes making data-driven decisions and evidence-based policymaking will be key to realizing the country's NFIS goals. Furthermore, it is important to have clear definitions, metrics, and estimates for better planning and intervention designs.

Mr. Waqas ul Hasan, CEO Karandaaz says, "It is estimated that the achievement of NFIS goals will add \$5.5 billion to

To support financial inclusion the GDP and create 3 million new jobs out of 1 million will be through digitization alone. K-FIS responds to the need for timely demand-side data and practical insights into major chiefly digital financial services, including mobile money, and the potential for its expanded use, especially among unserved and underserved population segments. Karandaaz proudly takes ownership of this survey,

whose depth and breadth allow for analysis of a large number of financial inclusion indicators by several segments such as urban and rural, gender and provinces. In conducting this rich survey, drivers of financial inclusion, we are collecting important data on a rich set of indicators and promoting a data-centric culture within the financial ecosystem."

The survey findings will be shared via a Zoom webinar on February 7 followed by two-panel discussions.

Neymar ruled out of PSG's

game against Toulouse

er, in which Kylian Mbappe picked up a thigh injury.

Persistent rain washes

out Royals-Super Kings clash in SA20

Mbappe faces three weeks on the sidelines and will be unavailable for the first leg of PSG's Champions League last-16 tie against

Neymar is expected to resume full training next week, as is

Sergio Ramos who also came off against Montpellier after suffer-

PARIS: Nevmar will miss his second straight game for Paris Saint-Germain after being ruled out of Saturday's match at home to Toulouse because of a groin problem, the club

announced.

The

Brazilian

Bayern Munich on February 14.

has been receiv-

ing treatment and

training individual-

ly this week. He sat

out Wednesday's 3-1 victory in Montpelli-

ing a groin strain.

'Professor' Mohammad Hafeez gets enrolled at University of Karachi

A Sports -

KARACHI: Former Pakistan captain Mohammad Hafeez got enrolled in the BS Health Physical Education and Sports Sciences (HPESS) program at the University of Karachi (UOK).

According to the details, Hafeez on Friday, met the Vice Chancellor of the UOK, Prof. Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi, at the Vice-Chancellor's Secret alongside the President of the HPESS, Prof. Dr Basit Ansari.

The former captain stated that he could not complete his higher studies during his professional career for Paki-

In a statement released by the UOK, the university quoted Hafeez, who expressed his delight to resume his curricular career and also to be a part of the country's largest public sector university.

"Mohammad Hafeez expressed that he that HPESS would help him in achieving



was delighted to be a part of the country's his dreams of pursuing higher education," largest public sector university and hoped a press release issued by KU stated. "Meanwhile, the KU VC Professor Dr

Khalid Mahmood Iraqi while welcoming Muhammad Hafeez to the University of Karachi said that students would learn a lot from the former captain's cricket-

"He mentioned that our young generation should also participate in sports as it is essential for mental and physical development. He said that people should learn from the spirit of competition rather than getting jealous of someone's success."

Notably, following Pakistan's remarkable triumph over India and New Zealand in ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021, the UOK announced fully paid scholarships for the team members and also to provide the best facilities and bear all the academic expenses of the sportsmen and sportswomen, who made the nation proud.

It is worth mentioning here that Hafeez represented Pakistan in 55 Tests, 218 ODIs and 119 T20Is over the course

Asensio, Vinicius sink Valencia as



A Sports

JOHANNESBURG: The 24th match of the ongoing SA20 between home side Joburg Super Kings and Paarl Royals has been abandoned due to persistent rain here.

Following the abandonment, both sides will share a point each. The Royals remained second in the table with 19 points while

the Super Kings jumped to the third with 18 points. The Super Kings will now face Sunrisers Eastern Cape in their next group match on February 5 (Sunday) at home whereas

the Royals will compete against Pretoria Capitals on Tuesday. Earlier, before rain halted the action, the Royals, after being put into bat first, piled 131/4 in 15 overs with English opening

batter Jason Roy smashing a brilliant half-century. The right-handed batter remained the top-scorer for his side with a 42-ball 61 featuring eight fours and three sixes, while his

compatriot Jos Buttler could score 23 off 11. Nandre Burger, Gerald Coetzee, Romario Shepherd and Donovan Ferreira could make one scalp each.

Pakistan beat India in friendly baseball match



LAHORE: Pakistan's baseball squad triumphed over India with

a score of 12-1 in a friendly match held in Islamabad on Thursday. The contest consisted of seven innings, with Zakir, Waseem, and Shehzad each tallying two runs. The game was arranged after Pakistan won the West Asia Cup on Wednesday, defeating Palestine 11-3 in the championship game.

The Pakistan Federation Baseball took to Twitter to congratulate the winners, saying: "CONGRATULATIONS: Pakistan the New West Asia Cup baseball Champ. Team Palestine wins the hearts of the people with their outstanding display. Pakistani pitcher's AMJAD and ZOHAIB made too difficult for Palestine players."

Earlier, the hosts beat Sri Lanka by 16-1 to book their place in the final of the event. Meanwhile, Palestine defeated Bangladesh in the other semi-final to qualify for the title clash.

The West Asia Cup featured teams from Pakistan, India, Sri

Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal, and Palestine. After qualifying for the final, Pakistan and Palestine also booked their place in the Asian Baseball Championship, which serves as a Baseball World Cup qualifying.

Pak Taekwondo squad reaches Dubai

₿ Sports Desk

KARACHI: The Pakistan Taekwondo team, consisting of talented young athletes, arrived in Dubai to participate in the coveted 10th Al Fujairah Open Taekwondo (G-2) Championship to be played at Sheikh Zayed Sports City.

The Pakistan Taekwondo Federation has selected the following players as part of national squad for this international level event: South Asian Games gold medalist Haroon Khan, Shahzeb, Hamza Saeed, Mazhar Abbas, Sinan Ashfaq, Arbaaz Khan have been included in the national squad, while among the women players, the 4th Combaxx Asian Taekwondo Championship Gold medalist Nagsh Hamdani and Fatima Al-Zahra are part of the tional event will improve our

Ashfaq Ahmed is the Manager of the national

Shahzad Muhammad Asif world players to discuss with Pakistan in the championship. as Coach and Faisal Butt is our contemporary players and accompanying the squad as trainer of the team.

Haroon Khan, who is a part of the national team, is upbeat, saying that the players are fully prepared for the coveted Al Fujairah Open Taekwondo Championship. "Participation in the internagame further and increase our experience during the championship" he said, adding, squad while Master Yusuf there will also be an oppor-

professional coaches from other countries, which will be beneficial for us in the future.

Hamza Saeed said that they are not complacent and will not take any fight as easier. They are only focused to play with fighting spirit, only carrying the spirit of victory for the country and God willing, they will give good results to the nation.

Female taekwondo play-Karami is the Head Coach, tunity of collaborating with their urge is to win medals for and performance.

The president of Paki-

stan Taekwondo Federation, Col (retd) Waseem Janjua and CEO Omar Saeed, have provided all possible facilities for the preparations of the events, she added.

The Head Coach Yusuf Karami of Iran said that our players are fully fit both physically and mentally for the Fujairah Open and they will try hard to reach the victory stand by showing their er Nagsh Hamdani said that hundred percent capability

Real narrow gap to leader Barca



A Sports -

MADRID: Marco Asensio and Vinicius Junior scored second-half goals to put Real Madrid's La Liga campaign back on track as they sealed a dominant 2-0 win over struggling Valencia on Thursdav.

The defending champions jumped to 45 points in second place, five behind table leaders Barcelona. who beat Real Betis on

Wednesday. Valencia, who sacked manager Gennaro Gattuso the previous day, were handed their fifth straight defeat last night and are 14th in the standings with 20 points, one clear of

the relegation zone. Valencia defender Gabriel Paulista was ent off with a straight red 18 minutes from final time as he chopped down Vinicius with a ruthless tackle, almost starting a brawl among players on the pitch.

Real controlled the game for most parts but wasted a few opportunities in the first half. VAR ruled out Antonio Rudiger's goal just before the break for a Benzema foul in the build-up.

Shaheen Afridi ties the knot with Shahid Afridi's daughter

A Sports

KARACHI: Pakistan's ace pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi on Friday, tied the knot with star all-rounder Shahid Afridi's daughter Ansha Afridi in a close ceremony here

According to the details, the nikkah ceremony was held at a local club here, which was attended by captain Babar Azam, national cricketers and close relatives.

With Shaheen starting the new innings of his life, his fellow cricketers flocked in to congratulate the leftarm pacer.

Taking to Twitter, Pakistan's wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Rizwan shared lating Shaheen.

"Prayers for you my baby brother [Shaheen Afridi] May you and your wife be the source of happiness and pacer on his Nikkah.



a video of himself congratu- joy for each other, Ameen,"

Meanwhile, another wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Haris also congratulated the

"More amazing news. Congratulations [Shaheen Afridi Jbhai on your Nikkah," he wrote.

It is pertinent to mention

that Shaheen and Ansha Earlier, the pictures of the exchanged the rings two national cricketer's wedding years ago.

Qatar to host western knockout matches in Asian Champions League

Sports Desk

SYDNEY: Qatar will host the knockout rounds for the western half of the 2022 Asian Champions League draw in February with eight teams battling it out to decide who meets Japan's Urawa Red Diamonds in the final in April and May.

Urawa secured their place in the final for the fourth time last August but the completion of the western half of the continental championship was delayed because of Qatar's hosting of the World Cup.

The eight teams, led by reigning champions Al Hilal and fellow Saudis Al Shabab, completed their group matches in a centralised venue in April last year.

PCB reveals ticket prices for Karachi, Multan-leg of PSL 8

venue also went viral on social

A Sports -

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board has announced details of ticket prices for the eighth edition of the Pakistan Super League.

Online tickets for the Multan and Karachi-leg matches will be available online on Saturday at 1100 and fans can visit cricket. bookme.pk to book their tickets. Physical tickets will also be available to the fans during the course of the tournament from the box offices at the four venues. Tickets for the Rawalpindi and Lahore matches will go on sale Class) and PKR1,000 (General). in due course.

champions Lahore Qaland-

Cricket Stadium on 13 February have been set at PKR6,000 for the VIP enclosures, PKR3.000 for Premium, PKR2,000 for First Class and PKR1,000 for General.

Ticket prices for the 15 February Multan Sultans versus Quetta Gladiators match have been set for PKR2,900 (VIP), PKR1,900 (Premium), PKR950 (First Class) and PKR650 (General), while ticket prices for the remaining three matches featuring the home side have been fixed at PKR4,000 (VIP), PKR2,000 (Premium), PKR1,500 (First

For the non-Sunday match-Tickets for the tournament es in Karachi, ticket prices have opener between defending been set at PKR2,900 (VIP), PKR1,900 (Premium), PKR950 ars and the 2021 title winners and PKR650 for First Class and Multan Sultans at the Multan General Enclosures, respectively.

For Sunday, 19 February, mouth-watering match between Karachi Kings and Lahore Qalandars, ticket prices have been fixed at PKR5,000 for the VIP enclosures, PKR3,000 for the Premium, PKR2,000 in First Class and PKR1,000 in General. For the final fixture in Karachi on Sunday, 26 February, between Karachi Kings and Multan Sultans, ticket prices have set for PKR4,000 (VIP), PKR2,000 (Premium), PKR1,500 and PKR1,000 for First Class and General Enclosures, respectively. The PCB, for the first time.

have introduced discounted season passes, which will cover weekday matches. This is to encourage cricket fans and families to purchase cheaper tickets to attend the matches and watch

BOXES PREMIUM VIEW GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

TICKETS (KARACHI)

in action some of best shortest government-issued ID through format cricketers vying for the biggest price in Pakistan cricket.

Season pass for the four **Enclosure Names:** Multan matches (excluding Multan the opener) has been set for PKR16,830 (VIP), PKR9,630 (Premium), PKR5,715 (First Class) and PKR3,555 (General). Likewise, season pass for

the five Karachi matches on 16, 20, 21, 23 and 24 February, General- Hanif Mohammad, has been fixed at PKR13,050 (VIP), PKR8,550 (Premium), PKR4,275 (First Class) and PKR2,925 (General).

one ticket can be purchased on one CNIC. For those who do not have CNIC, they can purchase Alam, Iqbal Qasim, Mohamthe tickets using the passport, mad Brothers, Nasimul Ghani, while those under the age of 18 will require B-Form. All spectators will be required to bring the Hasan, Wasim Bari

which they have bought the tick-

VIP - Imran Khan, Fazal Mahmood Premium - Zaheer Abbad, Javed

Miandad First Class - Elahi, Wasim Akram

Mushtaq Ahmed Karachi

VIP - Fazal Mahmood, Hanif Mohammad, Javed Miandad The PCB has also confirmed Premium - Imran Khan, Quaid, Wasim Akram First Class Asif Iqbal, Intikhab

> Zaheer Abbas General - Majid Khan, Waqar